

UNIVERSITY  
OF OSLO

**Centre for Global Health**

**Annual Report 2022**



## Greetings

The Centre for Global Health (CGH) at the University of Oslo (UiO) is engaged in research communication, capacity development and training in global health. Our national and international network has expanded as we join efforts to harness our common future. We go all in to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. On December 13, 2022, the Board at the Faculty of Medicine decided to establish a Sustainable Health Unit and the CGH is to be one of three centers constituting this unit. Please join us as we embark on new adventures.

As you will see in our annual report, the CGH has prepared and co-organized 21 events and webinars in 2022 with an unprecedented number of participants. Never have so many been interested in our events, and the digitalization has opened the borders to a global community like never before. We hope you enjoy reading, and if you have comments, suggestions or reflections please share, as we need your support to advance the CGH.



**Jeanette H. Magnus**  
Director



**Ingeborg K. Haavardsson**  
Managing Director

## Brief background

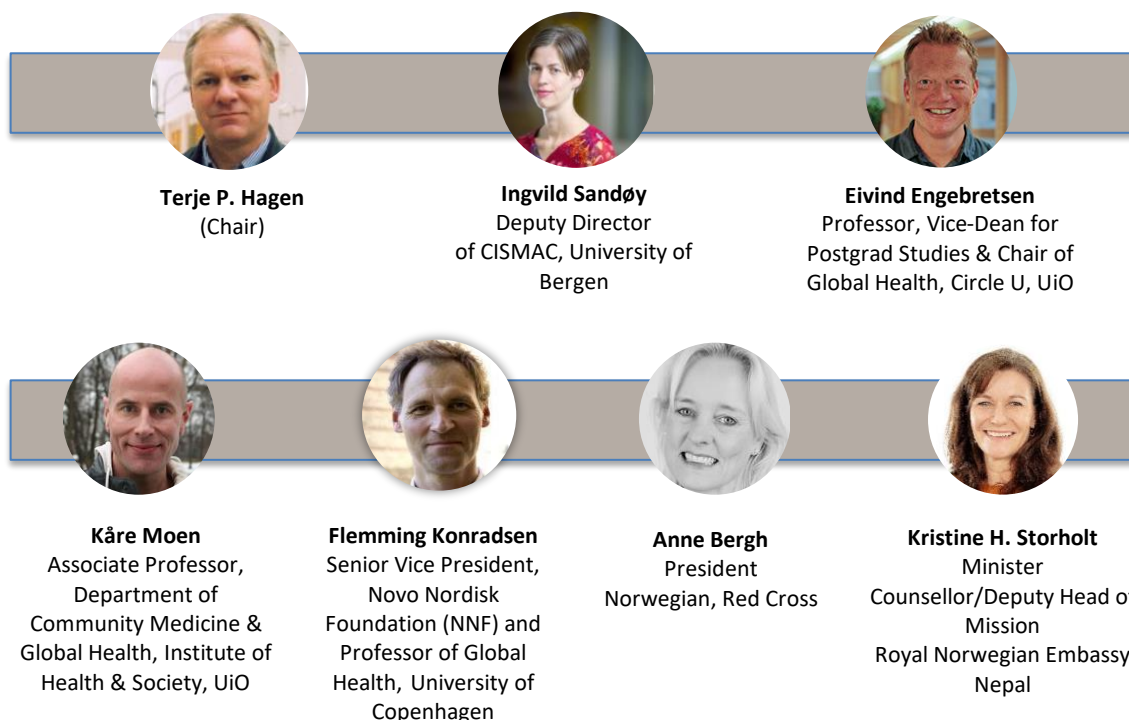
The CGH is based on a broad definition of global health as '*an area for study, research, and practice that places a priority on improving health and achieving health equity for all people worldwide.*' In this broad sense, "global health" includes the study of major societal challenges such as global inequalities in healthcare resources, health impact of globalization and cultural mobility, health impact of climate change, health consequences of animal habitat loss and environmental disruption, as well as global implications of and solutions to local health problems.

## Engagement at CGH

CGH is a networking hub for global health research and capacity development activities. It serves as a platform for academic collaboration across the university, as it offers a meeting space and a window of display for ongoing global health research activities at Faculty of Medicine, as well as those in collaboration with other UiO units or the Oslo University Hospital (OUS), including partners nationally and internationally. Currently, the CGH does research dissemination more than actual research and capacity development and training more than education. It links to global health engaged environments inside and outside of academia, including policymakers in Norway and around the world, clearly contributing to the long-term UiO strategy. CGH activities interface with most of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and support the Faculty of Medicine efforts in this respect.

## Activities at CGH

The CGH Board is appointed by the Board from the Faculty of Medicine with a two-year term. The CGH is grateful to the 2022-24 Board for supporting the 2021-2023 strategic plan and for setting clear ambitions for CGH.



The 2022 Plan of Action (PoA) operationalize these ambitions. Here we present a summary of some of the activities linked to each ambition.

## Ambition 1: Mobilize Cross-Sectorial, Multi- and Interdisciplinary Global Health Research:

<b>Objective 1</b>	To develop and facilitate research projects in selected global health areas across units at UiO.
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### Selected Activities

#### RELIGHT

Three **Research Excellence and Innovation in Global Health (RELIGHT)** projects were awarded funding for the 2022-2024 period. Here are brief updates from the first year of funding:

#### 1. Building and evaluating “digital AMR literacy” to combat AMR, led by Arunima Sehgal Mukherjee (UiO)

This project aims to develop antibiotic resistance (ABR) related health literacy capabilities through: i) understanding people’ daily activities and social interactions where ideas and information about health and healthcare are socially exchanged; ii) this understanding helps in co-producing and implementing health literacy interventions; and iii) by analyzing how social and structural conditions act as enablers and barriers to the identification of health literacy needs, their development and adoption as integrated with peoples’ everyday social practices.

In 2022, the project retained ethics approval from Norway and India and identified the empirical sites in India based on health needs, vulnerabilities of the population and associated risk factors to ABR. The two contracting sites have been selected to understand the implications of practices (in rural and urban areas) on ABR. In-depth interviews have been completed and the design, field testing and finalization of the data collection tool for the first phase needs assessment. Phase two will begin in 2023 and consist of data analysis and co-production of ABR health literacy.

#### 2. Innovation and partnership in pandemic response, led by Katerini Storeng (UiO)

The Innovation and Partnership in Pandemic Response project funding was awarded to a group led by Katerini T. Storeng, Centre for Development and the Environment (SUM), and involving Christoph Gradmann, Faculty of Medicine, and Inger Berg Ørstavik, Faculty of Law. Since being awarded with the funding, Katerini T. Storeng and the Global Health Politics group at SUM have used this support to continue strengthening its capacity and position in global health politics and pandemic preparedness and response. RELIGHT funds have mostly contributed to salary support to develop joint projects, as well as other activities.

In 2022, Inger Berg Ørstavik supervised a summer student project financed by UiO:Life Science focused on compulsory licensing and EU law, and they are co-writing an article on negotiation mechanisms in relation to vaccine procurement. Since her unit has just received funding for a

centre for EEA legal research, she will be obliged to focus more on this part of her research going forward. Project partner Christoph Gradmann is focusing on his research on antibiotic resistance. The whole project team will meet in early 2023 to consider areas of convergence for the next year.

### **3. Assessment of psychosocial, neurocognitive, and ophthalmic problems in survivors of a methanol poisoning outbreak in Tehran, Iran, led by Knut Erik Hovda (OUS)**

Due to the unrest in Iran in the recent months, the project has been postponed and start-up will begin in 2023.

For a more detailed report including the group's 2022 activities, please see [here](#). We look forward to following these projects as they continue to evolve.



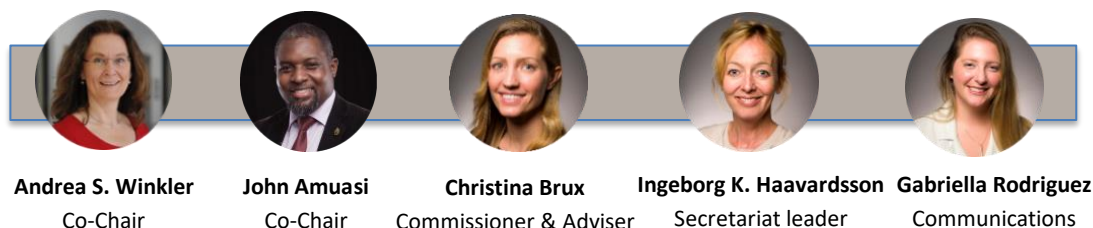
## **The *Lancet* One Health Commission**

The CGH is proud to host the Norwegian secretariat for *The Lancet* One Health Commission. The Commission is co-chaired by Dr. John Amuasi (the Kumasi Centre for Collaborative Research in Tropical Medicine) and Professor Andrea S. Winkler (Technical University of Munich and University of Oslo). Its multidisciplinary membership consists of approximately 30 One Health experts from around the world. Since the first convention of *The Lancet* One Health Commission in 2019 the Commission has worked hard to appraise the scientific evidence base for One Health and to advance an inter/transdisciplinary and multisectoral One Health approach to health among humans, animals, and the wider environment.

Throughout 2022, the Commission engaged in several high-level efforts geared towards One Health institutionalization, operationalization, and implementation. The Commission was represented at the “Building European Health Union” conference, which was organized by the One Sustainable Health Forum in conjunction with the European Ministers of Health and Foreign Affairs meeting in February 2022 in Lyon, France. The Commission was also represented at the 2022 World Health Summit in Berlin and at the 7th World One Health Congress in Singapore.

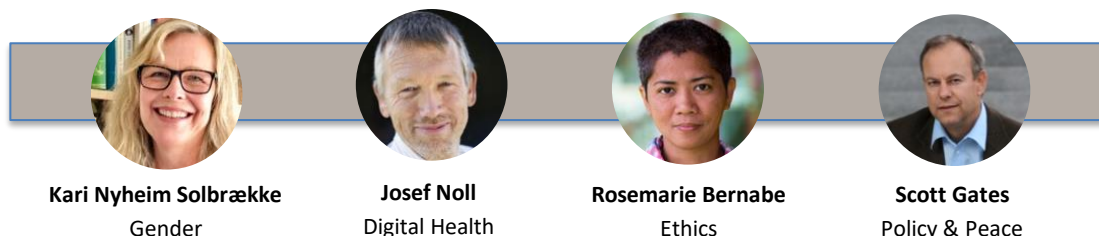
The Commission is in the process of finalizing the report, with the aim of finalizing the recommendations and endorsing and submitting the report winter 2023.

*The Lancet* One Health Commission is funded by UiO: Life Sciences and the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research. The CGH looks forward to forthcoming One Health engagements in 2023 and to the launch of *The Lancet* One Health Commission report.



## Develop Cross Disciplinary Themes in Global Health

Achieving the SDGs calls for multidisciplinary collaboration across crosscutting themes. The CGH has invited established and internationally recognized UiO professors to expand their main fields of expertise into the arena of global health. The CGH offers an expanded platform to advance transdisciplinary and interdisciplinary networks, projects, publications, dissemination and other activities with a specialized focus and a global health dimension.



## Ambition 2: Hub for Capacity Development in Research Based Global Health Education

<b>Objective 2</b>	Advance capacity for research education in global health nationally and internationally
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### Selected Activities

Following its strategic ambition to be a hub for capacity development in research based global health education, the CGH facilitated interactions between interdisciplinary research groups with a goal to prepare for joint applications. Together with our Ethiopian partners we also secured a grant from the Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs to develop a leadership course for professionals, especially women. This course is available on the CGH website.

### NORPART EXCEL SMART project

The EXCEL SMART NORPART Project includes two Ethiopian higher education institutions, Jimma University and St. Paul's Hospital Millennium Medical College (SPHMMC), in addition to the Faculty of Medicine at UiO. Through strategic mobility and mentoring we ensure increased quality and internationalization of PhD programs in Health Sciences at both partner institutions. The national and institutional academic process of approval of new PhD programs were time consuming. We have secured South to South synergy thorough collaboration and peer mentoring. The two HEIs worked

together on the PhD program development process. As most of the Ethiopian PhD students are HEI staff, the mobility is regarded as human resource training. We have so far successfully matched ten Ethiopian PhD candidates with UiO co-advisors. Three of these spent 5 months in Oslo for advising and courses in the fall of 2022.

## **NORHED SACCADE project**

Misra Abdulahi financed by the SACCADE project defended her PhD in October 2022. Two others submitted their thesis for evaluation. So far five have completed their PhDs, despite civil war and severe lock down due to the pandemic.



## **The Norwegian Research School of Global Health**

Through its Deputy Director Mekdes Gebremariam, CGH has been engaged in the Norwegian Research School of Global Health (NRS GH) led by the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) with the University of Tromsø, the University of Bergen, the Norwegian Institute of Public Health and UiO as partners. This has created course and conference opportunities for UiO PhD students.

## **Ambition 3: Facilitator of Community Engagement, Knowledge-Based Dialogue, and Public Opinion Formations Related to Important Global Health Discussions**

<b>Objectives 3 &amp; 4</b>	<p>Disseminate global health knowledge to students and faculty at the UiO, as well as to the wider community of researchers, decision makers and the general public.</p> <p>Establish and consolidate formal cross-sectoral networks of researchers, policymakers and other stakeholders within selected areas at UiO, in Norway and globally.</p>
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Communication is at the core of all CGH activities. CGH is continuously enhancing and updating its website and social media platforms with news, reports, and activities to serve the faculty, staff, students, alumni, partners, and affiliates of CGH. A main goal is reaching a broad audience of students,

researchers, and clinicians in global health via organized events. The CGH has a keen focus on making events available for a broad online audience and will harness its digital presence in the future.

## Student Advisory Group

The student community is essential to any educational institution given their exclusive insights. The Student Advisory Group (SAG) constitutes representatives from four student organizations interested in global health and the student agenda, including:

- Medisinernes humanitæraksjon (MedHum)
- Medisinsk Studentutvalg (MSU)
- Student uten Grenser
- Universities Allied for Essential Medicines Norge (UAEM)



The SAG was established to support a global health focus across the Faculty of Medicine and UiO. In 2022, the students coordinated inclusive student directed global health activities and aided the CGH in its ambitions to foster the next generation of global health leaders.

## Women in Global Health Norway

CGH endorses gender equity in leadership, especially in global health, where women make up most of the workforce. CGH is hosting the Secretariat for the Norwegian chapter of Women in Global Health ([WGH](#)), a platform for dialogue and collaboration that links the Centre and UiO to broader networks and alternative funding sources. By the end of 2022, WGH Norway has 408 members from private and public institutions and organizations related to global health. In the Afternoon Tea Conversations, members discuss their global health passions, career paths and why the WGH mission is so important. In 2022, Cathrine Lofthus and Anna Stavdal accepted to be WGH Goodwill ambassadors.

### Events

WGH Norway and its host, the CGH has organized several [events in 2022](#) - see *Appendix (Table 2)*.

### Chapter mentor

The global movement of WGH is working towards establishing a national chapter in Nepal. The Secretariat of the chapter will be at the School of Medical Sciences, Kathmandu University (KU) in Dhulikhel with WGH Norway as its mentoring partner. The Norwegian chapter will support the global platform to connect, further strengthen and advocate for gender equality in global health within academia and the public and private sectors in Nepal.

### Membership engagement

WGH Norway members organized two regional in-person events for our members in 2022, one in Bergen and one in Oslo. The Secretariat is happy to help facilitate membership engagement, please get in contact with feedback or ideas.





**Ingeborg K. Haavardsson**  
President



**Bernadette Kumar**  
Vice-President



**Gabriella Rodriguez**  
Communications Adviser

## Networking

### *NORPath – The Norwegian Planetary Health Alliance*

In October 2022, the CGH, together with partner institutions, initiated a Norwegian Research Council-funded project, with the aim of establishing the “Norwegian Planetary Health Alliance (NORPath).” This is conceived as a transdisciplinary and multisectoral, collaborative network for Norwegian stakeholders, and as a forum for building and sustaining national capacity and competency in Planetary Health, for raising Planetary Health awareness nationally, and for innovation that serves the interests of sustainability and health. The establishment of this cohesive, national platform will also facilitate collaboration at regional and international levels.

Among the most notable 2022 activities of NORPath were the publication of a national policy brief in conjunction with The *Lancet* Countdown on Health and Climate Change Report and a national launch event, as well as participation in the annual meeting of the international Planetary Health Alliance in Boston.

### *National Platform for One Health*

The CGH has spearheaded an interest group in One Health, together with partner institutions, and is in the process of establishing a National Platform for One Health. The CGH and partner institutions held an event at Arendalsuka 2022, in which the importance of One Health and the need for this platform was discussed with the Norwegian Minister of Climate and the Environment, Espen Barth Eide.

### *Global Health Norway*

Global Health Norway is a network of the major Norwegian institutions in the educational, hospital and research institute sectors involved in global health activities, including research, education and capacity strengthening. The CGH Head is alternate member to the Board, and CGH is represented on the editorial board. CGH had the leadership of a working group aimed at developing national competencies in global health. CGH took part in the organizing committee for the 2022 Global Health Norway Conference.

### *Norwegian Forum for Global Health Researchers*

The Forum is an interdisciplinary network of academics and others who work with or have an interest in global health. CGH is represented with a deputy on the Board.

## Events and Conferences

CGH organizes a range of seminars and conferences, many in collaboration with partners and individual researchers. In total, CGH hosted or co-hosted/organized 21 events in 2022, with over 1,575 participants in total. Worth highlighting is the symposium, 'A World in Transitions: Implications for priorities and efficiencies in global health,' co-organized with the Ministry of Health and Care services.



*(left to right) John-Arne Røttingen moderating a discussion with Magda Robalo, Julio Frenk, Gro Harlem Brundtland, Christopher Murray & Ole F. Norheim; Photo: Ingeborg K. Haavardsson*

### *Global Health Unpacked series*

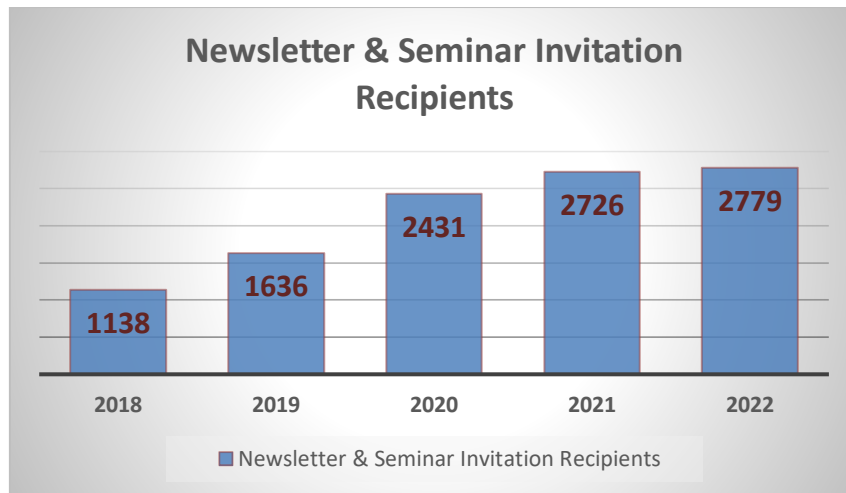
The Global Health Unpacked series is jointly organized with the research group, Politics of Global Health at the Centre for Development and the Environment (SUM), UiO and brings together the global health community in Oslo. This series aims to foster critical discussions on the politics of global health, with insights from social sciences and humanities. Invited guest speakers from different countries bring an original perspective to relevant debates in Norway.

*Please refer to the Appendix (Table 2) for a complete overview of hosted and co-hosted 2022 events.*

## Communication and Visibility

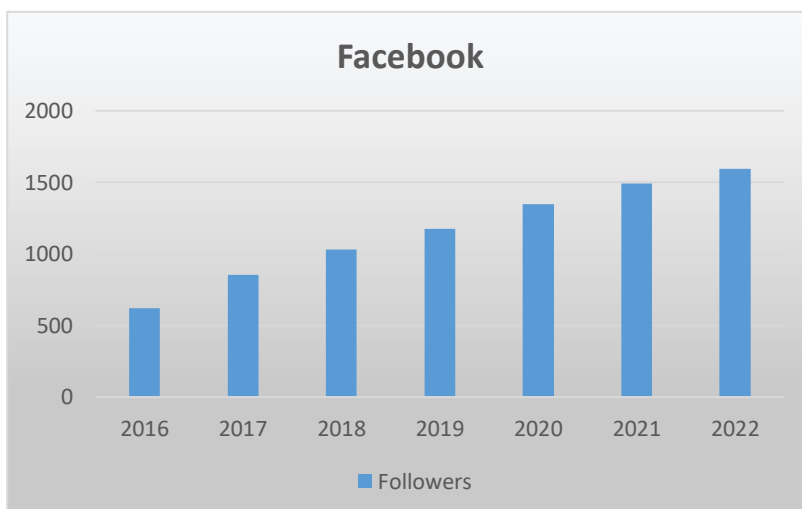
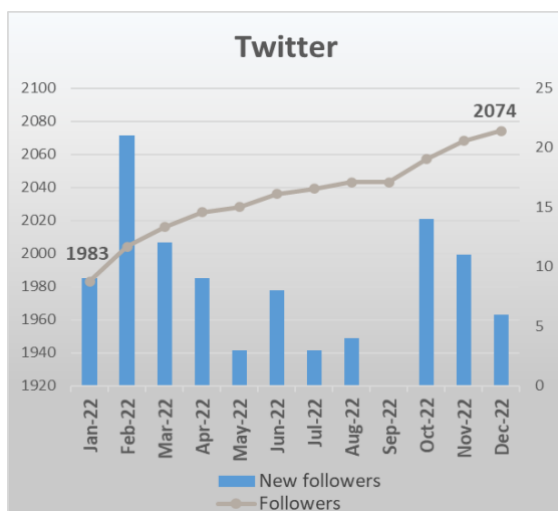
### Newsletter and webpages

The CGH newsletter including its seminar mail list and webpages actively provide the CGH network with updates on news and events. Within 2022, the number of recipients signing up for the newsletter and/or seminar invitations increased from 2726 to 2779 and the webpages continued its high level of activity with 43.683 visits in 2022. CGH adheres to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) rules and regulations as required by UiO.

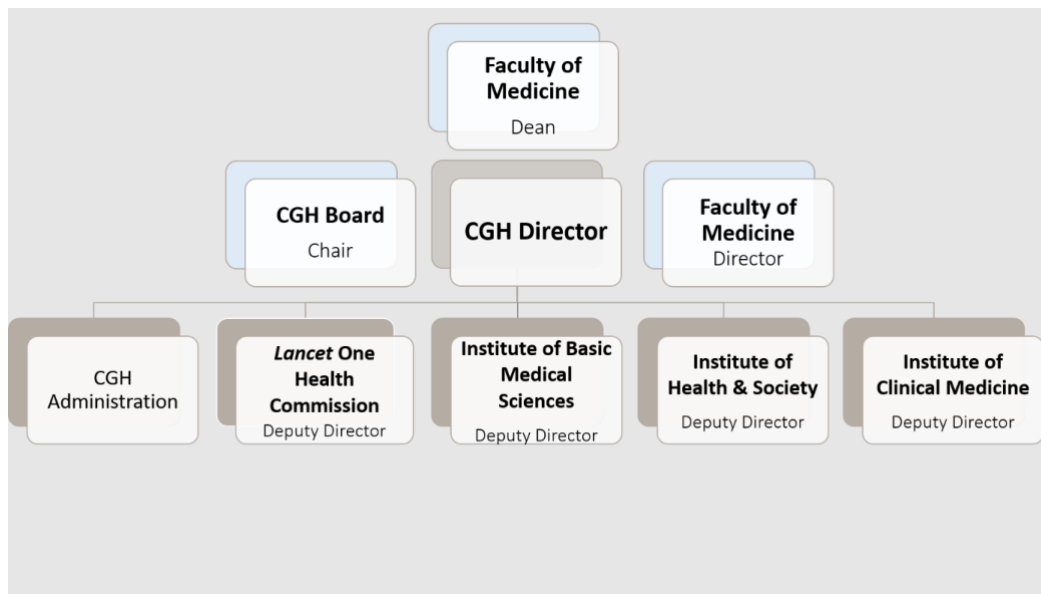


## Social media

The CGH uses Facebook and Twitter as a key platform to disseminate global health-related content relevant to our followers. Our following has been steadily growing with increasing activity and focus from the small, but efficient core team.



## Structure 2022



## Management 2022

Activities are facilitated by Jeanette H. Magnus, Ingeborg K. Haavardsson, Gabriella Rodriguez, Christina Brux and Brenda Jimris-Rekve (until summer 2022), supported by three Deputy Directors representing the institutes from the Faculty of Medicine at UiO.

## Deputy Directors 2022

The Deputy Directors are responsible for:

- initiating and running CGH activities at their institute;
- mobilizing the staff of their institute in global health related activities within teaching, research and dissemination in line with the CGH strategic plan;
- mobilizing students at their institute in CGH student activities;
- ensuring synergy between the institute and the CGH in strategic activities related to global health;
- serving as a global health advocate;
- representing CGH in relevant contexts.



**Jeanette H. Magnus**  
Director



**Ingeborg K. Haavardsson**  
Managing Director



**Gabriella Rodriguez**  
Communications



**Christina Brux**  
Adviser



**Brenda Jimris-Rekke**  
Project Coordinator  
(until summer 2022)



**Asgeir Johannessen**  
Deputy Director,  
Institute of Clinical Medicine



**Mekdes Gebremariam**  
Deputy Director,  
Institute of Health and Society



**Mahmood Reza Amiry-Moghaddam**  
Institute of Basic Medical  
Sciences

## Appendix

Table 2. Events hosted/co-hosted in 2022

Title	Co-organizers	Date	Type	Registered Participants
<b>Nordic Global Health Talks: Hepatitis B in Sub-Saharan Africa - too neglected to even be a neglected disease?</b>	School of Global Health, University of Copenhagen	January 5	Lecture	N/A
<b>Rettferdig vaksinefordeling - Panelsamtale</b>	Student Advisory Group (CGH), Studenter Uten Grenser Oslo, Universities Allied for Essential Medicines (UAEM) Norge	February 28	Panel discussion	56
<b>The Hidden Challenges for Professional Women</b>	Women in Global Health (WGH) Norway	March 8	Networking seminar	66
<b>Global Health Leadership in the Private Sector - a conversation with Medistim CEO Kari E. Krogstad</b>	Women in Global Health (WGH) Norway	March 30	Webinar	50
<b>Gender-responsive Recovery from COVID-19 in Europe</b>	Women in Global Health (WGH) Sweden, Norway, Germany, Switzerland, Spain and Ireland	March 31	Webinar	145
<b>RELIGHT Symposium: Road to Excellence in Global Health Research</b>		April 7	Conference	45
<b>Bingo Night</b>	Student Advisory Group (CGH)	April 29	Social student activity	50
<b>Global Health Leadership in International Organizations - examples from WHO with Bente Mikkelsen</b>	Women in Global Health (WGH) Norway	May 4	Webinar	50
<b>Menstrual Health – A Global Challenge</b>	Women in Global Health (WGH) Norway	June 2	Webinar	140
<b>Bioethics and Global Health: What Should a Just Future of Health Entail? (Launch Event)</b>	Crosscutting Theme on Ethics in Global Health	June 15	Webinar	163

<b>Arendalsuka 2022: Én helse, én klode – og bare én sjanse?</b>	The Life Science Cluster, Norwegian Veterinary Institute, Norwegian Institute of Public Health, Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU)	August 18	Panel discussion	N/A
<b>Infant Feeding in a Global Context</b>		October 6	Hybrid seminar	34
<b>A pandemic's wider social, economic and equity impacts: perspectives from Kerala state in India</b>	Norwegian Institute of Public Health	October 6	Seminar	30
<b>Women Leadership in Global Health Research with Andrea S. Winkler</b>	Women in Global Health (WGH) Norway	October 12	Webinar	50
<b>A World in Transitions: Implications for Priorities and Efficiencies in Global Health</b>	Norwegian Ministry of Health and Care Services, Norwegian Institute of Public Health	October 14	Conference	360
<b>Do we need a pandemic treaty?</b>	Politics of Global Health, Centre for Development and the Environment (SUM), UiO	October 18	Unpacked Seminar	20
<b>Pandemics, Health Diplomacy, Peace and Cooperation</b>	Crosscutting Theme on Policy and Peace	October 25	Seminar	59
<b>The Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change 2022 - Norway Launch</b>	Norwegian Planetary Health Alliance (NORPath)	November 3	Webinar	132
<b>Consulting firms in global health: The case of WHO reform</b>	Politics of Global Health, Centre for Development and the Environment (SUM), UiO	November 11	Unpacked Seminar	20
<b>Global Health Day at Oslo University Hospital</b>	Regional Centre for Imported and Tropical Diseases, OUS, Department of Global Health, OUS, Research Group for Chronic Infections, OUS and Research Group for Tropical Diseases and Reproductive Health, OUS	November 22	Conference	80
<b>Regional Meet &amp; Greet 2022 - Oslo</b>	WGH Norway	November 24	Meeting	25
<b>Total</b>			<b>21</b>	<b>1,575</b>