

# Cambridge Global Health Partnerships 2021 End of Year Retrospective

**Thank you for your generous support of our work.**

**In an especially challenging year, CGHP members, volunteers and partners have co-designed and co-delivered training, extended professional relationships, strengthened health systems and, during continuing times of particular stress for health workers, gained fresh perspectives and support through international friendship and partnership.**

Here is our retrospective of the past year,  
which offers a glimpse of how your involvement in CGHP has made a difference.

## Key Moments



We have responded to the impact of the military **coup in Myanmar**, by supporting healthcare workers **with clinical skills training videos**. The videos have been viewed over 20,000 times.



We have developed two **new partnerships with Zimbabwe and Kenya**, focusing on infectious diseases, antimicrobial stewardship and cardiothoracic surgery, and bringing together new volunteers and partners.



We launched the **East of England Global Health Fellowship** scheme, funded by Health Education England East of England. The first seven Fellows are linking with different CGHP health partnerships.



We have a **new Chair of Committee - Catherine Arnold OBE**, marking an exciting new phase for CGHP.

## Cuts, Coup, COVID and a new Chair

In January 2021, UK international development activity suffered significant funding cuts as a result of reduction of UK Official Development Assistance. The cuts came as a blow to the health partnerships community when >£35M UKAID funding for a health partnership scheme was cancelled in its entirety.

CGHP responded by launching an Urgent Appeal and increasing efforts to diversify our income streams.

On February 1, there was a military coup in Myanmar that has led to the near collapse of the health system. CGHP has a long-standing health partnership with Myanmar and we continue to support Myanmar health workers on the frontline with funding from the Myanmar Emergency Response Fund; engaging in advocacy, supporting telemedicine services and producing a series of educational videos.

We continue to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, sharing advice and guidance between partnerships. We have supported Uganda partners in the procurement of alcohol gel and personal protective equipment, and the Myanmar telemedicine project is providing significant support to patients struggling with COVID.

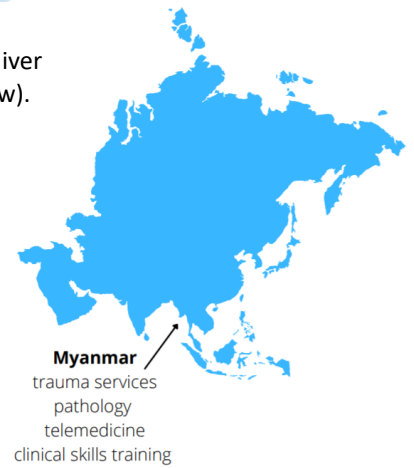
Despite the challenges of 2021, we have much to celebrate including the launch of the East of England Global Health Fellowship Scheme, and two new health partnerships. We have also welcomed our new Chair of Committee - Catherine Arnold OBE, marking an exciting new phase for CGHP.



## Health Partnerships

Despite the continuing challenges of COVID19 and funding cuts, we have continued to deliver activities across all our partnerships (maps showing the CGHP partnerships right and below).

Alongside health partnership activity, we continue to deliver a **wide range of advice and support services** and a grant scheme to Cambridgeshire based NHS staff, students and academics interested in global health.



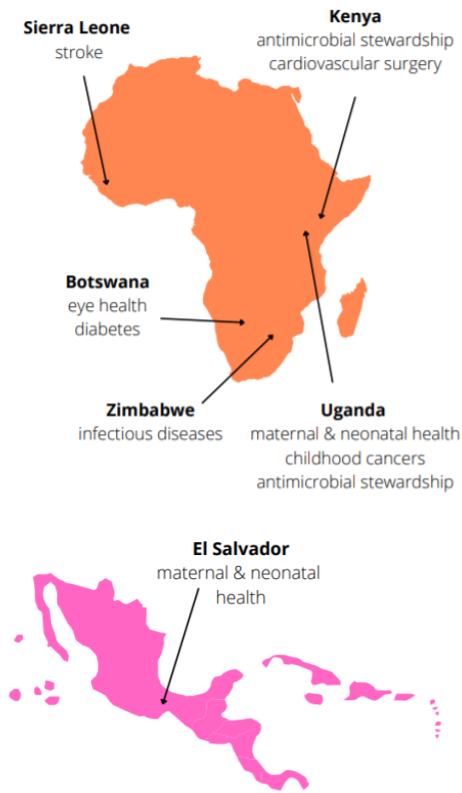
**Gender equality and social inclusion (GESI)** has become a key area of focus for the CGHP team. We have been working hard to ensure that all partnerships include GESI, and we are monitoring and evaluating actively in these areas.

**Virtual technologies** remain fundamental and remote modalities have enabled greater inclusion as more partners, volunteers and supporters have engaged in activities and events. Through virtual technologies alone, we have established two **new partnerships with Zimbabwe and Kenya**.

With our partners in Kampala, **Uganda**, we have continued to help procure vital **personal protective equipment** and support in-house production of **alcohol gel**. These measures are keeping staff and patients safe in Kampala's busiest maternity hospitals. We have recently secured further funding to continue work on antimicrobial stewardship and infection control.

The other strand of our **Uganda** partnership is focused on **childhood cancers**. Whilst a funding gap has paused plans for an oncology nurse training programme, partners are still working together closely to improve chemotherapy care protocols.

**El Salvador** has recently opened its **new clinical skills simulation centre**. This is an important moment for the country's health workers, who now have a dedicated space for training including in obstetrics and neonatology.



### Kenya

With funding from the Commonwealth Partnerships for Antimicrobial Stewardship scheme, we have established a new partnership focusing on antimicrobial stewardship, with Kakamega County Referral Hospital in western Kenya. Working also with Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology, the partnership will strengthen understanding of infection control and improve antimicrobial prescribing, in order to drive down infection and antimicrobial resistance which poses a significant threat to our global population.

The other new partnership is with Kenyatta University Teaching Hospital, a 650 bed hospital in Nairobi. The hospital is developing its cardiothoracic programme and is welcoming support from partners in Cambridge to develop health worker skills and capacity.



**Dr Sheila Kirongothi wears PPE in a COVID ward at Kenyatta University Hospitals**

### Sierra Leone



A year on, the Bo Cambridge Cardiac and Stroke partnership has gone from strength to strength. The partnership aims to establish a stroke unit in Bo, the country's second largest city. The partnership could vastly improve outcomes for stroke patients, who currently have little or zero access to stroke care.

**Partnership co-lead, Patrick Lebbie, with nurses in Bo.**

The partnership is also working to raise awareness of stroke, establish a regional stroke care service and pathway, and train nurses and community workers in stroke care. We are delighted to be part of the Nursing Now Challenge Fellowship - championing the development of nurses across the globe.

## Myanmar



Cambridge  
Global Health Partnerships

In early 2021, **Myanmar was rocked by a military coup** which has led to significant instability and the near collapse of the health system. Many health workers are providing care outside of facilities, often alone and with limited resources.

We have a long longstanding partnership with Yangon, and we remain committed to supporting Myanmar healthcare workers throughout this challenging time. Led by CGHP Myanmar Programme Support, Thet Win-Aung, CGHP has been working with the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health to produce a series of **healthcare teaching and clinical management videos**. Volunteers from the Cambridge healthcare community and Burmese diaspora - who have travelled from across the UK to Cambridge, have worked together to film videos. The videos have now been watched over 20,000 times.

**Next is Telemedicine!** Teleconsultation is relatively new in Myanmar but given the current crisis, it could prove extremely effective in improving patient access to health services. Nearly 45 doctors, including some UK based Burmese diaspora doctors, are volunteering to develop and deliver telemedicine services. Since July, 77,000 patients have received teleconsultation services as part of the Telemedicine Project.



## Global Health Fellowships



This year **we launched the East of England Global Health Fellowship scheme** in collaboration with Health Education England. The programme offers opportunities for doctors in specialty training to engage in health partnership activity. There are seven Fellows from a variety of specialties including anaesthetics, infectious diseases, obstetrics, paediatrics and public health.

Fellows will gain a deeper understanding of global health and partnership working that will feed back into their NHS roles. They are also engaged in supporting incoming medical graduates and support global health teaching across the East of England.

## Events and Engagement

The **Cambridge Global Health Café** has proven very popular, and we have hosted a number of cafes throughout the year. The cafes bring together anyone interested in global health, irrespective of experience or job role.

We have hosted cafés on topics ranging from partnerships with Sierra Leone to student engagement in global health, co-hosted with the Students for Global Health society at the University of Cambridge.

In early 2021, we collaborated with the Cambridge Biomedical Campus on Tour events team to present **8000 Miles from Cambridge: CBC Makes a Difference in Global Health**. Speakers included CGHP committee member and Director of Transformation at CUH, Dr Sue Broster and CUH Director of Communications and Engagement, Ali Bailey.

All of our events can be watched online on our YouTube channel. We continue to hold our events online. Not only has this ensured that our activities are COVID19 safe, it has vastly increased the breadth in attendees, with individuals joining us from around the globe.



**“My global health experience has strengthened my capacity to be the doctor I am today.**

**A partnership ... is about a shared vision and working together. Healthcare needs to change and be responsive to the world around us, and partnerships can do this.”**

*Dr Susan Broster, CGHP Committee Member & Cambridge University Hospitals  
Interim Director of Improvement and Transformation.*

## Community Fundraisers



**The 3PB Challenge** - Jim Johnson has been fundraising for CGHP during the past 3 months, so far raising £1,272. A keen runner, Jim completed a 10km, half marathon and marathon, beating his personal best in all three races! Funds raised by Jim will support all our health partnerships.

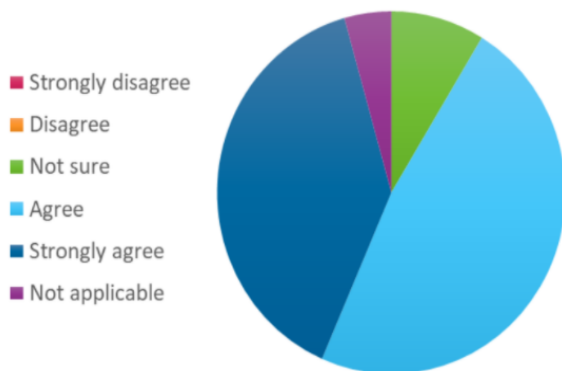


**The Bo Cambridge Stroke Partnership** - The partnership team is raising funds to establish a stroke and cardiac unit in Bo, Sierra Leone's second largest city. The country has very limited services for stroke patients, and this unit would be the first of its kind in the area!

So far, the team have raised over £2,600. They are running an art sale with original pieces of art available for purchase, and have just launched their challenge walk, with volunteers walking the equivalent distance of Cambridge to Bo.

## Annual Internship Report

I feel better able to manage my resources



Every year, CGHP hosts an internship. Our 2020-21 intern was Fiona Elliott who wrote a detailed report on the impact of global health volunteering and health partnership engagement on NHS staff. The report is filled with compelling evidence that clearly demonstrates the enormous benefits associated with global health volunteering.

You can read the full report on the CGHP website.

Fiona has recently re-joined the team as the new Programme Officer. We are delighted to welcome Fiona back to CGHP!

## Looking ahead

2022 Promises to be another busy year for Cambridge Global Health Partnerships.

Here's a couple of our upcoming highlights:

- A small number of **in-person visits** to and from partner countries, as travel restrictions allow.
- **Partnering with more organisations on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus** to expand our reach in Cambridge, to offer health workers more opportunities to volunteer and to forge collaborations across the campus.
- The **CGHP annual event**, showcasing our work and an exciting keynote speaker. This will be held in Spring 2022.
- We have secured a pro-bono package from Costello Medical to undertake another **Social Return on Investment study**. The study will focus on the Kampala Cambridge maternal and neonatal health partnership, appraising the value of partnership working on the overseas healthcare institution and staff, and reciprocal benefit for the UK.
- **Fundraising for FaceForward**. Jordan is home to approximately 760,000 refugees, most of whom have fled war. As a result, many have facial injuries that require maxillofacial surgery. They also have poor oral health, and there is a high cancer burden. A Cambridge based team are establishing a partnership to work on major facial disfigurements, promote oral health and collaborate with Jordanian health workers. The team are fundraising to make this possible, and have grand plans including football matches and hosting dinners!

**Thank you for reading the Cambridge Global Health Partnerships 2021 Retrospective.**  
**Our achievements are possible because of your continued support and involvement.**