Migration and Health Research in Australia: Progress, challenges, and opportunities

DATE: Tuesday 16 August
TIME: 10:00am – 12:00pm
VENUE: KW-VG.13 (CLS) Kingswood Campus
RSVP: ssap-research@westernsydney.edu.au

BIOGRAPHY

Andre Renzaho

(PhD, MPH, B. Nutr. & Diet.)

Is Professor of Humanitarian and Development Studies, School of Social Sciences and Psychology at the University of Western Sydney, with over 20 years of professional experience in humanitarian emergencies and development practice. He has worked and undertaken evaluations for a number of United Nations including working with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, and the United Nations Children’s Fund, Care Australia, Concern Worldwide, Medicines Sans Frontier’s, and World Vision covering Sub-Saharan Africa, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Latin America, the Pacific, and Asia. His research concentration is on migration and health, development assistance, and disaster epidemiology.

ABSTRACT

Australia has a long history of migration. Up to 1945 there was a ‘white Australia’ policy, which changed to accepting a more diverse migrant pool, including forced migrants (e.g. refugees). There is increasingly a need to understand and cater for the specific health needs of migrants, especially those from non-English speaking (NES) backgrounds, many of whom are not adequately recognised in population health planning. The vast increase in investment in prevention and health promotion may not cater for their needs without their participation in research and planning. This presentation will look at migrants’ participation in research in Australia, discuss the main challenges, examine the burden of health among migrant’s pre and post 1980s, and explore areas of urgent attention to inform policies geared towards reducing migration-related inequities and further research.