



**Doctor of Public Health
Student Biographies
2016 - 2017**



The Doctor of Public Health degree is for exceptional individuals with exceptional knowledge and skills to drive change and make a difference on the front lines of health, anywhere in the world.

We are pleased to introduce our third class of twenty-one DrPH candidates, known as the Cohort 3, who boast a broad range of accomplishments but a single goal: to lead organizations that will help people live longer, healthier lives. Cohort 3 is made up of an extraordinary group of talented and diverse candidates from across the United States and around the world.



Lead.

Change.

DrPH



Adil Bahalim

MS Engineering,
Cornell University

BS Physics,
Davidson College

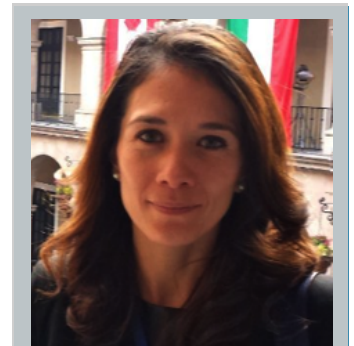
Adil aspires to improve access to quality health care globally, and he joins the DrPH program following an enriching professional career. He most recently worked as the Health Financing Coordinator at Last Mile Health in Monrovia, Liberia, where he advised the Liberian government on the creation of a national community health system to serve people living in remote villages.

Prior to this in-country assignment, Adil worked for leading public health organizations at the global level. He served on the Strategy & Policy Team of the Global Fund in Geneva, Switzerland, where he led policy development work streams for the transformative new funding model. Adil has also worked as a consultant to the World Health Organization in various capacities, including projects with the HIV/AIDS Department and the Global Burden of Disease Study of 2010, splitting time between Geneva, Switzerland, and Brisbane, Australia.

Before joining the public sector, Adil started his career in the private sector as a management consultant at Accenture. Adil holds a master's degree in mechanical engineering from Cornell University and a bachelor's degree in physics from Davidson College.

Paola Abril Campos is originally from Mexico City. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Sociology from the University of Pennsylvania. Most recently, she was the health operations manager at the Carlos Slim Foundation, leading the implementation of two primary health care models (maternal health and chronic diseases) in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Health. Previously, she served as an advisor at the Office of the President of Mexico, working on policy analysis and media communication.

Her research background includes coordinating impact evaluation studies; as part of the team of Innovations for Poverty Action, she coordinated an impact evaluation to assess the effectiveness of a primary care-based, nurse-led intervention to reduce intimate partner violence in Mexico City. She has worked on improving data collection systems, increasing programs' capacity to analyze data and evaluating the impact of programs in the US, Ghana, India and Mexico. Her goal is to strengthen Mexico's health system, particularly at the primary care level, through the implementation of integrated health care models.



Paola Abril Campos

BA Sociology,
University of
Pennsylvania



Denizhan Duran

BA Economics,
Middlebury College

Denizhan Duran is a Doctor of Public Health candidate at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health with an interest in health financing and health systems strengthening in low- and middle-income countries. For the past year, he worked with the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) in Ethiopia, supporting the government in launching the country's first social health insurance scheme and expanding community-based health insurance for the informal sector. Previously, he worked with CHAI in Malawi for two years, supporting the Ministry of Health on budgeting, planning and prioritization, enabling them to mobilize more resources into the health sector and to distribute them effectively.

Originally from Istanbul, Turkey, he received his BA with a major in Economics and minors in Political Science and French from Middlebury College. He conducted research there evaluating the impact of the conditional cash transfer program in Turkey, which inspired him to pursue a career in global health. Following his graduation, he worked at the Center for Global Development for two years, where he conducted research on aid effectiveness, value for money and priority-setting in global health which was published on *Vaccine* and *The Lancet Global Health*.



Elvis García

MPH, Harvard Chan School of Public Health
MPA, Universidad de Complutense de Madrid
MSc Architecture, Universidad Europea de Madrid
BSc & MSc Industrial Engineering, Universidad de Oviedo

Elvis García, Doctor of Public Health candidate at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, has been working for the last ten years with the international organization Doctors Without Borders. His experience in HQ and in the field, working both in protracted crisis and acute emergency situations, has taken him to Africa (Liberia, Somalia, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, Uganda, Malawi, Chad), Asia (Yemen, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran), and Latin America and the Caribbean (Haiti, El Salvador, Colombia). During this time, and due to his close experiences to harsh circumstances, he has developed a growing interest in promoting capacity building strategies in developing countries to upgrade health care systems, aiming to improve local resilience and reduce the likelihood of public health crises. To that end, he also studied an MPH at Harvard Chan School of Public Health, an MPA at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid and a MSc in Advanced Techniques in Architecture from Universidad Europea de Madrid, which served as a complement to his background BSc & Master of Industrial Engineering from the Universidad de Oviedo.

Jazmine was introduced to evaluation work as an MPH student developing an interest in learning how research can be translated into action. Over the past few years, Jazmine has been pursuing opportunities to expand her evaluation expertise. She participated in the evaluation of a training program for traditional birth attendants in Chiapas, Mexico and the evaluation of a nationwide food security program throughout marginalized communities in Mexico. This glimpse at applied public health opened her eyes to the global nature of health inequity and the importance of community-based work, valuing the lived experience and expertise among community members to collaboratively find solutions to pressing issues.

Most recently she worked for Kaiser Permanente's Southern California, Department of Research & Evaluation and had the opportunity to work on various studies under the Health Services Division to improve the quality of care. In addition, Jazmine participated as a Leadership Fellow for California Latinas for Reproductive Justice and had the opportunity to partake in advocacy and community efforts to bring the voices of Latinas to the political platform. Looking forward, Jazmine is eager to explore organizational management, leadership, and policy work with a focus on how social and environmental factors during pregnancy influence health outcomes for both the mother and infant and how that knowledge can be applied to community-based health services. Furthermore, she is interested in learning to effectively translate maternal and child health research into policy, particularly as it affects immigrants and other women of color.



Jazmine Garcia-Delgado

MPH, University of California, Berkeley
BA, University of California, Berkeley



Renzo Guinto

MD, University of the Philippines, Manila

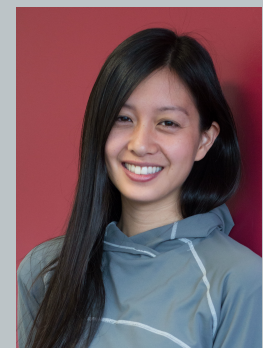
A Filipino physician with broad interests in global health and sustainable development, Dr. Renzo Guinto served as Healthy Energy Initiative Campaigner at Health Care Without Harm-Asia and is Director and Co-Founder of #ReimagineGlobalHealth. Previously, he was co-investigator in the UHC Study Group of the University of the Philippines (UP) Manila; consultant in the International Organization for Migration; convener of ASEAN Youth Dialogues; guest lecturer in History of Medicine in UP Manila; and intern at the Social Determinants of Health (SDH) Unit, WHO Geneva. Renzo was a member of Philippine Medical Association's Committee on Environmental Health; WHO steering committee on SDH and transformative education; and The Lancet-University of Oslo Youth Commission on Global Governance for Health. He also chaired the urban health scientific committee for the Global Forum on Research and Innovation for Health 2015

A graduate of UP Manila's accelerated medical program, Renzo also trained in global health and environmental sustainability in the East-West Center (Hawaii); Copenhagen School of Global Health; and University of the Western Cape (South Africa). He was bestowed numerous accolades including: 2012 Lancet New Voices in Global Health; 2014 Emerging Voices for Global Health (ITM Antwerp); 2015 Emerging Leader (World Heart Federation); and 2016 New Voices Fellow (Aspen Institute).

While at Harvard, Renzo hopes to draw from multiple disciplines such as epidemiology, economics, political science, ethics, and implementation science in developing policies and strategies for addressing global and planetary health challenges especially in Asia – from health systems and global governance to social determinants (ex. migration, urbanization, trade) and climate change.

Jessica Huang was an instructor and founder of the youth program with D-Lab at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), which collaborates with communities living in financial poverty in over 20 countries. Jessica has a Masters degree in Learning, Design and Technology from the Stanford Graduate School of Education, where she worked to increase learning and skill building opportunities in settlements of forcibly displaced in Uganda. Previously, she worked with Kirtipur Hospital in Nepal through the Stanford d.school to raise awareness about how to reduce burn morbidities and mortalities, helped start a social enterprise enabling communities to disinfect drinking water in India and Bangladesh, and adapted and tested systems to remove arsenic from water to reduce arsenicosis in Cambodia.

With a DrPH, Jessica plans to combine her interests in public health, education, engineering, and design to continue building capacity in communities to address health-related challenges. She hopes to work on increasing health literacy, particularly in areas that have faced environmental health injustices, with the aim of supporting people in understanding their own health needs, designing and accessing appropriate solutions, and becoming advocates for healthier communities.



Jessica Huang

MA Education,
Stanford University

BS Environmental
Engineering,
BS Business
Administration,
University of
California Berkeley



Faraaz Mahomed

MA, Monterey
Institute of
International Studies

MA, University of the
Witwatersrand, RSA

BA, University of the
Witwatersrand, RSA

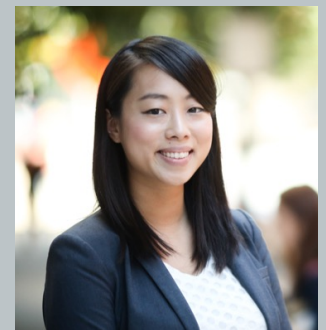
Faraaz Mahomed is a clinical psychologist and human rights researcher from Johannesburg, South Africa. A former Fulbright Scholar, Faraaz is interested in the subject of access to mental health services and issues of stigma and discrimination on the basis of psychosocial disability. He holds two Master's degrees and has worked as a practitioner and researcher, with organisations that include provincial and local governments in South Africa, NGOs providing care to HIV and TB patients and global civil society organisations such as Amnesty International and Medecins sans Frontieres.

More recently, Faraaz was a senior researcher at the South African Human Rights Commission, working on issues relating to discrimination and inequality. He holds research fellowships with the Centre for Applied Legal Studies at the School of Law at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg and the Gauteng City Region Observatory, a partnership between the Gauteng Provincial Government, the University of the Witwatersrand and the University of Johannesburg. Faraaz has been named by the Mail and Guardian as one of South Africa's 200 Most Inspiring Young South Africans and by Independent Newspapers as one of South Africa's 'Young Independents'. He enjoys running, travelling and writing fiction and is a recent recipient of the Commonwealth Short Story Prize for the African region.

Jun Nakagawa is an Oklahoma native who calls Southeast Asia her second home. After graduation, she spent two years in rural Vietnam and Cambodia developing community-led nutrition and hygiene programs. When Myanmar opened up its borders in 2012, she moved to Yangon to work on Relief International's Joint Initiative Maternity Newborn Child Health. She focused on strengthening family planning communication strategies among village tracts in the Irawaddy Delta.

After three years in the development sector, she took on a job as a Strategic Planner at J. Walter Thompson's affiliate agency in Myanmar. Jun managed the largest social media forum educating pregnant women in Myanmar on prenatal care. She was on the winning pitch team for Telenor Telecommunications, one of the first international telecoms bringing affordable mobile services to the country, and became the Lead Planner on Telenor's launch campaign.

As a Doctor of Public Health candidate, she hopes to use her communications background and interest in behavioral economics to develop and implement behavior change communications in various sectors of the public health field. She is particularly passionate about mHealth, water sanitation, and menstrual hygiene.



Jun Nakagawa

MPH, Johns Hopkins
Bloomberg School of
Public Health

BA International
Studies, Middlebury
College



Kate Perry

MS Community and
Regional Planning,
University of Texas

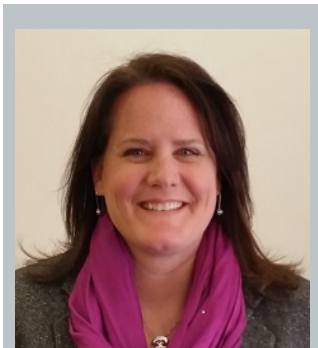
BS Furman University

A city planner by training, Kate previously served as the Director of Philanthropy and Special Projects for Independent Bank where she guided the Bank's corporate philanthropy and community reinvestment activities using a healthy communities framework. Her recent projects include a public-private partnership created to establish a Federally Qualified Health Center in McKinney, Texas. Her goal is "to help people live healthy, fulfilling lives by ensuring that we design and build communities to support health and wellbeing." She is especially interested in working to incorporate health factors into community development and reducing health disparities.

Prior to working for Independent Bank, Kate served as a Senior Planner for the City of Plano, Texas where she focused on neighborhood revitalization and long-range planning and lead the City's award winning Urban Centers Study, Workforce Housing Study, and Plano Tomorrow Study. Kate also served as chair of the board of directors of the Wellness Center for Older Adults and on the board of the Healthcare Committee of Collin County. Kate holds a B.S. from Furman University and a M.S. from the University of Texas at Austin in Community and Regional Planning.

Caroline joins the DrPH program with the intent to combine her experiences in domestic, not-for-profit, private sector health management and international development. She spent the past 16 years in American healthcare management roles; most recently with the Geisinger Healthcare System in Danville, PA, last serving as the Associate Vice President of Geisinger's ProvenCare® program and Administrative Director of Geisinger's Comprehensive Spine Center. Her team of specialists partnered with clinical teams to facilitate change in order to achieve safe, reliable and evidence-based care. Along with her physician partners in the Spine Center, they developed a comprehensive, patient-centered, spine program aimed at improving the timely and cost-effective identification and treatment of spine patients.

In a parallel career path, Caroline is a Lieutenant Colonel in the US Army. As a Civil Affairs officer Caroline initially deployed to Baghdad, Iraq in 2003 where she spent a year focusing on local capacity building and the reestablishment of Eastern Baghdad's 12 hospitals, 75 clinics and 4 Nursing Schools. She then transferred to the US Embassy in Amman, Jordan to assist in the revitalization of Iraq's business sector. Caroline returned to Iraq in 2008, to Wasit Province in order to build Provincial capacity specifically focused on the agricultural sector and overall economic development. Finally, Caroline was deployed to the Horn of Africa in 2012 where she coordinated Civil Affairs efforts in support of regional stability and counterterrorism efforts. She currently serves as a member of the US Army Reserve Counterterrorism Unit assigned to the Department of State in Washington, DC.



Caroline Pogge

Masters of Health
Administration,
University of Kentucky

BA Political Science,
Tulane University



Erica Reaves

Master of Public Policy,
University of Maryland
Baltimore County

BS Biological Sciences,
University of Maryland
Baltimore County

Born and reared in Columbus, Ohio, Erica L. Reaves graduated from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) with a B.S. in Biological Sciences in 2004 and an M.P.P. (health policy concentration) in 2011.

Just prior to matriculating into Harvard's Doctor of Public Health program in July 2016, Ms. Reaves was a policy analyst for about four years with the Kaiser Family Foundation's Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured (KCMU) in Washington, D.C. At KCMU, she conducted qualitative and quantitative research to examine the role of Medicaid in the delivery and financing of long-term services and supports (LTSS) and the diverse experiences of people with LTSS needs and family caregivers. From 2008 to 2011, Ms. Reaves was employed at The Hilltop Institute (formerly the Center for Health Program and Management) at UMBC, providing research and analytical support on state-based health reform initiatives and home and community-based LTSS programs within Medicaid.

Ms. Reaves' career aspirations include leading the development, implementation, and evaluation of innovative strategies which aim to promote LTSS preparedness and informed, person-centered care planning as healthful behaviors among individuals, families, and communities and across income, disability, and race/ethnicity spectra.

Kate joins the Harvard DrPH program from the Center for Global Safe Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) at Emory University, where she served as the Associate Director of Research Projects. During her five years at Emory, Kate led applied research projects focused on global water quality and treatment for rural populations, assessment of fecal exposure and contamination in urban slum environments, and the evaluation of WASH conditions in healthcare facilities in low-income countries. Her career interest lies in developing evidenced-based and sustainable solutions to achieve safe water and sanitation for vulnerable populations. Kate is involved in setting global monitoring indicators for WASH in healthcare facilities and assessment tools she has developed have been used at scale to facilitate improved WASH in healthcare facilities. Her work in urban sanitation spans from the application of environmental microbiology techniques to the development of methods for prioritizing public health in sanitation policy.

Prior to her position at Emory, Kate worked on a variety of domestic and international public health initiatives through positions with AmeriCorps and CARE International. Kate received her BA in Environmental Studies with a minor in Women's studies from University of Michigan and her MPH in Global Environmental Health from Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health.



Katharine Robb

MPH Global
Environmental Health,
Emory University

BA Environmental
Studies, University of
Michigan



**Asinath
Rusibamayila**

MPH, Columbia
University

BA Global Health and
Statistics, Mount
Holyoke College

Asinath Rusibamayila was born and raised in Tanzania. She graduated from Mount Holyoke College with a self-designed major in Global Health and Statistics. She then worked for two years at Massachusetts General Hospital evaluating cost-effectiveness of programs to prevent mother-to-child-transmission of HIV in Zimbabwe. She then went on to pursue her Masters in Public Health at Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. She then decided to move back to Tanzania, managing a feasibility study that is looking at the quality, safety and acceptability of task-shifting injectable contraceptives to CHW's. This opportunity opened up doors for her to work closely with government officials in trying to push for a policy change that will increase access to family planning services to women.

After seeing the leadership need in the public health sector in Tanzania, Asinath decided to pursue her DrPH at Harvard. She hopes to refine her leadership and management skills and also gain expertise in implementation and decision science, impact evaluation and the scholarship of knowledge translation. She is passionate about various topics in the public health field including maternal and reproductive health, health systems strengthening and infectious disease control. After completing her doctoral training, Asinath is determined to return back home to Tanzania to work in senior leadership positions that will allow her to affect change.

Sachin joins the DrPH program after nearly fifteen years in management consulting advising domestic and international organizations on strategy, operations and technology. He currently serves as a visiting scientist at the Department of Infectious Diseases & Immunity at Imperial College London. He also holds additional research positions within the Lancet Commission for Global Access to Pain Control and Palliative Care under the Harvard Global Equity Initiative and the Global Health Systems Cluster at the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health.

In his research roles, Sachin has explored a range of topics from innovative financing for health, to antimicrobial resistance, to universal health coverage, to complex disease control (specifically HIV/AIDS and Cancer). Having had a career spanning business, technology and health, Sachin is very interested in exploring the role of innovation in global health, particularly in relation to global cancer control.

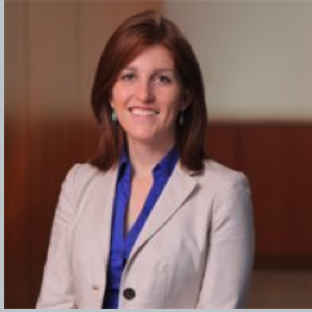
Sachin most recently received his MSc and DIC in health policy (with distinction) from the Faculty of Medicine at Imperial College London (UK). Sachin was also formerly a doctoral candidate in Chemistry at Yale University (under university fellowship) and received his undergraduate degree in Chemistry (with a minor in Physics) from Denison University.



Sachin Silva

MSc & DIC Health
Policy, Imperial
College, London, UK

BS Chemistry,
Denison University



Morissa Sobelson

MPH, Columbia
University

BA, Tufts University

Morissa Sobelson has spent the past seven years in New York City working on health issues and policies affecting vulnerable populations. Most recently, she served as chief of staff to Dr. Irwin Redlener, Director of the National Center for Disaster Preparedness and President of the Children's Health Fund. In this capacity, she helped advance a range of organizational strategies, intergovernmental collaborations, and programmatic initiatives regarding the special challenges children face as a result of poverty, lack access to healthcare, and catastrophic events.

Previously, Morissa served as a senior analyst with Manatt Health Solutions, an interdisciplinary healthcare consulting firm, where her project work focused on public health insurance programs, health information technology, and federal and state health policy trends. This work built on an earlier position as an advisor to the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services in the New York City Mayor's Office, where she provided research and policy analysis to senior health officials in preparation for federal and state health reform. At Harvard, Morissa is interested in continuing to examine how healthcare systems can be improved to better address the needs of low-income populations.

Gretchen Stoddard joins the DrPH program after serving over four years as Program Director of the IZUMI Foundation, a Boston-based global health foundation. Gretchen manages and provides strategic planning for the Foundation's broad global health grant portfolio. Gretchen works closely with the grantee organizations, both in the office and in the field. IZUMI Foundation supports programs in 30 countries in Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean, prioritizing rural and last mile community health programs. The Foundation's funding priorities include: maternal and neonatal health, malnutrition, neglected tropical diseases, infectious diseases, and healthcare infrastructure. Gretchen is passionate about strengthening healthcare systems by building the capacity of local health organizations, institutions, and leaders.

Gretchen received her Master of Public Health degree from Boston University School of Public Health with a concentration in Maternal and Child Health. While attending BUSPH, Gretchen was a Maternal and Child Health Fellow. She received a BA in Spanish Language and Literature and completed the pre-medicine course track at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Gretchen has additional years of experience as a Program Coordinator at Yale University School of Medicine and as a public health volunteer working with Spanish-speaking immigrant populations. Gretchen holds an appointed position on the Town of Brookline's Advisory Council on Public Health and also serves as a Trustee for the Friends of Brookline Public Health.



Gretchen Stoddard

MPH, Boston
University

BA Spanish Language
and Literature,
University of
Colorado at Boulder



Margaret Sullivan

MS Nursing, University of California San Francisco

BA Comparative Religion and Art History, Barnard College

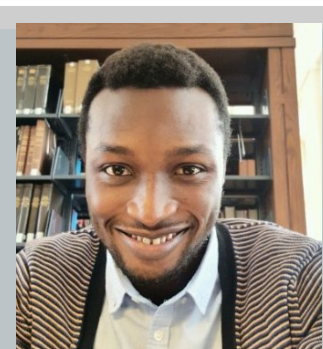
Maggie Sullivan is a family nurse practitioner with an interest in serving immigrant patients and their families. She received her BA from Barnard College in Comparative Religion and Art History. She later completed her masters in nursing at the University of California - San Francisco (UCSF) with a sub-specialty in women's health, followed by a fellowship in farmworker health in the Salinas Valley of California.

In 2009, Ms. Sullivan completed an internship with Partner In Health's (PIH) Institute for Health and Social Justice. She has since continued to work with PIH as a Collaborator in Chiapas, Mexico. For the past seven years, Ms Sullivan has worked at Boston Health Care for the Homeless, providing primary care to patients in shelter-based clinics. Since 2009, she has been a moderator of the nursing and midwifery community at Global Health Delivery Online (GHDonline), a virtual professional community. Ms Sullivan is Co-Chair of the Board of Directors of the Global Nursing Caucus and is on faculty at UCSF School of Nursing.

Her research interests include the health of undocumented immigrants, day laborers and their sending communities. Publications include "Mental Health of Undocumented Mexican Immigrants: A Review of the Literature," "Towards la clínica de mis sueños: Findings from a needs and assets assessment among rural nurses in Chiapas, Mexico," and a forthcoming study on the health status of Spanish-speaking homeless patients in Boston.

Kelechi Weze is a Nigerian physician with a passion for emergency medical services and essential surgical care in developing countries. His experience has been an exciting mix of public health, patient care, and health care financing. He has held the role of Technical Assistant at the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA) as well as heading medical operations for the northern regional office for a private health insurance company, all while maintaining a part-time primary care practice throughout. In addition to formal roles, Dr. Weze's volunteer work has included routinely setting up free mobile clinics for the urban poor, families of service men fighting terror and displaced persons in Abuja and other states with CryforHelp a UK-based NGO that received presidential recognition.

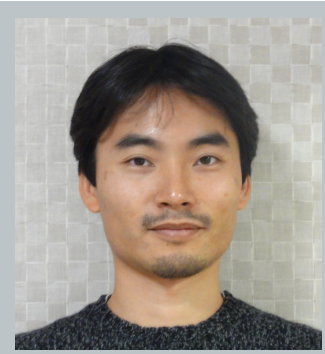
Dr. Weze's most recent focus has been on cost-effective, context-specific business models to provide first-response to road accidents in resource constrained settings. A recent graduate of the Harvard Chan MPH program in Global Health, he currently works with social enterprises and the Global Health Education and Learning Incubator at Harvard where he cultivates his interest in the health start-up industry. Dr. Weze's plans for the future involve leading regional and international efforts in emergency response, injury prevention, essential surgery and disaster preparedness.



Kelechi Weze

MPH, Harvard University

MD, Ahmadu Bello University, Nigeria



Kota Yoshioka

MPH International
Health Development,
Nagasaki University

BS, University of Tokyo

Kota Yoshioka joins the Harvard DrPH program in 2016. In his earlier career, he studied landscape ecology for his undergraduate education and subsequently participated in Japanese overseas volunteer programs. He worked in Costa Rica for two years as a rural development promoter and one year in Guatemala enhancing Chagas disease control. This field experience ignited in him an interest in issues of global health and led him to pursue an MPH at Nagasaki University, Japan, with a focus international health development. Kota holds a particular interest in health systems and project management following a case study he developed on scaling reproductive health interventions in India as part of his masters thesis.

After receiving his MPH in 2010, Kota worked in Nicaragua for four years to lead and manage a Chagas disease control project implemented by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). With the Nicaraguan Ministry of Health and JICA colleagues, he planned and conducted health promotion activities, epidemiological surveys, large-scale vector control, and community-based surveillance. When the JICA project concluded, Kota went back to Nagasaki University to analyze and summarize his field experiences in Nicaragua. He also has expertise in public health project implementation in the context of international cooperation. Looking ahead he is interested in neglected tropical diseases and health system strengthening in Latin America.

**For more information on the DrPH program,
visit <http://hsph.me/drph>**



HARVARD T.H. CHAN
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH