
Visionary Public Health Leader

A highly qualified and detail-oriented professional with 20+ years' experience in leading public health initiatives in Western and Central Africa and emergency management operations and programmes at regional and national level. Demonstrated success in developing and implementing strategic health policies, leading multi-sectoral projects, and fostering international collaborations. Adept at driving transformative health programs, securing multi-million-dollar funding, and enhancing health system resilience through innovative approaches.

Accomplished public Health expert with over 20 years' extensive experience in strategic leadership and management of public health programmes, and in the development of public health strategies and alternatives to strengthen healthcare systems. While working to bridge gaps between scientific, medical, and governmental communities, soliciting and managing funds from multiple financing streams, and leading complex delivery of health programs, with evidence of significant results and coordinating multisectoral projects that control, eliminate, and eradicate infectious diseases in developing countries and promote population wellbeing.

Demonstrated expertise in aligning strategic plans with development goals and organisation's core values. Track record of success in business process design, improvement, and management with an ability to identify possible bottlenecks, risks, and constraints that could lead to under-performance of programmes. Skilled in completing assigned project or programmes in accordance with defined procedure. Expert in delivering training and drafting operational manuals for to improve streamline operations. Proficient in utilising innovative digital platforms. Articulate and refined communicator with native command over French, fluency over English, and basic knowledge of Portuguese.

Highlights of Expertise

- ◆ HealthCare Service Management
- ◆ Health System Strengthening
- ◆ Maternal and Child Health
- ◆ Team leadership & Support
- ◆ Crisis & Emergency Management
- ◆ Strategic & Tactical Planning
- ◆ Immunisation and Nutrition
- ◆ Disease Prevention & Control
- ◆ Human Resource for Health
- ◆ Data collection/Quality Assurance
- ◆ High-Level Negotiations
- ◆ Human resource for Health
- ◆ Health Policy development
- ◆ Innovations and Change Management
- ◆ Relationship Building & Maintenance
- ◆ Staff Training & Development
- ◆ Quality & Compliance Assurance
- ◆ Public Health Management Initiatives
- ◆ Documentation & Reporting
- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Research, Monitoring & Evaluation
- ◆ Capacity Building/Mentorship
- ◆ Community Based Interventions

Selected Career highlights

- ◆ Member of the Africa CDC Expert Working Group on priority setting for emergency preparedness and response for Africa

- ♦ Led the ECOWAS regional response of major public health events including COVID-19 pandemic, Ebola Virus disease, Monkey Pox, Marburg haemorrhagic fever outbreaks.
- ♦ Led the development and implementation of regional policies, plans and strategies for ECOWAS.
- ♦ Support the ECOWAS training Curricula Harmonization and validation
- ♦ Support the Community Health Interventions and Traditional Medicine
- ♦ Support the implementation of the ECOWAS Strategic nutrition plan
- ♦ Support the implementation of maternal and child health strategy
- ♦ Leading the implementation of 5-year Regional Strategic preparedness and response plan in ECOWAS region

Professional Work Experience

West African Health Organisation, Bobo Dioulasso | Burkina Faso

Acting Director – Directorate of Healthcare Services (June 2024 to present)

Led the development and implementation of effective policies, strategies and programmes for WAHO including, i) promoting maternal and child health in West Africa; ii) promoting healthy living; iii) promoting best practices to reduce maternal and infant mortality in the region; iv) utilizing available data and information to design intervention strategies for the prevention and control of non-communicable disease in the region; v) Supervising a medical quality assurance process in all programs; vi) developing and conducting training for staff around healthcare issues.

- ♦ Provided Direct technical guidance on programme implementation of a range of activities from HealthCare Services directorate.
- ♦ Led in technical missions and represented WAHO in professional meetings or working groups and negotiate agreements to advance programmes and projects.
- ♦ Coordinated the development of the Directorate's strategic, thematic and annual workplans.
- ♦ Supported effective strategies to address the human resource for health deficit in the ECOWAS Member States.
- ♦ Monitoring ECOWAS Countries' progress and experiences sharing in reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child and adolescent health
- ♦ Development and implementation of the regional strategy for the accelerated reduction of maternal, neonatal and child mortality in the ECOWAS region
- ♦ Supporting of alignment of the contents of the 54 harmonized curricula of basic training and specialized training in three ECOWAS official language blocks.
- ♦ Development of the teaching guide (competency model) for health science teachers in ECOWAS region.
- ♦ Supported effective strategies to address the human resource for health deficit in the ECOWAS Member States.
- ♦ Supervised and evaluate staff performance and development of annual work plans for the Directorate's programmes consistent with the strategic and operational plans of the institution.
- ♦ Developed and monitored the implementation of the Directorate's annual work plans and performance-based budgets.
- ♦ Organized the Directorate in an efficient way with clear reporting lines, minimal bureaucracy and optimal delegation of responsibilities and authority.
- ♦ Work with the relevant Directorates to ensure efficient and effective services such as recruitment, performance decisions, promotions and related matters.
- ♦ Provided regular and prompt performance feedback to staff.
- ♦ Supported staff professional development to ensure consistent skills development to match action plans, goals and existing structures.

ECOWAS Regional Centre for Surveillance and Disease Control (RCSDC) - West African Health Organization (WAHO)/Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Abuja-Nigeria

Acting EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - (1st August 2022 to 1st July 2024)

Oversee end-to-end ECOWAS' specialized agency daily programmes and operations, including : i) Ensure the daily administrative and financial operations of the Centre ; ii) Develop strategies and workplans/roadmaps for programme implementation; iii) Implement annual work programs and approved decisions by relevant decision bodies; iv) Ensure appropriate scientific, technical and administrative support for the RCSDC Technical Advisory Council and the Governing Board; v) Ensure that RCSDC performs its tasks in ways which meet the needs of its users, in particular in terms of scientific excellence and independence of activities and opinions, relevance of services provided and in keeping to deadlines; vi) Monitor and validate the statement of income and expenditure as well as ensure RCSDC budget execution; Provide leadership and clear vision in the implementation of RCSDC initiatives across West Africa; Organise, monitor, and evaluate the all staff related matters in RCSDC (Team of 40 high level experts).

- ♦ **Ensure the Management of a portfolio of over 20 Multi-donors regional projects :** i) Supporting One Health Initiatives in West African Region Project (US Center for Disease Control and Prevention – US CDC); ii) Enhancing Cross border Initiatives in West Africa (US CDC); iii) Supporting Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Programmes in West Africa (US CDC); iv) Regional Disease Enhancement Project (World Bank); v) RIPOST Project (Agence Française de Développement – AFD); vi) Strengthening Human Resource in Public Health project (AFD/Expertise France); vii) Support 7-1-7 implementation in West African Region (Resolve to Save lives); viii) Regional Initiative to support Lassa Fever Preparedness and Response in West Africa (Coalition for Epidemics Preparedness and Innovations- CEPI); ix) Emerging Infectious Disease and Health Security Project (Family Health International 360 and US CDC); x) Regional Pandemic Prevention and Preparedness Project (GIZ) ; xi) European Union Support to the RCSDC (EU); xii) International Health Regulations (IHR) Strengthening Programme in Nigeria and Ecowas region (United Kingdom Health Security Agency); xiii) Leadership and Capacity Strengthening Project (USAID); xiv) Health Security and Resilience Project in West Africa (World Bank); xv) Exceptional emergency project to support ECOWAS low income Member States and strengthening the health systems of the Gambia, Mali and Niger to combat the covid-19 pandemic (African Development Bank - AfDB); xvi) Development of the pharmaceutical industry in the ECOWAS region; xvii) West African Health Organization's Institutional and Leadership Capacity-building (WAHO In-Lead Capacity)- USAID; xix) Regional project for strengthening laboratory services in West Africa (KfW) ; xx) ECOWAS Neglected Tropical Disease Project (AfDB); XXI) WAHO Institutional Capacity Strengthening Partnership (Bill and Melinda Foundation and Toni Blair Institute).
- ♦ **Development and validation of strategic plans and guidelines for ECOWAS region :** i) ECOWAS Regional Strategic preparedness and response plan 2020-2025; ii) ECOWAS regional risk communication strategy; iii) ECOWAS regional Cross border Strategy; iv) ECOWAS regional One Health strategy; v) Standards Operating Procedures for Information Sharing among ECOWAS member States; vi) ECOWAS regional Rapid Response Team Standard Operating procedures; vii) ECOWAS One Health Governance Manual; viii) ECOWAS Regional Public Health Emergency Operations centers framework; ix) ECOWAS RCSDC Organisational Development plan; x) Joint Regional Strategic plans for strengthening Public Health Emergency Operational plans; xi) Public Health Emergency Operations Center legal framework Guide; x) Regional Strategy for Communication and Coordination between Institutions in the ECOWAS Region for the Control of Epidemics; xi) ECOWAS Regional laboratory networks.
- ♦ Capacity Building efforts in 15 countries for over 10,000 Experts in various health security areas
- ♦ Formulated and implemented appropriate response strategies of major public health emergencies in ECOWAS region including Lassa Fever Outbreaks, Monkey Pox, Dengue Fever, Hepatitis E, Rift Valley fever, Meningitidis, Diphtheria, Cholera and others.
- ♦ Perform all responsibilities assigned by the Director General of WAHO to achieve WAHO's vision 2030.

continued...

ECOWAS Regional Centre for Surveillance and Disease Control (RCSDC) - West African Health Organization (WAHO)/Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Abuja-Nigeria

HEAD OF DIVISION - HEALTH EMERGENCIES AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT - (2019 to Present)

Oversee end-to-end division's operations, including rapid response teams, emergency medical teams, Emergency Operation Centres and health emergencies response units to ensure adequate management. Provide contribution in various functions, such as implementation and administration of a network of Ministries of Health Directors, National Public Health Institutes, WHO Country offices and Regional Hub and offices, and Africa CDC, Joint planning of RCDSC activities with key regional stakeholders; planning of ECOWAS /RCDSC meetings for board of directors and technical advisory board. Deliver support in the development and submission of work plans, budget, and ECOWAS/RCDSC annual technical and financial reports. Facilitate the establishment of policies and targeted actions on disease prevention and control in ECOWAS region. Organise, monitor, and evaluate the realisation of individual work plans of ECOWAS/RCDSC staff at the level of the division.

- ♦ Support the implementation of collaborative surveillance across West Africa (Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response, Event Based Surveillance and Indicators based surveillance);
- ♦ Ensure cross border collaboration and Points of entry capacity building in West Africa: preparedness and response to major health risks particularly in the areas of infectious diseases, serious multi-sectoral (One Health), and cross-border health threats.
- ♦ Oversee the operationalization of the network of Emergency Operations Centers (EOC), Emergency Medical Teams (EMTs) and National Public Health Institutes.
- ♦ Ensure the implementation of Regional One Health Coordination mechanisms in collaboration with the Regional Animal Health Centre, the ECOWAS department of Environment and Natural resources, The Department of Early Warning and the Humanitarian and social affairs Department:
- ♦ Oversee the implementation of FELTP training programmes in ECOWAS region : i) Development for FELTP national & regional plans; ii) ensure quality assurance and mentoring of FELTP residents; iii) Support FELTP Programmes evaluation and accreditation in ECOWAS region;
- ♦ Support the implementation of Infection Prevention and Control and Antimicrobial resistance initiatives across West Africa
- ♦ Develop and implement appropriate intervention strategies/plans to effectively respond to over 350 outbreaks and health emergencies in the ECOWAS region.

World Health Organization – Regional Office for Africa (WHO-AFRO), Beira | Cabo Delgado, Mozambique.

INCIDENT MANAGER FOR IDAI CYCLONE RESPONSE – COORDINATOR, EMERGENCY MEDICAL TEAM (2019)

Collaborated with the health cluster to conduct risk and needs assessments of the health sector in accordance with international standards; Planned, realised, and tracked health interventions while disseminating risk communication messages; Strengthening early warning and national surveillance system; Providing quality health services and establishing operational and functional health systems to the most vulnerable populations; Led and supported rapid response teams to ensure adequate investigation, risk assessment, and management of all public health events. Assisted national authorities and partners to strengthen infrastructures and equipments in rehabilitation of healthcare. Facilities, medications, and public health laboratories.

- ♦ Administered the quality of preventive and curative health care to the affected people while supporting information systems on communicable diseases and monitoring progress on Universal Health Coverage to facilitate the integration with the national health information system.
- ♦ Formulated, validated, and disseminated technical guidelines, training standards, material, and communication.
- ♦ Delivered policy recommendations on actions for affected and unaffected areas to prevent or control the causes of excessive morbidity and mortality.

- ◆ Improved the performance of local staff in prevention, diagnosis, control, and treatment by delivering training and guidance on best knowledge, standards, and practices.
- ◆ Developed the humanitarian needs overview (HNO), humanitarian response plan (HRP), strategic response plan (SRP) in coordination with the incident management system and health cluster members.

West African Health Organisation, Bobo Dioulasso | Burkina Faso

Senior Program Officer – Epidemics Control – Emergency Deployment (2016 to 2019)

Develop and implement Epidemics control programmes in WAHO including, including rapid response teams, emergency medical teams and Emergency Operation Centres. Develop and Validate resolutions and Standards Operating Procedures for deploying adequate resources in ECOWAS countries during emergencies; Create and Manage the ECOWAS EMERGENCY WORKFORCE DATABASE; Develop and Harmonize Curriculum for emergency trainings in West Africa including i) Rapid Response teams; ii) Health Emergency in Large Population course; iii) Emergency medical Teams; iv) Infection Prevention and Control; iv) Support the Refreshment of Integrated Disease and Surveillance and Response Curriculum with WHO/AFRO; Support the establishment of the Regional Security Stock for responding to public Health Emergencies in West Africa

- ◆ Provision of Technical and financial Support to ECOWAS affected countries during the Ebola Virus Disease Outbreak response (Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Mali, Nigeria and Senegal);
- ◆ Support preparation, implementation and Evaluation of ECOWAS Deployment in Ebola Affected Countries (African Development Bank)
- ◆ Coordination and implementation of Post Ebola Recovery initiatives in West Africa Project supported by Japan International Cooperation Association through United Nations Development Programmes
- ◆ Support the establishment of the Network National Public Health Institutes in West Africa through Baseline assessments.
- ◆ Coordination of the preparation, implementation and Evaluation of ECOWAS Deployment in Liberia for Lassa Fever Outbreak prevention and control
- ◆ Create and Manage an harmonized Crisis and Humanitarian framework within ECOWAS including Early Warning Department and Social and Humanitarian departments.

West African Health Organisation, Bobo Dioulasso | Burkina Faso

IDRC Coordinator - Senior Projects Manager (2013 to 2016)

Steered and led the implementation of 3 regional research project, including i) "West African Initiative for strengthening health Systems through health systems research"; ii) West African Initiative to Strengthen National Health Systems Research; iii) Moving Evidence to Policy in Maternal, Newborn and Child Health in West Africa. Coordinated the planning and implementation of monitoring learning evaluation system.

- ◆ Established and operationalized regional and national consultative committees to support knowledge transfer and use of evidence in ECOWAS.
- ◆ Influenced national health policies and programmes through strategic advocacy and facilitation of uptake of research results.
- ◆ Documented project results with scaling up of best practices in governance and equity.
- ◆ Supported dissemination of research results by drafting and disseminating policy notes.
- ◆ Acknowledged for documentation and publication of major achievements of the project.
- ◆ Supported the implementation of national components of the projects (Bénin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Niger, Mali, Sierra Leone, Senegal, and Nigeria) in Health System Research.

continued...

- ♦ Improved performance and capabilities of 120 implementation research team members and over 1000 decision makers across health systems level by delivering training and guidance.

AFRICARE – BENIN Branch, Cotonou | Bénin

Coordinator – for Malaria Control Intensification Project -May 2011 to July 2013

Led the implementation of Community based interventions, integrated care of childhood illnesses and health system strengthening.

- ♦ Definition and implementation of prevention strategies, (< 5 years);
- ♦ Establishment of a stock management system for inputs to combat malaria and the main childhood diseases;
- ♦ Strengthening the strategic partnership with public health system stakeholders (More than 40 project stakeholders);
- ♦ Capacity building and supervision of 122 health facility managers;
- ♦ Capacity building and supervision of over 2 000 community Health Workers and 150 radio presenters.
- ♦ Organization of national distribution campaigns for mosquito nets impregnated with long-lasting insecticides.
- ♦ Construction and equipment of 6 regional public health pharmacies.
- ♦ Establishment and management of a health information management system at community level
- ♦ Documentation of interventions.
- ♦ Planning, Implementation and Monitoring Evaluation of project activities;
- ♦ Administration and direct supervision of a team of 30 people.

*Additional experience t as **Monitoring & Evaluation Manager** for (Africare-Benin) Palu Alafia Project(Global funds), as **Research Assistant** for International Population Service (Benin Association of Social Marketing- President's Malaria Initiative and USAID), as **Research Assistant** for National AIDS Control Program (PNLS) – Ministry of Health/Benin, as **Consultant/Head of Mission** for SwissContact- Benin, as **Teacher/Trainer** for Haute Ecole Du Commerce et du Management, as **Senior technical Adviser** for Survie de la Mère et de L'Enfant, as **Senior Consultant** for World Health Organization - Country Office /Benin, as **Deputy Executive Director** for Alliance De Cooperation Africaine Pour Le Développement, as **Reservist Officer** for Beninese Armed Forces.*

Education & Credentials

Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health. Option: Health Policies and Systems (PhD) – (2023)

Institut Régional de Santé Publique (Université d'Abomey Calavi), Ouidah, Bénin

Special Certificate in Public Health Studies – Major Health Policies (2018)

Institut de Médecine Tropicale (Université d'Anvers), Belgium

Certificate of Special Studies in Occupational, Health, and Environment (Msci) - (2013)

Université d'Abomey-Calavi /Faculté des sciences de la Santé/Unité de Recherche en Santé au Travail et Environnement., Benin | URESTE

Master's degree in Population and Health (MPH) - (2011)

Institut Supérieur des Sciences de la Population (ISSP) et Université de Montréal, Canada

Master's degree in management sciences – Project Management (MBA) - (2009)

Institut International de Management and Fondation Mercure, Belgium

Doctorate in General Medicine (MD) – (2008)

Faculté des Sciences de la Santé - Université d'Abomey-Calavi, Bénin

Baccalaureat D (2001)

Prytanée Militaire de Bembèrèkè (PMB), Bénin

Advanced Military Certificate of Benin Armed Forces (2000)

Forces Armées Béninoises – Prytanée Militaire de Bembèrèkè, Bénin

Professional Development

- ECOWAS One Health Leadership Course
- Training on Disaster Management
- Training of Trainers in Public Health Emergency Operation Centres (PHEOC)
- Training of Emergency Medical Teams in Mali
- An Introduction to Exercises
- How to be a Simulation Exercise Evaluator?
- Orientation to FEMA Logistics
- Anticipating Hazardous Weather & Community Risk
- Public Information Officer Awareness
- Radiological Emergency Management
- Introduction to Community Emergency Response Teams (IS-317)
- Earthquake Basics: Science, and Risks
- After Action Review Course
- Mitigation Multi-Hazard Emergency Planning for Schools
- Introduction to Continuity of Operations Planning for Pandemic Influenzas
- IS-546.a - Continuity of Operations Awareness Course.
- IS-547.A: Introduction to Continuity of Operations- Exercising Continuity Plans for Pandemics
- The Homeland Security Geospatial Concept-of-Operations (GeoCONOPS) In Depth
- Applications of GIS for Emergency Management
- Training in Emergency Planning
- IS-42: Social Media in Emergency Management
- IS-201: Forms Used for the Development of the Incident Action Plan Course
- Training on Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response Course
- Training on Leadership and influence in Emergency Management
- Introduction to Incident Command System (ICS-100 course)
- Flood Mitigation Basics for Mitigation Staff
- Training on Effective Communication
- Training on Preparing and responding to active shooter incidents
- B-Safe Training Course
- ONE HEALTH: Basics of Multisectoral Collaboration at the Human - Animal Environment Interface
- International Health Regulations
- Building resilient and sustainable public health systems in Africa through Field Epidemiology training course
- Training of Trainers in Public Health Pre-deployment
- Intervention Epidemiology and Community approach in emergency situations
- Training of Trainers on Management of Health Information System in Francophone Countries in ECOWAS region
- Training on the prevention and control of infections during outbreaks and emergency situations
- Training of Trainers on Management of National Health Information System of Anglophone countries in ECOWAS region.
- Training of strengthening capacities on Risk Communications in the ECOWAS region

continued...

- Training on the coordination of Medical Emergencies Team (EMTCC)
- Training of National Rapid Intervention Team
- Training on Management of Outbreaks in 21st century sub-Saharan Africa
- Training on diagnostic and therapeutic strategies of Non-Malaria Fever in sub-Saharan Africa
- Humanitarian Health Care Provider Programme
- Clinical cases Management in Emergencies course of «Humanitarian HealthCare Provider Programme»
- Public Health in Emergencies course of « Humanitarian HealthCare Provider Programme»
- Humanitarian Emergency Management Course of «Humanitarian HealthCare Provider Programme»
- Disaster Management in Emergencies Course of «Humanitarian HealthCare Provider Programme»
- Training of Management of Crises and emergency situations
- Humanitarian Framework of «Humanitarian HealthCare Provider Programme»
- Emerging Voice for Global Health Distance Coaching and Face-to-Face Training Programme.
- Training on Leadership of African Network COCHRANE
- Fundamentals in Implementation Research
- Training and Participation in the Response to Ebola Virus Outbreak in Guinea
- Training in Gender and Health System
- Training in Health and Environment
- Training on Partnership Dependency and Change
- Training on community-based Family Planning
- Emerging Practices in Development Evaluations
- National Evaluation Capacity Development for Country-led Monitoring and Evaluation Systems Course.
- Data Quality Training
- Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks for HIV/AIDS Programs
- Equity Focused Evaluations course.
- Epidemiology and Monitoring and Evaluation Fundamentals.
- Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks for HIV/AIDS Programs.
- Human Resources for Health (HRH) Basics
- Logistics for Health Commodities.
- New-born Sepsis Course
- Malaria Disease Course
- Commercial Private Health Sector Basics Course.
- Family Planning Course
- Health Timing and Spacing of Pregnancy Course
- Post-partum Family Planning course
- Long-Acting and Permanent Methods: A Smart Family Planning/Reproductive Health Program Investment.
- Fostering Change in Health Services Course.
- Female Genital Mutilation and Cutting Course.
- Malaria in Pregnancy Course.
- Post-Partum Care Course.
- Preventing Post-Partum Haemorrhage Course.
- Maternal Survival-Programming Issues Course.
- Mother-to-Child-Transmission- HIV/AIDS Course
- Gender and Sexual Reproductive Health Course.
- Nutrition Course
- Diarrheal Disease Course
- Emergency Obstetric and new-born Care Course
- Immunization Essentials Course

- Pneumonia Disease Course
- Essential New-born Care Course
- Procurement, Travel and Human Resource Compliance and Sub Recipient Management | Monitoring and Evaluation | Orientation of Africare Accounting System.
- Programming for Infant and Young Child Feeding: UNICEF Training Course
- Introduction to MEDISTOCK Software (Management of Inputs)
- English Training
- Training in Microsoft Project
- Training on Designing and Managing Database
- Training on the Management of Diabetes in Benin
- Training on Microsoft Word – Microsoft Excel – Microsoft PowerPoint.

Affiliations

- Member, Global Health Security Network
- Member, Global Health Security Agenda Network
- Member, Global Network of Emergency Operations Centres (EOC-Net)
- Member, Global Emergency Medical Team Network at WHO/Headquarters
- Member, Global Outbreak, Alert and Response Network (GOARN)
- Member, International Association of Public Health Emergency Managers (IAEM)
- Member, Africa CDC Taskforces to support Health Security
- Member, African Evaluation Association (AFREA).
- Member of the African Network of Field Epidemiology (AFENET)
- Member, Disaster Management Network in West Africa (GECEAO)
- Member, West African Network for Surveillance of Infectious Diseases (WANIDS)
- Member, Regional Network of Laboratories in the ECOWAS Region.
- Member, West African Network of Specialists in Infectious Pathology (RESAPSI).
- Founding Member, Acute Febrile Illnesses Network in ECOWAS Region
- Member, Burkina Monitoring Evaluation Network (REBUSE)
- Member, Benin Association of Physicians of Public Health (ABMSP).
- Registered Member, Board of Medical Practitioners, Benin, with Reg no. 1405 / ONMB / ZOU / 2013.

Honours & Awards

- Special Award of the West African Health Organization for exceptional contributions to Epidemic control programmes and continued dedication.
- Special Award of the West African Health Organisation for immense contribution during the 2014-2016 Ebola Virus Disease outbreak.
- Special award of Excellence for Best Scientific Communication at the 4th World Symposium on Health Systems Research (Vancouver, Canada).
- Special Award of the West African Health Organisation for immense contribution during the 2020-2022 COVID-19 pandemic in ECOWAS region.

continued...

Language Skills

	Read	Written	Spoken
English	5/5	5/5	5/5
French	5/5	5/5	5/5
Portuguese	3/5	3/5	3/5

Selected Conferences & International Meetings

- Participated in the Global pandemic Preparedness Summit 2022 and 2024.
- Participated in the Global Health Security Conference 2022 and 2024
- Participated in the World Health Summit 2023
- Participated in the World One Health Congress 2020, 2022 and 2024
- Participate in World Conference of Infectious Diseases 2024
- Participated in the Conference of Public Health in Africa 2022 and 2023
- Participated in the World Health Assembly 2023 and 2024
- Participated in 11th TEPHINET Global Scientific Conference, 2023.
- Participated in the Global Conference on Emergency Medical Emergency Team 2017, 2019, 2022 and 2024.
- Participated in the Global Symposium on Health Systems Research
- Participated in the Regional Committee of WHO/AFRO 2022, 2023 and 2024
- Participated in the annual Scientific Conference in Field Epidemiology (AFENET) 2019, 2021 and 2023
- Participation to the Africa CDC Conference on Public Health in Africa (CPHIA)
- Participated in Ghana Scientific Conference on Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Program (2019, 2020, 2022)
- Co-Organized and Participated to the ECOWAS Forum on Best Practices in Health (2015, 2017, 2019).
- Regional Ebola Conference "What East African experts have learned from the Ebola Virus Disease outbreak in West Africa" (2017);
- Participated in the Workshop on Diagnostic and Therapeutic Strategies for Non-Malaria Fevers in Sub-Saharan Africa (2017).
- Participated to the global Symposium on Health Systems Research "knowledge and practice for a people-centred health system"(2014).
- International Conference on Health District: 25 years after the declaration of Harare (

Selected 50 major Publications

1. **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Andrew Sime Awori, Victor Fatimehin, Aishat Bukola Usman, Lionel Sogbossi, Felix Agbla, Melchior Athanase Aïssi and Issiaka Sombie. Assessing mpox epidemic readiness status in ECOWAS region: strengths, gaps, and recommendations for an improved response. *Pan African Medical Journal*. 2025;50(1):2. [doi: [10.11604/pamj.suppl.2025.50.1.46077](https://doi.org/10.11604/pamj.suppl.2025.50.1.46077)]
2. Gilbert Fokou , Jakob Winter, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Hassane Adakal, Raoul Kouame, Djane Fatogoma Adou, Vivian Iwar, Issiaka Sombie, Melchior Athanase Aïssi, Klaas Dietze, Bassirou Bonfoh. Advancing One Health governance structures at the regional level – lessons learned from the Economic Community of West African States. *CABI One Health* (2025) 4:1, 0015 <https://doi.org/10.1079/cabionehealth.2025.0015>

3. Sombie Issiaka, **Lokossou Kuassi Virgil**, Sani Ali, Usman Aishat Bukola, Keita Namoudou, Diallo Ely, Agbla Felix and Aissi Athanase Melchior. Contribution of the West African Health Organization to the prevention and control of the Mpox outbreak in West Africa two weeks after the declaration as a public health emergency of international concern. Letter to the editors | Volume 49, Article 21, 23 Sep 2024 | [10.11604/pamj.2024.49.21.45296](https://doi.org/10.11604/pamj.2024.49.21.45296)
4. **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Azuka Stephen Adeke, Chukwuma David Umeokonkwo, Laurent Comlan Mariame Bonkano, Aishat Bukola Usman, Lionel Sogbossi, Appolinaire Kima, Patrick Nguku, Simon Antara, Issiaka Sombie, Felix Agbla, Melchior Joel Codjovi Aissi (2024). COVID-19 pandemic response and Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Programs in ECOWAS. Pan African Medical Journal. 2024;48:49. <https://doi.org/10.11604/pamj.2024.48.49.42504>
5. Olivier Manigart, Issa Ouedraogo, Hamed Sidwaya Ouedraogo, Abdourahmane Sow and **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**. Dengue epidemic in Burkina Faso: how can the response improve? The Lancet Published online January 22, 2024 [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(23\)02803-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(23)02803-9)
6. **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Denis Bunyoga, Issiaka Sombie and Stanley Okolo. Coexistence and management of COVID-19 pandemic with other epidemics in West Africa: lessons learnt and policy implications. Pan African Medical Journal. 2021;38(341).10.11604/pamj.2021.38.341.27901. <https://www.panafricanmedjournal.com/content/article/38/341/full>
7. . Issiaka Sombie, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Abdramane Sow, Babacar Fall, Sedjro Catraye, Serge Somda, Yves Mongbo, Sybil Ossei, Clémentine Sorho and Athanase Melchior Aissi. Evaluation de la contribution de l'Organisation Ouest Africaine de la Santé dans la lutte contre la pandémie COVID-19 en Afrique de l'Ouest. Revue d'Épidémiologie et de Santé Publique. Volume 71 ; Supplement 3 ; 101936 ; Septembre 2023. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0398762023005217?via%3Dihub>
8. Olaoluwa Oluwafemi Akinloluwa, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Geoffrey Okatubo, Oyeladun Okunromade, Onyekachi Nwite-Eze, Samuel Alabi, Titilope Ajayi-Ogbe, Chinenye Ofoegbunam, Lionel Sogbossi, Kima Appolinaire and Melchior Athanase Aissi. Towards a multi-lateral framework for cross-border surveillance and information sharing between Nigeria and neighboring countries. British Medical Journal Global Health 2024;9:e013011. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjgh-2023-013011>
9. Senait Tekeste Fekadu, Abrham Lilay Gebrewahid, Wessam Mankoula, Womi Eteng, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Yan Kawe, Ali Abdullah, Li Jian, Mathew Tut M. Kol, Menchion Chuck Wilton, Emily Rosenfeld, Valerie Nkamgang Bemo, Emily Collard, Liz McGinley, Ariane Halm, Merawi Aragaw Ishata Nannie Conteh, Fiona Braka and Abdou Salam Gueye. Public health emergency operations centres in Africa: a cross-sectional study assessing the implementation status of core components and areas for improvement, December 2021. BMJ Open 2023;13: e068934. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2022-068934>
10. Womi-Eteng Oboma Eteng, Abrham Lilay, Senait Tekeste, Wessam Mankoula, Emily Collard, Chimwemwe Waya, Emily Rosenfeld, Chuck Menchion Wilton, Martin Muita, Liz McGinley, Yan Kawe, Ali Abdullah, Ariane Halm, Jian Li, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Youssouf Kanoute, Ibrahima Sonko, Merawi Aragaw and Ahmed Ogbwell Ouma. Strengthening COVID-19 pandemic response coordination through public health emergency operations centres (PHEOC) in Africa: Review of a multi-faceted knowledge management and sharing approach, 2020– 2021. PLOS Glob Public Health 3(6): e0001386. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0001386>
11. **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Aishat Bukola Usman, Issiaka Sombie, Moussiliou Noel Paraiso, Muhammad Shakir Balogun, Chukwuma David Umeokonkwo, Josephine Gatua, John Wagai, Edgard-Marius Ouendo and Patrick Nguku. COVID-19 pandemic in Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) region: implication for capacity strengthening at Point of Entry. Pan African Medical Journal. 2021;39(67). 10.11604/pamj.2021.39.67.29089; <https://www.panafrican-med-journal.com/content/article/39/67/full>
12. Serge M.A. Somda, Aristide R. Bado, Abdourahmane Sow, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Sybil Ossei-A-Yeboah, Tome Ca, Nanlop Ogbureke, Stanley Okolo and Issiaka Sombie. The first year of the COVID-19 pandemic in the ECOWAS region. Ghana Med J 2022; 56(3) supplement: 61-73 doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.4314/gmj.v56i3s.8>
13. **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Nnomzie Charles Atama, Serge Nzietchueng, Bernard Yao Koffi, Vivian Iwar g, Nadia Oussayef, Chukwuma David Umeokonkwo, Casey Barton Behraves, Issiaka Sombie, Stanley Okolo, Edgard-Marius Ouendo.

continued...

Operationalizing the ECOWAS regional one health coordination mechanisms (2016–2019): Scoping review on progress, challenges and way forward. *One Health Elsevier* 13 (2021) 10291. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.onehlt.2021.100291>

14. **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Chukwuma David Umeokonkwo, Stanley Okolo, Patrick Mboya Nguku, Nanlop Ogbureke and Issiaka Sombié. COVID-19 pandemic waves: how prepared is West Africa for managing a high COVID-19 caseload? Urgent actions needed. *Pan African Medical Journal*. 2021;40(249). 10.11604/pamj.2021.40.249.31107; <https://www.panafrican-med-journal.com/content/article/40/249/full>
15. Mohamed Vandí, Delia Akosua Bandoh, Kofi Mensah Nyarko, Tete Amouh, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Simon Antara and Ernest Kenu. Assessment of the epidemic preparedness and response capacity in Sierra Leone. In *Sierra Leone. Journal of Interventional Epidemiology and Public Health*. 2022; 5 (2) : 8. <https://doi10.11604/JIEPH.suppl.2022.5.2.1245>
16. Mosoka Fallah, Basil Benduri Kaburi, Kofi Mensah Nyarko, Delia Akosua Bandoh, Abraham Nyenswah, Issiaka Sombié, Simon Nyovuura Antara, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou** and Ernest Kenu. Capacity assessment of Liberia for health emergencies and disaster preparedness and response. *Journal of Interventional Epidemiology and Public Health*. 2022;5(2):5. <https://doi10.11604/JIEPH.suppl.2022.5.2.1239>
17. Sana Sambou, Delia Akosua Bandoh, Ernest Kenu, Ermel Ameswue Kpogbe Johnson, Kofi Mensah Nyarko and **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**. Capacity assessment of the Gambia's emergency preparedness and response system. *Journal of Interventional Epidemiology and Public Health*. 2022;5(2):1. <https://doi10.11604/JIEPH.suppl.2022.5.2.123>
18. **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Basil Benduri Kaburi, Delia Akosua Bandoh, Edgard Marius Ouendo, Aboubacar Ouédraogo, Franklin Aseidu-Bekoe, Samuel Kaba Akoriyea, Issiaka Sombié, Donmozoun Télesphore Somé, Ermel Amewsue Johnson and Ernest Kenu. COVID-19 Pandemic Response Capacity Status of West Africa. *Journal of Interventional Epidemiology and Public Health*. 2022;5(2):7. <https://doi10.11604/JIEPH.suppl.2022.5.2.1196>
19. Bernard Sawadogo, Babacar Fall, Babacar Ndoeye, Ibrahim Sonko, Delia Akosua Bandoh, Ernest Kenu and **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**. Evaluation de la capacité de préparation et de riposte aux urgences sanitaires du Sénégal. *Journal of Interventional Epidemiology and Public Health*. 2022;5(2):9. <https://doi10.11604/JIEPH.suppl.2022.5.2.1265>
20. Franklin Asiedu-Berkoe, Gloria Margareta Chandi, Delia Akosua Bandoh, Benedicta Kafui Atsu, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Simon Nyovuura Antara, Badu Sarkodie and Ernest Kenu. State of Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Capacity of Ghana. *Journal of Interventional Epidemiology and Public Health*. 2022;5(2):4. <https://doi10.11604/JIEPH.suppl.2022.5.2.1232>
21. **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Emma Edinam Kploanyi, Delia Akosua Bandoh, Edgard-Marius Ouendo, Issiaka Sombié, Kofi Mensah Nyarko and Ernest Kenu. Strengthening preparedness and response to epidemics in West Africa: a scoping review of strengths, gaps, and challenges (2016-2019). *Journal of Interventional Epidemiology and Public Health*. 2022;5(2):6. <https://doi10.11604/JIEPH.suppl.2022.5.2.1251>
22. **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Kofi Mensah Nyarko, Emma Edinam Kploanyi, Delia Akosua Bandoh, Patrick Nguku, Bernard Sawadogo, Simon Nyovuura Antara and Ernest Kenu. Workforce capacity assessment for public health emergencies, disaster preparedness and response in the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) region, April – July, 2018. *Journal of Interventional Epidemiology and Public Health*. 2022;5(2):3. <https://doi10.11604/JIEPH.suppl.2022.5.2.1240>
23. Issiaka Sombié, Ermel Johnson, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Tete Amouh, Abdourahmane Sow, Nanlop Ogbureke and Stanley Okolo. How does the West African Health Organization (WAHO) contribute to the evidence based decision-making and practice during COVID-19 pandemic in ECOWAS region? *Pan African Medical Journal*. 2020;37(1):20. 10.11604/pamj.suppl.2020.37.20.25625. <https://www.panafrican-med-journal.com/content/series/37/1/20/full>
24. Grace W. Goryoka, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Kate Varela, Nadia Oussayef, Bernard Kofi, Vivian Iwar and Casey Barton Behravesh. Prioritizing zoonotic diseases using a multisectoral, One Health approach for The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). *One Health Outlook* (2021) 3:24; <https://doi.org/10.1186/s42522-021-00055-6>
25. Aishat Bukola Usman, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Kiswendsida Sawadogo, Sarah Ward, Chukwuma David Umeokonkwo, Bernard Sawadogo, Chelsea Hanlon, Godfrey Kayita, Muhammad Shakir Balogun, Simon Antara, Rebecca Merrill,

- Patrick M Nguku, Sombie Issiaka and Melchior Athanase JC Aïssi. Capacity building at points of entry during COVID-19 pandemic: harmonising training curriculum for Economic Community of West African States. *BMJ Global Health* 2023;8: e010892. <http://doi10.1136/bmjgh-2022-010892>
26. **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Issiaka Sombie, Cesaïre Damien Ahanhanzo, Carlos Brito, Simon Nyovuura Antara, Patrick Mboya Nguku, Muhammad Shakir Balogun, Ernest Kenu, Edgard-Marius Ouendo, Chukwuma David Umeokonkwo, and Stanley Okolo. Strengthening Applied Epidemiology in West Africa: Progress, Gaps, and Advancing a Regional Strategy to Improve Health Security. *Health Security* Volume 19, Number 1, 2021. <http://DOI10.1089/hs.2019.0133>
 27. Womi Eteng Obama Eteng, Vincent Jessey Ganu, Delia Akosua Bandoh, Gloria Margaretta Chandi, Ernest Kenu, Chikwe Ihekweazu and **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**. Capacity assessment of Nigeria for health emergencies preparedness and response. *Journal of Interventional Epidemiology and Public Health*. 2022;5(2):2. <http://doi10.11604/JIEPH.supp.2022.5.2.1244>
 28. Chioma Dan-Nwafor, Chinwe Lucia Ochu, Kelly Elimian, John Oladejo, Elsie Ilori, Chukwuma Umeokonkwo, Laura Steinhardt, Ehimario Igumbor, John Wagai, Tochi Okwor, Olaolu Aderinola, Nwando Mba, Assad Hassan, Mahmood Dalhat, Kola Jinadu, Sikiru Badaru, Chinedu Arinze, Abubakar Jafiya, Yahya Disu, Fatima Saleh, Anwar Abubakar, Celestina Obiekea, Adesola Yinka-Ogunleye, Dhamari Naidoo, Geoffrey Namara, Saleh Muhammad, Oladipupo Ipadeola, Chinenye Ofoegbunam, Oladipo Ogunbode, Charles Akatobi², Matthias Alagi⁴, Rimamdeyati Yashe¹, Emily Crawford¹, Oyeladun Okunromade¹, Everistus Aniakwu¹, Sandra Mba¹, Emmanuel Agogo⁷, Michael Olugbile⁸, Chibuzo Eneh¹, Anthony Ahumibe¹, William Nwachukwu¹, Priscilla Ibekwe¹, Ope-Oluwa Adejoro⁹, Winifred Ukponu, Adebola Olayinka, Ifeanyi Okudo, Olusola Aruna, Fatima Yusuf, Morenike Alex-Okoh, Temidayo Fawole, Akeem Alaka, Hassan Muntari, Sebastian Yennan, Rhoda Atteh, Muhammad Balogun, Ndakilnasiya Waziri, Abiodun Ogunniyi, Blessing Ebhodaghe, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Mohammed Abudulaziz¹⁴, Bimpe Adebisi, Akin Abayomi, Ismail Abudus-Salam, Sunday Omilabu, Lukman Lawal, Mohammed Kawu, Basheer Muhammad, Aminu Tsanyawa, Festus Soyinka, Tomi Coker, Olaniran Alabi, Tony Joannis, Ibrahim Dalhatu, Mahesh Swaminathan, Babatunde Salako, Ibrahim Abubakar, Braka Fiona, Patrick Nguku, Sani H-Aliyu and Chikwe Ihekweazu. Nigeria's public health response to the COVID-19 pandemic: January to May 2020. *Journal of Global Health* December 2020; Vol. 10 No. 2; 020399; <https://doi10.7189/jogh.10.020399>
 29. **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Sedjro Onesime Catraye, Lionel Sogbossi. Building National Emergency Medical Teams in West Africa: Lessons Learnt and Challenges (2017-2022). *Prehospital and Disaster Medicine*, Volume 37 , Supplement S2: Abstracts of World Health Organization Emergency Medical Teams Global Meeting 2022 , November 2022 DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1049023X22001558>
 30. Clement Glele Kakai, Oyeladun Funmi Okunromade, Chioma Cindy Dan-Nwafor, Ali Imorou Bah Chabi, Godjedo Togbemabou Primous Martial, Mahmood Muazu Dalhat, Sarah Ward, Ouyi Tante, Patrick Mboya Nguku, Assane Hamadi, Elsie Ilori, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Carlos Brito, Olubunmi Eytayo Ojo, Idrissa Kone, Tamekloe Tsidi Agbeko, Chikwe Ihekweazu, and Rebecca D. Merrill. Improving Cross-Border Preparedness and Response: Lessons Learned from 3 Lassa Fever Outbreaks Across Benin, Nigeria, and Togo, 2017-2019. *Health Security*; Volume 18, Number S1, 2020 ^aDOI: 10.1089/hs.2019.0080
 31. LOKOSSOU Virgil. What single health platform can support multi-sectoral collaboration and coordination on epidemics and health emergencies in West Africa? *International Health Policy*. August 2017 <https://www.internationalhealthpolicies.org/blogs/what-single-health-platform-can-support-multi-sectoral-collaboration-and-coordination-on-epidemics-and-health-emergencies-in-west-africa/>
 32. **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Issiaka Sombie, Donmozoun Télesphore Somé, Cyriaque Affoukou Dossou and Narcisse Awignan. Do Quality Improvement Teams contribute to the performance of community health workers in Benin? *Africa, Public Health and Development*. 2019/1 Vol. 31 pages 165 to 175 ISSN 0995-3914. Available online at: <https://www.cairn.info/revue-sante-publique-2019-1-page-165.htm>
 33. Namoudou Keita, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Abdramane Berthe, Issiaka Sombie, Ermel Johnson and Kofi Busia. The West African experience in establishing steering committees for better collaboration between researchers and decision-makers to increase the use of health research findings. *Health Research Policy and System* 15 (Suppl 1), 50 (2017). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12961-017-0216-6>
 34. Namoudou Keita, Benjamin Uzochukwu, Odette Ky-Zerbo, Issiaka Sombié, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Ermel Johnson¹, Chinyere Okeke and Sue Godt. Strengthening equitable health systems in West Africa: The regional project on

continued...

- governance research for equity in health systems. *African Journal of Reproductive Health* May 2022; 26 (5): 81; <http://DOI10.29063/ajrh2022/v26i5.9>
35. Bationo, Cedric Stephane, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Jordi Landier, Babacar Sylla, Gauthier Tougri, B. Ouédraogo, Mady Cissoko, Nicolas Moiroux and Jean Gaudart. "Geo-epidemiology of Malaria in Burkina Faso, 2013-2018: a recent re-increase." *medRxiv* (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1101/2021.10.27.21265260>
 36. Ermel Ameswue Kpogbé. Johnson, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Moukaïla Amadou, Aristide Romaric Bado, Gauthier Tougri, Jesse Chigozie Uneke and Issiaka Sombié. Stakeholders' individual and organizational capacity to acquire, assess, adapt and apply evidence for maternal, neonatal and child health in policymaking in Burkina Faso. *World Journal of Advanced Research and Reviews*, 2021, 10(01), 191–202; <https://doi.org/10.30574/wjarr.2021.10.1.0152>
 37. Sombie Issiaka, Johnson Ermel, **Lokossou Kuassi Virgil**, Amadou, Moukaila and Aissi Melchior. Building knowledge broker capacities during the regional research project: lessons learnt from the West African Health Organisation. *Medical Research Archives*, 11 (5); <https://doi.org/10.18103/mra.v11i5.3817>
 38. Manso Mohamed Koroma, Mohamed Amadu Kamara, Namoudou Keita, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Abu James Sundufu, and Kathryn H. Jacobsen. Access to Essential Medicines and Equipment for Obstetric and Neonatal Primary Care in Bombali District, Sierra Leone. *World Medical & Health Policy*, 2019 11:1.
 39. Gordon Abekah-Nkrumah; Sombié Issiaka; **Lokossou Kuassi Virgil**; Johnson Ermel. A Review of the Process of Knowledge Transfer and use of Evidence in Reproductive and Child Health in Ghana. *Health Policy and system Research. Health Research Policy and Systems* (2018) 16:75.
 40. Chigozie Jesse Uneke, Issiaka Sombie, Namoudou Keita, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Ermel Johnson, Pierre Ongolo-Zogo and Henry Chukwuemeka Uro-Chukwu. Assessment of policy makers' individual and organizational capacity to acquire, assess, adapt and apply research evidence for maternal and child health policy making in Nigeria: a cross-sectional quantitative survey. *African Health Sciences* Vol 17 Issue 3, September, 2017 702
 41. Namoudou Keita, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Abdramane Berthe, Issiaka Sombie, Ermel Johnson and Kofi Busia. The West African experience in establishing steering committees for better collaboration between researchers and decision-makers to increase the use of health research findings. *Health Research Policy and Systems* 2017 15 (Suppl 1):50.
 42. Irene Akua Agyepong, Aku Kwamie, Edith Frimpong, Selina Defor, Abdallah Ibrahim, Genevieve C. Aryeetey, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou** and Issiaka Sombie. Spanning maternal, new-born and child health (MNCH) and health systems research boundaries: conducive and limiting health systems factors to improving MNCH outcomes in West Africa. *Health Research Policy and Systems* 2017, 15(Suppl 1):5
 43. Manso Mohamed Koroma, Mohamed Amadu Kamara, Namoudou Keita, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Abu James Sundufu, and Kathryn H. Jacobsen. Access to Essential Medications and Equipment for Obstetric and Neonatal Primary Care in Bombali District, Sierra Leone. *World Medical & Health Policy*, 11:1. <https://doi.org/10.1002/wmh3.295>
 44. Manso M. Koroma, Samuel S. Kamara, Evelyn A. Bangura, Mohamed A. Kamara, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou** and Namoudou Keita. The quality of free antenatal and delivery services in Northern Sierra Leone. *Health Research Policy and Systems* 2017, 15(Suppl 1):49
 45. Issiaka Sombie*, Aissa Bouwayé, Yves Mongbo, Namoudou Keita, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Ermel Johnson, Laurent Assogba and Xavier Crespín. Promoting research to improve maternal, neonatal, infant and adolescent health in West Africa: the role of the West African Health Organisation. *Health Research Policy and Systems* 2017 15 (Suppl 1):53
 46. Chigozie J. Uneke, Issiaka Sombie, Namoudou Keita, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Ermel Johnson and Pierre Ongolo-Zogo. Improving maternal and child health policymaking processes in Nigeria: an assessment of policymakers' needs, barriers and facilitators of evidence-informed policymaking. *Health Research Policy and Systems* 2017, 15 (Suppl 1):48.

-
47. Chigozie Jesse Uneke, Issiaka Sombie, Namoudou Keita, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Ermel Johnson, Pierre Ongolo-Zogo. An assessment of policymaker's engagement initiatives to promote evidence informed health policy making in Nigeria. The Pan African Medical Journal. 2017; 27: 57. <http://doi:10.11604/pamj.2017.27.57.9844> .
 48. Hinson AV, **Lokossou Virgil Kuassi**, Schlünssen V, Agodokpessi G, Sigsgaard T and Fayomi B. Cotton Dust Exposure and Respiratory Disorders among Textile Workers at a Textile Company in the Southern Part of Benin. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health. 2016 Sep 8; 13(9).
 49. Uneke CJ, Sombie I, Keita N, **Lokossou Virgil Kuassi**, Johnson E and Ongolo-Zogo P. An assessment of maternal, new-born and child health implementation studies in Nigeria: implications for evidence informed policymaking and practice. Health Promotion Perspectives. 2016 Aug 10; 6 (3):119-27.
 50. Chigozie Jesse Uneke, Issiaka Sombie, Namoudou Keita, **Virgil Kuassi Lokossou**, Ermel Johnson and Pierre Ongolo-Zogo. An Assessment of National Maternal and Child Health Policy-Makers' Knowledge and Capacity for Evidence-Informed Policy-Making in Nigeria. International Journal of Health Policy Management 2016, 5(x), 1–8.