

Dr. Luchuo Engelbert Bain, MD, MPH, MSc-Bioethics, MBA, PhD, FAAS

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Fellow, African Academy of Sciences (FAAS).

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PROFILE SUMMARY

Dr. Luchuo Engelbert Bain is an internationally recognized global health strategist, empirical bioethicist, and implementation research scientist with over 15 years of experience advancing science, ethics, innovation, and equity in global health. He has worked extensively in sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and maternal and child health research, funding, program implementation and evaluation. He recently served as the Head of International Programs at the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC), where he led continent-wide scientific partnerships, research ecosystems strengthening, and policy engagement initiatives. His scholarly work—spanning sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), community engagement, AMR/One Health, climate–health, evidence-informed decision-making, and health systems resilience—has produced over 100 peer-reviewed publications and shaped national and global policy reforms.

He is widely regarded for his leadership in science communication, research ethics, decolonial inquiry, and the political determinants of global health. Dr. Bain is Convener of [Global Health Otherwise](#), a pan-African platform driving equity-centred knowledge production and governance reform in global health. He serves on multiple global scientific advisory bodies—including WHO STAG (TDR), WHO Sexual Health & Wellbeing Advisory Group, Africa CDC technical groups, UNFPA’s Sexual and Reproductive Agency Technical Advisory Group, and IPPF’s International Medical Advisory Panel—bringing deep experience in normative guidance, ethics, and global scientific governance.

He supported the UNFPA led project on evaluation of the primary health care determinants of maternal mortality in Mali, the WHO-TDR funded project on best practices in community engagement in research in Africa, the FCDO funded project on lessons in implementation of HIV, TB and HIV programs in the Democratic Republic of Congo to support the UK’s investment case with the Global Fund for Malaria, TB, and HIV, and the scale up of the communications package to fight against medicalization of female genital mutilation in Kenya and Guinea (WHO-HRP).

Dr Bain is an elected Fellow to the African Academy of Science (AAS), a visiting Associate Professor at the Department of Psychology, University of Johannesburg in South Africa, and Professor of Global Health and Bioethics at EUCLID University.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Scientific leadership & global health governance
- Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights
- Meaningful Community Engagement
- Empirical bioethics
- Evidence Synthesis

- Political Economy Analysis
- Maternal and Child Health
- Emerging technologies, ethics, and evidence translation
- Implementation research & systems innovation
- Equity in scientific research ecosystems
- Community engagement & empirical bioethics
- Data-driven health decision-making
- Climate change & One Health
- Science communication and public trust in science
- Organizational Strategy Development and Evaluation

EDUCATION

- **PhD**, Transdisciplinary Global Health Solutions – Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
- **MSc**, Bioethics (Clinical & Research Ethics) – KU Leuven
- **MPH**, Epidemiology – Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- **MD**, University of Yaoundé I
- **MBA**, Strategic Human Resources Management for Health – Universidad Internacional de La Rioja
- **Certificate**: Global Health Diplomacy, University of Toronto
- **Certificate**: Health Communications: Fray College of Communications, South Africa.

Experience:

Deputy Director, MSc in Global Women’s Health, Nuffield department of Women’s and Reproductive Health, University of Oxford: As Deputy Director of the MSc in Global Women’s Health at the University of Oxford, I support academic leadership, curriculum development, and strategic growth of the programme. I mentor students, strengthen global partnerships, advance research excellence, and help position the programme at the forefront of equity-driven women’s health scholarship and policy impact worldwide.

Co-Founder, Global Health Otherwise: I founded and lead a pan-African think tank and media platform advancing equity-driven global health discourse. I shape strategy, partnerships, and content to amplify African expertise, influence policy conversations, broker collaborations, and translate complex research into accessible, high-impact narratives across digital and institutional platforms.

<https://globalhealthotherwise.com/>

<https://globalhealthotherwisemedia.org/>

Head, International Programs, African Population and Health Research Center (2024–2026)

Led APHRC’s internationalization strategy, overseeing multi-country scientific operations, and drives high-level regional and global partnerships to strengthen Africa’s research and innovation ecosystem. Provided strategic orientation on scientific governance, evidence use, capacity building, and research ethics across APHRC’s international portfolio

Senior Program Officer, Global Health, IDRC, Canada (2022–2024)

Led major research investments in climate–health, AMR/One Health, gender and SRHR. Oversaw multi-country WHO-TDR and UNFPA collaborations; co-led a CAD 29.9M initiative on adolescent SRHR; strengthened ethical and equitable research ecosystems across LMICs, while overseeing in projects portfolio of 100 million CAD.

Senior Associate Consultant, AISE Consulting, Ghent, Belgium (Sept 2020 – Aug 2022)

I served as Technical Lead and writer for PSI Vietnam on a USD 21 million health security grant focused on One Health systems, antimicrobial resistance surveillance, and climate-sensitive infectious diseases. I led a four-year study on abortion trajectories among adolescents in Ghana and provided technical leadership on abortion research priority-setting in sub-Saharan Africa (Guttmacher Institute). I supported the evaluation of the Gates Foundation -funded Group Antenatal Care (G-ANC) in Nigeria, evaluated Primary Health Care system determinants of maternal mortality for UNFPA in Mali, advised IPPF, developed WHO protocols on person-centered FGM prevention interventions, and the development of the International Planned Parenthood Federation’s 2023 – 2028 Strategy.

Senior Research Fellow, University of Lincoln, UK (2020–2022)

Led community engagement and digital health ethics programs; secured major scientific grants; co-PI for a multi-country COVID-19 behavioural study; contributed to research governance and ethics oversight bodies

WHO–TDR Co-Principal Investigator (2021–2022)

Led a landmark project on best practices in community engagement in sub-Saharan Africa, informing normative guidance and implementation strategies

Researcher & PhD Scholar, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (2016–2020)

Conducted action research on adolescent pregnancy decision-making, influencing Ghanaian national SRHR training policy and CSE programming

Head, HIV/AIDS & TB Units, Garoua Military Hospital, Cameroon (2011–2016)

Led clinical programs, improved adherence strategies, and implemented stigma-reduction interventions with measurable impact on treatment outcomes

SELECTED GLOBAL ADVISORY & GOVERNANCE ROLES

- **Elected Fellow:** African Academy of Science, AAS
- **Member,** WHO Scientific & Technical Advisory Group (STAG), TDR (2025–2027)
- **Member,** WHO Sexual Health & Wellbeing Advisory Group
- **Technical Expert,** Maternal, Child & Adolescent Health TAG, Africa CDC
- **Member,** International Medical Advisory Panel (IMAP), IPPF
- **Member,** UNFPA Technical Advisory Group on Sexual and Reproductive Agency

- **Steering Group Member**, Advocacy & Resource Mobilization Committee (RBM Partnership to End Malaria)
- **Co-Chair**, The Society for African Genomic Surveillance of AMR (SAGeSA)

Publications:

See full list:

<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6006-2698>

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=weevnFsAAAAJ&hl=en>

Selected Publications:

1. Singh S, Tandon S, Esiet UU, Kågesten AE, Gruskin S, Shaikat SM, **Bain LE**, et al. Advancing sexual health and well-being for all. *Bull World Health Organ*. 2024 Dec 1;102(12):843-843A.
2. **Bain LE**, Amoakoh-Coleman M, Tiendrebeogo KST, Zweekhorst MBM, de Cock Buning T, Becquet R. Attitudes towards abortion and decision-making capacity of pregnant adolescents: perspectives of medicine, midwifery and law students in Accra, Ghana. *Eur J Contracept Reprod Health Care*. 2020 Apr;25(2):151–8.
3. Ogedegbe AE, Chen ZE, Adeagbo O, Badru O, Mogo ERI, Yankam BM, et **Bain LE**. Barriers and facilitators to accessing post sexual-based violence health services among young women attending higher education institutions in Nigeria. *BMC Womens Health*. 2025 Apr 19;25(1):193.
4. **Bain LE**, Amu H, Enowbeyang Tarkang E. Barriers and motivators of contraceptive use among young people in Sub-Saharan Africa: A systematic review of qualitative studies. *PLoS One*. 2021;16(6):e0252745.
5. **Bain LE**, Ahinkorah BO, Seidu AA, Budu E, Okyere J, Kongnyuy E. Beyond counting intended pregnancies among young women to understanding their associated factors in sub-Saharan Africa. *Int Health*. 2022 Sep 7;14(5):501–9.
6. **Bain LE**, Akondeng C, Njamnshi WY, Mandi HE, Amu H, Njamnshi AK. Community engagement in research in sub-Saharan Africa: current practices, barriers, facilitators, ethical considerations and the role of gender - a systematic review. *Pan Afr Med J*. 2022;43:152.
7. **Bain LE**, Ngwayu Nkfusai C, Nehwu Kiseh P, Badru OA, Anne Omam L, Adeagbo OA, et al. Community-engagement in research in humanitarian settings. *Front Public Health*. 2023;11:1208684.

8. **Bain LE**, Muftugil-Yalcin S, Amoakoh-Coleman M, Zweekhorst MBM, Becquet R, de Cock Buning T. Decision-making preferences and risk factors regarding early adolescent pregnancy in Ghana: stakeholders' and adolescents' perspectives from a vignette-based qualitative study. *Reprod Health*. 2020 Sep 11;17(1):141.
9. Sangong S, Saah FI, **Bain LE**. Effective community engagement in one health research in Sub-Saharan Africa: a systematic review. *One Health Outlook*. 2025 Jan 15;7(1):4.
10. **Bain LE**, Kongnyuy EJ. Eliminating the high abortion related complications and deaths in Cameroon: the restrictive legal atmosphere on abortions is no acceptable excuse. *BMC Womens Health*. 2018 May 24;18(1):71.
11. Dowou RK, Amu H, Saah FI, Adeagbo O, **Bain LE**. Increased investment in Universal Health Coverage in Sub-Saharan Africa is crucial to attain the Sustainable Development Goal 3 targets on maternal and child health. *Arch Public Health*. 2023 Mar 4;81(1):34.
12. Mathenjwa T, **Bain LE**, Adeagbo O, Kim HY, Inghels M, Zuma T, et al. Increasing HIV testing and linkage to care among men in rural South Africa using conditional financial incentives and a decision support app: A process evaluation. *PLOS Glob Public Health*. 2024;4(6):e0003364.
13. **Bain LE**, Aboagye RG, Malunga G, Amu H, Dowou RK, Saah FI, et al. Individual and contextual factors associated with maternal healthcare utilisation in Mali: a cross-sectional study using Demographic and Health Survey data. *BMJ Open*. 2022 Feb 22;12(2):e057681.
14. **Bain LE**, Kongnyuy EJ. Legal and Ethical Considerations during Maternal Death Surveillance and Response. *Afr J Reprod Health*. 2018 Jun;22(2):17–25.
15. **Bain LE**. Mandatory pre-abortion counseling is a barrier to accessing safe abortion services. *Pan Afr Med J*. 2020;35:80.
16. **Bain LE**, Berner-Rodoreda A, McMahon SA, Sarker M, Tanser F, Bärnighausen T, et al. One lesson of COVID-19: Conduct more health policy trials. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A*. 2022 Jun 14;119(24):e2119887119.
17. **Bain LE**, Aboagye RG, Dowou RK, Kongnyuy EJ, Memiah P, Amu H. Prevalence and determinants of maternal healthcare utilisation among young women in sub-Saharan Africa: cross-sectional analyses of demographic and health survey data. *BMC Public Health*. 2022 Apr 5;22(1):647.
18. **Bain LE**, Zweekhorst MBM, de Cock Buning T. Prevalence and Determinants of Unintended Pregnancy in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Systematic Review. *Afr J Reprod Health*. 2020 Jun;24(2):187–205.
19. Malunga G, Sangong S, Saah FI, **Bain LE**. Prevalence and factors associated with adolescent pregnancies in Zambia: a systematic review from 2000-2022. *Arch Public Health*. 2023 Feb 20;81(1):27.

20. Ayuk BE, Yankam BM, Saah FI, **Bain LE**. Provision of injectable contraceptives by community health workers in sub-Saharan Africa: a systematic review of safety, acceptability and effectiveness. *Hum Resour Health*. 2022 Sep 5;20(1):66.
21. **Bain LE**. Revisiting the need for virtue in medical practice: a reflection upon the teaching of Edmund Pellegrino. *Philos Ethics Humanit Med*. 2018 Apr 10;13(1):4.
22. **Bain LE**. Safe abortion services for adolescents in Ghana. *Pan Afr Med J*. 2020;35:98.
23. Tatah L, **Bain LE**, Kongnyuy E, Assah F, Mbanaya JC. Shared correlates of maternal and childhood overweight in Cameroon: a cross-sectional analysis of demographic and health survey data. *BMC Public Health*. 2023 Jun 29;23(1):1265.
24. Chandra-Mouli V, Blum RW, **Bain LE**. Shock Unleashed by Recent U.S. Administrative Actions Cannot Lead to Paralysis. *J Adolesc Health*. 2025 Aug;77(2):178–80.
25. **Bain LE**, Zweekhorst MBM, Amoakoh-Coleman M, Muftugil-Yalcin S, Omolade AIO, Becquet R, et al. To keep or not to keep? Decision making in adolescent pregnancies in Jamestown, Ghana. *PLoS One*. 2019;14(9):e0221789.
26. Amu H, Aboagye RG, Dowou RK, Kongnyuy EJ, Adoma PO, Memiah P, **Bain LE**. Towards achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 3: multilevel analyses of demographic and health survey data on health insurance coverage and maternal healthcare utilisation in sub-Saharan Africa. *Int Health*. 2023 Mar 1;15(2):134–49.
27. **Bain LE**. Understanding the meaning of autonomy in adolescent pregnancy decision-making: lessons from Ghana. *Pan Afr Med J*. 2021;40:34.
28. Kwame KA, **Bain LE**, Manu E, Tarkang EE. Use and awareness of emergency contraceptives among women of reproductive age in sub-Saharan Africa: a scoping review. *Contracept Reprod Med*. 2022 Jan 17;7(1):1.