

Osamu Kunii, M.D., M.P.H., Ph.D. has more than 25 years of experience in global health and development in over 100 countries.

After working in two hospitals, he had served for two years as physician in a remote village deep in the mountains in Tochigi, Japan. He engaged in emergency medical relief in several countries as co-founder and deputy representative of international medical NGO called AMDA.

In International Cooperation Bureau, International Medical Centre of Japan (currently called National Centre of Global Health and Medicine), he served for emergency relief, project planning, implementation, evaluation and research in the fields of infectious diseases control, primary health care, maternal and child health, and health system strengthening, especially through Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). In particular, he was involved in field research of Ebola outbreaks in Gabon, Cote d'Ivoire and Philippines.

After serving as Assistant Professor in the University of Tokyo, Graduate School of Medicine, he joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Deputy Director of Aid Planning Division and special policy advisor. After 3 years of policy and strategy related work, he moved to the Nagasaki University, Research Institute of Tropical Medicine serving as Professor of Global Health.

As Senior Health Strategy Advisor at UNICEF headquarters in New York, he engaged in maternal and child health policy and strategy development at global and country level, and then moved and worked for three years in Myanmar as Chief of Health and Nutrition Programme of UNICEF Country Office, and for another three years as Chief of Child Survival and Development of UNICEF Somalia Support Centre at Nairobi, Kenya. In those capacities of UNICEF, he had engaged in emergency relief in Saffron revolution and Cyclone Nargis and infectious diseases control including HIV and malaria in Myanmar; and civil war, famine and outbreak response including cholera and measles in Somalia.

Since March 2013, he has served as Head of Strategy, Investment and Impact Division, The Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM), taking the lead of five departments and team (Access to Funding; Strategic Information; Technical Advice and Partnership; Community, Rights and Gender; Technical Evaluation and Reference Group Support team).

He received his medical degree from Jichi Medical University, master of public health from Harvard School of Public Health, and doctoral degree from the University of Tokyo.

Graduating from Jichi Medical University, Osamu Kunii obtained M.P.H. from Harvard School of Public Health and Ph.D. from the Univ of Tokyo. He had worked for emergency response, disease control, maternal and child health, and other health projects through NGOs and International Medical Center of Japan (IMCJ, currently called NCGM), and then for maternal and child health as Senior Advisor of health strategy at UNICEF headquarters in New York and as chief of health programme in UNICEF Myanmar and Somalia. He also served as Professor at Nagasaki University Research Institute of Tropical Medicine. Appointed as Deputy Director of Aid Planning Division and special policy advisor in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, he helped develop and implement the government's policy and strategy of official development assistance in the health sector at global level. Currently he is Director, Strategy, Investment and Impact Division, The Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM).