



ACEPHAP news



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Celebrating three Years of Successes



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MATERNAL CHILD
HEALTH SUMMIT

PHOTO GALLERY



ACEPHAP

AFRICA CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR POPULATION HEALTH AND POLICY

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VISION

The Vision of ACEPHAP is to be a center of excellence in population health, research and development in Africa.

MISSION

Mission of producing 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 the nursing of human resources for health in West and Central Africa.





Participants at ACEPHAP community engagement, development and outreach

The last quarter of the year 2022 was not only hectic for the Africa Centre of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP) team, it was also activities personified. The numerous activities that took place in the Centre spanning three months – September, October and November were part of the concerted efforts of the Centre Management Team to execute the mandate of the centre in line with the dictates of the World Bank grants. Impactful research, postgraduate training, collaboration and short course trainings are some of the core mandates of the World Bank ACE grant. It should be noted that ACEPHAP research focus is centred on achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3, which focuses on maternal health, child health nutrition, infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases, as well as mental health. The centre can boast of experts in all these fields.

ACEPHAP: Celebrating three Years of Successes

ACEPHAP Training Workshops

In its capacity building initiative, the Centre organized a five day Computer Appreciation Training Workshop for administrative staff of the University. The training according to the Director of the Centre, Professor Hadiza Galadanci was part of the mandate of the centre to improve the capacity of professionals through short courses beyond conventional Masters and PhD degrees programmes.

Speaking on the objectives of the workshop, Professor Galadanci said participants would among others, be exposed to different kinds of application in Microsoft Office and Google workspace. Participants would have a better understanding and master the array of tools and features in the Microsoft Office package such as: power point from beginner to intermediate level, as well as spreadsheets from beginners to intermediate level.

She said the aim was to produce good and competent administrative staff who would be able to give their best to the University. She urged the participants to make the best use of the opportunity by paying attention to the presentations of the resource persons, particularly during the hands-on sessions. She further urged the workshop beneficiaries to transfer the knowledge they gained from the workshop to their subordinates in their various offices through in-house training, adding that doing so would go a long way to improve the performances of such officers.

She assured that the centre would continue to organise training workshops aimed at building individuals' capacity to be better administrators.



Traditional Homage by ACEPHAP team

ACEPHAP Kenya Training
After the conclusion of its computer appreciation training workshop in September, in Kano, the ACEPHAP team of trainers berthed in Nairobi Kenya. The Kenyan trip was part of the efforts of the Centre's regionalization objectives to share knowledge through capacity building. The ACEPHAP Team trained 22 Kenyan academics on research grant writing. The Kenyan academics that benefitted from the training were drawn from six universities in Kenya - Pwani

University, Mount Kenya University, Technical University of Kenya, Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology, University of Eastern African – Baraton and Karatina University and the Agenga Training and Research Institute of Kenya Nutritionists and Dietitians Institute (ATRI-KNDI). The training was conducted as part of the implementation of the Memorandum of Agreement ACEPHAP signed in June, 2022 with the seven Kenyan universities. The first part of the training took place virtually

On collaborations, the centre is currently collaborating with seven Universities in Kenya, Jigawa State Government on maternal health and nutrition, University Hospital Coventry, United Kingdom, Sheffield University, UK among other international and national collaborations.

on 21st and 22nd September and the second part was a face-to-face session between 16th and 21st October, 2022 at the Kenyan Nutritionist and Dietetics Institute (KNDI), Nairobi, Kenya.

The Center's Deputy Director in charge of training, Dr. Ibrahim Nashabaru led the ACEPAHP team of resource persons. Other resource persons include; Drs. Salisu Maiwada Abubakar, Baba Maiyaki Musa, Yusuf Yunusa Muhammad and Aminatu Kwaku Chiroma.

The Facilitators from Kenya, Dr. David Omondi Okeyo (the CEO of KNDI and Chief of Party of ATRI) and Professor Gordon Nguka (Chairman of the Board of ATRI) expressed their commitment to continue to mentor the participants beyond the training workshop and to ensure that as many research grants are responded to as possible. This, they believed would increase the chances of winning as many grants as possible and strengthen the collaboration.

On their parts, ACEPHAP facilitators expressed satisfaction on the level of commitment of the participants as they had already begun working as a team to respond to some calls for grant proposals. In addition, the workshop succeeded in getting the Kenyan universities to collaborate internally as it also contributes to the achievement of regionalization objective of the ACEPHAP. Speaking at the end of the training workshop, the participants expressed sincere appreciation to ACEPHAP and its facilitators for opening their eyes and equipping them with the necessary information to improve their research grant writing ability.

It could be recalled that ACEPHAP in June, 2022 signed a Memorandum of Agreement with seven Kenyan universities on teaching, research and community outreach which is geared towards training in nutrition and dietetics and other African universities to find long-lasting solution for African health workforce strengthening with a hope to improve population health and contribute to issues of policy formulation with implementation. Since inception, the Centre has trained over 1200 health workers and a total of 364 professionals have participated in the centre's short courses

ACEPHAP Postgraduate Training

It should be noted that at the inception of the ACE implementation, ACEPHAP introduced five postgraduate training programmes; M. Sc in Public Health Nutrition and Policy, M. Sc Global Health and Policy, M. Sc Maternal and Child Health and Policy, M. Sc Public Mental Health and Policy and M. Sc Public Health Nursing and Policy. At the moment, ACEPHAP has 110 M. Sc students. Of these, 30 are regional students, while 80 are national students. The regional students are from: Burkina

Faso one, Cameroon three, Chad/Tchad one, Ghana three, Liberia two, Senegal four and Sierra Leone nine. The rests are; Kenya one and Uganda one.

ACEPHAP Lecture

As part of the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding entered into between the Centre and University Hospital Coventry, United Kingdom, a public lecture titled: *Awareness on Common Neurological Disorder* was organized by the Africa Centre of Excellence for Population Health (ACEPHAP), on Friday 14th October, 2022 at Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital Conference Hall. The lecture was delivered by a Consultant Neurologist from the University Hospital Coventry, United Kingdom, Professor Abdullahi Shehu. In the lecture, the erudite scholar expressed concern over the attitude of some African societies who often link neurological disorders to 'Satanic' or 'demonic' affliction. He said the most worrisome is that victims of the condition often resorted to



Participants in a group photograph after the workshop

traditional therapy instead of seeking for orthodox medical solutions.

He explained neurological disorder as a disease that negatively affects the nervous system (brain, spinal cord and nerves), adding that 'some of them are very rare while others are common, He explained that one of these conditions is known as dementia.

This, according to him is a group of symptoms that point to a decline in a person's mental ability, such that it interferes with their normal daily life and function. He said people with dementia often experience memory loss, problems of reasoning and many other issues.

Epilepsy is also another common neurological disorder, according to the lecturer, here, the electrical activity of the brain is abnormal, resulting in recurrent seizures. He added that stroke is another common neurological disorder. It is a situation where the blood supply to the brain is severely or

entirely diminished. 'As a result the blood that carries oxygen and nutrients to the brain is defective.'

As a part of efforts to address the condition, Professor Abdullahi advised victims that instead of wasting precious time patronizing spiritual healers, they should visit hospitals and interact with neurologist who are experts in the area, adding that 'a lot of patients with neurological disorders have been treated successfully. He asked the audience to please educate those who are not opportuned to attend the lecture that neurological disorder has nothing to do with spiritual affliction, rather it is a normal disease which is caused by a decline in a person's mental ability, such that it interferes with normal daily life and function; And that the condition could be addressed through orthodox medicine.

In her brief remarks, the ACEPHAP Director, Professor Hadiza Galadanci said the lecture was in fulfilment of an earlier Memorandum of Understanding entered into between ACEPHAP and University Hospital Coventry to create awareness on common neurological disorder and Capacity Building Training in the areas of mental and public health. She disclosed that the capacity building aspect of the MoU was concluded through training of residents in mental and public health.

Summary of Conferences and Workshops organized by ACEPHAP in 2022

1. Computer Appreciation Workshop for administrative staff of Bayero University, Kano. From 26th to 30th September, 2022
2. Innovation and Intellectual Property Workshop for Faculty in BUK. From 4th to 8th October, 2022
3. Grant and manuscript writing workshop for residents and young researchers at University of Ghana Medical School. From 4th to 8th October, 2022
4. Awareness creation on common Neuropsychiatric disorder in Kano. From 10th to 14th October, 2022
5. Public lecture on creating awareness on common neuropsychiatric disorder in Kano. On the 14th of October, 2022
6. Grant writing workshop for University Faculty members in Kenya. From 21st to 22nd September, 2022 (virtual) and 18th to 20th October, 2022 (physical).
7. Emotive intervention training in 19 Intervention sites. All through the year.

ACEPHAP Research activities

In the areas of research, the Centre is implementing different research grants from donor

agencies. The donor agencies include: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Nigeria's Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND) and World Health Organization. For example, the Centre had won E-MOTIVE Research Project Grants from Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to conduct E-MOTIVE Trial in collaboration with University of Birmingham, United Kingdom. It is being implemented in five countries: Nigeria, Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa, and Pakistan. She also mentioned IVON and IVON PP trial grants also from Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in collaboration with Lagos University Teaching Hospital, Nigeria, (both aimed at reducing of the significant burden of maternal morbidity and mortality associated with anaemia during pregnancy and in the postpartum period). Also, the SiFCoVAN Study being conducted with the Nigerian Institute of

She assured that the centre would continue to organise training workshops aimed at building individuals' capacity to be better administrators.

Medical Research. Another project at the completion stage is the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Grant obtained from TETFUND through collaborative efforts with 5 other Universities in Nigeria. The Director revealed that the Centre had achieved over 145 publications

ACEPHAP Collaborations

On collaborations, the centre is currently collaborating with seven Universities in Kenya, Jigawa State Government on maternal health and nutrition, University Hospital Coventry, United Kingdom, Sheffield University, UK among other international and national collaborations.

World Bank Supervisory Team Visits to ACEPHAP

It is no longer news that ACEPHAP on Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th October, 2022 received a World Bank Team on supervisory visit to assess the centre performance so far. The team held meetings with the Management team, Faculty staff and regional students. It also visited facilities at the

centre. The team also paid a courtesy call on the Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas. The team leader, Dr. Janis P. Tupesis scored ACEPHAP high both in terms of World Bank guidelines compliance and performance. He said that with what he saw on ground coupled with his interaction with the centre's Management Team, faculty staff and the regional students, he was convinced that 'ACEPHAP was not only on track, but also among the highly rated and best performing centres.' He said the interaction the team had with ACEPHAP's stakeholders made him to conclude that the Centre has remarkable committed staff, committed students and above all committed Management Team at the University level, which he said was why the centre was able to attract a lot of international collaborations and regional students.

Dr. Janis stated that he was not surprised by the University's recent rise in the ranking of Nigerian universities, saying that such tremendous breakthrough was the result of committed scholarship by BUK academics with quality research, national and international collaborative work of the two centres of excellence in the University; ACEPHAP and CDA. The World Bank Team leader explained that the visit was a routine one aimed at assessing the activities of

its mandate.

Mid-Term Review of ACE Activities

The mid-term assessment of the performances of the Africa Centres of Excellence for Development Impact (ACE Impact) project performed by the

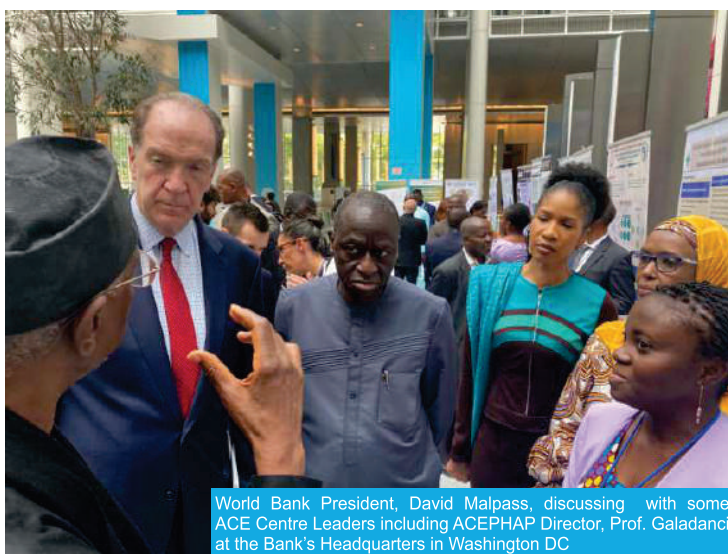


ACEPHAP Director, Prof. Hadiza Galadanci at World Bank Headquarter, Washington

World Bank had rated ACEPHAP high. The information was conveyed on Monday, 7th November 2022 by Mr Harry Gerard Crimi Jnr in his presentation during the Nigeria country roundtable between the World Bank, the French Development Agency (AFD), and the 17 Nigerian ACEs. With this development, Africa Centre of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP) will receive additional funds from the World Bank. The ACE Impact project is a higher education initiative funded by the World and AFD, which formally took-off in 2019 in eleven countries of West and Central Africa. The aim of the project is to establish strong specialized regional centres that will each focus on a single thematic area and provide world-class training, research and outreach to address the development challenges of Africa. The Centres were competitively selected, and BUK emerged as one of the few Universities with more than one Centre (ACEPHAP and CDA). The initial grant to ACEPHAP was six million US dollars while CDA received five million US dollars.

It should be noted that in the implementation of the ACE Impact project, the World Bank employs a "results-based" funding approach in which funds are released to the Centres based on performance and achievement of key milestones. After taking stock of the performances of all the Centres during the mid-term of the project, the high-performing centres will be given additional funds while poorly performing centres will have their initial allocation reduced.

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas, has congratulated the two Centres for their excellent performance and for positively projecting the image of BUK globally.



World Bank President, David Malpass, discussing with some ACE Centre Leaders including ACEPHAP Director, Prof. Galadanci at the Bank's Headquarters in Washington DC

ACE centres. He said it is a partnership and result based visit with a view to listening to centre staff, gather information, and see how far projects are being executed in order to help the centre succeed in



CIDR, ACEPHAP Hold Maternal Child Health Summit

ACEPHAP team led by its Director, Prof. Hadiza Galadanci (middle) in a group photograph at Abuja Maternal Summit

The Centre for Infectious Diseases Research (CIDR) and the Africa Centre for Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP) in collaboration with Rand Corporation, USA with support from Marks Family Foundation organised a one day Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (MNCH) Summit.

The Summit took place on Wednesday 21st March, 2023 at Rock View Hotel; Abuja. It brought together crème de la crème in the health sector that x-rayed the state of Maternal, Newborn and Child Health interventions (MNCH) in Nigeria.

The Summit with the theme: *Towards an improved MNCH conditions in Nigeria, working together is the key*, had the following objectives; to sensitize a

wide range of stakeholders on the need and ways to play roles that will improve maternal, newborn and child health interventions (MNCH) situations in Nigeria; to build a consensus among stakeholders on the roles each of them will play as their contribution towards improving MNCH and to come up with a resolutions and realistic intervention that will lead to a better MNCH situation in Nigeria.

In his address at the opening ceremony, the Minister of Health, Dr. Osagie Ehanire, said the summit came at the right time when efforts are on the increase in the nation's determined effort to reduce to the barest minimum the scourge associated with the rising indices of maternal, newborn and child health situations.

The Minister who was represented by the Director, Child Health at the Ministry, Dr. Stella Nwosu, said the Summit came at the right time when all efforts are geared towards reducing to the barest minimum the scourge associated with the rising incidences of maternal mortality.

Dr. Ehanire gave a disturbing statistics in which he said maternal mortality rate as at 1998 was 1,220 deaths per 1,000 and that currently it is 512 deaths per 1,000 births, adding that in the same vein, the neonatal mortality rate was 48 deaths per 1,000 live births as at 2003, but now stands at 39 deaths per 1,000 births.

He also said the under 5 (child) mortality rate which he said was 201 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2003, but now stands at 132 deaths per 1,000 live births. The minister stated that with above data, it showed that Nigeria had made

some progress. He however, said with this snail speed inroad, 'we may not be able to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal 3,' he remarked.

The Minister said herein lies the importance of the Summit with the theme; 'Towards an improved MNCH conditions in Nigeria working together is the key.' He said as the summit deliberate on the theme, there was need to harness innovative ideas towards improving the health indices of mother and children.

In proffering solution he said, the need for an overarching multi-stakeholder partnership coordination platform cannot be overemphasized as all available resources required effective high level coordination to create synergy, avoid duplication, reduce wastages and harmonize all efforts in health service delivery across the country.

The Minister hoped that the summit would provide the forum where 'we shall all throw up issues plaguing the health sector within the sphere of MNCH, and with a view to proffering solutions so that we can at least achieve the Goal 3.

In his address, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Sagir Adamu Abbas represented by the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research and Development, Professor Abdullahi Sule- Kano, commended the organizers of the summit. He said the summit couldn't have come at a better time than now when all efforts are being concentrated in improving the nation's health sector particularly in finding solutions to the high rate of maternal mortality. He wished them a successful summit.

Also speaking, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development, Dr. Nasiru Sani-Gwarzo stated that the nation's maternal mortality rate was not encouraging, adding that aftermath of conflicts, insurgency have contributed to exacerbate the maternal and child health situations. He said insecurity, terrorism and insurgency had been identified as the some of the major factors heightening maternal and child mortality.

He said the ministry of Humanitarian Affairs have done a lot of intervention in the IDP camps across the north east and other parts of the country affected by one disaster or the order, in terms of hunger, shelter, and diseases as well as maternal and child mortality.

The permanent Secretary who took time to explain some of the modest achievements of the Humanitarian Ministry, thanked the organizers of the summit and hoped that at the end, concrete suggestions would be put in place for stakeholders in the health sectors as well as policy makers would find useful in the quest for finding lasting solution to the rate of maternal mortality in the country.

During the technical session, two papers were presented. The first paper titled: '**Addressing the Challenges of Maternal, Newborn and Child**

Health (MNCH) in Nigeria: Collective Action' was delivered by the Director, ACEPHAP, Professor Hadiza Galadanci. In the paper, she observed with concern that maternal, newborn health was affected by a lot of competing needs. The COVID-19 pandemic had gone a long way to affect the health of the whole world and had also really affected maternal, newborn health. Professor Galadanci disclosed that a lot of the gains recorded in maternal mortality had been lost because of the pandemic.

She said to reduce to the barest minimum the rising incidences of high maternal mortality, health care providers, civil societies and community/traditional and religious leaders need to embark on raising awareness on the importance of anti-natal



Cross section of members of the high-table at the Abuja summit

and post-natal visits. They should also raise awareness about harmful traditional practices; embark on social mobilization and dissemination of health care messages to mothers in the rural areas.

The ACEPHAP Director stated that community, traditional and religious leaders should learn to ask questions; why don't we have the right health care providers, the right drugs and insist on mothers going to the hospital to give births. She insisted that the whole issue bothered on advocacy, advocacy, and advocacy.

The second paper titled: '**Health and humanitarian challenges of women and children affected by insecurity'**, was presented by Dr. Fatima Damagum. She painted a gloomy pictures of life in the IDP camps as well as the challenges of hunger, diseases facing the inmates particularly women and children. She said the venomous effects of conflict on maternal and child health had a broad expanse such as lack of safe and sanitary facilities, food shortage, and dearth of health care personnel as well as reduced access to health services. She said there was need for Nigerian Government to pay special attention to the north east region in a timely manner.

The summit ended with a round table discussion involving senior medical personnel on the concomitant effect of Maternal, Newborn and Child Health. At the end of the discussion suggestions on the way forward were proffered.



Dignitaries at the world cancer day celebration



Awareness walk to commemorate cancer day



Cancer awareness walk



Students using the new furniture provided by ACEPHAP



Students at a lecture theatre



ACEPHAP Director Prof. Galadanci & her Deputy Dr. Amole

MEDICAL WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF NIGERIA (MWAN KANO)
 in Collaboration with
SALCASUN, CHR, NAOWA and ACEPHAP
 Commemorates
2023 World Cancer Day
THEME: CLOSE THE GAB

FEATURING:

- Awareness Talk on Breast and Cervical Cancer
- Free Screening for Breast and Cervical Cancer
- Blood Pressure Check
- Free Medical Consultation and Counseling
- Arts Exhibition and lots more.....

DATE: Saturday 11th February 2023
 VENUE: Meena Event, Lodge Road, Kano
 TIME: 8.00 am prompt

Logos for NAOWA, CHR, and ACEPHAP are displayed at the bottom. The ACEPHAP logo includes the motto: *Matris Animo Current - Healing with the Spirit of a Mother*

PARTICIPANTS AT THE WORLD CANCER DAY CELEBRATIONS



ACEPHAP Organizes Workshop on Basic Emergency Obstetric Care

advanced the main reason why the workshop was organized to train health personnel who are expected to use the knowledge gained to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality in Niger State. She also introduced the ACEPHAP Team.

Papers were presented during the 5-Day workshop including Introduction to Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care, by Dr. Sule Gaya, Respectful Maternity Care by Chioma Judith Mba and Dr. Khadija Nuhu Nasidi



Her Excellency, the wife of Niger State Governor, Dr. Amina Abubakar Sani Bello (4th right) flanked by Director of ACEPHAP, Prof. Hadiza Galadanci (3rd right) in a group photograph with participants

A 5-Day Capacity Building Workshop on Emergency Obstetric and Neonatal Care (EmONC) was organised by Africa Centre of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP) in collaboration with Reproductive Rights, Advocacy, Safe Spaces and Empowerment (RAISE FOUNDATION).

The workshop which started on Monday, 30th January ended on Friday, 3rd February, 2023. It took place at Brighter Suites Hotel, Minna, Niger State.

The objective of the workshop was to build the capacity of healthcare service providers at the primary healthcare level, who handle emergency cases as regards delivery. They are expected to put into practice the knowledge, information and skills acquired to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality in Niger State.

Declaring the workshop open, the wife of the Niger State Governor, Dr. Amina Abubakar Sani Bello, reviewed the purpose and objectives of the workshop. She called on the participants to seize with both hands the opportunity the training was affording them to learn from the best hands in the field, pointing out that the lead facilitator, Professor Hadiza Galadanci and other resource persons are household names in the field of health care in the country.

In her address, the Director of Africa Center of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP), Professor Hadiza Galadanci x-rayed the activities and major achievements recorded by the Centre in the areas of maternal and child health as well as

and Dr. Hadiza Ashiru presented Care of Women in Labour and Essential Care of Newborn respectively. Professor Hadiza Galadanci spoke extensively on Postpartum Haemorrhage and Dr. Khadija Nuhu Nasidi spoke on Management of Retained Placenta as well as a presentation on Manual Vacuum Aspiration by Dr. Murtala Yusuf among several other papers. The participants were however taken on a practice on MVA.

Statistics on global maternity deaths according to World Health Organisation (WHO), shows that Nigeria accounts for 20% of global maternal deaths. Despite some progress made during the last few years, maternal mortality rate in Nigeria is still as high as 821 per 100,000 live births while 1463 per 100,000 live birth is the case in Niger State.

Findings from RAISE Foundation's Maternal, Child Health and Education Status of Girls and Women in Niger State 2015 Assessment showed that in Niger State, 1 in every 95 women die during pregnancy and childbirth which translates to an annual estimate of 1,934 deaths from pregnancy-related complications.

It observed with concern that majority of these deaths occurred in rural areas which are in hard-to-reach communities due to the terrain of the state. There was evidenced low capacity among health care service providers at the primary health care level, especially in handling emergency cases as regards delivery.

It is against this background that Africa Center of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP)



Dr. Maryam Nasir, Yusuf Maitama Sule University

ACEPHAP COLLABORATES WITH SAVE A LIFE CANCER AWARENESS TO COMMEMORATE WORLD CANCER DAY

Africa Centre of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP) in collaboration with Save a Life Cancer Awareness and Support Network, Medical Women's Association of Nigeria (Kano State Chapter), Community Health and Research Initiative and Aminu Magashi Garba Foundation came together to celebrate this year's World Cancer Day in grand style.

The occasion started with Awareness Walk in support of closing the cancer care gap. The annual walk took off at 9:00 am from Lodge road through Audu Bako road, Alu Avenue and back to Lodge road and ended at 10:00am. Prior to the walk, there were some aerobic exercises. About 150 people participated in the walk including members of the Nigerian Army Officers' Wives Association

(NAOWA).

The event heralding the celebration of the World Cancer Day started with a speech delivered by Hajiya Hauwa Adamu Kakudi who is the Founder of Save a Life Cancer Awareness and Support Network.

She spoke about the importance of creating awareness on the world cancer day. According to her, this year's World Cancer Day's theme, 'Close the Care Gap' is all about celebrating progress in its many forms that enable more people to seek and receive the care they need and deserve. Good will messages were presented by the Director ACEPHAP, Professor Hadiza Galadanci and founding member of Medical Women Association of Nigeria, Kano State Chapter.

As part of the activities marking the world cancer day, an outreach was organized on the 4th of February, 2023 to Bukavu Military Barracks, Kano. The aim of the outreach was to create awareness on breast and cervical cancer to wives of the military officers and to give them free breast and cervical cancer screening. In addition, there was talk on



ACEPHAP Director, Prof. H. Galadanci leads other dignitaries to cancer awareness walk

healthy living which was capable of helping to protect women against developing cancer cells.

In her address, Mrs. Ade Bimpe Are spoke on the importance of creating awareness on breast and cervical cancer to women in general. She spoke of how women suffer from this disease daily due to lack of knowledge of the importance of early detection and also the high cost of treating the disease at a late stage. She expressed her profound gratitude to the organizers of the event.

During the event there was Breast/Cervical Cancer Awareness Lecture and the importance of healthy living.

Delivering the lecture, Dr. Maryam Nasir of Yusuf Maitama Sule University, Kano shed more lights on early signs, symptoms and risk factors of breast. She emphasised that women should go to the hospital immediately they notice changes in the breast rather than seek alternative interventions which often fail.

On cervical cancer, Dr. Aisha Sai'du stated that it can be detected through screening and is preventable through vaccination. She also told the women to watch out for signs and symptoms of cervical cancer, adding that seeking medical intervention early can save lives.

The importance of healthy living to prevent cancers was explained by Dr. Rahila Mkhtar. She explained that engaging in exercise, eating fruits, vegetables, getting enough sleep and drinking a lot of water is a way of keeping a healthy life.

The occasion ended with breast and cervical cancer screening at Bukavo Barracks. A total of 170 women were screened for breast cancers and out of which 12 were referred for further screening. 85 women were screened for cervical cancers out of which 32 were referred for further screening.



Dr. Aisha Sa'idu presenting her address

ACEPHAP HOLDS END OF YEAR GET TOGETHER

...REWARDS HARDWORKING STAFF

Africa Centre of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP) held end of year get together to celebrate the achievements recorded by the Centre in 2022 as well as to reward some individual researchers who distinguished themselves during the year under review.

The occasion which took place on Saturday 14th January, 2022 at the Centre's Conference Hall was attended by the Director, Professor Hadiza Galadanci, members of the health personnel from the various hospitals in Kano involved in the implementation of some of the research grants won by the Centre.

Speaking at the occasion, the Director, Professor Hadiza Galadanci said the occasion was organized to thank Allah for the success recorded as well as to celebrate and recognise hard working staff who distinguished themselves during the implementation of the Centre's research grants. She also disclosed that some of the researchers who would soon leave the centre due to the conclusion of the research project would also be celebrated.

The Director thanked the Centre Management staff, the collaborative faculties and the projects researchers and other stakeholders who contributed tremendously to the successes it recorded during the year under review.

She said the get together and the reward introduced by the Centre was meant to serve as not only a morale booster but also as a form of recognizing hard work. This, she believed would ginger other staff who also want to emulate the awardees by working hard in order to also get recognized in the near future.

Among the Research projects being implemented by the Centre were E-MOTIVE Trial and IVON Trials.

The University of Birmingham Clinical Trial Unit, ACEPHAP and four other Research groups in four countries were conducting the EMOTIVE Trial. There were 80 health facilities globally participating in the trial and it was funded by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Fa'iza Ibrahim Muhammad E-MOTIVE research Midwife at Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital emerged as the best research Nurse, (E-MOTIVE Trial Kano). On IVON Trial Research Project, Adabiyya Shehu Tijjani emerged the best IVON Trial research Nurse at Nuhu Bamalli Hospital. (Best IVON Research Nurse Kano).

During the occasion, a Physiotherapist, Aliyu Garba Sudawa took time to lecture the audience on how to use physical exercises to relieve stress. He advice extensively

on the need for mild exercises such as stretching, normal walking, brisk walking, jogging to rigorous exercises.

Also the Centre's Deputy Director Research, Professor Taiwo Amole delivered lecture on time management. She said in the era where social media - WhatsApp, Instagram, Face book, Twitter and U-Tube are taken the major parts of our time, there was the need to properly manage time. Because according to her once time is lost it would never be recovered.

Contributing to the time management issue,



The ACEPHAP Director, Prof. H. Galadanci presenting a plaque to one of the best nurse



A group photograph of the participants

Professor Baba Maiyaki, the Centre's Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, is of the opinion that appropriate utilization of time should be categorized into four. Things that are urgent and important should be considered and done on time. Things that are important but not urgent should not be given priority. Things that is urgent but not important. He is of the opinion that somebody should be assign to do it and things that are not urgent and are not important.

ACEPHAP INTRODUCES BREAKFAST MEETING WITH ITS COLLABORATIVE FACULTY STAFF



ACEPHAP Director, Prof. Hadiza Galadanci delivering her address at the breakfast meeting

Africa Centre of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP) has introduced what it called Breakfast Meeting with its collaborative Faculty staff where issues on research, training, conference attendance and other academic issues will be shared with a view to implementing the core mandates of the World Bank grants requirements.

Speaking at the maiden edition of the meeting which took place at ACEPHAP's head office located at the Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital (AKTH), the Director of the Centre, Professor Hadiza Galadanci said the meeting was introduced to serve as an avenue where innovations by faculty staff would be shared and discussed with a view to getting collaboration with some of the centre's expertise for optimum execution.

Professor Galadanci explained that the breakfast meeting would be held quarterly, so that all the stakeholders in the centre's ACE project would have ample opportunities to share and discuss research and other academic innovations with a view to getting assistance in the implementation of their researches. 'We in the Centre are ready to offer assistance. If you require any assistance in the successful conduct of your

research, we are ready to support you," she said.

She said for the purpose of today's meeting which was the maiden edition, the Centre would share with the faculty staff three important issues; the modest achievements of the centre since the commencement of the implementation of the World Bank ACE project in 2019, what the Centre did to the faculties and the opportunities available in the Centre for the faculty staff to exploit.

Professor Galadanci told the meeting that the Centre won a World Bank grant of six million Dollars to implement the ACE projects. She added that funds from the World Bank were not released to the Centre until late 2021. She said though the lack of funds did not stop the centre as support from the University Management ensured that implementation of the ACE project started almost immediately.

Professor Galadanci disclosed that as a first step the Centre introduced five postgraduate training programmes; M. Sc in Public Health Nutrition and Policy, M. Sc Global Health and Policy, M. Sc Maternal and Child Health and Policy, M. Sc Public Mental Health and Policy and M. Sc Public Health

Nursing and Policy. She said at the moment the Centre has 110 MSc regional and national students. The regional students are from 10 African countries such as Kenya, Cameroun, Niger, Senegal etc.

In the area of research, the Centre is implementing different research project grants from donor agencies. Such Donor agencies include: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Nigeria's Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND) and World Health Organization. For example, the Centre had won E-MOTIVE Research Project Grants from Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to conduct E-MOTIVE

Trial in collaboration with University of Birmingham, United Kingdom. It is being implemented in five countries of Nigeria, Kenya, Tanzania, South Africa, and Pakistan. She also mentioned IVON trial grant also from Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in collaboration with Lagos University Teaching Hospital, Nigeria, and the COGENOME Study obtained from 54Gene Corporation.

She listed the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Grant obtained through collaborative efforts with 5 other Universities in Nigeria as well as the IVON Postpartum trial project grant which she said was aimed at contributing to the reduction of the significant burden of maternal morbidity and mortality associated with anaemia in postpartum period. The Director revealed that the Centre had achieved 145 publications.

On collaborations, Professor Galadanci mentioned the centre's collaborations with seven Universities in Kenya, Jigawa State Government on maternal health and nutrition, University Hospital Coventry, United Kingdom, Sheffield University, UK among other international and national collaborations.



Students using the new furniture provided by ACEPHAP

On training, Professor Galadanci stated that the Centre had trained 1200 health workers and 364 people participated in its short courses. The Centre has also carried out training in Ghana and Kenya.

On the opportunities available at the Centre, the Deputy Director, Research, Professor Taiwo Amole spoke of two important grants being offered by the Centre to support faculty staff. She mentioned Travel grant and Seed grant. Travel grant is the support given to faculty for staff conference attendance and Seed grant is for research work. There was also capacity building training sponsorship. She advised faculty staff to take advantage of these grants.

Professor Amole also disclosed that the Centre was planning to move to digital education for all its Masters Degree programmes.





Nurses and Midwives in a group photograph during the outreach campaign

ACEPHAP Holds Community Outreach ... Provides Free Medical Services

As part of efforts to take health care services to the door steps of rural communities, Africa Centre of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP) organized community medical outreach at Sabon Birni Quarters of Fagge Local Government of Kano State.

The outreach which took place on Sunday 12th February, 2023 during the maiden convention of Kano State Students Nurses/Midwives had in attendance over 150 participants from all the schools involved in the convention.

Members of the community who are the target beneficiaries flooded the venue of the outreach in large numbers awaiting the arrival of the health personnel.

In order to achieve the desired objectives of reaching large numbers of participants, the event itinerary showed that the exercise was broken into units. There was the record unit, assessment and medical checkup unit, consulting unit, laboratory unit, drug unit and sanitary pads dispensing unit and health education and counseling units.

During the course of the outreach, participant would have to pass through all the above-mentioned units and terminate at the health education and counseling unit where beneficiary would receive health education on communicable and non communicable

diseases as well as menstrual health hygiene for women between the ages of 20 to 30 years.

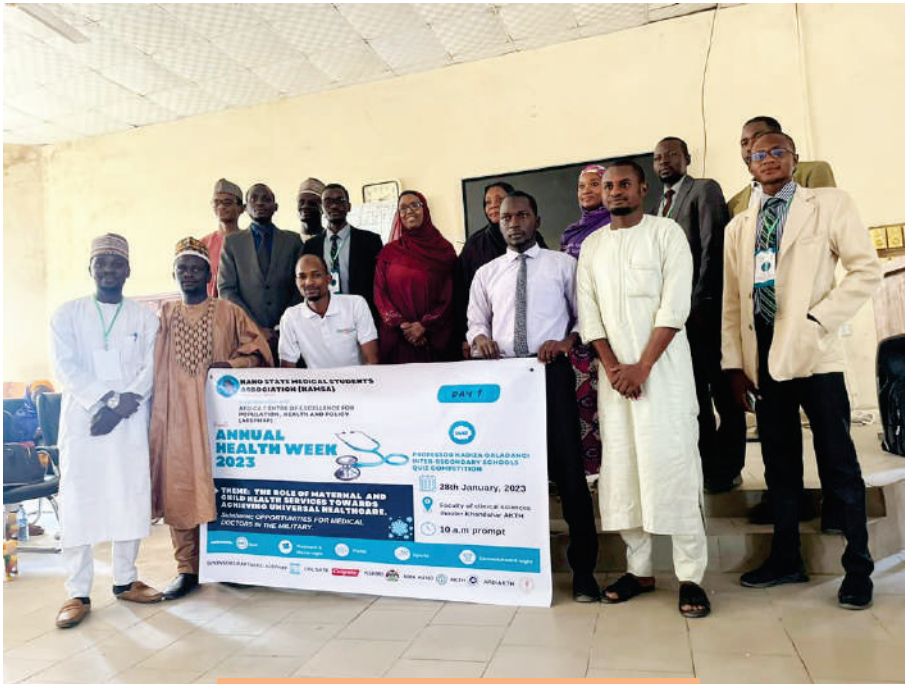
At least about 250 beneficiaries were attended to during the exercise. Some of the areas where the beneficiaries benefited are: Upper respiratory tract screening/assessment and drugs provision for malaria, antibiotics, anti-ulcer and some anti-hypertensive for both children and adults.

They also benefitted from health education on the recent outbreak of diphtheria. Over 150 females benefitted from the free sanitary pads disbursement.



Medical check-up being conducted to the participants

REPORT ON PROFESSOR HADIZA GALADANCHI INTER-SCIENCE SECONDARY SCHOOLS QUIZ COMPETITION



Participating schools after the competition

The Quiz Competition was organized by the Kano State Medical Students Association (KAMSA) National Body in collaboration with the Africa Center of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP).

The competition took place on Saturday, January 28th, 2023, in the Faculty of Basic Clinical Sciences Theatre, Khandahar. The event was attended by the Provost of the College of Health Sciences, Professor Aisha Kuliya Gwarzo, the Director of the Africa Center of Excellence for Population Health and Policy (ACEPHAP), Professor Hadiza Galadanchi, the Dean of Clinical Sciences who was ably represented by the Sub-Dean Clinicals, Dr. Umma Ibrahim, and other Presidents of student associations.

Eight (8) secondary schools participated in the competition, namely: Dawakin Kudu Science College, Dawakin Tofa Science College, First Lady College, GGSS Gandun Albasu, GGSS

Janbulu, Governor's College, Mairo Tijjani Girls Science College, and Prime College Kano. Each of the participating schools brought three participants and three audience members, accompanied by at least one of their teachers.

The program started at exactly 11 am with an opening prayer from one of the invited guests, followed by a welcoming address from the Chairman of the Academic Committee KAMSA, Dr. Haruna Ya'u Haruna. Professor Hadiza Galadanchi gave an opening remark where she highlighted the importance of science and technology in this modern era and emphasized the significance of motivating the younger generation.

The competition proper started with a question from Biology and ended with General Knowledge. Other topics include; Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry. Each of the participating schools answered two questions in two rounds from all four science subjects and

General Knowledge.

At the end of the day, Prime College emerged victorious with a total of 22 points, followed by Governor's College with 20 points, and Dawakin Tofa Science College in third place with 16 points.

A closing remark was given by Professor Aisha Kuliya Gwarzo, followed by a vote of thanks from the National President of the Kano State Medical Students Association (KAMSA), Dr. Ibrahim Shehu.

A closing prayer was offered, after which awards and certificates were presented to the participants and the winning schools. Finally, the program was closed with a photo session.



ACEPHAP Director, Professor Galadanchi presenting certificate to Prime College student



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