

Dr. Flavia Bustreo BIO



Flavia Bustreo is a leading physician, public health professional and advocate for the health and human rights of women, children, adolescents and the elderly, and is known for taking action on the social and environmental determinants of health, including the health impacts of climate change. Dr. Flavia Bustreo is a member of several boards, including the United Nations University's International Institute for Global Health and Botnar Foundation. She is currently the Chair of the Governance and Nomination Committee at the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health and advises several governmental and non-governmental entities including the International Federation of Gynecologists and Obstetrics (FIGO).

Dr. Flavia Bustreo was the former Assistant Director-General for Family, Women's and Children's Health for the World Health Organization (WHO) from 2010 to 2017 and also served as co-Chair of the Board of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, from 2015 to 2017. At WHO she led the organization's work in reproductive, maternal, child, and adolescent health, climate change, aging, vaccinations, health and human rights, health and gender equity, and the social determinates of health. She was the principal creator of the Global Strategy for Women, Child and Adolescent Health in 2010 and 2015. She also contributed substantially to the UN Taskforce on Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 4 & 5 to reduce maternal and child mortality and to the development of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3 on health and wellbeing.

Previously, Dr Bustreo was the Executive Director of the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health, and served in a variety of roles at WHO, UNICEF, the World Bank, and as Interim Deputy Director of the Child Survival Partnership and Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Norway helping shape the government's USD 1 billion contribution to infant and child health. Dr Bustreo has worked in several countries, including assignments for WHO country and regional offices in Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Morocco, Peru, the Philippines, Senegal, Sudan and Uganda.

She has published numerous academic and popular articles on public health, and women's and children's health. Dr. Bustreo's contributions to global health have been recognized with numerous awards, including an honorary doctorate from the University of Essex in 2018.

Dr. Bustreo holds a degree in medicine and a postgraduate qualification in rehabilitation medicine from Padua University, Italy, as well as having an M.Sc. in Communicable Disease Epidemiology from the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. She has worked as a clinician with children and adolescents with disabilities and in refugee camps in the former Yugoslavia.