

APMEN VxWG Advisory Council members

Confirmed members



Dr. Neeraj Dhingra
Director
National Vector Borne Diseases
Control Programme,
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare,
India

A medical doctor by profession, Dr. Dhingra also has a postgraduate degree (Doctor of Medicine) in community medicine. Dr. Dhingra previously served as the Deputy Director General at the Department of Aids Control, MOHFW, India.

Currently, Dr. Dhingra also sits in the Technical Advisory Group of Malaria Elimination Research Alliance (MERA) India, which is a conglomeration of national and international partners like WHO, NVBDCP, Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV), medical colleges, and multi-national companies working towards malaria control and elimination in India.



Dr. Claudia Abreu Lopes
Research fellow
University International Institute
for Global Health, Malaysia

Dr. Lopes holds a PhD in Social Research Methods from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and a Master's degree in Social Psychology from the University of Porto.

She has spent 20 years in academia with positions at the Faculty of Psychology at the University of Coimbra (Portugal), Institute of Social Psychology at LSE, and Department of Politics and International Studies at the University of Cambridge (POLIS). Dr. Lopes has also worked as a consultant for UN Women and Girl Effect, and as the Head of Research and Innovation at Africa's Voices Foundation.

Her research interests include big data, gender equality and health, structural determinants of health inequalities and their impact on health outcomes, and implementation research for public health interventions in LMICs.



Ms. Josselyn Neukom
CSO representative,
Global Fund Regional Artemisinin
Initiatives (RAI) Regional Steering
Committee (RSC) 2021-23

Ms. Neukom has 25 years of experience leading the design, management and evaluation of malaria, reproductive health, nutrition, tuberculosis, HIV/STI and non-communicable disease programs in low and middle income countries. She has worked extensively in Asia Pacific, providing technical leadership to support community health programs in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines and Vietnam-- where she is currently based. Her areas of expertise include private sector engagement, social and behavior change communication, digital health, strategic planning and gender transformative approaches.

Her experience includes leading national scale social marketing programs to address malaria and other public health priorities in Vietnam and Zambia, overseeing a regional portfolio of nutrition and eye health programs in Asia Pacific and, most recently, facilitating digital engagement of pharmacies to generate public health results in Southeast Asia. During 2020, she facilitated community engagement virtual workshops during Malaria Week and for the APMEN Vector Control Working Group, as well as sustainability and transition planning and digital health landscaping exercises for national malaria control programs and their civil society partners in the Greater Mekong Subregion. Since January 2021, Ms. Neukom has served on the Regional Steering Committee for the Global Fund's Regional Artemisinin Initiatives as a civil society organization (CSO) representative.



Dr. Luciano Tuseo
Coordinator
Mekong Malaria Elimination
(MME) Program
World Health Organization

Dr. Tuseo is a medical doctor and holds two Master's degrees in health service management and business administration.

He has been working at the WHO for nearly 20 years.

Currently based in Cambodia, Dr. Tuseo leads the MME program which is an initiative to support malaria elimination across the six countries of the Greater Mekong subregion: Cambodia, China (Yunnan Province), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam.



Dr. Neena Valecha
Regional Adviser (Malaria)
World Health Organization –
South-East Asia Regional Office
(SEARO)

Dr. Valecha is a medical doctor with an MD in Pharmacology and an internationally recognized scientist. She served as the Director of the National Institute of Malaria Research of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) from 1990 to 2018. She has more than 30 years of experience in clinical and epidemiological research in malaria. And most of her work has contributed to many malaria national policies in India.

During her tenure in ICMR, she was on the advisory panel of many national and international committees for malaria research and policy, such as the WHO, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, MMV, PATH, WWARN, and Malaria in Pregnancy Consortium, among others.



Dr. Ghasem Zamani
Regional Advisor for Malaria
Control and Elimination,
World Health Organization
Regional Office for the Eastern
Mediterranean (EMRO)

Dr. Zamani holds an MD degree (Doctor of Medicine) from Iran University of Medical Sciences.

He also has a PhD in Epidemiology from Tehran University of Medical Sciences.

Dr. Zamani has extensive experience spanning nearly two decades in malaria control and elimination in the region.

Awaiting Confirmation

National Malaria Programme manager (1)
Private Sector Representative (1)

Gender and Inclusion metrics in the AC currently:

