



ACEPHAP news

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Reaping the Benefit of Collaborations



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ACEPHAP

AFRICA CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR POPULATION HEALTH AND POLICY

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VISION

To be a center of excellence in population health, research and development in Africa.

MISSION

Skilled human resource for health related to population health with a focus of conducting research to achieve sustainable development through linking research findings to policy implementation

OBJECTIVES

- To train postgraduate students to acquire knowledge, skills and competence towards achieving health- related SDGs
- To strengthen capacity and capability of translating research findings into policy and practice
- To promote and enable gender parity and participation in population health research and policy
- To increase human resources for nursing health in West and Central Africa.

ACEPHAP Maximizes Benefit of Collaborations ... Visits UK for a Research Communication Workshop

Africa Center of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP) is set to maximize the benefit of collaboration. As part of efforts to achieve such objectives, its Management team led by the Director, Professor Hadiza Galadanci was in Leeds, United Kingdom for a 5-day interactive training workshop on Research Communication.

The training, which was part of the implementation of a proposal for collaboration between the Center and United Kingdom based research training Center; **Research Retold**, took place from Monday 29th January to 2nd February, 2024.

The workshop titled: “**Building an Effective Communication Strategy, the processes of Research Communication, and Introduction to Human-Centered Design**” had the following topics; Communicating research in accessible and visuals ways, Centre-wide communication and visibility, and Introducing human-centered design.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, the Director of Research Retold, Mihaela Gruia, said the objective of the workshop was to help train ACEPHAP researchers on the processes of clearly communicating their existing research to non-academic audiences, including policymakers, businesses and third sector organizations.

To achieve the aforementioned objective, Mihaela said the workshop would cover a step-by- step process for communicating

Research Retold has collaborated with more than 1000 researchers across 25 UK universities



ACEPHAP team brainstorming at the Research Communication workshop

research findings and was expected to empower the participants with skills and resources to formulate a Centre-wide communication and marketing strategy that increases the visibility of the participants' Centre and positions them in the best light to share expertise in digital formats.

She also explained that the workshop would empower the trainees with the knowledge and practical skills necessary to apply human-centered design principles in their research practices and become more effective in influencing policy change that foster patient-centered health services.

Speaking further, Mihaela said; Communicating Research in accessible and visual ways had the primary aim of empowering participants with the skills and

strategies needed to bridge the gap between their research and non-academic audiences. By the end of this workshop, “you will be proficient in distilling your research into a clear and compelling message that resonates with policymakers, businesses, and third-sector organizations. The aim is to demystify the process of creating accessible and visually engaging content, ensuring your findings have a real impact beyond the academic realm,” She remarked.

On Communication strategy, the aim was to design a practical communication strategy that would enhance the Centre's visibility through digital means. The primary goals were to: • Review current processes: Evaluate existing communication processes, pinpointing areas that needed improvement, and • develop new strategies.

On introducing Human-Centered Design, Mihaela stated that by the end of the workshop, participants would be empowered with the knowledge and practical skills to apply Human-Centered Design (HCD) principles to transform their research practices and became more effective in influencing policy changes that foster the development and effective implementation of patient-centered health services.

Research Retold: is a research communication training center in Leeds, United Kingdom that provides communication and design expertise to help academics present their findings in visual, high-impact summaries. It had collaborated with more than 1000 researchers across 25 UK universities, on topics ranging from global health financing and international assistance, through to mental health and the benefits music can have on sleep. It has also delivered interactive workshops for over 500 early-career researchers internationally with great success and satisfaction, building skills and offering resources for academics to communicate their work in



ACEPHAP team in a group photograph with Mihaela (middle)

accessible ways to maximize their impact.

Those who attended the 5-day training workshop were: The ACEPHAP Director, Professor Hadiza Galadanci, Deputy Directors, Training, Dr. Ibrahim

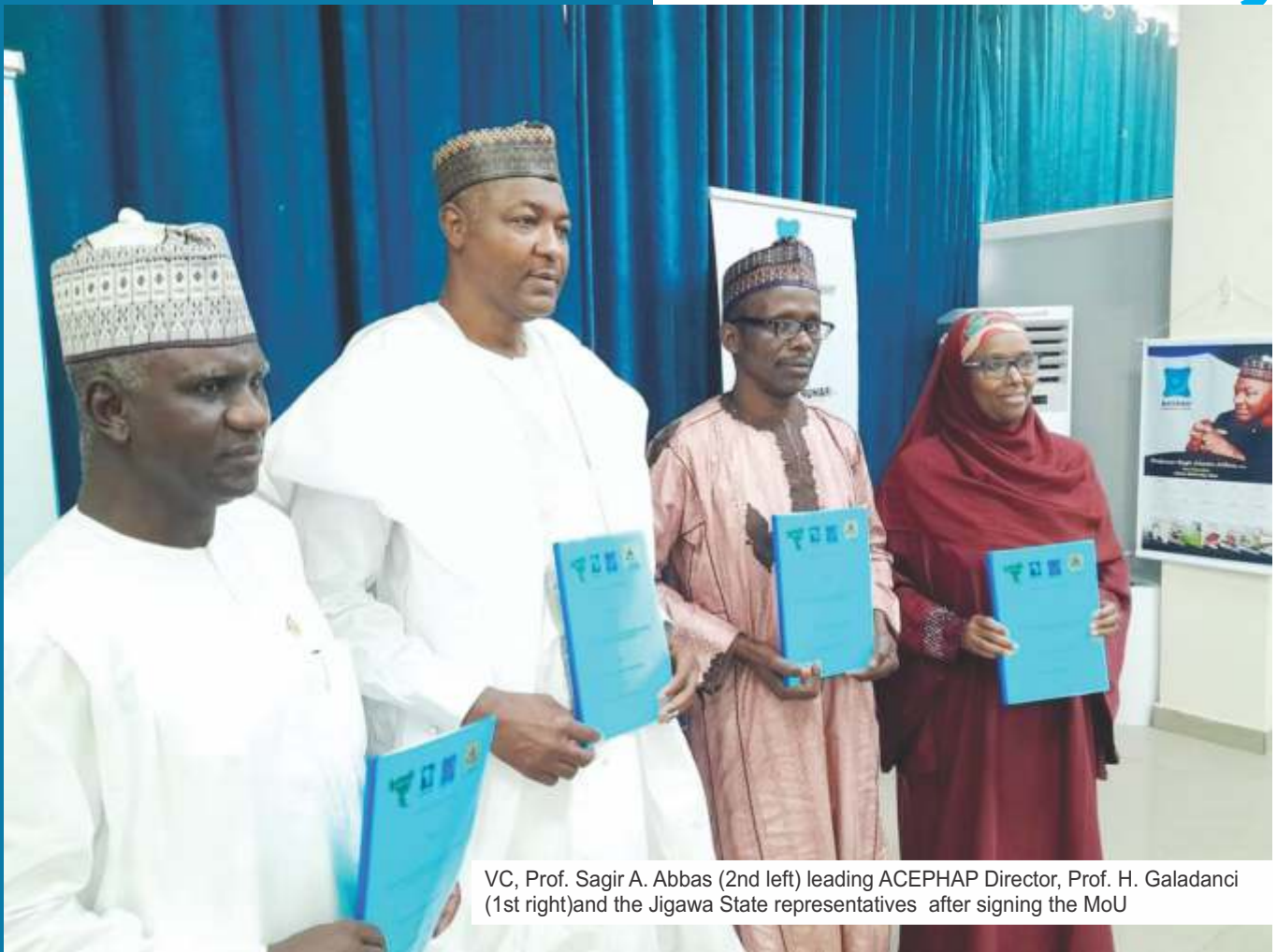
Nashabaru, Research, Dr. Taiwo Amole and Outreach and Linkages, Dr. Salisu Maiwada Abubakar, the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Dr. Baba Musa Maiyaki and Dr. Aminu Ado Wakili, ACEPHAP Emotive Research Project Manager.



ACEPHAP Team in a group photograph with Research Retold group after the workshop

ACEPHAP Collaboration with Jigawa State Begins to Yield Fruits

Today marks the beginning of this sojourn, more areas of collaboration will be harnessed to improve service delivery



VC, Prof. Sagir A. Abbas (2nd left) leading ACEPHAP Director, Prof. H. Galadanci (1st right) and the Jigawa State representatives after signing the MoU

The Africa Center of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP) in collaboration with the Jigawa State Primary Healthcare Development Agency (JSPHCDA), with the (UNICEF-Supported PHC Challenge Fund) organized a three-day training on Maternal, Reproductive, Child Health, and

Nutrition (MR-CHaN) for reproductive health officers and matrons in Jigawa State.

The three-day training was part of the implementation of the memorandum of understanding signed between ACEPHAP and Jigawa State Government in 2022 on maternal reproductive health, child health and nutrition. The

The participants would be further equipped with practical skills to implement effective interventions counseling techniques, promote integration and encourage the integration of acquired knowledge into daily practices for improved service delivery.

training took place on Wednesday 27th and ended on Friday 29th December, 2023 in Jigawa State.

In his welcome address, the Permanent Secretary, Jigawa State Primary Health Care Development Agency, Dr. Kabiru Ibrahim Aliyu told the participants that the training workshop was direct implementation of his excellency's 12 points agenda which translates to 56 development commitment, five out of which are health centered. He said *o p t i m i z i n g* reproductive health services neatly falls in line with global thinking.

Dr. Kabiru said the State Government intended to use the three days to refresh the participants with current concepts and practices in the areas of effective anti-natal care, skilled birth, *m o d e r n* contraceptives technology, post-natal care as well as maternal and child nutrition. He said the State Government was pleased to partner with Bayero University under ACEPHAP to achieve the above stated objectives.

The academia, according to the Permanent Secretary remained untapped huge technical resource which public health programmes are yet to

recognize. "Today marks the beginning of this sojourn, more areas of collaboration will be harnessed to improve service delivery."

In his address, the Center's Deputy Director, Outreach and Linkages, Dr. Salisu Maiwada Abubakar said the aim of the training was to equip participants with updated knowledge, practical skills, and strategies to improve healthcare services provided to women, infants, and children within their communities/Local Governments across the State.

He added that the training was a comprehensive endeavour aimed at empowering Reproductive Health Officers and Matrons in Jigawa State with the necessary tools and knowledge to address the multifaceted challenges in maternal, reproductive, child health, and nutrition. He said it is anticipated that the acquired skills and knowledge would be instrumental in enhancing healthcare services and promoting healthier outcomes for women, infants, and children in Jigawa State.

Dr. Abubakar added that participants would be further equipped with practical skills to implement effective interventions and counseling techniques, promote integration and encourage the integration of acquired knowledge into daily practices for



BUK Management in a group photograph with Jigawa State representatives

improved service delivery.

It could be recalled that in 2022, ACEPHAP signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Jigawa State Government in the areas of capacity building for health workers, research and outreach activities, maternal, child health and nutrition, among others.



Prof. Hadiza Galadanci presenting her address

At a 5-Day Bauchi Workshop: ACEPHAP Assumes Mentorship Role ... Mentors TETFund Centers of Excellence

It could be recalled that Based on the successes recorded by the World Bank ACE Impact Projects spread across the African Continent, the Nigerian Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund) decided to emulate the good work of the ACEs by approving the establishment of TETFund Centers of Excellence across tertiary institutions in the nation's six geopolitical zones. Twelve (12) centers were selected from the universities, six from Colleges of Education, and the remaining six from Polytechnics. They were allocated one billion naira each to commence implementations. Motivated by the urge to succeed, one of the centers; TETFund Center of Excellence for Integrated Farming Systems domiciled at the Federal Polytechnics, Bauchi sought

collaboration with ACEPHAP to tap from the wealth of experience and glaring successes achieved by the Center.

As part of the implementation of the collaboration, a 5-Day Workshop/Mentorship was jointly organized by ACEPHAP and TETFund Center of Excellence for Integrated Farming Systems. The workshop was for Staff of TETFund Centers of Excellence in Tertiary Institutions in the country. The workshop took place at the Federal Polytechnic, Bauchi from Monday 15th to Friday 19th January, 2024 with the theme: **Cultivating Excellence, the Path to Impactful Center Operations**. It was aimed at mentoring the newly established TETFund Centers of Excellence for them



Participants in a group photograph

to learn and replicate the success story of ACEPHAP.

In his opening remarks, the Rector of the Federal Polytechnic, Bauchi, Alhaji Sani Usman commended, ACEPHAP for collaborating with the Polytechnic TETFund Center in order to share experience so that staff of the centers of Excellence across the country could take a cue from the performance of the ACE Impact projects with ACEPHAP as a shining example.

The Rector who was represented by the Director, Academic Planning, of the Polytechnic, Alhaji Salisu Muhammad Shehu, said "I understand that there were over 20 TETFund Centers of Excellence assembled here for the purpose of participating in the

It could be recalled that based on the successes recorded by the ACE World Bank Projects, the ACE Impact Projects have spread across the African Continent.

workshop which was designed as a form of experience sharing and mentorship by the Management Team of ACEPHAP. This is a worthy knowledge sharing initiative and a commendable gesture. I salute the ACEPHAP Director and her team," he remarked.

He urged all the participants to make the best use of the opportunity by replicating the ACEPHAP success story in their work plan in order to excel and attract more funding from other donor agencies.

In his speech, the Director of the Bauchi Center, Dr. Kolawale Richard said the workshop was the outcome of a collaboration between the center and ACEPHAP and hoped that it would be sustained. He said the presence of ACEPHAP team in

the Polytechnics had strengthened their faith, adding that on their part they would do everything humanly possible to sustain the relationship. Dr. Richard urged the participants to make the best use of the papers which he believed if replicated would go a long way to assist in achieving the desired objectives.

In her lead paper titled: "Concept of Center of Excellence" presented at the workshop, Professor Hadiza Galadanci began her presentation by drawing analogy between Africa Center of Excellence and TETFund Center of Excellence. She said both centers were conceived with a set of clear objectives which were outlined by the donor agencies. She said the success or otherwise of a center depended on its management team's approach/compliance with the guidelines stipulated by the donor agencies.

Professor Galadanci told the participants that you can only achieve your goals if you know why the Centers were established. She said the first thing the

any center that is desirous of success must take cognizance of the model. As a mentorship workshop, most of the presentations were experience sharing spearheaded by the staff of ACEPHAP.

The papers presented at the workshop are as follows: Lead Presentation Titled: **Concept of Centers of Excellence**. It was delivered by the Director of ACEPHAP, Professor Hadiza Shehu Galadanci.

The Role of Publicity in ensuring excellence by Bala G. Abdullahi ACEPHAP Communication officer and Others are: The Role of Collaboration and Linkages in the Development of Centers of Excellence, Effective Project Management Fundamentals and Challenges: ACEPHAP Perspectives, Training, Regionalization and Internationalization of Centers of Excellence, Advocacy and Stakeholders' Engagement for Centers Development and Impact,



Director ACEPHAP, Prof. H. Galadanci receiving a gift from Deputy Director TCOE, Bauchi, Dr. Aliyu Mohammed Gadam

center leader should do in terms of project implementation, was for him to put all the other center team members on the same page by educating them to understand the vision, mission and objectives of the center. She said, only by so doing, the management staff would be able to work as a team towards achieving the desired objectives.

The ACEPHAP Director unveiled the center's template which she wanted participants to replicate and use as a guide towards achieving successes. She mentioned the model used by the center to include; regional networking, regional postgraduate training, cutting edge research, outreach and linkages, high impact publication, institutional impact, innovation and entrepreneurship and gender sensitivity. She said

Conflict Resolution and its Best Practices.

There were Cohorts presentations: (1) Finance and Audit Under the Auspices of Mallam Badayi Kurawa, ACEPHAP Auditor and Mr. Abdul Azeez, Aileobini assistant finance officer; (2) Procurement under the auspices of Mallam Rabi'u Sagagi, ACEPHAP Procurement Officer, (3) Monitoring and Evaluation/Environmental Safeguard, under the auspices of Dr. Baba Musa Maiyaki, ACEPHAP, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer and Dr. Faisal Sale Dankishiya, ACEPHAP Safeguard Officer.

Some of the participants who commented at the end of the workshop, expressed gratitude to the ACEPHAP Team for a thorough experience sharing presentations, saying that "we shall replicate the ACEPHAP template.

ACEPHAP Holds End of Year Celebratory Luncheon in Grand Style

... Rewards Outstanding Staff

It was a celebration galore for staff of Africa Center of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP) when they converged at the Center's Conference Hall on Saturday 20th January, 2024 for a celebratory luncheon.

The occasion was organized to celebrate the successes recorded in the outgoing year 2023 and to reward hardworking staff whose contributions were not only unique, but outstanding.

It was not the first time the Center organized such an occasion. It could be recalled that at the end of the year 2022, a maiden edition was held where staff dined and celebrated together in a family fashion. The Director, Professor Hadiza Galadanci, who was overwhelmed with joy and satisfaction during the maiden edition, promised to make the event a memorable and yearly affair. The second edition was therefore a fulfilment of promise, a desire to encourage and reward hard work and perseverance.

What made this year's celebration unique however, was the presence of the Vice Chancellor,



VC, Prof. Sagir Adamu Abbas delivering goodwill message

This assertion was attested to by the Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas in his address at the occasion. He said the Management of the University was thrilled by the way the Team was successfully running the affairs of the center, saying, he was not surprised by the groundswell of successes it achieved.

He said the Management was very happy with happenings at the Center and assured that everything humanly possible would be done to support and encourage the center to continue to excel not only among its peers, but also among all the ACE Impact centers across Africa.

"I am considering taking a cue from the way ACEPHAP is running the center and replicate it by copying the center's template in the running of the university. We want to model BUK the way ACEPHAP works, but paucity of funds is the major challenge." Professor Abbas believed that ACEPHAP was able to run the center with glaring successes because it had enough funds and committed team members to work with. He said in spite of the availability of funds, ACEPHAP had stood as a shining example among ACE Impact centers.

On the issue of research outcomes and record-breaking discoveries, Professor Abbas advised Professor Galadanci and the ACEPHAP Team to do everything humanly possible to own their discoveries by publishing in a high impact journal to guard against someone stealing/reaping where he did not sow.

Earlier, in her address, the Director of the Center, Professor Hadiza Galadanci said the reason why the celebratory luncheon was organized was to thank Allah for his mercies for seeing the center through the numerous successes it recorded in the year under review. She also disclosed that the occasion would also be used to appreciate and reward hard working staff whose contributions in research led to the achievements recorded by the center.



Prof. Hadiza Galadanci delivering her speech

Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas and the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Management Services, Professor Mahmoud Sani Umar. Their attendance personally showed the importance the Management of the University attaches to ACEPHAP activities and its groundswell of successes.



The VC, Prof. Sagir A. Abbas in a group photograph with ACEPHAP Team

The ACEPHAP Director x-rayed some of the modest achievements recorded by the center to include its E-motive research breakthrough which addressed the menace of postpartum hemorrhage, (a major cause of maternal mortality), running of five MSc programmes with regional students from across African countries, commencement of two PhD programmes, supported capacity building training of over 80 staff of the University and the publication of over 200 research papers in high impact journals as well as the establishment of the state of the art laboratory.

On collaboration and linkages, the Director stated that the center had signed several Memorandum of Understanding with foreign and national universities and research centers. She informed the audience that a center's team just returned from Bauchi where it collaborated with TETFund Center of Excellence for Integrated Farming Systems, Federal Polytechnic, Bauchi and conducted a 5-Day training programme from Monday 15th to Friday 19th January, 2024 for TETFund Centers of Excellence in the nation's tertiary institutions. She also said the Center signed MoU with Jigawa State Government for the training of its Reproductive Health Officers in the State.

Professor Galadanci said "this quantum of successes could not have been achieved without the support of the University Management under the leadership of Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas and the

center's dedicated and committed team members.

She said awards of excellence would be presented to members of the following teams; E-Motive Research Team, IVON Trial Team, Principal Investigator and special awards to some administrative staff of the center who showed extraordinary feat in the cause of carrying out their duties. Professor Galadanci promised to continue with the celebratory luncheon/award as a deliberate effort to instigate dedication, commitment and competition among staff of the center.

Some of those who received awards include; the the Research Principal Investigator and the Director of the Center, Professor Hadiza Shehu Galadanci, Deputy Director Research, Dr. Taiwo Amole, Deputy Director Training, Dr. Ibrahim Nashabaru, Deputy Director, Linkages, Dr. Salisu Maiwada Abubakar and Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Prof. Baba Musa Maiyaki. In the special award category, the center's accountant, Yahaya Abdu Bichi and the Driver, Abdul Kareem Garba were also honoured.

Some of the awardees expressed gratitude to the Director for the recognition, assuring that the award would go a long way to ginger them to do more for the center.

Research Retold Communication Workshop in Pictures



ACEPHAP Activities Captured in Pictures



Celebratory Luncheon in pictures



Emir of Bauchi Describes ACEPHAP as a Shining Star Amongst ACE Projects

The Emir of Bauchi, Alhaji Dr. Rilwanu Suleiman Adamu has observed with satisfaction the breakthrough achieved in recent times by the Africa Center of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP) which made it a shining star and exceptional amongst its contemporaries and other ACE Impact Centers across Africa.

“I have followed closely the activities of ACEPHAP in the last one year and have observed a global breakthrough in areas of health care, particularly the solution it found for postpartum hemorrhage which had been wreaking havoc on mothers, not only in Nigeria or Africa, but globally.”

The emir who was speaking in his palace on Thursday 18th January, 2024 when he received the leadership of ACEPHAP in his palace said, “I also learnt today that Professor Galadanci and her Team from ACEPHAP, are in Bauchi for a workshop aimed at mentoring new centers of excellence in the country. This is a recognition of the excellent work the center had been doing and a highly commendable feat,” the Emir remarked.

Alhaji Rilwanu Adamu said he learnt with happiness, the outcome of the E-motive Trial spearheaded by Professor Hadiza Galadanci as the Principal Investigator and the resultant E-motive bundle discovery for the treatment of postpartum hemorrhage, a major cause of maternal mortality worldwide. “I also learnt that the new e-motive bundle treatment is capable of reducing maternal mortality arising from PPH by 60 per cent, this is fantastic and commendable feat,” the Emir stated.

He said the name; Professor Hadiza Shehu Galadanci is a household name in the field of healthcare delivery in Nigeria. “Although she is not here personally, please extend my greetings and congratulations

and ask her to keep the good work up.”

Earlier, the Director, TETEFund Center of excellence for Integrated Farming Systems, Federal Polytechnic, Bauchi, Dr. Kolawole Richard, had told the Emir that they were in the palace to lead the ACEPHAP team who were in Bauchi since Monday for a workshop to pay homage to his highness.

He said the workshop was jointly organized by the Center and Bauchi TETEFund Center of Excellence as part of the implementation of the collaboration between the two centers. He said the workshop was a mentorship initiative to help the new TETEFund Centers of Excellence in the country to benefit from the experiences of ACEPHAP team in order to stand on their feet.

In his address, the ACEPHAP Deputy Director in charge of Linkages, Dr. Salisu Maiwada Abubakar thanked the Emir for the reception, adding that they were in Bauchi for a workshop and felt that it would not be appropriate to come to the state without paying their respect to the Emir.

He said the Director, Professor Hadiza Galadanci was with the team for the workshop but had to return to Kano to attend to another equally important assignment and asked him

to extend her thanks and appreciation to the emir for his fatherly disposition.

Dr. Salisu told the Emir that the doors of the center were open for collaboration on issues that had to do with the improvement of the health of the people as well as child nutrition. This, he said would be achieved through training of healthcare providers from the collaborating states.

He said the center had already



Alh. Rilwanu Suleiman Adamu, Emir of Bauchi



The Emir delivering his speech

signed a memorandum of understanding with the Jigawa State Government on maternal, child health and nutrition as well as to increase the capacity of their healthcare providers to ensure they provide quality emergency obstetric care services through training. “We hope to exploit similar opportunity here in Bauchi for the purpose of improving the knowledge of healthcare providers for the betterment of the citizenry.

ACEPHAP Training on the use of E-Motive Bundle: ...Testimony of a Trainee Midwife Nurse



Maryam Yusuf Suleiman

A Midwife Nurse, Malama Maryam Yusuf Suleiman has become a cynosure of all eyes, when she received a standing ovation from the audience at the well-attended end of year celebratory luncheon organized by the Africa Center of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP) to celebrate the successes recorded by the center in the outgoing year 2023 and to reward hardworking staff whose contributions were not only unique, but outstanding.

The question on the lips of many is; why did she receive a standing ovation? What makes her cynosure of all eyes? The answer came directly from Malama

Maryam's account. It was at the end of the celebratory luncheon when the Director of ACEPHAP, Professor Hadiza Galadanci asked the audience if anybody had comment to make. She raised her hands and was recognized. She began her testimony like this;

My name is Maryam Yusuf Suleiman, I am a midwife nurse. I will never forget the impact ACEPHAP made in my life, and my career as a midwife nurse. I am one of those who attended ACEPHAP organized training programme for the use of the new E-motive bundle intervention to treat postpartum hemorrhage. I want to use this opportunity to relate an experience I had. By the grace of God all I learned in the training is still fresh in my memory. This is the reason why I was able to use the knowledge to save the life of a woman in labour at a Primary Healthcare center located adjacent to my house.

Maryam continued by telling the audience that on the fateful day, she took her daughter to the health center for a routine immunization. While she was there, she saw nurses running helter skelter. I asked what the problem was, nobody was ready to answer my enquiry. Being a woman, I decided to enter the delivery room. What I saw, was an experience, I will never pray to encounter again in my life. I saw a woman who just delivered with blood gushing out of her like a tap. Initially, I was hesitant, but because of the terrible condition and the pain the woman was passing through, I decided to introduce myself to the midwife nurse in charge. I informed her that, I was a midwife nurse, and I wanted to assist the bleeding woman. She immediately responded in the affirmative. I requested for tranexamic acid, there was already oxytocin and, IV fluid. After I investigated the patient, I discovered that she was suffering from postpartum hemorrhage due to the none contraction of the uterus after delivery. That was the reason why she was profusely bleeding. I immediately applied the emotive bundle treatment I learned from ACEPHAP by administering oxytocin and tranexamic acid and performed an evacuation. Immediately the bleeding stopped. There was loud ovation from all the nurses present.

The Midwife Nurse in charge of the health center thanked me and pleaded with me to come and teach her nurses the new E-motive bundle treatment. I did as she requested by visiting the health center three times. I taught them the new E-motive treatment. I am very happy because those I taught, have learnt the innovation successfully. I will forever remain grateful to ACEPHAP Director, Professor Hadiza Galadanci who gave me the opportunity to participate in the new E-motive treatment training.

ACEPHAP Trains Obstetrics and Gynecology Specialists On E-Motive Bundle Treatment

Africa Center of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP) assembled Specialists in Obstetrics and Gynecology from four states of Lagos, Enugu, Kano and Gombe in Abuja, for a two-day capacity building training workshop.

Speaking at the opening ceremony which took place on Tuesday 24th October 2023, the Principal Investigator of the e-Motive Trial and Director of Africa Center of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP), Professor Hadiza Shehu Galadanci said the workshop was aimed at training top level stakeholders in maternal health in Nigeria on the ground breaking outcome of the E-motive trial which had been proven to reduce the menace of Postpartum Hemorrhage by 60% and contribute to the improvement of the poor maternal statistics of the LMICs.

Professor Galadanci, who was represented by the Nigerian study coordinator for the E-Motive Trial, Dr. Aminu Wakili from ACEPHAP, said the workshop was to train the representatives of the Society of Obstetrics



Participants in a group photograph

and Gynecology of Nigeria (SOGON) from four catchment states earlier mentioned who were mostly professors and senior consultants in the field of O&G. They would however serve as trainers to step down the training in their respective states.

The ACEPHAP Director explained that the training would involve a presentation and a series of practical sessions to pass on the approach to implementing the E-motive bundle for the treatment of PPH. She also assured the participants of her commitment and full support of the association in any activities geared towards improving the lives of women across the country.

Also speaking, the incoming President of Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology of Nigeria (SOGON), Professor Okay C. Ikpeze commended the facilitator and acknowledged his efforts by coming all the way from Kano. He also assured the facilitators that they would be staying throughout the training days to make sure that everything went smoothly. He thanked Professor Galadanci, who is the E-motive trial Principal

Investigator for agreeing to partner with SOGON and prayed for a successful workshop.

The training module was designed to build the capacity of the entire team of providers who care for women at birth to implement the protocol for early detection and the use of the WHO clinical bundle “MOTIVE” (Massage-Oxytocic Drugs-Tranexamic Acid-IV fluids-Examination & Escalation) as the “first response” treatment for PPH.

This module was designed on using a “low-dose, high-frequency” (LDHF) approach, for SOGON Trainers. Their skills are built to improve communication and teamwork and reinforce skills taught during training activities.

The goal was to increase the capacity of Trainers to train all providers at their hospitals to detect postpartum hemorrhage (PPH) early and perform the MOTIVE clinical bundle of interventions as the first response to manage every case of PPH.

At the end of the Training, trainers were expected to be able to:

- Demonstrate all skills in the module which are:
- Early detection of PPH based on the volume of blood lost and clinical signs
- Using the SBAR communication tool
- Deliver MOTIVE bundle
- Uterine massage
- Administration of uterotonic drugs
- Administration of IV fluids
- Administration of Tranexamic Acid (TXA)
- Identification of the cause of PPH after examination of the bladder, genital tract, placenta, and clotting status
- Clinical decision-making ability when deciding to begin treatment of PPH and deciding whether to escalate treatment after the bundle has been implemented
- Provide E-MOTIVE training to others:
- Apply the principles of competency, and facility-based training when facilitating training activities
- Demonstrate appropriate facilitation techniques
- Facilitate simulation activities and coaching of participants
- Effectively use the E-MOTIVE Action Plan, Provider's Guide, and Flipchart
- Assess learners' skills including while using the simulator
- Assess learners' knowledge using the knowledge test
- Describe the importance of the LDHF methodology.

At *Touba* Conference on Girl-Child Education: Dearth of Female Health Professionals Worries Prof. Galadanci



Prof. Hadiza Galadanci presenting her address at the Touba conference

The Director of Africa Center of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP), Professor Hadiza Galadanci has expressed concern over the shortage of female health professionals in Kano State.

She delivered a paper on the importance of girl-child education at a one-day conference organized by *Touba International Foundation* with the theme: “Girl Child Education Matters, re-evaluating our education priorities, on Sunday 14th January, 2024 at *The Affluent Marquee* in Nasarawa GRA, Kano.

Professor Galadanci said “we must first and foremost prioritize girl-child education, thereafter encourage them to pursue medical education as a deliberate policy to bridge the alarming shortage gap.

Speaking on the importance of medical education, Professor Galadanci said the field provides endless opportunities to its practitioners. She said apart from the earthly reward, there was the invisible reward from Almighty God in the hereafter. She quoted copiously from the Holy Qur'an and the Hadith (the prophet tradition) to justify her assertion.

The ACEPHAP Director who also went history lane to encourage the girl child to choose medical education, mentioned some pious women who, during prophet Muhammad (SAW) lifetime were seen attending and giving succor to the sick. “We need to emulate them to reap the double reward I mentioned earlier.”

Justifying the dearth of women medical doctors in Kano State, Professor Galadanci disclosed that at the moment, there were a little bit over 200 women medical doctors and just over 30 consultants. “They are not enough. Kano State requires over 4,000 medical doctors both male and female to be able to give quality health care to the citizenry. What we have now as doctors to patient ratio in Kano is; 2.8: 100,000, while for nurses is 1.7: 100,000,” this is grossly inadequate. You cannot get quality health care with this wide ratio,” she fumed.

She said healthcare professionals cannot be manufactured, they can only be trained. “What we need to do to encourage girl child to pursue medical education, is support. And the pillar of that support, are parents, and the husbands of the women who desire to go into healthcare profession,” she remarked.

Professor Galadanci stated that although there had been improvement in the number of females going into medical profession in the last 20 years, that was not enough. “More needs to be done to close the wide gap in the number of female health personnel in Kano State.”

Earlier, the convener of the conference, Hajiya Batulu Aminu Dantata, said the aim of the conference was to bring renowned scholars both Islamic and conventional together to speak and brainstorm on the importance of girl child education in the northern region of the country. She said the conference would remind the girl child that in seeking knowledge, “we must not forget our Muslim identity; who we are, what we are, and where we are going.”

Hajiya Batulu added that one of the cardinal objectives of the *Touba Foundation* which was established in 2009 was to support the education of women and children in Kano State. Its primary goal according to her, was to alleviate barriers preventing vulnerable groups from acquiring knowledge. “We want to build the girl child from youth to an educated and responsible adolescent.”

She further revealed that one of the foundation's future proposals was in addition to the existing International School (Secondary and Primary) planned to build an all-female university, with all-female lecturers.

Among the prominent Islamic Scholars that spoke at the conference were; Sheikh Muhammad Umar Sani Rijiyar Lemo, Sheikh Muhammad Bin Uthman and Dr. Abdullah Usman Gadon Qaya, among others.

There were also round table discussions on Science, Agric & Law as well as Medicine featuring renowned female scholars such as Professor Aisha Kuliya Gwarzo, Professor Hassana Darma, Dr. Hadiza Sa'idu and Dr. Halima Abdullahi Rabiu. among others.

ACEPHAP Holds Hands-on Training on Whole-Genome Sequencing

A Six-Day Hands-on Training on Whole-Genome Sequencing organized by Africa Center of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP) aimed at empowering the University Researchers was held in Kano. The training took place at the Centre's Molecular Biology Laboratory from Monday 18th to Saturday 23rd December, 2023.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, the Director of the Centre, Professor Hadiza Galadanci highlighted the significance of the training, saying that the aim was to empower members of the Bayero University Kano Molecular Research community and faculty at ACEPHAP with sequencing skills. She said the technical skills acquired during the training would go a long way to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application.

Speaking on the importance of the Molecular Biology laboratory, Professor Galadanci said the established laboratory and its work is underscored by its efforts to sequence the entire genomes of several pathogens, adding that the laboratory had joined the ARTIC Network, a consortium of world-expert institutions, comprising the University of Cambridge, University of Edinburgh, University of Birmingham, among other universities in the United Kingdom, along with a few other leading universities across Africa.

The Director emphasized the instrumental role played by the Molecular Biology laboratory team in advancing genome sequencing to its current level. She stated that "Our goal is to cultivate a cadre of skilled individuals capable of driving advancements in genomics within our community and beyond," she assured.

Speaking on the purpose of the training, Dr. Taiwo Amole, the Centre's Deputy Director of Research, said the aim was to empower Molecular Researchers in the University and faculty at ACEPHAP with sequencing skills. She said the training would be conducted by experienced professionals/experts, including the head of the laboratory, Dr. Isah Abubakar Aliyu. Other facilitators, she added included; Dr. Jamilu Abubakar Bala and Dr. Aminu Abba Yusuf. She said these experts have received vast knowledge from the center's collaborators at the Universities of Cambridge and Edinburgh.

Highlighting the core mission of ACEPHAP Molecular Biology and Genomic Sequencing

Laboratory, Dr. Baba Musa Maiyaki, the Centre's Monitoring & Evaluation Officer, emphasized the laboratory's commitment to empowering Bayero University's scientific community and the entire Northern region. He said the workshop was meticulously designed to provide participants with the essential technical skills necessary to navigate and harness the power of advanced sequencing technologies. "By bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application, we aim to cultivate a cadre of skilled individuals capable of driving advancements in genomics within our community and beyond," he explained.

In his address, Dr. Isah Abubakar Aliyu, head of the Laboratory, expressed gratitude to the ACEPHAP Director for supporting to conduct the training. "We want this training to be a memorable one, as it is going to be rigorous laboratory and theoretical



Workshop participants in a group photograph

presentations. Participants must pay more attention and be fully involved."

He announced that from inception last year, ACEPHAP's Molecular Biology and Genome Sequencing Laboratory was recognized as the best-performing laboratory among the Lab Network in West and Central Africa under the World ARTIC Network utilizing Oxford Nanopore Sequencing Technology.

Dr. Isah also highlighted ACEPHAP's commitment to scientific excellence, technological innovation, and community empowerment, captured in the on-going groundbreaking training initiative, heralding a new era of genomics expertise in Nigeria.

