

SWISS SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
A VISIONARY SWISS INNOVATION



2005
2020

15-Year Jubilee Report

2005 – 2020
12 UNIVERSITIES – 1 FACULTY

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Who we are



Public health research



Public health training



Link of public health sciences to policy



International reach



Where we go





WHO WE ARE

SSPH+ assembles public health sciences across Switzerland into one national inter-university faculty. Our faculty's expertise mirrors the scientific and professional field of public health, which encompasses a broad range of disciplines, spread across universities, faculties, and institutions. Caught by the [COVID-19-pandemic](#) in its 15th year, SSPH+ and our federal authorities experience the uniqueness and the usefulness of a unified national public health sciences community.

The SSPH+ “virtual inter-university faculty” provides a promising base from which to strengthen a cohesive and competent public health structure where the togetherness and critical mass provides an added value.

PREAMBLE

When we planned the SSPH+ 15th anniversary in 2019, the world was a different one. With 100 years behind us since the Spanish flu, pandemics were merely a footnote in the public health text books. Yet, a small, invisible virus has changed our perceptions of public health and our lives completely. Instead of gathering at each of our partner universities 12 times during 2020, we have had to cancel or postpone planned events and celebrations and stay at home. The pandemic dictates our agendas, plans and behaviour.

Bill Gates, in a short [TED lecture](#) held in 2015, urged that the world must prepare for pandemics before entering into crisis mode. Also the public health community was not able to move our societies to a better preparedness. The awareness of the pandemic and the detrimental consequences of its “exponential growth” initially reached the public via the daunting experiences of the very first and thus most seriously affected countries. In Europe, Northern Italy was most notably affected, as well their neighbours in Southern Switzerland, who were challenged only a few days after the initial outbreak in Italy, an almost inevitable consequence of their close economic and cultural ties.

Although there are still many more questions than answers with respect to the pandemic, those in the public health science community witness in awe as the well known paradigm that shapes public health first and foremost plays out: namely, how inequities in health, wealth, and education play a crucial role in crisis response. Specifically, the implications for this mean that the severity of COVID-19, its death toll and public resilience for dealing with the severe consequences of the pandemic will be unequally distributed within societies, countries and across the globe. Many of those reading this jubilee report belong to the most privileged and thus most equipped to deal with the pandemic. However, our thoughts are with all those who are not as fortunate in this regard and are suffering in the face of the unpredictable, long-term consequences of the pandemic.

However, there are also some silver linings emerging from this common crisis and lockdown for SSPH+ and the science community. Good collaborative practices and knowledge sharing increased significantly. We learned about using digital tools for teaching and discussion purposes. One of the most relevant developments, from

WHO WE ARE

a Swiss public health perspective, is that SSPH+ could live up to its vision to unite the national multi-disciplinary public health experts as a fast acting, open minded community that is ready to support federal and cantonal authorities in their difficult task of steering responses to the pandemic. Furthermore, now, more than ever, our “[Public Health Resource](#)” concept has become a highly valuable and urgently needed resource. With the enthusiastic support of our SSPH+ network and the Federal Office of Public Health, the [COVID-19 SSPH+ Platform](#) was up and running, shortly after the lockdown was initiated in Switzerland. Since then, authorities have submitted questions and data on the platform that are closed to the public and the media, whilst an ever growing academic community provides helpful material, links, analyses, and evidence-based suggestions. Moreover, in response to this, many members of our community have contributed to the different groups of the National COVID-19 Science Task Force. We can be certain that public health sciences and systems will be different in the [post-COVID era](#). Importantly, SSPH+ will grow and continue to contribute to better public health in all respects, even as the pandemic subsides and ‘normal’ life catches up with us again.

SSPH+ Directorate

Nino Künzli, Luca Crivelli and Antoine Flahault

Sandra Nocera, Jorgen Bauwens, Daniela Erb, Ann Walser, Emily Reeves and Ursula Erni

SSPH+ FOUNDATION

From January 2020, the SSPH+ Foundation incorporates twelve Swiss universities. The inclusion of the University of Fribourg and the Bern University of Applied Sciences will bring SSPH+ closer to its aim of embracing Faculty members of all Swiss universities active in public health sciences. SSPH+ is coordinated by its Dean’s office – a lean administrative structure to orchestrate collaborations and activities. SSPH+ is funded by the 12 Foundation Universities (core funding) and grants as well as donations (project funding). The strategic focus is rooted in three pillars of prime relevance for public health sciences:

1. Fostering **RESEARCH** in the SSPH+ network
2. Strengthening **TRAINING & EDUCATION** for public health in academia
3. Bridging public health sciences with **PRACTICE & POLICIES**

ANNUAL FACULTY MEETINGS

Annual faculty meetings are hosted by a member institution of SSPH+, with the University of Zurich organizing the 2020 meeting. These meetings usually last for two days and facilitate the exchange of knowledge and expertise, welcoming new faculty and young scientists and students, but also discussing and sharing our strategy for the future of SSPH+ and academic public health in Switzerland and beyond. An evening social event is an opportunity to present awards to our students and [SSPH+ Honorary fellows](#); these are individuals who have substantially contributed to public health in our country.



[SSPH+ Faculty Meeting 2019](#)



PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH

The SSPH+ faculty and its multi-disciplinary research teams have a global presence with their public health sciences, and many belong to the “top 10” in their respective fields of research. Their research is not only frequently published and cited in the leading scientific journals, but it also fosters public discussions, debates and influences policy making. SSPH+ strengthens interactions across Switzerland, and a major focus is the support of PhD tracks.

DIGITAL HEALTH

As for all domains, public health is seeing its digital revolution. Mobilizing new information technologies to improve public health interventions has been named “precision public health”.

As Richard Horton wrote in a recent editorial ([The Lancet, Oct 27, 2018](#)) “Precision public health is about using the power of data to improve health and achieve social justice – equity, social inclusion, and empowerment. It should not be feared. It should be embraced”.

SSPH+ member institutions are all deeply committed into moving forward precision public health, by combining data science to life and social sciences.

PERSONALIZED PUBLIC HEALTH – THE SWISS CITIZEN STUDY AND BIOBANK AT OUR HEARTS

The health status of an individual is governed by biological, personal and societal factors. And as drastically experienced in the ongoing pandemic, health of individuals strongly depends on the health of others and the resilience of the health system. To understand these interrelations, to strengthen health and well-being through science-based interventions, and to adequately steer the Swiss health system the provision of health care, routinely collected health data, population-based data, and biological material need to be combined in health data and its associated biobanks to serve the health needs of current and future generations ([see website](#)).

Swiss Citizen Study and Biobank

To improve the understanding of diseases and healthy aging, as in other research nations, Switzerland must invest in a large-scale national Swiss Citizen Study and Biobank. An international workshop initiated by [Nicole Probst-Hensch](#) in Basel (2011) marks the start of a science-driven initiative to keep Switzerland internationally competitive in health research and at the forefront of the personalized health development. From the very beginning, the SSPH+ faculty fully supported the initiative of Swiss TPH to build national multi-centre capacity and leadership for a large Swiss cohort study.

Launch of a pilot and the power of “we” at times of COVID-19

In the jubilee year, SSPH+ proudly follows the launch of a pilot led by Swiss TPH (Basel) in the Northwestern Switzerland and by Unisanté in Lausanne in the Lemanic region. Moreover, COVID-19 became a strong catalyst for the large-scale SSPH+ population-based sero-survey, coordinated by Milo Puhan to understand the development of immunity as an essential tool in the evidence-based steering of the epidemic. The SSPH+ Faculty members from all parts of Switzerland will have shown to be ready to provide the expertise for the scaling-up of these pilots and serological surveys to a national multi-disciplinary and long-term scientific initiative, undertaken to improve the health of Swiss citizens.

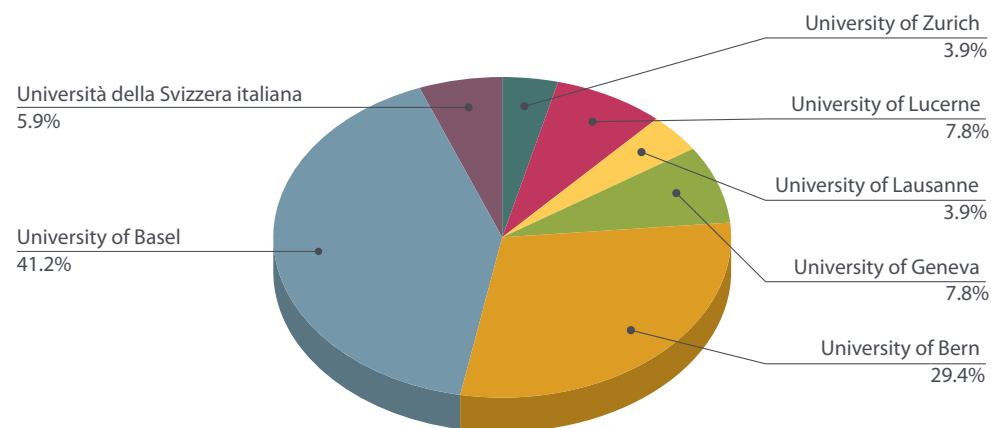
SSPH+ PHD PROGRAM PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES – THE GLOBALP3HS FLAGSHIP

Funded by Marie-Sklódowska-Curie COFUND, SSPH+ launched three calls to competitively recruit 50 PhD students from abroad (see [GlobalP3HS website](#)). From more than 342 valid applications, the international jury scored 147 candidates as eligible (score 8-10). With the start of the SSPH+ jubilee year, 50 candidates were successful in finding a matching SSPH+ Faculty member to supervise and co-fund the PhD. The SSPH+ faculty will be supported with approximately 3,6 million Swiss francs of co-funding for these 42-months fellowships. All fellows profit from the [SSPH+ Inter-university Graduate Campus](#).

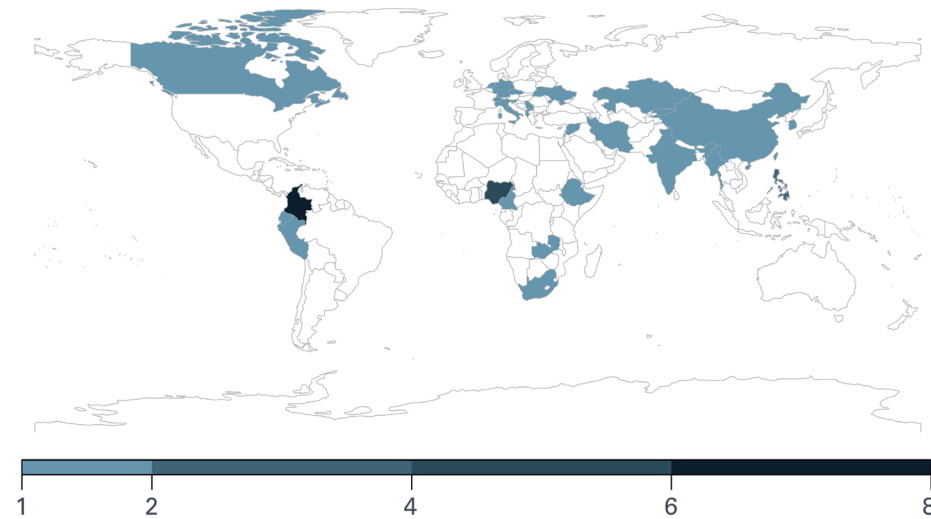
Fondation Botnar funds change makers: Three additional stipends

Given the long list of eligible GlobalP3HS candidates, Basel based [Fondation Botnar](#) agreed to fund a further three students among a selection of six who proposed public health research rooted in the global South and with a focus on child and adolescent health.

Distribution of GlobalP3HS students across universities



Distribution of GlobalP3HS students across nationalities



GlobalP3HS for global capacity building

SSPH+ promoted the “sandwich model” for its PhD Fellowship program. The model is tailored to academic capacity building in the low- and middle-income countries (LMIC). It funds only students from LMICs who conduct their research on questions relevant to LMICs and in partnerships between the Swiss host institution and an academic LMIC partner. Students spend a substantial period of their PhD studies in the focal LMIC. This PhD program lays the foundation to become academic public health leaders in the country. In total, 21 of the GlobalP3HS students won their stipend under the “sandwich model”.

“PUBLIC HEALTH RESOURCE” – SSPH+ FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERTISE FOR COVID-19 AND BEYOND

Do you need the expertise of public health researchers? Do you have public health-oriented research questions to be answered? Do you look for an independent expert commission, a review board, a multi-disciplinary research team or an “open science” discussion? Unexpectedly, the long-standing concept of SSPH+ to be a “trusted partner” for public agencies, foundations, public or private funders or any other constituencies in need of public health sciences expertise encountered its large-scale proof of principle due to COVID-19. Within only three days, SSPH+ and the Federal Office of Public Health agreed on the immediate launching of the [COVID-19 Public Health Resource discussion platform](#). Since 23 March 2020, the platform – closed to the public and the media – guarantees a fast communication flow linking questions and data provided by authorities with the inputs and expertise of the academic community.

SSPH+ can link you up with the proper expertise

As “Public Health Resource”, SSPH+ can link you up with the proper expertise beyond COVID-19. SSPH+ can launch competitive calls for your research needs, coordinate advisory or review boards for assessments or quality assurance, and find your independent experts for “second opinion” assessments or consultations or may provide you broad multi-disciplinary perspectives and feedbacks organized through “open science” exchange platforms, “hackathons” or advisory boards tailored to your needs.

ANTOINE’S COUPS DE CŒUR – SELECTION OF 15 PAPERS FROM SSPH+ FACULTY MEMBERS, 2005-2019

I always had the dream of exploring and analyzing the impressive scientific output of SSPH+ Faculty members. At present, there is no existing worldwide ranking of schools of public health. There is a ranking system specifically for American

schools, but how would the European schools rank compared to the rest of the world? More specifically, how would the Swiss School of Public Health perform? Whilst I have some intuitions, I have no clear idea. As an appetizer, I have selected one paper per year, trying to reflect as much as possible the diversity of the 12 Swiss universities, which constitute our SSPH+.

It was not an easy exercise. Of course, I did not apply any objective criteria to conduct this work so I ask my colleagues to forgive me if I did not mention their papers, or if I did not select the ones they would have preferred to see listed. I tried as much as I could to select open access or easily accessible articles, which was not always feasible. It was, for me, a form

of pleasant navigation in the Swiss academic public health waters. I discovered new lands, unknown territories that some of my best colleagues and friends have explored or discovered.

I extracted here a couple of notes from the logbook of my splendid journey across the Swiss academic landscape.



Antoine Flahault

Swiss academic landscape

In 2005, colleagues from what was to become Swiss TPH in Basel, published a paper which was a warning signal for foodborne emerging infectious diseases. After a good meal, let us prepare a good sleep. One year later, the University of Zurich proposed a new non-pharmacological treatment against sleep apnoea syndrome. The didgeridoo game assessed in a randomized controlled trial was found effective and well accepted in patients with moderate conditions. However, waking up in bad way may lead to trauma disability. In 2007, the University of Lucerne proposed to integrate a biomedical and societal model of functioning and disability. Okay, okay, after a good sleep, we need to take a deep breath... without whistling! One year after, several university members of SSPH+ compared two instruments for assessing the quality of life in patients with asthma and showed that SF-36 remained a more valid measure. Even when we fall disabled and lose our autonomy, those who give their care and love us need to be protected... sometimes against us.

In 2009, the University of Applied Sciences of Bern conducted a systematic review of the literature to better understand to what extent caregivers can be the victims of aggressive behaviors from nursing home residents. Switzerland has a very effective healthcare system. Very expensive too. Should we transform it or adjust it? In 2010, SUPSI participated in an international survey comparing six countries facing similar pressure and engaged in health care reform. They explained what these reforms did and what happened after their implementation. A must read paper before considering any reform in health! Traveling abroad, let’s make a stop in the beautiful Africa, a continent deeply harmed by the AIDS pandemic.

In 2011, the University of Bern showed how viral load monitoring when treating patients with HIV infection in routine in South Africa led to better outcomes through earlier detection of treatment failure and adherence counselling. Allow me to make a short pause in our journey. Usually in the middle of any research article you find a section dedicated to the methods. Let’s say that we have behaved similarly in this cruise, proposing in 2012 a paper written by the new director of the Population Health Laboratory at the University of Fribourg, when he was at the former IUMSP (now Unisanté) at the University of Lausanne. He was discussing the respective interest in using confidence intervals or prediction intervals when performing meta-analyses... Something not very easy to digest!

Malnutrition in low- and middle-income countries often contributes to the double disease burden, in addition to communicable diseases. In 2013, a group of economists from Winterthur at ZHAW assessed the burden of micronutrient deficiencies as leading to substantial health costs in 6-59 month old children in the Philippines, concentrated in the lower socio-economic status.



PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH

Journey with a happy ending

After breakfast, it's time to work, but can we work in pleasant settings focused on improving our well-being? Moreover, to what extent do such favorable environments actually have an impact on our health? Something that to date has not been studied a great deal. In 2014, a researcher from the Università della Svizzera italiana (USI) published a systematic review showing that although there are some indications that physical activity interventions in workplaces may be effective, but there remains room for improvement in research in this domain to bring more evidence. Our daily commute to work may expose us to harmful pollutants, even in Switzerland.

In 2015, a team from the Swiss TPH showed some evidence, from the Swiss cohort study SAPALDIA on air pollution and lung diseases in adults, that air pollutants can play a role in the metabolic syndrome, particularly with impaired glycemia.

During this decade the wording "global health" seemed to bloom worldwide (I should have written "globally"). Was it hype or novelty? A viewpoint from American academics published in the Lancet stated that "global health is public health". In 2016, a group of academic members from the University of Geneva, the Swiss TPH, the Graduate Institute Geneva, EPFL and the University of Lausanne proposed a common definition for global health. In the country of consensus makers, it was easy to find our way. Let's continue to navigate among concepts.

In 2017, the University of Neuchatel proposed the help of legal and ethical safety jackets to calm our anxiety vis-à-vis informed consent in clinical and epidemiological research, reminding us how it protects patients and people. Close to achieving this crossing, we cannot forget how social determinants affect our health. A large European team led by the University of Lausanne found a social gradient in physical functioning in older adults similar in magnitude as the one observed for non-communicable diseases.

At the very end of this journey, I would like to tell you a story with a happy ending, which was published during the preparation phase of the World Expo which will be held in 2020 in Dubai. Co-signed by the current co-presidents and director of SSPH+, this editorial strongly (and bravely) advocated for a healthy Swiss Pavilion, out of any active lobbies from the Big Tobacco companies. Fortunately, the Swiss government has wisely decided to rescind any form of sponsorship from the tobacco industry. At SSPH+, we have applauded this decision and thanked the leading Federal Councilor in charge, who is a physician and public health expert, and... an alumni of the Swiss School of Public Health!

I wish you all a happy new decade (and half)!

See the list of selected papers [here](#).

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Muriel Langenberger
(Jacobs Foundation) at
the Swiss Public Health
Conference 2019



PUBLIC HEALTH TRAINING

SSPH+ has no buildings, no campus, no classrooms. However, our faculty members are heavily engaged in both independent and collaborative teaching and training activities on all levels of higher education, including bachelor, master and doctoral degrees as well as the post-graduate continued education. SSPH+ fosters collaborations and exchange among those activities to strengthen synergies and the public health workforce at all levels. We highlight just a few examples.

SEASONAL SCHOOL FLAGSHIPS

The SSPH+ community has a long tradition in offering high-level seasonal schools, where professionals and PhD students alike can choose a set of courses, offered in parallel. The following highlights attract students from around the world:

- » Winter School in the Wengen mountains, with a focus on epidemiology;
- » Spring School in Geneva with its global health focus;
- » SSPH+ Lugano Summer School with courses in public health policy, economics and management;
- » European Education Program in Epidemiology (EEPE), which has trained, for over 30 years, generations of epidemiologists in the sunny hills of Florence (Italy) with SSPH+ as one of the four co-leading partners.

Global capacity building – a successful strategy of the Swiss Government

The SSPH+ Lugano Summer School goes back to an initiative of visionary public health leader and SSPH+ Honorary Fellow Gianfranco Domenighetti (1942-2017) who launched the first edition of courses taught in French in 1992. Health systems and economics training have remained at heart of this highlight in the annual program, which brings together more than 100 scientists and professionals every edition. The SSPH+ Lugano Summer School comprises a particularly diverse and engaged student community thanks to the fellowship program funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). It brings 30-40 students from SDC focal countries to Lugano – a prime example of global capacity building in health systems, economics, and management. Many of those fellows have established collaborations with Swiss institutions and others launched training collaborations in their own countries to scale-up sustainable capacity building.

PRE-GRADUATE TRAININGS

< Serra Asangbeh wins the SSPH+ ScienceFlashTalk at the Swiss Public Health Conference 2019

Whereas high-school (baccalaureat) students in most countries may choose to study public health in a bachelor program, in Switzerland, there is currently only one bachelor degree – namely the BA in Prevention and Health promotion offered by the SSPH+ partner



PUBLIC HEALTH TRAINING

ZHAW Zurich University of Applied Sciences. On the MSc/MA level, the Universities Basel ([Epidemiology and Infection biology](#)), Geneva ([Global Health](#)) and Lucerne ([Health Sciences](#)) profile relevant domains of public health.

MAS/DAS/CAS PROGRAMS

From the outset, SSPH+ has strongly supported the Masters of Public Health (i.e. the two MAS programs in public health run in Switzerland). SSPH+ member institutions lead other postgraduate programs. After 15 years, Swiss academic institutions exhibit a large portfolio of training programs covering most of the demand and domains related to public health. SSPH+ constantly updates the [website](#) with links to all the programs led by the SSPH+ community.

SCIENCEFLASHTALK

This is one of the training highlights of the SSPH+ Inter-university Graduate Campus. Professional communication trainers coach SSPH+ PhD students in succinct and attractive presentation of their research – in 3 minutes only. Their video clips get scored by a public jury. The training culminates in a live competition for the best presentation – selected by the audience (see [website](#)).

TEACHING AND TRAINING FOR PHD'S – AT THE HEART OF SSPH+

The SSPH+ community was a front runner in establishing inter-university PhD program collaborations to foster formal trainings of PhD students from all partner universities. Meanwhile, universities established strong local PhD programs and graduate schools. SSPH+ launched instead its next [inter-university innovation](#). With its novel [Young Researcher Editorial](#), SSPH+ trains PhD students in the work of scientific editors and engages them in writing editorials, published in IJPH.

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Lianne Gonsalves wins the SSPH+ ScienceFlashTalk at the SSPH+ Faculty Meeting 2019



LINK OF PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES TO POLICY

The need to link scientific evidence with action has received prominent attention during the pandemic. Apart from the fast response of SSPH+ to foster this link (see [COVID-19 SSPH+ Platform](#)) and to strengthen it in other selected areas, the SSPH+ community pursues science-based strategies and collaborates with the Swiss Society of Public Health and other partners.

THIS IS PUBLIC HEALTH – 12 UNIVERSITIES – 12 JUBILEE EVENTS

Due to COVID-19 many events got postponed or cancelled.

Find out more about our latest innovation, the SSPH+/ETHZ Lecture Series "This Is Public Health" [here](#).

SSPH+ – A COLLABORATION HUB

The inter-university multi-disciplinary collaboration is at the heart of SSPH+. So far, SSPH+ launched four calls fostering collaborative initiatives and workshops to strengthen public health sciences and networks (find more details in our [annual report 2016](#) (page 9) and [annual report 2017](#) (page 13)).

We like to highlight only three examples:

- » One project resulted in redefining the requirements for the specialization of physicians in public health, namely to count – under some specified conditions – a PhD in public health sciences as equivalent to an MPH.
- » An inter-university team of postdocs formulated gaps and weaknesses of this career step and how SSPH+ could support the community. As a result, the Inter-university Graduate Campus will also be opened to all postdocs offering a channel for communication and networking.
- » SSPH+ faculty from the Universities of Geneva and Basel initiated a global flipped classroom on Global Health at the Human-Animal-Ecosystem Interface. Through two MOOCs (massive online open courses) of the two partners, 12 national and international learners were selected for a unique learning experience, networking and the exchange of innovative solutions to tackle real world problems at the human-animal-ecosystem. It also resulted in a [Youtube video](#).

KEY NUMBERS OF SSPH+

1

One Foundation –
one Vision –
one national Faculty of
Public Health Sciences

12

Honorary Fellows

over

20

Institutes (with 2 or
more faculty members)

over

250

inter-university Faculty
members

400

PhD students

30

postgraduate MAS/DAS/
CAS programs, led by
SSPH+ Faculty members

LINK OF PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES TO POLICY

LINKING SCIENCE WITH TOBACCO LAWS

In November 2018, the Swiss Federal Council sent a draft for a new Law on Tobacco Products to be discussed in Parliament. However, many elements were insufficient to fight tobacco consumption and to lower smoking prevalence. In particular, the protection of the youth from tobacco advertisement was very weak. The SSPH+ decided to act in order to advocate for science-based changes in the law currently drafted under major influence from the tobacco industry.

SSPH+ coordinated advocacy efforts with many other actors and worked actively for a revised text that would, at least, make it possible for Switzerland to ratify the WHO-Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) as one of few remaining countries yet to do so.

In September 2019, the upper chamber of the Parliament approved such changes. Discussions will continue in the lower chamber in 2020.

SSPH+ will continue to work and advocate for additional improvements in the law. In summer 2019, the message spread that the Swiss Government considered Philip Morris as a main sponsor for the Swiss Pavilion at the World Expo 2020 in Dubai. SSPH+ successfully intervened with a public letter and an [editorial in our IJPH](#).



SWISS PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE

The [Swiss Public Health Conference \(SPHC\)](#) is the largest Swiss conference on public health. It is collectively organised by the [Swiss Society for Public Health](#) and SSPH+ in order to promote the exchange between research and practice. Each year, one of the Swiss academic institutions assumes the role of host and takes the scientific-thematic lead. The Swiss Public Health Conference 2020 will be hosted by the [Department of Health Sciences and Medicine of the University of Lucerne](#) who also lead the Swiss Learning Health System.

SPHC 2021 will celebrate the 50th anniversary of ISPM in Bern, 25-26 August 2021. [The public health challenges of COVID-19 will be the main theme.](#)



INTERNATIONAL REACH

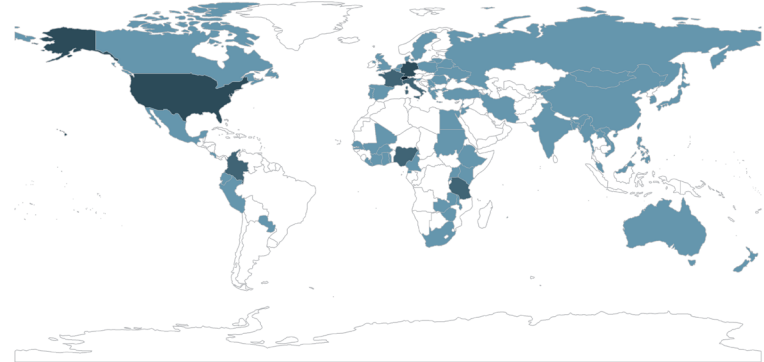
Whereas core activities steered by the SSPH+ Directorate have a strong focus on the needs of the Swiss partners and agencies, the national SSPH+ faculty network has strong and diverse international roots and collaborations in research, training and services. Core funded activities of SSPH+ include the promotion of international exchange opportunities and trainings of doctoral students supervised by the SSPH+ faculty. Other examples are provided below.

ASPHER

The Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER) is an independent European organization dedicated to strengthening the field of public health by improving education and training of public health professionals for both practice and research. ASPHER is a membership-based organization of institutions spread across the EU and WHO European Region. These institutions are collectively concerned with the education, training, and professionalism of those entering and working in the public health workforce. Founded in 1966, ASPHER currently has more than 110 members in 43 European countries. Since 2009 SSPH+ has been represented in the Executive Board.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT BODY

Whereas the SSPH+ faculty represents a partly international community of scientists on its own, among PhD students supervised by SSPH+ it is indeed the majority that are coming from abroad, thus, shaping a highly globalized community of young scientists from around the world – including large proportions from low- and middle-income countries.



< PhD students at the SSPH+ Faculty Meeting 2019



SSPH+ ScienceFlashTalk at the Geneva Health Forum 2018

GENEVA HEALTH FORUM

The [Geneva Health Forum](#) is organized every other year since its creation in 2006, initially by the University of Geneva and the University Hospitals of Geneva. The 2020 edition (postponed to November 2020) is conceived thanks to a program committee which includes the Swiss School of Public Health, WHO, ICRC, MSF, Terre des Hommes, the WEF, the CERN and many public and private partners from la Genève Internationale committed to global health.

It includes also international academic partners, such as the Universities of Oxford, Harvard, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Istanbul, Kinshasa, Sao Paulo and others. The Geneva Health Forum has become one of the leading conferences in global health and allows public and private sectors, together with field actors and policy makers to meet, exchange and debate on global health issues, open-minded in the search for solutions to improve equal and affordable access to health for all.

HEALTH SYSTEM AND POLICY MONITOR (HSPM) OBSERVATORY

The European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies (European Observatory) was founded in 1998 as a partnership-based project under the umbrella of the World Health Organization (WHO), Europe. The goal of the partner community, including international organizations such as the European Commission and the World Bank, national governments (e.g. Switzerland), health system organizations and academia is to create and disseminate evidence-based foundations on issues related to European health systems and health policies.

The European Observatory operates the Health Systems and Policy Monitor (HSPM) as one of its services. The HSPM is an electronic platform to which scientific partner institutions from most European and some non-European countries are connected. It provides a detailed description of health systems (the so called HiT, [Health Systems in Transition](#); the current review of the Swiss Health Care System is the result of a collaborative effort that involved SUPSI, [Obsan](#) and the [Berlin University of Technology](#)) and provides up to date information on reforms and changes that are particularly policy relevant.

Through an SSPH+ mandate of the Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH), the [Swiss Learning Health System \(SLHS\)](#), under the lead of the University of Lucerne, is updating the [Country Platform of the European Observatory for Health Systems and Policies](#) with health facts that are relevant for Switzerland. A recent joint effort is the [COVID-19 Health System Response Monitor](#) that collects cross-countries evidence on policy responses in the face of the coronavirus outbreak.

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

SSPH+ owns the [International Journal of Public Health \(IJPH\)](#), published by SpringerNature. IJPH is an attractive scientific journal with a global outreach. It ranks in the top quartile of all public health-oriented journals. Led by three co-editors in Chief, the Editorial Office is hosted at Swiss TPH.

As of January 2021, IJPH will be an Open Access journal.





WHERE WE GO

Let us know your opinion! And read our fiction for the 2035 jubilee report:

- » Can you believe that COVID-19 changed the paradigms in the Nobel Prize of Medicine? Since 2021 all awards went to public health science! Read how one of the SSPH+ partners got it, just last year!
- » Did you know that the Swiss Citizen and Biobank study became the nucleus of the biggest political party in Switzerland? And the reason for a new Holiday?
- » In 2020, we did not anticipate the success of the SSPH+ advisory process for Federal and County agencies – read the 2035 report
- » SSPH+ proudly survived the total bankruptcy and disappearance of the tobacco industry in the COVID-19 aftermath. Check out what former tobacco researchers now look into!
- » And yes, you don't know the famous Allschwil/Geneva based GloHi! Read what disease eradication they celebrated in 2031.
- » Last but not least: the 30th SSPH+ Foundation Member joins in 2035, for the 30th jubilee... enjoy

[Look for complete outlook](#)



IMPRINT

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in two versions (with photos and text only)

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