



Global Health Office

Report No. 5/2023 (1 Jul 2023 – 31 Dec 2023)

Aims and Mission

The Global Health Office (GHO) supports the School's mission to achieve regional and global impact. It facilitates and directs the School's global health expertise and resources to coordinate activities at the regional and international level. This includes partnerships with external organisations, training of international health leaders, sourcing and administering research grants from international funders, and providing research and development opportunities for our faculty, staff and students.

Role

The work of the GHO include:

- Sourcing for regional and international academic opportunities for faculty, staff and students
- Oversight of and support for the School's regional office (UHS-SSHSPH Integrated Research Programme in Cambodia and NUS SSHSPH – Lao PDR Programme in Lao PDR)
- Oversight of and support for the Leadership Institute for Global Health Transformation (LIGHT)
- Supporting the submission and implementation of international research grants and programmes by faculty and staff
- Organising events such as leadership training programmes and conferences
- Tracking the international and global health activities of the School

Staff

GHO

Manager: Elisa Coati

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Senior Executive: Felicia Yue

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International & Global Health Activities

This is the fifth report collating international and global health activities at the School, covering the period from 1 Jul 2023 to 31 Dec 2023. Reports will be issued biannually and include updates on grants and other projects, as well as events, courses and webinars, and international activities and partnerships. The projects and activities of the Regional Offices will be reported in a separate section below.

Projects

Funder	Title	PI	Countries	Dates	Status
HITAP	Priority setting for health innovation and Early Health Technology Assessment for supporting research and development of medical innovation in Thailand	Asst. Prof Wang Yi	Thailand	Nov 2023 – Sep 2024	Ongoing
Pfizer	Navigating Reimbursement for Novel Therapies in Singapore and the Region	Asst. Prof Cynthia Chen	Singapore and the Region	Sep 2023 – Sep 2024	Ongoing
HITAP	Development of reference case for economic evaluation on precision medicine for health insurance reimbursement in Thailand	Asst. Prof Chen Wenjia	Thailand	Sep 2023 – Feb 2024	Ongoing
Asia Pacific Observatory	Providing background support and analytical work for APO to support WHO SEARO regional forum in October 2023	Asst. Prof Jasper Tromp	Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Myanmar and Thailand	Sep 2023 – Nov 2023	Ongoing
DFAT	Southeast Asia Health Security Roundtables – Improving Regional Health Security through Knowledge Exchange & Collaboration	Prof Hsu Li Yang	Singapore, Thailand, Indonesia	Jun 2023 – Jun 2024	Ongoing
SSHSPH/ DPRT/ YLLSOM/ Duke NUS/ Health Security Centre	NUS-Lancet Pandemic Readiness, Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation (PRIME) Commission	Prof Helena Legido-Quigley; Prof Hsu Li Yang	Global	May 2023 – Dec 2025	Ongoing
At-Sunrice GlobalChef Academy	Microbiome Collection for Microbiota Vault	Prof Hsu Li Yang; A/Prof Jeremy Lim	Southeast Asia	Apr 2023 – Apr 2025	Ongoing
ODPRT, SSHSPH	Clinical evaluation of AI Solution for Mammogram-based Breast Cancer Diagnosis with a Japanese Cohort	Asst. Prof Feng Mengling	Japan	Apr 2023 – Mar 2025	Ongoing

HITAP	Strengthening Capacity for Evidence-Informed Health Decisions	Asst. Prof Hannah Clapham	Indonesia, Thailand	Mar 2023 – Sep 2024	Ongoing
Reach52	Validating research study conducted by reach52	A/Prof Jeremy Lim	Indonesia, Philippines	Jan 2023 – Dec 2024	Ongoing
Tan Tock Seng Hospital	Freshwater fish consumption in South East Asia	Asst. Prof Borame Dickens	Southeast Asia	Feb 2022 – Feb 2024	Ongoing
Gates Foundation	SEARCH (Southeast Asia Regional Collaborative for Health)	A/Prof Jeremy Lim; Asst. Prof Kiesha Prem	Southeast Asia	Jan 2022 – Dec 2026	Ongoing
CMB Foundation	Southeast Asia Health Equity Index (HEI)	A/Prof Jeremy Lim	SEA (collaborators in Cambodia, Indonesia, Vietnam)	Jan 2022-Dec 2024	Ongoing
SDGHI-SSHSPH Joint Funding Initiative on Global Health Research in Asia	Assessing burden of surgical diseases and surgical care in Southeast Asia	Dr Liow Chee Hsiang	Singapore, Malaysia, Cambodia	Oct 2021 – Dec 2024	Ongoing
MOE Tier 1 (FRC)	Examining global health and human security in the COVID-19 new normal: case studies from Asia	A/Prof Natasha Howard	Syria/Syrian diaspora; Nepal	Mar 2021 – Feb 2024	Ongoing
Start-Up Grant	Epidemiology, prevention, and management of infectious diseases in Cambodia	Asst. Prof Siyan Yi	Cambodia	Jan 2021-Jan 2024	Ongoing
Start-Up Grant	Mathematical modelling of infectious disease transmission and control in Asia	Asst. Prof Hannah Clapham	Asia	Mar 2020 – Feb 2025	Ongoing
HITAP	Development of policy options to support reimbursement decision on high cost health interventions in Thailand's public healthcare system	Asst. Prof Chen Wenjia	Thailand	Feb 2023 – Jul 2023	Completed
APRU (Association of Pacific Rim Universities)	AI for Social Good: Strengthening Capabilities and Government Frameworks in Asia and the Pacific	Asst. Prof Jasper Tromp	Thailand	Apr 2022 – Jul 2023	Completed
SDGHI-SSHSPH Joint Funding Initiative on Global Health Research in Asia	Carbapenem-resistant Gram-negative Bacilli in Cambodia: characterizing antibiotic susceptibilities towards novel agents and genotypic mechanisms of resistance	Asst. Prof Rick Ong	Cambodia	Sep 2021 – Aug 2023	Completed

Training and Conferences

Date	Event Type	Title	SSHSPH Lead	External Partner	Countries	Funding	Status
Jun 2022 – Jun 2025	Courses (online/in-person)	Modelling Infectious Diseases in Southeast Asia – See MIDSEA Network section below for further details	Prof Alex Cook		Singapore, Overseas Participants	Temasek Foundation	Ongoing
Nov 2023	Course	Urban Health Security	A/Prof Steven Ooi	National Centre for Infectious Diseases	Singapore, Overseas Participants	MFA	Completed
Oct 2023	Course	Digital Transformation in Public Healthcare	Prof Hsu Li Yang		Singapore, Overseas Participants	MFA	Completed
Sep 2023	Roundtable Discussion	Leadership in Global Health Roundtable Discussion	Prof Helena Legido-Quigley	George Institute UK			Completed
Sep 2023	Talk	Environmental Risks for Cancer – Genetics, Epigenetics, Microbiome?	A/Prof Jeremy Lim	National Cancer Institute			Completed
Aug 2023	Visit	Visit by Students of the Master of Public Health Administration from Mahidol University	A/Prof Jeremy Lim	Mahidol University	Singapore, Thailand		Completed
Jul 2023	Conference	Precision Public Health Asia 2023 Conference	Dr Clive Tan; A/Prof Jeremy Lim	Precision Public Health Asia Society	Singapore, Overseas Participants		Completed
Jul 2023	Course	Responding to Pandemics and Future Preparedness	Prof Hsu Li Yang		Singapore, Overseas Participants	MFA	Completed
Jul 2023	Talk	NUS Distinguished Speaker Series: Shaping the Future of Global Public Health	Prof Teo Yik Ying		Singapore, People's Republic of China		Completed

Regional offices & Networks

Cambodia: The UHS-SSHSPH Integrated Research Programme (USIRP) is a collaborative venture between the University of Health Sciences (UHS) in Cambodia and the Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health (SSHSPH) at the National University of Singapore (NUS). Launched in October 2014 with a focus on tuberculosis and antimicrobial resistance, USIRP has evolved under USIRP II (October 2019 - September 2024) to encompass a broader array of public health priorities in Cambodia and Southeast Asia. This expansion includes research areas such as HIV/AIDS, infection prevention and control, maternal and child health, sexual and reproductive health, non-communicable diseases, and mental health.

The programme operates under an implementation research framework, aiming to develop and assess cost-effective interventions for healthcare access and improved outcomes, particularly in vulnerable populations. Collaborations extend to national programs, UN agencies, donor agencies, and NGOs, ensuring stakeholder involvement and translating findings into policy and action. The initiative has expanded its reach to Lao PDR, collaborating with the Lao Tropical and Public Health Institute. The dynamic team supporting USIRP comprises faculty, researchers, students, and staff with diverse expertise in behavioral sciences, implementation sciences, health promotion, health economics, and statistics, enhancing the programme's potential for significant public health impact. The USIRP research teams consists of 1 research fellow, 4 research associates, 1 research assistant, 7 graduate students, and admin supporting staff.

Ongoing projects in Cambodia (external funding only)

Project title	Funding Agency (start and end date)	PI
Improving Social Security and Health	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH (Nov 2023 to Jul 2024)	Asst. Prof Siyan Yi
Tuberculosis disease and infection in Cambodia: a cohort study	USAID (Sept 2022 – Aug 2024)	Asst. Prof Siyan Yi
Developing infection prevention and control (IPC) to reduce incidence of hospital-associated infection (HAI) in Cambodia and Laos	Reckitt Global Hygiene Institute (Jan 2022– Jun 2024)	Asst. Prof Siyan Yi
i-MoMCARE – Innovative Mobile Technology for Maternal and Child Health Care in Cambodia: A Cluster Randomized Controlled Trial	BMGF (Nov 2021– Oct 2024)	Asst. Prof Siyan Yi
Establishing Antimicrobial Stewardship in Cambodia	Pfizer (Dec 2018– May 2024)	Prof Hsu Li Yang

Lao PDR

The NUS SSHSPH - Lao PDR Programme was launched on 7 February 2023 in partnership with the Lao Tropical and Public Health Institute (Lao TPHI) in Vientiane Capital, of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR). The programme focuses on research, education, and training, offering courses and grants for researchers in Lao PDR to collaborate with NUS researchers. Its primary objective is to foster partnerships, strengthen capacity, and support evidence-informed policies in public health aligned with the Ministry of Health's priorities.

In the first year, the programme has successfully collaborated with local partners, including Lao TPHI and the University of Health Sciences of Lao PDR (UHS Laos). Together, they have achieved several key milestones such as collaborative teaching activities, ongoing research projects and awarding of travel fellowships to further strengthen collaborative efforts.

The programme plays a pivotal role in supporting research collaborations between Lao PDR researchers and NUS SSHSPH, through the NUS SSHSPH - Lao PDR Programme Research Grant (NUS SSHSPH – Lao PDR PRG). It provides funding and collaboration opportunities for exploratory and developmental research projects in their early stages conducted in Lao PDR. The first seed grant call received twelve applications, and three seed grants have been awarded.

Ongoing projects in Lao PDR (external funding only)

Project title	Funding Agency (start and end date)	PI/Collaborator(s)
Improving appropriate antimicrobial use by 30% among women during pregnancy, childbirth and postpartum and among children under five years of age in Lao People's Democratic Republic	International Centre for Antimicrobial Resistance Solutions (ICARS) (2023 to 2025)	Asst. Prof Kiesha Prem, Dr. Bounxou Keohavong (MOH Laos)
Exemplar for family planning in Lao PDR, Exemplars in Global Health‡	Sub-awarded from Aga Khan University funded by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (2023 to 2024)	Prof Mayfong Mayxay (UHS Laos)
An update of the Health Systems in Transition (HiT) profile for Lao People's Democratic Republic	Asia Pacific Observatory on Health Systems and Policies (2023 to 2024)	Asst. Prof Jasper Tromp, Dr. Viengsamay Sengchaleun
Developing infection prevention and control intervention to reduce the incidence of hospital-acquired infection in Cambodia and Lao PDR	Reckitt Global Hygiene Institute (2021 – 2024)	Asst. Prof Siyan Yi, Dr. Kim Sothea (UHS PI), and Dr. Somphou Sayasone (LaoTPHI PI)
Effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of Rotavirus vaccination in children under 5 years old in Lao PDR: Mathematical modelling approach	Vaccine Impact Modelling Consortium (2021 to 2023)	Asst. Prof Hannah Clapham

‡in collaboration with UHS (Laos) and The Aga Khan University

ADVANCE ID

The ADVANCE ID (ADVANCing Clinical Evidence in Infectious Diseases) **network** (funded for 36 months) will conduct research to develop the most effective ways to treat and prevent life-threatening drug-resistant infections. As a host for the network, the School will be working closely with local partners – namely the NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, Duke-NUS Medical School, Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine in Nanyang Technological University as well as National Centre for Infectious Diseases – to carry out clinical trials related to drug-resistant infections. The Singapore Clinical Research Institute (SCRI) is also actively supporting multiple work streams for the Network.

Projects

Funder	Title	PI	Countries	Dates	Status
Pfizer	Early impact therapy with ceftazidime-avibactam via rapid diagnostics versus standard of care antibiotics and diagnostics in patients with bloodstream	Prof David Paterson	Worldwide	Dec 2022- Dec 2025	Ongoing

	infection, hospital-acquired pneumonia or ventilator-associated pneumonia due to <i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i> or carbapenem non-susceptible Enterobacterales				
Wellcome Trust	A Clinically Oriented Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance Network for Healthcare- Associated Infections (ACORN-HAI)	Prof David Paterson	30+ sites across Asia	Jun 2022- May 2024	Ongoing

MIDSEA Network

The MIDSEA Network is a consortium of people working in the area of modelling (M) infectious (I) diseases (D) in South (S) East (E) Asia (A). The network exists to bring together modellers, broadly defined, from our region to share ideas, learn from each other, and contribute to controlling outbreaks in Southeast Asia through our research. It was envisioned to promote modelling to decision makers by engaging them in our symposiums and seminar series. This will allow both modellers and decision makers to understand each other better. This is made possible by the funding from Temasek Foundation.

Date	Title	SSHSPH Speaker(s)	External Partner	Countries
13 Nov 2023	Modelling for Policy-making Symposium	Prof Alex Cook Asst. Prof Hannah Clapham Asst. Prof Swapnil Mishra Asst. Prof Borame Dickens Asst. Prof Kiesha Prem Asst. Prof Akira Endo Asst. Prof Luo Wei Dr Yot Terrawattanon A/Prof Kelvin Bryan Tan	Nanyang Technological University, Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research, University of the Philippines Los Baños, Health Intervention and Technology Assessment Program, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Mahidol Oxford Research Unit, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Mahidol University, Universiti Brunei Darussalam, University of the Witwatersand, Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research, University of Melbourne, University of Philippines Mindano	Online and In-person participants from Singapore, India, Indonesia, Thailand, Laos, UK, Vietnam, Philippines, Brunei, South Africa, Australia, Spain, Colombia, USA
18 Oct 2023	Real-world COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness against the Omicron BA.2 variant in a SARS-CoV-2 infection-naive population		University of Hong Kong	Hong Kong, online overseas participants
20 Sep 2023	Modelling the Dual Epidemic of TB &		University of the Philippines Diliman	Philippines, online

	HIV in the Philippines			overseas participants
16 Aug 2023	Modelling Malaria in South East Asia	Dr Kimberly Fornace	Imperial College London	Singapore, Indonesia, online overseas participants
24 May 2023	Lessons learnt from the first MIDSEA workshop	Prof Alex Cook		Singapore, online overseas participants
19 Apr 2023	Mechanisms increasing the age of dengue cases in Thailand		University of Cambridge	Thailand, online overseas participants
15 Mar 2023	Modelling in policy, process and the modeller's role	Asst. Prof Hannah Clapham		Singapore, online overseas participants
15 Feb 2023	Challenges for Infectious Disease Modellers		University of Oxford	Vietnam, online overseas participants
18 Jan 2023	Initiatives, Challenges and Aspirations of the Disease Modelers and Analytics Community in the Philippines?		University of the Philippines Los Baños	Philippines, online overseas participants
21 Dec 2022	Good Research and/or Good Team: Can we have it all?		Mahidol University	Thailand, online overseas participants
16 Nov 2022	Modelling and Public Health Policy	Prof Alex Cook	Raymond Hutubessy, Yot Teerawattananon, Rachael Pung	Online overseas Participants

Climate, Environment and Health Programme

Climate, Environment and Health Programme is a research programme leveraging cross-disciplinary expertise to understand and evaluate the health risks associated with climate and other environmental changes. Data-driven methods and technologies are used to monitor the impacts of environmental change on health and identify solutions to protect human and ecosystem health.

Date	Title	SSHSPH Speaker(s)	External Partner	Countries
1 Dec 2023	Climate Risk is Health Risk	Dr Kimberly Fornace	COP28 Singapore Pavilion	In-person and online overseas participants
25 Sep 2023	Climate Change and Health: Panel Discussions on Impacts, Adaptation and	Dr Kimberly Fornace		Singapore

	Mitigation within the Health Sector			
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Visits

- 4 Dec 2023: Prof Xu Ming from Institute for Global Health and Development, Peking University visited the School.
- 28 Nov 2023: Visit from Shanghai Municipal Disease Control and Prevention Administration
- 28 Nov 2023: China Pharmaceutical University visited the School.
- 3 - 5 Oct 2023: Tsinghua University visited the School.
- 4 Aug 2023: Ministry of Public Health of Thailand visited the School.
- 18 Jul 2023: Swansea University visited the School.
- 13 Jul 2023: Prof Xu Lin from Shanghai Jiaotong University visited the School, to discuss about partnerships for a separate school of public health on Hainan island.
- 12 Jul 2023: ASEAN Delegates (attendees of PPHA2023) visited the School for roundtable discussion on academic-government partnerships.

International Honorary Affiliates

The School has established an honorary affiliate scheme for international experts who are based overseas, similar to the honorary adjunct faculty scheme for Singapore-based academics and experts.

The current appointments are as follows:

Name	Country	Dates of Affiliation (Start)	Dates of Affiliation (End)	Areas	Engagements
Swee Kheng Khor	Malaysia	1 Mar 2022	29 Feb 2024	Health Policy; Health Systems; Global Health	2023 and 2022: - Lead on SEARCH project (strategic purchasing) awarded by Gates Foundation - Provided monthly general and regular advice on their respective countries and policy changes
Gillian Leng	UK	14 Feb 2022	13 Feb 2024	Healthcare Services and Management, Health Systems and Policies, Health Economics, Epidemiology	2023: - Provided guidance on the development of the Master of Science in Health Economics and Outcomes Research (MSCHEOR) programme - Potentially a speaker for HIPER's workshop
Kenneth Hartigan-Go	Philippines	1 Jan 2022	31 Dec 2023	Health Policy; Health Systems: governance, regulations, and care	2023 and 2022: Provided monthly general and regular advice on their respective countries and policy changes 2022: - Speaker on ALPHA Fellowship Programme in October
Mark Jit	UK	1 Jan 2022	31 Dec 2023	Infectious Diseases, Epidemiology, Modelling, Global Health, Health Economics	2023 and 2022: - Mentor for work in global human papillomavirus - Provided advice for Laos office and conducted HTA training for the Lao MoH and Lao NITAG together with NUS, HITAP, and University of Melbourne in Nov 2023 - Conducted joint review on modelling for public health policy - Facilitated discussions during the first MIDSEA workshop in May 2023 - Joint modelling and vaccinology courses (between NUS, HITAP, LSHTM) in Southeast Asia - Part of Lancet Commission with NUS - Part of the Product Development for Vaccine Advisory Committee with NUS faculty (A/Prof Hannah Clapham)

					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facilitated collaborations between SSHSPH and LSHTM - Involved in multiple joint publications with NUS Faculty - To facilitate discussion at the HTAAsiaLink 2023 <p>2022:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaborated on work in pneumococcal conjugate vaccination - Collaborated on health technology assessment policymaker engagement with ministries of health in the region (e.g. The Philippines, Bhutan) during HTAAsiaLink2022 - Hosted Singapore Ministry of Health CDD (Prof Vernon Lee and Dr Marc Ho) at LSHTM in Oct
Tim William	Malaysia	1 Jan 2022	31 Dec 2023	Infectious Diseases	<p>2023: Provided advice to Vice Dean (Global Health) on infectious diseases related to Malaysia</p> <p>2022: Gave a Malaria lecture in NUS Module SPH5201 (Control of Communicable Diseases) in Mar</p>
Eduardo Banzon	Philippines	1 Nov 2021	31 Oct 2023	Health Systems Financing	<p>2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Point of contact for Asian Development Bank - Participant in a Leadership Forum on Progressing Precision Health for Asia, Wednesday, 12 July 2023 (pre-conference event) - Speaker for Precision Public Health Asia 2023 Conference (PPHA2023). Date: Thursday, 13 July 2023. Topic: Financing Precision Population Health Management (15 minutes presentation) - Moderator for Precision Public Health Asia 2023 Conference (PPHA2023). Date: Friday, 14 July 2023. Topic: Digital leapfrog to enable access to underserved populations and improve health equity (moderation) <p>2022:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advised and shared expertise on strategic purchasing project led by LIGHT team - Organising committee of the Precision Public Health Asia Conference 2023 - Provided monthly general and regular advice on their respective countries and policy changes

Jaime Caro	UK	1 Aug 2021	31 Jul 2023	Modelling, health economics, comparative effectiveness, epidemiology, HTA, and outcomes research	2023: Involved as SPH5423 lecturer 2022: - Provided consultations to 2 PhD students on their projects - Provided technical advice to HIPER's project named PRUDENCE - 26 May to 2 Jun: Gave lectures in NUS Module SPH5423 (Simulation for Health Technology Assessment)
Jorgen Moller	UK/Sweden	1 Aug 2021	31 Jul 2023	Simulation in pharmacoconomics and outcomes research, HTA	2023: - Worked with HIPER on a pre-conference workshop held in September 2023 - Involved as SPH5423 lecturer 2022: - Provided technical advice to HIPER's project named PRUDENCE - 26 May to 2 Jun: Gave lectures in NUS Module SPH5423 (Simulation for Health Technology Assessment) - Conducted 3 internal training sessions on Discretely Integrated Condition Event (DICE) for HIPER's staff; (a) Time To Event modelling- this was implemented in DICE, (b) Chronic Disease modelling in DICE using RA as an example, (c) A comparison of a Partition Survival model and a Time To Event model, both also implemented in same workbook
Michael Herdman	UK	7 Jun 2021	6 Jun 2023	Health Systems and Policies, Qualitative research, Epidemiology, Health Economics	2023: - Co-I with A/Prof Luo Nan on Lao PDR seed fund project - Co-I with A/Prof Luo Nan on USIRP seed fund project 2022: - Co-I with A/Prof Luo Nan on 3 projects - Co-PhD thesis advisor to 1 PhD student (Oct 2022 to Jul 2024)
Michael Friedman	USA	1 Jul 2023	30 Jun 2025	Health Security in Regional Countries, Global Health and Health Security	2023: - Speaker for Workshop on Responding to Pandemics and Future Preparedness, topic: Using Data for Health Crisis Decision Making: Lessons from Ebola in Sierra Leone and COVID in Bangladesh, on 14 July 2023.