

PHASA 2023
TRANSFORMING RESEARCH
TRANSLATION-
REIMAGINING
PUBLIC HEALTH EVIDENCE,
POLICIES, AND PRACTICE



PROF LEKAN AYO-YUSUF

HEAD OF SCHOOL OF HEALTH SYSTEMS AND PUBLIC
HEALTH, UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA

Having previously served as Hospital Superintendent in the Limpopo Province, as the Dean and Deputy Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation at Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University, Prof Ayo-Yusuf is currently the Head of the School of Health Systems and Public Health at the University of Pretoria. His main research focus is on behavioural epidemiology and related policy translation for non-communicable diseases (NCD) prevention. In particular, in the past 20 years, he has been an investigator and/or co-investigator on national and international research, including clinical trials and capacity-building projects related to tobacco use prevention, treatment/cessation and policy advocacy. He currently serves as the only member of the WHO Tobacco Regulation Scientific Group from the African Region.

He is also working on community disaster resilience studies having previously directed the USAID-funded transdisciplinary Southern Africa resilience innovation programme as part of the ResilientAfrica Network, made up of 20 African Universities and three US partner Universities.

Prof Ayo-Yusuf with over 100 peer-reviewed scientific publications, serves as a member of the editorial board of a number of international journals and as a member of a number of national and international scientific committees/boards including current role as the Deputy Chair of the Standing committee on Health of the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf), a member of the WHO Tobacco Regulation Scientific Group and Chair of Gauteng Provincial Health Research Committee.