

# Reports of Conferences from the Nigeria Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Programme (NFELTP)

## Summary

This document contains report of three (3) conferences (2<sup>nd</sup> NFELTP, TEPHINET & 1<sup>st</sup> Ghana FELTP conferences) and 1 training programme

It also contains three (3) awards won by the residents and graduates of the Nigeria FELTP

1. **Award of 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner in Photo Contest** at the 9<sup>th</sup> TEPHINET Global Scientific Conference, August, 2017
2. **Best Oral Presentation by an FELTP graduate** at the 9<sup>th</sup> TEPHINET Global Scientific Conference, August, 2017
3. **1<sup>st</sup> runner up award for the Best Oral Poster Session** at the 1<sup>st</sup> Ghana FELTP Scientific Conference, September 2017

**1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL GHANA FIELD  
EPIDEMIOLOGY & LABORATORY  
TRAINING PROGRAMME  
SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE**

18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2017  
Venue: Swiss Spirit Hotel Alisa, Accra, Ghana

**Theme:**

A Decade Of Field Epidemiology Training In Ghana –  
Scaling Up Workforce Development To Improve Public  
Health

**September 2017**

## Summary

Ghana Field Epidemiology & Laboratory Training Programme had its first scientific conference and 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration from 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2017 in Accra, Ghana with the theme “A decade of Field Epidemiology Training in Ghana – Scaling up Workforce Development to improve Public Health”

There were over 200 participants including representatives for Ghana Minister of Health, Executive Director of AFENET, Resident Advisors, residents and graduates of various countries’ FETP, CDC representatives, WHO representatives and diverse healthcare professionals

Remarks were given by Executive Director – AFENET, Dr. Chima Oluabunwo and representative of Ghana Minister of Health during the opening ceremony. They spoke about the contribution of FETP to the health sector in Ghana and Africa, achievements of the programme, strengthen and build functional partnership.

1<sup>st</sup> GFELTP Scientific Conference hosted 50 oral sessions and 70 oral – poster sessions. Three Nigeria Field Epidemiology & Laboratory Training Programme residents presented in the conference featuring one oral session and five oral – poster sessions. There were also 7 workshops on areas of Surveillance, Scientific Communication, GHSA, Immunization and Capacity building

## Presentations by NFELTP residents and graduates

Below are the details of the presentations made by NFELTP residents:

### A. Oral Presentation:

- a. **Obagha. E .Chijioke** – Health workers Knowledge, Attitude and Practice during Lassa Fever Outbreak, Anambra State, Nigeria

### B. Oral Poster Presentation:

- a. **Ibrahim. A .Seriki** – Evaluation of Measles Case-Based Surveillance System in Edo State, Nigeria, January to December,2016
- b. **Baffa Sule Ibrahim** – Descriptive Characterization of Lassa fever Outbreak in Nigeria, 2016

- c. **Baffa Sule Ibrahim** – Outbreak of Cholera at Dutsen-Abba Ward, Zaria Local Government Area, Kaduna State, Nigeria 2015: The Importance of Hygienic Practices
- d. **Ibrahim. A .Seriki** – Descriptive Analysis of Lassa fever Outbreak data in Edo State, Nigeria 2016
- e. **Obagha. E .Chijioke** – Surveillance Data Analysis on Measles, Anambra State, Nigeria, 2011 – 2016

**Award**

- 1. Obagha Chijioke, a Cohort 8 resident won the 1<sup>st</sup> runner up award for the Best Oral Poster Session



The NFELTP Senior Resident Advisor with Obagha Chijoke, the award winner of the 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up for the Best Poster Presentation  
**Ghana FELTP Conference, September, 2017**

# The 9th TEPHINET Global Scientific Conference

7 – 11, August 2017

Venue: Empress Event Center,  
Chaing Mai, Thailand

**Theme:** Building on 20 Years of Applied  
Epidemiological Training to Advance Disease  
Surveillance, Response, and Sustainable Development

August 2017

## **Preamble**

This the 9<sup>th</sup> Biennial Global Scientific Conference of the Training Programs in Epidemiology and Public Health Interventions Network (TEPHINET). It is the network that unites all the FELT programmes in different countries and regions. The conference also provided the opportunity to celebrate the achievements of TEPHINET in the last twenty years of its existence. The celebration coincided with and the 23<sup>rd</sup> Thailand National Annual Epidemiology Seminar and was jointly hosted.

## **Delegation**

Nigeria Field Epidemiology Training Program sent a Delegation of 32 people consisting of 25 trainees/graduates and 7 members of the faculty/staff to the conference. The delegation arrived at Chaing Mai through Bangkok on the 6<sup>th</sup> of August 2016 and participated fully in the conference plenary, breakout sessions and field visits.

## **The Presentations**

A total of 1159 abstracts were received for considerations for the conference. After review, 170 were accepted for oral presentation, 200 were accepted for poster presentation. These abstracts were from 66 countries. ***The Nigerian delegation made a total of 28 high quality presentations (7 oral and 21 posters) at the conference.*** This was the ***highest number of presentations at the conference second only to China with 34*** (21 poster and 13 oral) presentations.

## **The Awards**

***Nigeria contingent got 2 awards*** out of the total of 13 available awards in the conference. This is the **highest of any participating country in the conference.** The awards are:

4. ***Photo Contest Winner 1<sup>st</sup> Place***
5. ***Best Oral Presentation by an FETP graduate***

## The Conference in Pictures



Onyiah Amaka receiving the award for the **1<sup>st</sup> place for Photo Contest**, TEPHINET, SEPTEMBER 2017



Chioma Dan-Nwafor receiving award for the **Best Oral presenter by a Graduate**, TEPHINET, SEPTEMBER 2017



**Cross-section of Nigerian Delegation making presentation at the International Night TEPHINET, SEPTEMBER 2017**



**The Senior Resident Advisor, Dr. Patrick Nguku making presentation during the Conference**





**Cross-section of Nigerian Delegation, TEPHINET, SEPTEMBER 2017**



**The awardees with the Senior Resident Advisors and staff members, TEPHINET, SEPTEMBER 2017**

**2nd Annual Nigeria Centre for Disease  
Control/Nigeria Field Epidemiology and  
Laboratory Training Programme Scientific  
Conference**

5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2017

Venue: Transcorp Hilton, Abuja

**Theme:**  
Strengthening One Health through Field Epidemiology  
Training

**July 2017**

## Summary

In an effort to create a platform for epidemiologists and public health physicians to share their scientific works with the larger audience, The Nigeria Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Program (NFELTP) and The Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) organized the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual scientific conference held at the Transcorp Hilton Hotel, Abuja, Nigeria from July 3-7, 2017.

The theme of the conference was "*strengthening one health through field epidemiology training*".

The objectives of the conference were-

- To provide residents and graduates of the program a forum to share their findings from their field based activities
- To provide a training opportunity for the trainees on scientific communication
- To provide an opportunity for epidemiological networking and partnership
- To create a forum to discuss pertinent public health issues

**Pre-workshop Conferences:** With the current rise in zoonotic diseases, the conference also featured a two-day pre-conference workshop on One Health. Seasoned researchers on One Health made presentations and anchored sessions. Questions were asked at the end of each presentation and participants left the venue more informed than they ever were.

**OPENING CEREMONY:** Goodwill messages were delivered by all dignitaries present at the event. Some of the dignitaries were the Honourable Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development, represented by Dr. Gideon Mshelbwala; Acting Executive Director AFENET, Dr. Oliver Namusisi; Charge d'affaires US embassy, David Young; GID Director, Dr. Omotayo Bolu; NCDC CEO, Dr. Chikwe; WHO, Dr. Philp Reiz, COE Global Health Implementation Solution; Vice Chancellors of A.B.U and U.I as well as Directors from other Ministries.

The conference was officially declared opened by the Honorable Minister for Health, who was represented by the Permanent Secretary Federal Ministry for Health, Hajiya Binta. In her opening remarks, she commended presenters for the good works done and assured residents of government's commitment of ensuring its citizenry are in good health by engaging them after their programme. She wished participants a fruitful deliberation.

**Conference Activities:** The conference lasted for 3 days; *it had 36 oral presentations, 61 poster presentations and 2 plenary sessions.* The presentations covered various subthemes ranging from *Outbreak Investigations and Response, Case Management, Health System Strengthening, Vaccine Preventable Diseases, Communicable Diseases and Surveillance.*

## **Keynote Speakers and Topics**

1. One Health: From Vision to Fashion – **Professor M. Kariuki Njenga**
2. Antimicrobial resistance: The Quintessential One Health Issue – **Professor Oladipo Aboderin**
3. Mobilizing resources for research: opportunities for knowledge and career advancement – **Dr. Akindele Olupelumi Adebisi**
4. The Role of National Public Health Institutes – **Dr. Ebere Okereke**
5. Cerebrospinal Meningitis in Nigeria: an outbreak, a response and lessons learnt – **Dr. Chikwe Ihekweazu**

The conference featured a National Night that was sponsored by NFELTP alumni. Afterwards, awards were presented to outstanding presenters/researchers at the end of the conference.

**CLOSING CEREMONY:** Participants, moderators, key note speakers and the public were appreciated for their enthusiasm and perseverance throughout the conference and the successes achieved thus far. The NCDC/NFELTP conference is an annual event and more presentations are sought for next year's event. It is important to note that the set of planned objectives for the conference were achieved. Participants were encouraged to put into practice what they have learnt as NCDC/NFELTP major concern is in addressing pertinent public health issues. The conference rounded up with the presentation of awards to outstanding presenters in different categories.

The conference had in attendance representatives from the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), USAID, WHO, Africa CDC, GIS, MDAs, Universities, SMoH, University of Maryland and other implementing partners.

## **CONFERENCE COMMUNIQUE**

### **SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS**

The scientific sessions saw presentation of 11 topics in pre-conference, 5 topics in 2 plenary sessions, including 36 oral presentations and 61 oral poster presentations

### **The sessions highlighted the following key areas;**

1. There is increasing need for One Health approach - involving human, animals and environmental health - as the most feasible and effective approach to synergistic and sustainable development. This should engender more collaborations between stakeholders especially Ministries of Health and Ministries of Agriculture.
2. Increase in the number of untreatable infections due to none/low production of some drugs.
3. Antimicrobial resistance is a One Health issue, as organisms have developed resistance to the available antibiotics.

4. Capacity Building and the importance of having qualified health workers cannot be over emphasized. There is need to update the knowledge of health workers with updated and recommended practices in the respective fields worldwide.
5. There is need to improve the vaccine request process as the current system in place is slow and tedious.
6. The non-availability of funds to quickly respond to outbreaks, contributes to the delay in response to outbreak.
7. Theory - No single model /theory should be used for setting up National Public Health Institute, rather, it should encompass all models if a comprehensive system is to be built.
8. Improvement of public health services in a country is dependant on building a robust system that is science based and manned by strong leadership with strong political will
9. Partners from within and outside the country should be involved in building a strong National Public Health Institute
10. The availability of a functional and equipped laboratory hastens confirmation of test results and reduces spread of disease.
11. Researches should not be “silo” driven.
12. Media involvement is key in strenghtening One Health. There is increasing need for dissemination of research findings to the media and the general public through carefully planned health promotion activities that will encourage behavioral changes beneficial to health, and foster appropriate and timely healthcare seeking among the populace.

## PICTORIALS



**Opening ceremony of the 2<sup>nd</sup> NCDC/NFELTP Annual Scientific Conference**



**Cross-section of dignitaries during the opening ceremony of the Scientific Conference**



**Goodwill messages being delivered during the opening ceremony**



# **Report of Five -Day Training on BABIES Matrix/Story Board, Uganda**

## **21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> August 2017**

### **Overview**

The Babies story board is a two dimensional integrated approach/tool that can be used to analyze newborn outcome data to generate information as regards quality of care for the mother and baby, coverage and equity of services along risks profile. It is extremely helpful in aiding action along the cascade of preconception, antepartum, intrapartum and postpartum period. It allows deeper consideration for quality improvement at policy/program management level, facility level as well as community level.

In view of the above, the Ugandan Ministry of Health in collaboration with Global Health Institute and Notre Dame University held a training workshop from the 21<sup>st</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> August, 2017 at Protea Hotel, Kololo Kampala.

### **Workshop objectives**

1. Institutionalize the use of Maternal infant Matrix (BABIES and MOMs) in Uganda
2. Write a Maternal Infant Matrix (MIM) story board for Uganda
3. Understand and disseminate the power of this tool and approach to policy makers and healthcare providers.

### **Workshop methodology**

It was a 5 day workshop which involved didactic sessions, group work on the MIM matrix, hands on practical demonstrations as well as pre and post test. In addition the Nigerian team (Dr Chris Ega) interacted with the team of master trainers from the US led by Dr Brian McCarthy to deliberate on the prospect of implementing BABIES in Nigeria.

### **Workshop Outcomes**

- a. Capacity of health providers built on the use of the BABIES matrix from selected health facilities in Uganda.

- b. Draft MOU for implementing BABIES in Nigeria currently been developed by the Notre Dame University on the directives of Dr Brian McCarthy (MOU would be shared with AFENET- Nigeria as soon as it is ready).
- c. Need to identify a referral hospital in Nigeria to begin data collection to populate and develop a BABIES story board for Nigeria (This data should be available within 2 months from this date).
- d. Invitation extended to Nigeria to identify and select at 2 participants in addition to Dr Chris Ega to attend the BABIES workshop in 2 Months time (participants should include at one person from SOGON or Nursing and Midwifery Association of Nigeria).
- e. AFENET, Nigeria should begin to interface with key stakeholders with a view to implement BABIES in Nigeria.



**NFELTP Graduate and other participants during the Five -Day Training on BABIES Matrix/Story Board, Uganda**