

Prof Adelaide Lusambili (PhD, MA, MS/MH).

I am an educator, a climate change adaptation and health system research scientist, and a policy expert with over 18 years of experience working in the UK and several African countries. I am the lead for the Environmental Health and Governance Centre at the Africa International University. My academic research journey has taken me down many paths.

I started my early career as a successful accountant and administrator with an international organisation and abandoned it after five years to satisfy my thirst for a scientist. As an educator, I teach social behavioural theories, qualitative research methods, systematic reviews, culture and public health modules and recently, climate change and health.

My doctoral dissertation at American University, USA and postdoctoral research at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS/UK) focused on the gendered impact of environmental sanitation and water in the slums of Kibera (Kenya). In particular, I examined behaviours around waste disposal (flying toilets) and their health impacts.

Between 2009 and 2016, I worked with National Health Services (NHS/UK) with various partners, including Sheffield H University and Bradford Institute of Health Research/UK, on various ageing research themes, including Fuel Poverty and ageing; physical activities and ageing; isolation in patients living with Alzheimer and dementia diseases. I also worked on issues of refugees and migrants in the context of COVID-19 and refugee children's mental health outcomes in the UK.

Since 2017, I have worked in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) as a senior researcher/lecturer at Strathmore University, senior postdoc at Kemri Wellcome Trust and more recently, Ass a professor at the Aga Khan University. During this period, I have designed and led various streams of research, including reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, and Child Health (RMNCH), health systems strengthening, access to and delivery of health care services, mortality audits, the impact of COVID-19 on refugee women, health professional communication, and systems failures of high-risk pregnancies. I have worked with communities to codesign culturally contextualised solutions.

From 2020, through the CHAMNHA consortium (<https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/research/centres-projects-groups/chamnha#who-we-are>), I was the Kenya lead field investigator on a climate change and health research that focussed on understanding climate change-related extreme heat exposure effects and MNCH on the east coast of Kenya. I have worked with communities to codesign and develop priority interventions to reduce heat effects on women and their neonates. You can watch the videos developed from this work (Video 1: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A9_j6mr5QEA and Video 2: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A9_j6mr5QEA).

I have presented my research at several international conferences, including COP26 (Scotland), COP27 (Egypt), and AHAIC (Kigali), among others. I have published 51 peer-reviewed papers and am a member of several scientific organisations. I hold a PhD in medical anthropology and a Master's in Sociology (gender and development) from the American University of Washington, DC. I also have an MS/Mental Health from the University of Sheffield/UK. I am versed in the art of developing curricula and grant writing. I have supervised 48 master's students and several PHDs in supervision. I love mentoring young researchers and walking in the woods.

Publications 2020 to 2023

- 2023 **Lusambili AM**, Wisofschi S, Wade TJ, Temmerman M, Obure J (2023) A qualitative enquiry of health care workers' narratives on knowledge and sources of information on

- principles of Respectful Maternity Care (RMC). ***PLOS Glob Public Health*** 3(1): e0000157. [https:// doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0000157](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0000157)
- 2023 Migowa A, Bernatsky S, Ngugi A, Foster HE, Muriuki P, ***Lusambili A***, Luchters S. An iceberg I can't handle: a qualitative inquiry on perceptions towards paediatric rheumatology among healthcare workers in Kenya. ***Pediatr Rheumatol Online J***. 2023 Jan 21;21(1):6. doi 10.1186/s12969-023-00790-2. PMID: 36681840; PMCID: PMC9862847.
- 2023 ***Lusambili et al.*** A Call for Awareness and Interventions to Reduce Dehydration in Pregnant, Postpartum Women and Newborns in the Context of Climate Change-Related Heat Exposure in Rural Kenya. ***African Journal of Family Medicine and Primary Healthcare***
- 2023 ***Lusambili et al.*** Understanding Influences on Mental Health Among Over 70-Year-Olds in Kenya Using a Life Course Theory. ***F1000 Research***
- 2022 ***Lusambili A***, Jerim Obure, Stefania Wisofski; Lucy Nyaga, Kennedy Mulama, and Marleen Temmerman. A qualitative inquiry of health facility nurses' views on interventions to reduce disrespectful maternity care. ***BMJ OPEN***
- 2022 ***Lusambili A***, Ochieng S, Nyikuri M and Shumba S. Conducting qualitative research during COVID-19? Reflections on methods, challenges, and potential sources of biases when interviewing refugees. ***F1000 RESEARCH***
- 2022 ***Lusambili, A***, Stefania Wisofski; Jerim Obure; Kennedy Mulama; Lucy Nyaga; Terrance J. Wade and Marleen Temmerman. Knowledge and sources of information on Respectful Maternity Care (RMC) principles among health care workers in Kilifi and Kisii counties of Kenya: A qualitative. ***PLOS ONE GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH***
- 2022 Part, C., Filippi, V., Cresswell, J. A., Ganaba, R., Hajat, S., Nakstad, B., Roos, N., Kadio, K., Chersich, M., ***Lusambili, A.***, Kouanda, S., & Kovats, S. (2022). How do high ambient temperatures affect infant feeding practices? A prospective cohort study of postpartum women in Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso. ***BMJ open, 12(10)***, e061297. <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2022-061297>
- 2022 Nakstad, B., Filippi, V., ***Lusambili, A.***, Roos, N., Scorgie, F., Chersich, M. F., Luchters, S., & Kovats, S. (2022). How Climate Change May Threaten Progress in Neonatal Health in the African Region. ***Neonatology, 119(5)***, 644–651. <https://doi.org/10.1159/000525573>
- 2022 Ogero M, Orwa J, Odhiambo R, Agoi F, ***Lusambili A***, Obure J, Temmerman M, Luchters S, Ngugi A. Pentavalent vaccination in Kenya: coverage and geographical accessibility to health facilities using data from a community demographic and health surveillance system in Kilifi County. ***BMC Public Health***. 2022 Apr 25;22(1):826. doi: 10.1186/s12889-022-12570-w. PMID: 35468754; PMCID: PMC9040218
- 2021 ***Lusambili AM***, Wisofski S, Shumba C, Muriuki P, Obure J, Mantel M, Mossman L, Pell R, Nyaga L, Ngugi A, Orwa J, Luchters S, Mulama K, Wade TJ, Temmerman M. A Qualitative Endline Evaluation Study of Male Engagement in Promoting Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health Services in Rural Kenya. ***Front Public Health***. 2021 Jul 8; 9:670239. doi: 10.3389/fpubh.2021.670239. PMID: 34307276; PMCID: PMC8296463.
- 2021 ***Lusambili AM***, Nyanja N, Chabeda SV, Temmerman M, Nyaga L, Obure J, Ngugi A. Community health volunteer's challenges and preferred income generating activities for sustainability: a qualitative case study of rural Kilifi, Kenya. ***BMC Health Serv Res***.

- 2021 Jul 3;21(1):642. doi 10.1186/s12913-021-06693-w. PMID: 34217281; PMCID: PMC8254366.
- 2021 [Lusambili AM](#), Muriuki P, Wisofski S, Shumba CS, Mantel M, Obure J, Nyaga L, Mulama K, Ngugi A, Orwa J, Luchters S, Temmerman M. Male Involvement in Reproductive and Maternal and New Child Health: An Evaluative Qualitative Study on Facilitators and Barriers From Rural Kenya. [Front Public Health](#). 2021 Apr 21; 9:644293. doi: 10.3389/fpubh.2021.644293. PMID: 33968883; PMCID: PMC8096930.
- 2021 [Lusambili A](#) and Shumba C; Inequity is an iniquity: Speaking Up for Aspiring African Researchers, 2021, [Journal of Health and Human Rights Journal](#) <https://www.hhrjournal.org/2021/08/inequity-is-an-iniquity-speaking-up-for-aspiring-african-researchers>
- 2021 [Lusambili, A. M.](#), Martini, M., Abdirahaman, F., Abena, A., Guni, J. N., Ochieng, S., & Luchters, S. (2021). 'It is a disease which comes and kills directly': What refugees know about COVID-19 and key influences of compliance **with** preventive measures. [PloS one](#), **16(12)**, e0261359. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0261359>
- 2021 Shumba CS, [Lusambili AM](#). Not enough traction: Barriers that aspiring researchers from low- and middle-income countries face in global health research. [Journal of Global Health Economic and Policy \(JoGHEP\)](#). 2021;1. doi:10.52872/002
- 2021 Forster A, Godfrey M, Green J, McMaster N, Airlie J, Cundill B, Lawton R, Hawkins R, Hulme C, Birch K, Brown L, Cicero R, Crocker TF, Dawkins B, Ellard DR, Ellwood A, Firth J, Gallagher B, Graham L, Johnson L, [Lusambili A](#), Marti J, McCrorie C, McLellan V, Patel I, Prashar A, Siddiqi N, Trépel D, Wheeler I, Wright A, Young J, Farrin A. Strategies to enhance routine physical activity in care home residents: the REACH research programme including a cluster feasibility RCT. Southampton (UK): [NIHR Journals Library](#); 2021 Aug. PMID: 34432399.
- 2021 Ngugi AK, Walraven G, Orwa J, [Lusambili A](#), Kimani M, Luchters S. Community-driven data revolution is feasible in developing countries: experiences from an integrated health information and surveillance system in Kenya. [Journal of Global Health Reports](#). 2021;5: e2021074. doi:10.29392/001c.25977
- 2021 Roos N, Kovats S, Hajat S, Filippi V, Chersich M, Luchters S, Scorgie F, Nakstad B, Stephansson O; [CHAMNHA Consortium](#). Maternal and newborn health risks of climate change: A call for awareness and global action. [Acta Obstet Gynecol Scand](#). 2021 Apr;100(4):566-570. doi: 10.1111/aogs.14124. Epub 2021 Mar 4. PMID: 33570773
- 2021 Nyanja N, Nyamu N, Nyaga L, Chabeda S, [Lusambili A](#), Temmerman M, Mantel M, Ngugi A. Application of the Ultra-Poverty Graduation Model in understanding community health volunteers' preferences for socio-economic empowerment strategies to enhance retention: a qualitative study in Kilifi, Kenya. [Hum Resour Health](#). 2021 Aug 28;19(1):104. doi: 10.1186/s12960-021-00645-5. PMID: 34454506; PMCID: PMC8400398.
- 2020 [Lusambili A](#), Naanyu V, Manda G, Mossman L, Wisofski S, Pell R, Jadavji S, Obure J, Temmerman M. Nutritional Influences on the Health of Women and Children in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique: A Qualitative Study. [Int J Environ Res Public Health](#). 2020 Aug 27;17(17):6205. doi: 10.3390/ijerph17176205. PMID: 32867019; PMCID: PMC7503663.
- 2020 [Lusambili AM](#), Naanyu V, Wade TJ, Mossman L, Mantel M, Pell R, Ngetich A, Mulama K, Nyaga L, Obure J, Temmerman M. Deliver on Your Own: Disrespectful Maternity Care in rural Kenya. [PLoS One](#). 2020 Jan 7;15(1): e0214836. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0214836. PMID: 31910210; PMCID: PMC6946164.
- 2020 [Lusambili A](#), Wisofski S, Shumba C, Obure J, Mulama K, Nyaga L, Wade TJ, Temmerman M. Health Care Workers' Perspectives of the Influences of Disrespectful

- Maternity Care in Rural Kenya. **Int J Environ Res Public Health**. 2020 Nov 6;17(21):8218. doi: 10.3390/ijerph17218218. PMID: 33172160; PMCID: PMC7664382
- 2020 **Lusambili A**, Michela Martini, Faiza Abdirahman, Abena Asante, Sharon Ochieng, Joseph N Guni, Rose Maina, Stanley Luchters, “We have a lot of home deliveries” A qualitative study on the impact of COVID-19 on access to and utilisation of reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health care among refugee women in urban Eastleigh, Kenya, **Journal of Migration and Health**, Volumes 1–2, 2020, 100025, ISSN 2666-6235, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jmh.2020.100025>.
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S266662352030025>
- 2020 **Lusambili, A.**, Bhanbhro, S. & Kmuchanga, K. (2020). Positionality, Access to the Social Space and Place of Research: Narratives from Research in Low Resource Settings. **People, Place and Policy**, 14(1), 35-54.
- 2020 Kassaman D, Kimani RW, **Lusambili A**. Challenges for cancer care during COVID-19 pandemic in Kenya: Policy implications. **J Cancer Policy**. 2020 Sep;25:100247. doi: 10.1016/j.jcpo.2020.100247. Epub 2020 Jul 28. PMID: 32834996; PMCID: PMC7385499.
- 2020 **Lusambili, A.**, Jekkosgei, J., Nzinga, J. and English, M. (2019), “What do we know about maternal and perinatal mortality and morbidity audits in sub-Saharan Africa? A scoping literature review”, **International Journal of Human Rights in Healthcare**, Vol. 12 No. 3, pp. 192-207.

Media Interviews

1. **New York Times**: Interviewed June 2022 by New York Times to discuss CHAMNHA findings on Extreme weather impacts of Maternal, neonatal and child health. “How Extreme Heat Kills, Sickens, Strains and Ages Us”
<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/06/13/climate/extreme-heat-wave-health.html>
2. **National Geographic**: Interviewed by National Geographic in August 2022 on the topic: “Here’s how extreme heat is hurting pregnant women”
<https://www.nationalgeographic.co.uk/science-and-technology/2022/08/heres-how-extreme-heat-is-hurting-pregnant-women>

Conferences and Presentations 2021 to 2023

- 2023 March **Africa Health Agenda Conference (AHAIC) Kigali, Rwanda.**
Panellist: Closing the Gap in Climate Change.
Facilitator: Why we need more youth to be involved in climate change
- 2022 Nov **Conference of the Parties (COP2027) United Nations Climate Change Conference 2022 Egypt**
Presenter: Climate change and Gender /World Health Organisation Health Pavillion.
- 2022 June **Sustainability Conference in South Africa on Climate Change**

- Presenter:** Evidence from CHAMNHA Kilifi research
- 2021 Nov **Conference of the Parties (COP 2026) United Nations Climate Change Conference 2021**
Glasgow, Scotland –United Kingdom
- Presenter:** *on the theme “Hot, Hot, Hot: How can cities adapt to the rising heat?”*
Topic: Heat stress will reverse the gains made in the past decades in sub-Saharan Africa: Findings from Kilifi and Burkina Faso CHAMNHA study.
- 2021 Sep **12th European Congress on Tropical Medicine and International Health**
Organized panel discussions with London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of Witwatersrand, University of Oslo, Karolinka Institute of Research and Institute of Research in Burkina Faso. (ICTMICH)
- Presenter:** *The CHAMNHA project: defining heat impacts on maternal and neonatal health in low-resource settings and testing adaptive interventions in Burkina Faso and Kenya*
- 2021 Sep **Climate and Health Africa Network for Collaboration and Engagement (CHANCE).**
Keynote speaker: *Heat Stress A Maternal Threat to Maternal and Neonatal Health in Africa.*
- 2021 Aug **The International Society for Environmental Epidemiology (ISEE) conference.**
Presenter: *Community Perspectives on Maternal and Newborn Experiences of Heat Stress: A qualitative Inquiry in Kilifi, Kenya*
- 2021 May **Faculty Academic Rounds, Aga Khan University**
Presenter: *Climate Heat Maternal and Neonatal Health Africa*
- 2021 Apr **Faculty Academic Rounds (FAR), Aga Khan University**
Presenter: *Clinical System Failures’ following an ethnographic study of a’ High risk pregnancies*