Moving Beyond Solidarity Rhetoric in Global Health

December 2024 Update

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As 2024 comes to a close, we are delighted to share with you the December update from the Global Health Solidarity Project.

This edition highlights our key activities from September to December, including partner events we were proud to participate in. We also share participant perspectives from three regional workshops held across two continents, exploring the concept of solidarity.

We are deeply grateful to your continued support and collaboration throughout the year. Your engagement has been invaluable to our shared efforts.

Please feel free to share this newsletter within your networks.

Wishing you happy holidays and a bright, impactful New Year 2025!

Best regards,

Caesar Atuire (Project lead)

Barbara Prainsack, Bridget Pratt, Elysee Nouvet, Gabriela Arguedas, Jantina De Vries, Unni Karunakara (Co-Investigators)

Activity Highlights (Sept - Dec 2024)

Solidarity and adjacent concepts in the Pacific Region

The GH-Solidarity project held its third regional workshop in Brisbane, Australia on 28-29 November 2024. Participants explored theories and practices of solidarity and adjacent concepts in Australia, Aotearoa New Zealand, and the Pacific, featuring interactive sessions, presentations, and discussions on intercultural understandings of solidarity in global health.

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Guardians of seed, land, life and solidarity - Exhibition

On 14th November 2024, our implementing partners at the University of Cape Town co-organised an exhibition celebrating the "herstories" of rural women seed guardians from seven Southern African countries. The event highlighted the powerful activism and solidarity of rural women through seeds, support, and shared experiences across the region.

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A better and more just world order centred on health/wellbeing, equity

On **17th October 2024**, UK-based academic leaders gathered at St Hilda's College, Oxford, to discuss advancing a more equitable global health framework. Discussions critiqued traditional bioethics and Global North dominance, emphasising solidarity, interdisciplinary collaboration, and diverse perspectives for health equity.

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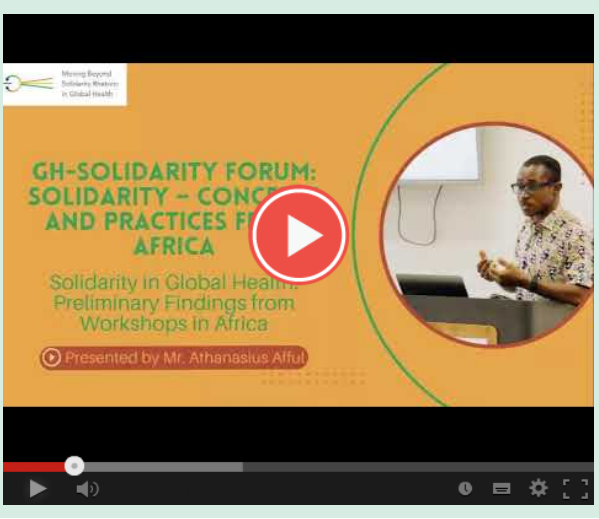
Inaugural GH-Solidarity forum

The GH-Solidarity project held its inaugural forum titled "Solidarity – Concepts and Practices from Africa" on 11th September 2024. The online event shared findings from two regional workshops held in Africa.

Watch a snapshot of the findings below



Consultation on WHO research priority setting guideline

On September 26, 2024, the project, co-organised an online consultation with the WHO Ethics and Governance Unit on the ethics of research priority-setting. Researchers, practitioners, and ethicists from Africa provided feedback on the draft guideline – later made available for public review on the WHO website until December 1, 2024. The final document will guide ethical decision-making in setting research priorities.

Solidarity with nature: Uniting to address the climate crisis and inequalities

From October 14–18, 2024, two project members participated in the global convening on Planetary Health and a Just Transition, organised by the Atlantic Institute and Dejusticia in Bogotá, Colombia. Discussions aimed at fostering alternative narratives, exchanging knowledge, and developing strategies for building a more harmonious relationship with nature.

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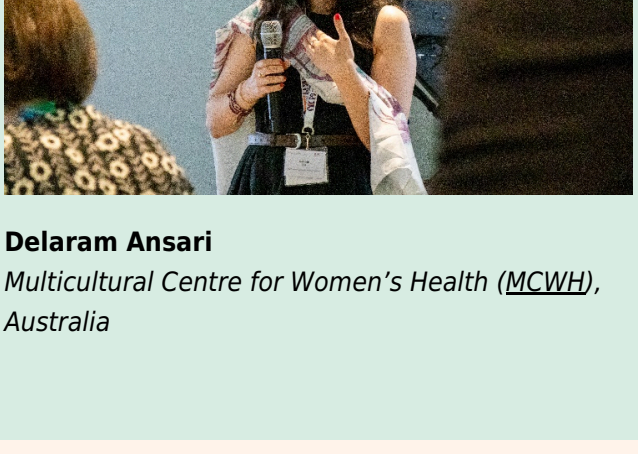
Insights from regional workshops on solidarity

Catherine Healy / NZPC:
Aotearoa New Zealand Sex Workers' Collective
(*Participant at the GH_solidarity Pacific regional workshop, Nov 2024*)

"The workshop provided an opportunity to affirm the importance of solidarity with sex workers in respect to global health concerns. Stigma and discrimination runs deep, impacting these communities, and it has been brilliant to be able to explore concepts pertaining to solidarity in a wider sphere. It was significant to sit with people from such varied backgrounds and realise there are shared visions to advance and fill the space for solidarity."

" We valued the opportunity to share our work in advancing migrant and refugee women's health and to highlight the importance of applying an intersectional feminist lens to practicing solidarity. This is an important project because prioritising solidarity in global health is a vital first step toward to achieving health equity for all."



Delaram Ansari
Multicultural Centre for Women's Health (MCWH), Australia

"The momentum of human solidarity has always been well anchored in our societies, both for happy and unhappy events, on the occasion of epidemics, conflicts and disasters. The solidarity chain reflects a craze to help relieve the suffering

of others or even save lives. Specifically in the field of health, the health systems of our African countries in particular are weakened by emerging and re-emerging epidemics ..... The meeting makes it possible to mark the way for a better understanding of solidarity in different contexts for more social justice and equity."

Dr. Niankoye Goumou
Representative of the Ministry of Health and Public Health, Guinea

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

- **11th February 2025.** The GH-Solidarity project kicks off its bi-monthly webinar series, featuring insights from interviews on the concept of solidarity. Register here!
- **29th–30th January 2025:** Capacity Building Workshop. This research methods training program is tailored for University of Ghana students.
- **5th February 2025:** Interdisciplinary Workshop at the University of Nigeria Nsukka. This workshop will explore solidarity in the Igbo context, aiming to deepen understanding through diverse academic perspectives.
- **17th–20th February 2025:** Solidarity Summer School - Southern Africa Rural Women's Assembly.
- **24th–26th February 2025:** 4th Regional Workshop in Costa Rica. This event will explore notions of solidarity and proxy concepts rooted in the cultural, political, and intellectual practices and traditions in Central America and Mexico.

Project Partners

University of Ghana | Australian Catholic University | University of Cape Town | University of Costa Rica | Western University Canada | University of Oxford

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