



**WORKSHOP EVALUATION REPORT**  
**GFMER Research Workshop, 14-18 September 2015**  
**Geneva**



**GENEVA FOUNDATION FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH**  
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Thanks to Dr. Blaise Bourrit's arrangement and patience for a special field visit during which the participants visited the beautiful Old City of Geneva and tasted the famous Swiss fondue.

Finally GFMER congratulates the participants of the workshop for completing the course and producing relevant research projects that reflected the health needs in their respective countries.

With the valuable support from our partners we continue our commitment in providing training with the aim that lack of knowledge should not be barrier to quality care provision. We are also committed to strengthen research capacity of health professionals and contribute in making research a local dynamic.

Professor Aldo Campana  
Director, GFMER  
October 2015

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## **Background**

Since 2003 the Geneva Foundation for Medical Education and Research (GFMER), in partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO) and other partner institutions, has organized a training course on sexual and reproductive health research. The course focuses on research methodology and attracts participation of health professionals from different countries and particularly from developing countries.

In order to reach more health professionals, in 2010 GFMER in collaboration with WHO and other partners launched the online course on sexual and reproductive health research. "From Research to Practice: Training Course in Sexual and Reproductive Health Research" that offers a training package specially developed for those health professionals involved in research, whose access to learning is limited by time, financial resources or other constraints and for whom access to quality education and learning is limited. The program is designed to meet a wide range of contemporary issues in sexual and reproductive health, especially in developing countries. It helps students to better identify the problems related to reproductive and sexual health, it helps to improve the skills of caregivers, and it promotes good practices.

In 2014, the Geneva Foundation for Medical Education and Research (GFMER) successfully implemented the fifth edition of its online training course, with more experience gained from the 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 editions.

This course is part of the WHO policy for increasing human resources in the field of sexual and reproductive health, particularly in developing countries. GFMER, as a WHO collaborating center, is mandated to organize the course.

## **Workshop methodology**

In 2014, GFMER successfully implemented the fifth edition of its online training course. In total, 221 individuals attended the course. From this group, 16 participants were chosen to attend an intensive workshop week at the WHO headquarters in Geneva from 14 to 18 September 2015. The participants of the workshop were selected on the basis of their online course performance, completion and quality of their assignments, and the quality of their research protocol. The strict selection ensured that those attending the workshop in Geneva are the most motivated participants of the 2014 online training course.

The workshop in Geneva provided participants with an intensive week of interactive lectures designed to strengthen their protocols, as well as the opportunity to exchange knowledge and experience with each other and with experts. When deciding on the content of the course, a series of factors were taken into account: participants' needs, time constraints and available resources. Without repeating information from the online course, the GFMER Research Workshop was organized so that participants could get further training in key components of research protocol planning and development. Many participants had expressed their desire to get extra training in critical appraisal of scientific publications, scientific writing, research ethics, data collection and management and sampling methods. Those requests were prioritized when setting the agenda. The preliminary contents were reviewed with other stakeholders and, once agreed, were finalized

for implementation. (See Table 1 for course schedule). The workshop was organized around a series of presentations on selected topics given by highly qualified experts from WHO, GFMER, Oxford University and other partners. The aim of these presentations was to help participants improve the quality and accuracy of their research protocols as well as to provide them with solid grounding for future research projects.

Open discussion was highly encouraged among participants and their comments and feedback were used on many occasions, as the backbone for many presentations. Handouts of exercises and extra materials were distributed among the participants to actively engage them in discussions and help them follow the presentations. Each presenter devoted several minutes to answer questions and provided participants with contact details for further enquiries.

The workshop culminated in participants' presentations of their own research protocols and substantive feedback on ways they can move their proposed research forward. Peer-review and monitoring of the presentations and discussion of research protocols was carried out not only at the end of the workshop but also after every protocol presentation. In an attempt to audit the quality of the projects, immediately after a protocol presentation, participants were asked to score their colleague's project on a scale from 1 to 5 (5 being the highest and indicating no further review and 1 the lowest and indicating complete revision of the protocol). Furthermore, at the end of the workshop, participants were invited to fill in a brief end of the workshop evaluation that included both quantitative and qualitative components, and were also awarded with a certificate of completion (sample attached) based on their attendance, participation, presentation and evaluation.

### **Profile of the Participants**

The 16 participants who attended the workshop were selected from a pool of 221 health professionals, who had attended the 2014 online-training. There were 15 women and 1 man from 15 different countries, all of them health professions involved sexual and reproductive health care provision.

### **Performance and End-of-the-Workshop Feedback**

The overall performance of each participant was calculated based on several factors, including: punctuality and organization, level of participation in discussions, critical thinking (as demonstrated by providing accurate feedback, asking relevant questions, reviewing papers and designing research protocols), degree of engagement in feedbacks and peer-review, ability to present and support research study protocol, cope with pressure and constructive criticism and make amendments and improve quality of work.

Two main conclusions can be reached from the results. Firstly, all of the 16 participants scored well on his/her evaluations: on a scale of 1 to 5, with the later being the highest. Secondly, 11 participants scored 4 or higher. As discussed during the workshop, those receiving 4 or higher meant that their proposal could proceed further with minor modifications. A score lower than 4, on the other hand, meant that their proposals needed further revision and modifications (some of

them triggered from the feedback obtained at the workshop) before proceeding to the next stage. No participant scored less than 3, which meant that none of the research protocols had to be redesigned or significantly modified.



## Appendix

**Table 1: Workshop agenda**

Date, Time & Venue	Description	Presenters
<b>Day 1 (14 September, Monday), WHO Library</b>		
09:00-10:00	Welcome and introduction (WHO library)  Review of Agenda	Marleen Temmerman (WHO), Alonso Lormand Maria Jesus (Geneva State), Lale Say (WHO), Lorella Franzoni (Parma), Ian Schwieger (SMB), Valeska Jeandupeux (Geneva Welcome Centre), Venkatraman Chandra-Mouli (WHO), Mario Festin (WHO), , Aldo Campana (GFMER), Blaise Bourrit (GFMER) Karim Abawi (GFMER)
10:00-12:00	Valid and effective literature search	Thomas Allen (WHO)
12:00-13:00	Lunch	
<b>Day 1 (14 September, Monday), Room E 110</b>		
13:00-14:00	Technical Updates on Contraceptive Use	Mario Festin (WHO)
14:30-15:30	Research Ethics	Abha Saxena (WHO)
16:00-17:00	Research Ethics	Abha Saxena (WHO)
<b>Day 2 (15 September, Tuesday), Room E 110</b>		
09:00-10:00	Review of agenda, question & answer	Karim Abawi (GFMER), Lynn Gertiser (GFMER)
10:00-11:00	Critical appraisal of a scientific article	Jane Hirst (Oxford)
11:00-11:15	Break	
11:15-12:15	Scientific writing	Jane Hirst (Oxford)
12:15-13:00	Lunch	
13:00-14:30	Sampling techniques	Armando Seuc (WHO)
14:30-14:45	Break	
14:45-15:45	Sampling techniques and data collection	Armando Seuc (WHO)
15:45-17:30	General remarks on participants' research projects, strengths, points to be improved	Raqibat Idris (GFMER), Karim Abawi (GFMER)
<b>Day 3 (16 September, Wednesday), Room E110</b>		
08:30-09:30	Formulating the research question and the study design: HIV and pregnancy outcome	Marleen Temmerman (WHO)
09:30-10:30	Learning from missteps in Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health programmes and projects.	Chandra Mouli(WHO)

<b>Day 3 (16 September, Wednesday), Room E110</b>		
11:00-12:00	Learning from missteps in Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health programmes and projects.	Chandra Mouli (WHO)
12:00-13:00	Lunch	
13:00-14:00	Data collection methods	Karim Abawi (GFMER)
14:00-15:00	Behaviour interventions to prevent STI/HIV	Igor Toskin (WHO)
15:00-onward	Field tour	
<b>Day 4 (17 September, Thursday), Room X10</b>		
09:00-09:30	Review of agenda	Karim Abawi (GFMER) and Jane Hirst (Oxford)
09:30-10:45	Women's and children health: Evidence of impact of human rights	Pino Benagiano (WHO)
11:00-12:45	Identifying and addressing ethical issues in a research study	Maria Magdalena Guraiib (WHO), Vânia de la Fuente-Núñez (WHO)
13:15-14:00	Open discussion (questions & answers)	
12:45-14:00	Lunch	
<b>Participants' research protocol presentation (questions, peer scoring)</b>		
14:00-14:30	The effect of an exercise and social support intervention on women experiencing postpartum depression	Ayah Al Bizri - National Collaborative Perinatal Neonatal Network, American University of Beirut, Lebanon
14:30-15:00	Risk factors associated with pregnancy induced hypertension / eclampsia among women of reproductive age in Soba local government area, Kaduna State, Nigeria	Aishatu Abubakar-Sadiq - Women and Children's Hospital, Kaduna State, Nigeria
15:00-15:30	To assess the determinants of contraceptive use in an urban setting in Islamabad, Pakistan	Anjum Ara Saeed - PAF Hospital, Islamabad, Pakistan
15:30-16:00	The factors influencing preference and practice of unskilled home delivery in Bangladesh: an exploratory study in Joypurhat district	Ashim Roy - Graduate Health Project and Institute of Health Technology, Joypurhat, Bangladesh
16:00-16:30	Study on body image dissatisfaction and factors influencing it among girls studying in colleges in an urban area of Coimbatore, India	Subhashini Ganesan - PSG Institute of Medical Sciences and Research, Tamil Nadu, India
16:30-17:00	Limitations and scopes of sexuality education and reproductive health: an exploratory study at three regions of Georgia	Lela Shengelia - Division of Maternal and Child Health, National Center for Disease Control and Public Health of Georgia
17:00-17:30	Adults' (15-49) years old perception about receiving sexual health education in primary health care setting in Bahrain	Khadija Hasan - Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Adilya, Bahrain
17:30-18:00	Social dimensions and marital relationship quality among married young women in rural Assiut – Upper Egypt- Egypt	Manal Darwish - Faculty of Medicine, Assiut University, Egypt



<b>Day 5 (18 September, Friday), Room X10</b>		
<b>Participants' research protocol presentation (questions, peer scoring)</b>		
09:00-09:30	Medical abortion in legally restrictive contexts: experiences of community help and support	Gabriela Luchetti - Faculty of Medical Sciences, Universidad Nacional del Comahue, Neuquen, Argentina
09:30-10:00	Unmet need for contraception among HIV/AIDS care and treatment clients in Ethiopia: accessibility of integrated FP-HIV services	Luwam Teshome Gari - WHO Ethiopia Country Office, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
10:00-10:30	Exploring the barriers to access and utilization of sexual and reproductive health services among adolescents living with HIV in Lilongwe	Esnath Mtupila - Bwaila Hospital, Lilongwe, Malawi
10:30-11:00	Review of abortion outcomes in refugee and migrants in Thai - Myanmar border	Thet Wai Zin - Hospital Sipitang, Sabah, Malaysia
11:00-11:30	Effect of surgery for endometrioma in ovarian reserve in patients seeking for childbearing in Guayaquil	Kelmy Jurado - Hospital Gineco-Obstétrico Enrique Sotomayor, Guayaquil, Ecuador
11:30-14:00	Lunch	
14:00-14:30	Trans project	Denise Leite Vieira - Federal University of Sao Paulo (UNIFESP), Sao Paulo, Brazil and Alessandra Diehl - Federal University of Sao Paulo (UNIFESP), Sao Paulo, Brazil
14:30-15:00	Prévalence des grossesses précoces et impact des services de prévention de la transmission mère-enfant du VIH chez les adolescentes séropositives suivies dans les associations partenaires du programme "Grandir"	Kaboubié Réjane Zio - Sidaction, Paris, France
15:30-16:00	Discussion	
16:00-16:30	End of the workshop session	



**Table 2: Participants' Profile**

Family name	First name	Country	Education
Abubakar-Sadiq	Aishatu	Nigeria	MPH-FE
Al Bizri	Ayah	Lebanon	MPH
Darwish	Manal Mohamed Mostafa	Egypt	PhD
Diehl	Alessandra	Brazil	PhD on going
Ganesan	Subhashini	India	MBBS
Hasan	Khadija	Bahrain	MPH
Jurado	Kelmy Eulalia	Ecuador	MD
Luchetti	Gabriela	Argentina	MD
Mtupila	Esnath	Malawi	Registered midwife
Roy	Ashim	Bangladesh	MBBS, MPH
Saeed	Anjum Ara	Pakistan	MD
Shengelia	Lela	Georgia	MD.,MPH, PhD candidate
Teshome	Luwam	Ethiopia	MD
Vieira	Denise Leite	Brazil	PhD
Zin	Thet Wai	Malaysia	MBBS
Zio	Kaboubie Réjane	Burkina Faso/France	MPH



**Aishatu Abubakar-Sadiq  
(Nigeria)**



**Ayah Al Bizri  
(Lebanon)**



**Manal Darwish  
(Egypt)**



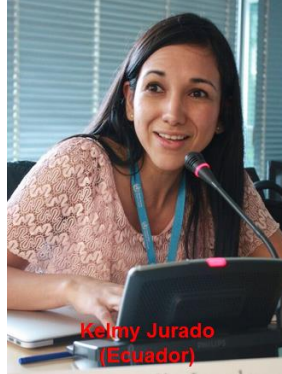
**Alessandra Diehl  
(Brazil)**



**Subhashini Ganesan  
(India)**



**Khadija Hasan  
(Bahrain)**



**Kelmly Jurado  
(Ecuador)**



**Gabriela Luchetti  
(Argentina)**



**Esnath Mtupila  
(Malawi)**



**Ashim Roy  
(Bangladesh)**



**Anjum Ara Saadat  
(Pakistan)**



**Lela Shengelia  
(Georgia)**



**Luwam Teshome Gar  
(Ethiopia)**



**Denise Leite Vieira  
(Brazil)**



**Thet Wai Zin  
(Malaysia)**



**Kaboubie R&djane Zio  
(Burkina Faso/France)**

**Table 3: Participants' Summary of Research Protocols**

No.	Author	Nationality	Title of Research Protocol	Research Field	Methodology
					Type of Study
1	Aishatu Abubakar-Sadiq	Nigeria	Risk Factors associated with Pregnancy induced hypertension among women of reproductive age in Soba Local Government Area, Kaduna State, Nigeria	Maternal and Perinatal Health	Mixed method study with analytic (case-control) design and focus group discussions (FGDs).
2	Ayah Al Bizri	Lebanese	The Effect of an Exercise and Social Support Intervention on Women Experiencing Postpartum Depression	Maternal and Perinatal Health	A two armed randomized controlled trial with a prospective pretest posttest experimental design.
3	Manal Darwish	Egypt	Social Dimensions and Marital Relationship Quality among Married Young Women in Rural Assiut – Upper Egypt- Egypt	Sexual and Reproductive Health	Analytic (nested) cross-sectional survey
4	Diehl Alessandra *	Brazilian	Trans Cultural PROJECT: Collaborative study about the assessment of validity, reliability and feasibility of the proposals of the categories for gender incongruence in the ICD 11 among Travestis in Brazil, Hijras in India and Muxes in Mexico.	Sexual and Reproductive Health	A cross-sectional study
5	Ganesan Subhashini	Indian	Study on body image dissatisfaction and factors influencing it among girls studying in colleges in an urban area of Coimbatore, India.	Adolescent Health	Cross sectional study
6	Hasan Khadija	Bahraini	The Perception of receiving Sexual Health Education among Adolescents and Adults (15- 49) in Bahrain	Sexual and Reproductive Health	Descriptive, cross sectional survey
7	Jurado Kelmy Eulalia	Ecuador	Effect of surgery for Endometrioma in ovarian reserve in patients seeking for childbearing in Guayaquil	Maternal and Perinatal Health	A multicenter prospective randomized control trial
8	Luchetti Gabriela	Argentina	Medical abortion in legally restrictive contexts: Experiences of community help and support	Maternal and Perinatal Health	An exploratory descriptive study.
9	Mtupila Esnath	Malawian	Exploring the Barriers to Access and Utilization of Sexual and Reproductive Health Services among Adolescents Living with HIV in Lilongwe	Adolescent Health	?A cross section study design ? individual in depth interview
10	Roy Ashim	Bangladeshi	The factors influencing preference and practice of unskilled home delivery in Bangladesh: An exploratory study in Joypurhat district	Maternal and Perinatal Health	A descriptive exploratory qualitative study

No.	Author	Nationality	Title of Research Protocol	Research Field	Methodology
					Type of Study
11	Saeed Anjum Ara	Pakistani	To Determine the Factors Responsible for the Failure of Family Planning in Pakistan: An Observational and Cross sectional Study in the Outpatient's Department of PAF Hospital Islamabad, Pakistan	Family planning	Observational, qualitative, descriptive, cross-sectional study design
12	Shengelia Lela	Georgian	Limitations and scopes of sexuality education and reproductive health: An exploratory study at three regions of Georgia	Adolescent Health	A descriptive exploratory study design with combined qualitative and quantitative data collection techniques
13	Teshome Luwam	Ethiopian	Unmet need for contraception among HIV/AIDS care and treatment clients in Ethiopia: accessibility of integrated FP-HIV services	Family planning/ STI and HIV	A facility-based, cross-sectional study
14	Vieira Denise Leite *	Brazilian	Trans Cultural PROJECT: Collaborative study about the assessment of validity, reliability and feasibility of the proposals of the categories for gender incongruence in the ICD 11 among Travestis in Brazil, Hijras in India and Muxes in Mexico.	Sexual and Reproductive Health	A cross-sectional study
15	Zin Thet Wai	Myanmar	REVIEW OF ABORTION OUTCOMES IN REFUGEE AND MIGRANTS IN THAI - MYANMAR BORDER	Maternal and perinatal health	An observational study
16	Zio Kaboubie Réjane	Burkinabe	Prévalence et impact des grossesses précoces sur la transmission mère-enfant du VIH chez les adolescentes séropositives suivies dans les associations partenaires du programme « Grandir » (Prevalence and impact of early pregnancy on the mother - child HIV transmission in HIV-positive adolescent girls followed in the partner associations of the " Growing Up ")	Adolescent Health/ STI and HIV	A descriptive cross-sectional epidemiological study

**\* Note: Participant number 4 and 14 have a joint protocol.**



**Table 4: Participants’ Feedback: Overall Perceived Effectiveness of Workshop Topics**

<b>Item</b>	<b>No. of Responses</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>1. To what extent was this workshop relevant and useful to your work?</b>		
1 (not relevant and useful)	0	0
2	0	0
3	0	0
4	4	27
5 (highly relevant and useful)	11	73
<b>2. Were the concepts, principles and subject matter clearly presented and discussed?</b>		
1 (not clear)	0	0
2	0	0
3	0	0
4	7	47
5 (clear)	8	53
<b>3. Please choose the statement that expresses your opinion about the technical level of this workshop.</b>		
Most of it was too technical and difficult for me to understand	1	6
Some of it was too technical and difficult for me to understand	4	27
All of it was just about right for me to understand	10	67
Some of it was too simple for me to understand	0	0
Most of it was too simple for me to understand	0	0
<b>4. To what extent was the workshop interactive and participatory?</b>		
1 (not interactive and participatory)	0	0
2	0	0
3	0	0
4	4	27
5 (highly interactive and participatory)	11	73
<b>5. How well were the participants’ questions answered?</b>		
1 (not satisfactory)	0	0
2	0	0
3	0	0
4	11	73
5 (highly satisfactory)	4	27



<b>Item</b>	<b>No. of Responses</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>6. Was the length of this workshop satisfactory for you?*</b>		
1 (not satisfactory)	0	0
2	0	0
3	5	33
4	5	33
5 (highly satisfactory)	5	34
<b>7. To what extent do you think you will be able to use and apply in your work with the tools and techniques introduced and discussed in this workshop?</b>		
1 (not likely)	0	0
2	0	0
3	0	0
4	6	40
5 (highly likely)	9	60
<b>8. At the end of this workshop, how would you rank your level of knowledge and skills of development of research protocol?</b>		
1 (poor)	0	0
2	0	0
3	0	0
4	10	67
5 (excellent)	5	33
<b>9. To what extent did the workshop meet your expectation that you had before the workshop?</b>		
1 (not met)	0	0
2	0	0
3	0	0
4	5	33
5 (well met)	10	67

**Table 5: Participants' Responses to Usefulness of Lectures in their Research**

<b>Lecture Topic</b>	<b>No. of Responses</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>1. Valid and effective literature search</b>		
Very useful	16	100
Occasionally useful	0	0
Not useful	0	0
<b>2. Technical updates on WHO work on contraceptive use</b>		
Very useful	13	81
Occasionally useful	3	19
Not useful	0	0
<b>3. Research Ethics</b>		
Very useful	9	56
Occasionally useful	7	44
Not useful	0	0
<b>4. Critical appraisal of the medical literature</b>		
Very useful	16	100
Occasionally useful	0	0
Not useful	0	0
<b>5. Scientific writing</b>		
Very useful	15	94
Occasionally useful	1	6
Not useful	0	0
<b>6. Sampling: an introduction</b>		
Very useful	9	56
Occasionally useful	7	44
Not useful	0	0
<b>7. Sampling technique and data collection</b>		
Very useful	11	69
Occasionally useful	5	31
Not useful	0	0

Lecture Topic	No. of Responses	%
<b>8. Formulating the research question and the study design: HIV and Pregnancy outcome</b>		
Very useful	13	81
Occasionally useful	3	19
Not useful	0	0
<b>9. Where are we in ASRH&amp;R (Adolescent Sexual &amp; Reproductive Health &amp; Rights) 20 years since the ICPD (International Conference on Population &amp; Development)?</b>		
Very useful	16	100
Occasionally useful	0	0
Not useful	0	0
<b>10. Learning from missteps in adolescent sexual and reproductive Health programmes and projects</b>		
Very useful	14	88
Occasionally useful	2	12
Not useful	0	0
<b>11. Adolescent health research priorities</b>		
Very useful	12	75
Occasionally useful	4	25
Not useful	0	0
<b>12. Setting research priorities for adolescent sexual and reproductive health</b>		
Very useful	12	75
Occasionally useful	4	25
Not useful	0	0
<b>13. Data collection methods</b>		
Very useful	13	81
Occasionally useful	3	19
Not useful	0	0
<b>14. Behaviour interventions to prevent STI/HIV</b>		
Very useful	10	63
Occasionally useful	6	37
Not useful	0	0

Lecture Topic	No. of Responses	%
<b>15. Women's and children health: Evidence of impact of human rights</b>		
Very useful	15	94
Occasionally useful	1	6
Not useful	0	0
<b>16. Identifying and addressing ethical issues in a research study</b>		
Very useful	13	81
Occasionally useful	3	19
Not useful	0	0



## **Remarks by Participants**

### **Dr.Subhashini Ganesan**

India

I am privileged and honored to speak about this workshop. But first of all I would like to take advantage of this opportunity to express my deep thanks to the GFMER, who were instrumental in funding & organizing this SRH 2014 workshop, here in Geneva.

This workshop provided us with a very useful platform to exchange information; ideas, experiences and lessons learned in sexual and reproductive health our respective countries. During these past 5 days, we have generated a wealth of information and experience in this workshop. This workshop has enabled us to understand the concept of Research in health perspective. Also, this workshop has equipped us to identify the competence and skills required for doing our research project in our native country.

I sincerely thank Dr. Karim who has been with us all through the workshop and was always ready to help us out. I like to thank Dr. Blaise, who was kind enough to spend a whole evening with us and showed us the beautiful city of Geneva. Special thanks to Dr. Campana, Dr. Jane and Dr. Raqibat Idris who had given the feedbacks for all our presentations, thank you very much. I also thank each and every one for them who have given us wonderful presentations and such a great learning experience; thank them for their meticulous planning & execution. At last a very big thanks to the GFMER, for making our stay in Geneva comfortable and a memorable one.

### **Dr. Roy Ashim (Andrew)**

Bangladesh

The impacts of the modern globalization are not beyond debate since the today's world experiences fragile development to some extent; for example, its association with globalized diseases. The global community has already started launching a new paradigm shifting – "Sustainable Development". According to Amartya Sen, (the nobel prize winner in 1998), wealth and/or infrastructural development are no more the key indicators of sustainable development but human freedom in terms of gender equality and agency, and equity in voice and choice for all social welfare needs. To a considerable extent, sexual and reproductive health and rights are associated, hence to be addressed, for sustainable development of the 21st century's world; for example, free and rational decision of reproduction, free choice and availability of contraceptives including safe abortion and motherhood along with provision and promotion of safe sexual and reproductive education. All these needs are still unmet in many countries that warrant rigorous attention of academicians, researchers, policymakers and politicians for addressing the issue globally.

To the end of the course on 'sexual and reproductive health research' organized by the GFMER, I find it as one of the priorities for global sustainable health and economic development. I could also find global humanitarian vision and mission behind investing resources and talents for the

course. The potential power of the course is not only academic or professional, but also self-motivational for research and then practicing it for meeting multidimensional sexual and reproductive health needs of the people at risk. The structure of the course is undoubtedly appreciable. It conceptualizes that sexual and reproductive health issues are not only physical problems needing merely medicine, but more crucially, it is often cultural, psycho-social and gender issue that needs special expertise to explore and solution. I see this course has improved our knowledge and skills to identify and explore those issues adequately. The research protocols which were designed by the participants of the workshop-2015 are the proof of that.

The involvement of the reputed experts is a real strength of the course as well as opportunity for the global participants. The gradual expansion of the multinational participation in the course is the key indicator of its demand globally. The qualified and committed workforce of the course is the valuable resource that generates a sense of ownership and partnership in the participants towards the Foundation. Arranging a workshop at the WHO-headquarters, Geneva with the best performing participants is a unique criteria of the course; moreover, the homogenous distribution of considerably sound subject knowledge, cultural sensitivity in a multicultural environment and interaction capacity of the workshop participants, not only proves the impact of the course but also the capability of perfect selection of participants. I applaud it indeed.

I repeat my feelings and expectation that the course content and intensiveness could be eligible for awarding a Postgraduate Diploma that could be promoted with fruitful discussion with a University at Geneva. I also propose that workshop participants should read critically at least two peers' protocols. The research methodology, as a core module, might have a separate assignment for improving research capability of general participants. The workshop participants could be assigned as honorary co-promoters of the ongoing course participants of his/her region.

Lastly, on behalf of the participants, I dedicate my utmost respect and gratitude to the dignified President, Secretary, Manager and all staff of the GFMER for organizing such a course and also salute for contributing in the sustainable global development. I cordially expect the gradual expansion of the activities of the Foundation.



**Sample of Certificate**

