

# MAS

## MEDICAL ANTHROPOLOGY SWITZERLAND

*Interdisziplinäre Kommission für Medizinethnologie  
Commission Interdisciplinaire d'Anthropologie Médicale  
Commissione Interdisciplinare d'Antropologia Medica*

### **Primary Health Care and Social Equity: Illusion or Reality?**

The International Conference on 'Primary Health Care' (PHC) held in Alma Ata in 1978 was a historic event for several reasons. It reaffirmed health as "a state of physical, mental and social wellbeing, not only the absence of disease or infirmity" and declared health as a fundamental human right. The promotion of "Health for All by the Year 2000" as a global strategy and of universal access to adequate health care including curative, preventive, promotive and rehabilitative provision was declared as an extremely important social objective of global interest that called for the participation and cooperation of individuals, communities and governments and for development beyond the health sector.

30 years after the 'Declaration of Alma Ata', this symposium will examine whether this social objective has turned out to be a mere illusion or whether it has become reality. In Switzerland and Europe, for example, Alma Ata inspired new developments in primary care (for example, family doctor model) and outreach programs for minority groups including migrants. In non-western countries, it stimulated initiatives in community-based health care emphasizing, for instance, improved access to essential drugs, the integration of local healing traditions and the adoption of grassroot community health workers.

Based on lessons learnt from these evolving health care systems and practices, this symposium will critically reflect challenges and opportunities of the Primary Health Care approach for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### **MAS Conference 2008**

## **Primary Health Care and Social Equity - Illusion or Reality?**

**12/13 September 2008**

**University of Basel  
Petersplatz 1, 4051 Basel**

Sponsored by the Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences (SAGW/ASSH)  
and the Swiss Society of Anthropology

Schweizerische  
Ethnologische  
Gesellschaft/SEG



Société  
Suisse  
d'Ethnologie/SSE

MAS, c/o Prof. Dr. Brigit Obrist (President)  
Institute of Social Anthropology, University of Basel  
Tel.: +41 (0)61 267 27 45, Fax: +41 (0)61 267 27 47

Email: [brigit.obrist@unibas.ch](mailto:brigit.obrist@unibas.ch)

<b>FRIDAY</b> 12.09.2008	<b>ON-SITE REGISTRATION (FROM 13:00, 1ST FLOOR IN FRONT OF LECTURE HALL 120; HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE)</b>		
	14:00	Welcome and introduction	Brigit Obrist, Piet van Eeuwijk and Andrea Abraham
	<b>PANEL 1: PHC PRINCIPLES AND THEIR TRANSLATION INTO POLICY AND PRACTICE IN AFRICA AND ASIA (CHAIR: P. VAN EEUWIJK)</b>		
	14:15	The reemergence of Primary Health Care in times of crisis	Anita Hardon (University of Amsterdam)
	15:00	Defining a role for the informal sector in health care provision in Bangladesh and Mali	Peter Winch (John Hopkins University, Baltimore)
	15:45	Coffee break	
	16:15-17:45	Small group discussion with Anita Hardon	
	16:15-17:45	Small group discussion with Peter Winch	
<b>SATURDAY</b> 13.09.2008	<b>ONSITE REGISTRATION (FROM 08:30, 1ST FLOOR IN FRONT OF LECTURE HALL 120; HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE)</b>		
	<b>PANEL 2: PHC AND SOCIAL EQUITY IN CONTEXTS OF MIGRATION (CHAIR: A. ABRAHAM)</b>		
	9:00	Primary Health Care and social equity for migrants: Illusion or reality?	Ramazan Salman (MiMi Project, Hannover)
	9:45	HIV/AIDS prevention among Sub-Saharan migrants through mediators	Noël Tshibangu (Afrimedia Project, Aids-Hilfe Switzerland)
	10:30	Coffee break	
	11:00	Small group discussion with Ramazan Salman	
	11:00	Small group discussion with Noël Tshibangu	
	12:30	Standing lunch	
	<b>PANEL 3: NEW CHALLENGES FOR SOCIAL SCIENCE CONTRIBUTIONS TO PHC AND PUBLIC HEALTH (CHAIR: B. OBRIST)</b>		
	13:30	The pandemic of chronic disease: Another challenge for equitable PHC	Alexander Bischoff (University of Basel)
	14:15	Social science contribution to Public Health	Jeannine Coreil (University of South Florida)
	15:00	Final discussion and farewell	Brigit Obrist, Piet van Eeuwijk and Andrea Abraham
	15:30		

**Language:**

English (questions and comments can be translated)

**Organisation:**

Brigit Obrist, MAS, University of Basel  
 Piet van Eeuwijk, MAS, University of Basel/University of Zürich  
 Andrea Abraham, MAS, University of Bern

**Fees:**

Students: Fr. 30.- / 10.- (only Friday)  
 SEG-Members: Fr. 50.- / 20.- (only Friday)  
 Other Participants: Fr. 80.- / 30.- (only Friday)  
 Payment upon registration at the University of Basel, Petersplatz 1, Lecture Hall 120

**Contact and registration:**

Brigit Obrist, Institute of Social Anthropology, University of Basel,  
 Tel. +41-61-267 27 39 (Secretariat), Email: [Brigit.Obrist@unibas.ch](mailto:Brigit.Obrist@unibas.ch)

**Venue:**

The University of Basel  
 Petersplatz 1

**Public transport:**

From train station SBB Zone 1 with Bus 30 to bus stop „Universität“  
 From train station Badischer Bahnhof Zone 1 with Bus 30 to bus stop “Spalentor” or „Universität“

