

## CAPACITY BUILDING AND CAREER OPTIONS IN PUBLIC HEALTH AND NGOs

Day: Friday  
Date: May 1st, 2015  
Time: 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Venue: Auditorium, Symbiosis International University, Lavale campus, Pune  
Speakers: Dr. Sanjay Zodpey

### INTRODUCTION

Prof. Sanjay P. Zodpey is a medical scientist, public health specialist, and epidemiologist.

He currently works as Director, Public Health Education, Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), New Delhi. He has been an active member of INCLEN network for the last sixteen years. He has to his credit over 145 scientific publications in reputed national and international journals.

Dr. Zodpey began the session by discussing three important aspects of public health:

- Building a case: Expanding and changing scope

The basic difference between traditional and present definitions of public health is to be found in the manner in which each approaches public health system's engagement with society. He emphasized that multidisciplinary approach helps public health find applications in other sectors. This approach expands the scope of public health and provides more work opportunities to public health professionals. As an instance, taxation on tobacco results in decreased consumption.

He outlined the popular career profiles in public health: public health physician, policy analyst, demographer, epidemiologist, nutritionist, occupational health specialist, health economist, public health lawyer, community dentist, and food safety expert.

He elaborated on the following:

- Number dynamics: Understanding need, demand, and supply

Those who are eligible to study public health include graduates from following disciplines: medicine, nursing, dentistry, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, AYUSH, and pharmacology.

It is estimated that 26,40,000 public health professionals are required in India.

- Career opportunities:
  1. Domain: Teaching, training, research, policy, programs, and practice
  2. A) Public Sector: Women and child welfare, defence, food and agriculture, and urban and rural development  
B) Private sector: NGOs, health care [hospitals], corporate sector, industry, pharmaceuticals, IT, and insurance.
  - 3 International organizations, foundations, and development sector.
  - 4 Subject Area: Epidemiology, health management, environmental health, occupational health, health economics, nutrition, veterinary public health, family health etc.
  - 5 Niche areas: Infectious disease modelling, meta-analysis, advanced statistical analysis etc.