



# WORLD CONFERENCE ON DROWNING PREVENTION

DURBAN  
OCTOBER 8 - 10

2019

*Ubuntu: Growing global drowning prevention capacity*

## World Conference on Drowning Prevention Highlights



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## Dr (PhD) Ana Catarina Quieroga

Situational assessments for informed prevention



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# Situational assessments for informed prevention

Ana Catarina Queiroga

Portugal

# Situational assessments for informed prevention

## Key issues

### **#betterdata**

Underreported and missing data

Not just capture data, capture the right data

### **#digestresearchresults**

Improve communication

Less is more – be concise and objective

### **#nonaturaldisasters**

Disasters have preventable social determinants and consequences

Mitigation through change in human actions and decisions



# Looking forward to WCDP2021

## **#guidedinterventions #localvariation #communitylevelstudies**

Identify (and overcome) barriers to design and implement intervention research studies

## **#drowningbehavior**

Increase understanding of psychological processes underpinning decisions and attitudes towards aquatic risks

## **#drowningsurvivors**

Look after rescuers, survivors friends and family

## **#worktogether #empowerpeople**

Local community, practitioners, researchers



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## Barbara Byers

Effective interventions



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# Effective Interventions

Barbara Byers



# Key issues from Effective Interventions

## **Increasing practice in the use of evidence – based research for prevention interventions**

- There has been much success in using evidence –based research to identify the problem/need for an intervention, and the awareness of the need and changes in attitudes and intended behavior amongst the target group.

## **The increasing use of Social media**

- Social media is a cost-effective, targeted tool for prevention campaigns, that enables many organizations with an opportunity to launch an intervention with the added benefit of immediate feedback from the target group .

## **Multi-stakeholder approach for interventions**

- There were many examples of community-based interventions, with multiple partners and stakeholders at the local and national level to build engagement and commitment to the program goal.

# Looking forward to WCDP2021

## **Measuring the effectiveness of intervention strategies**

- To identify research tools and methodologies that will demonstrate that an intervention was effective beyond increasing awareness, shifting attitudes and showing changes in intended behavior. Did it work?

## **Moving from effective interventions to changes in policy and engagement**

- Examples of how an effective intervention can lead to community or organizational change.

## **Stronger partnerships with the research and the drowning prevention communities**

- How these lead to new ideas, new perspectives, new insight and more effective programs.



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## Gemma May

Strategies for supporting sustainable prevention efforts

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# Strategies for Supporting Sustainable Prevention Efforts

Gemma May

# Key issues from strategies for supporting sustainable prevention efforts

## **Need and opportunity of multi-sector collaboration & inter-sectorality**

- Call out in several sessions of need for this – nationally & globally
- Early learnings shared on engagement with different Government Depts, Civil Society, NGO's, Research - approaches & changes occurring; offered new tools to help (PEA Analysis)

## **Importance of delivering the right message, to the right people, in the right format**

- Understanding your targets and their environments: policy makers, parents and caregivers, migrants, media, funders.
- Useful workshop for many – valuable toolkit for implementors, especially for colleagues from LICs.

## **Need for evaluation**

- Essential for us to learn, communicate to influencers, funders, other sectors to learn about issue relevance / synergy to achieving their objectives
- Need to see this more embedded in programme (at an appropriate level)
- Critical to have considered in programme design (at the start)

# Looking forward to WCDP2021

## Discussion of failures

- Encouraged to openly share failures and short-comings.
- Benefits us all and improves future programming (HICs/LMICs). Fail fast. Learn quickly.
- Community of practice?

## Women: social & cultural norms

- Great value to hear more @ #WCDP2019 on culture, faith and gender. But more needed.
- Similar experiences in HIC & LMIC settings – surprising - but supporting for many.
- Recognition of gender issues: critical for programme sustainability (and impact)
- Use of women as messengers: to teach, reach, change communities at risk – a huge opportunity.

## Working through other sectors (multi-sector)

- Examples of where this is happening local and global: success/challenge/new opportunity (need stories to share & apply – ingredients for tested success)
- Examples of drowning prevention going out to other conferences and them @ WCDP2021





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## Dan Graham

Advancements in rescue and resuscitation



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# Rescue & Resuscitation

Dan Graham

# Key issues from rescue & resuscitation

## **Understanding role in Disaster Risk Reduction**

- Not just flood rescue, but also prevention & mitigation.

## **Context is key**

- HIC to LMIC knowledge/skills transfer is not simple
- Data / evidence driven

## **Non Fatal Drowning Framework**

- On-going high level work.

# Looking forward to WCDP2021

## **Education**

- What are the best training / teaching methods?
- How do we increase effectiveness of training?
- How long do people maintain skills / knowledge?

## **Technology**

- What problems are being solved by the technology?
- How do we use data & evidence to improve the efficiency & effectiveness of rescue provision?

## **More collaboration**





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## Dr Rebecca Sindall

The role of drowning prevention in the development agenda

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# Drowning prevention and the development agenda

Dr. Rebecca Sindall

# Key issues from drowning prevention and the development agenda

## **Focus on Africa**

- Solutions that prevent drowning in HICs or Asian LMICs may not be relevant in Africa
- South African delegates commit to moving towards a national water safety plan and coalition
- Engagement of non-traditional stakeholders

## **Drowning as a social justice issue**

- People have many sources of risk in their life - drowning is often only one small risk
- Strong links to disaster risk reduction and early childhood development
- Sendai Framework and Sustainable Development Goals can indicate areas of commonality

## **Diversity, diversity, diversity**

- The strength of our sector is in its diversity and mutual respect for others
- Work with communities: “You might be a technical expert, but you don’t know the context”

# Looking forward to WCDP2021

## Look wider...

- Drowning prevention is wider than we think
- Be problem-oriented, rather than solution-oriented
- Risk reduction is drowning prevention

## Keep top-down in mind while working bottom-up

- Link to international agendas: Sendai Framework and Sustainable Development Goals
- Participatory research on intervention design **with** communities, **not for** communities
- How do we get communities in the room?





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## Dr Tessa Clemens

From WCDP2017 to WCDP 2019

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# Vancouver to Durban

Tessa Clemens

# Some highlights from Vancouver

- **Drowning risk reduction of migrants and refugees**
- **Non-fatal drowning**
- **Connections**



Where are we now?

Where do we want to be in 2021?

# Overall

- 200 Oral Presentations
- 6 Streams
- Over 500 delegates
  
- Next Conference in Sri Lanka October 8-10, 2021

