

Somen Saha PhD, MPH

Indian Institute of Public Health Gandhinagar
(A University Established under IIPHG Act 2015 of Gujarat)
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Academic Background

- Doctorate of Philosophy (2012-2016)
University of Melbourne, Australia
- Master in Public Health 2007- 2009
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA
- MBA in Health Management 2000 – 2002
Indian Institute of Health Management Research (IIHMR), Jaipur, India

Employment Summary

- Indian Institute of Public Health Gandhinagar
Lecturer – July 2009 to July 2010
Senior Lecturer – August 2010 to July 2013
Assistant Professor – August 2013 to October 2018
Associate Professor – November 2018 to present
- The Chicago School of Professional Psychology, USA
Adjunct Assistant Professor
- External Project Advisor for The International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie)
- Visiting faculty at Adani Institute of Infrastructure Management, Ahmedabad &
National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, India
- Public Health Foundation of India
Program Specialist in Health Systems (February 2007 – July 2007)
- Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, India
Research Coordinator (September 2003 – January 2007)
- Charutar Arogya Mandal, Anand, India
Executive – Extension Programme (June 2002 – August 2003)

Key Assignments Handled

- Member ICMR Task force on Anemia (January 2019 to July 2020)
- Co-investigator in a WHO South East Asia four country study to strengthen health systems to address climate change risks (August to December 2018)
- Principal Investigator for Regional Resource Centre for Health Technology Assessment India funded by the Department of Health Research, Government of India (April 2018 – March 2021).
- Principal Investigator for Mental Health Awareness and Capacity Strengthening in Gujarat, funded by Gujarat Institute of Mental Health – Hospital for Mental Health Ahmedabad (April 2018 onwards).
- Principal Investigator in a project funded by ESSAR Oil on Situation Analysis in Devbhumi Dwarka under ESSARTHI project (December 2017 to March 2018).
- Consultant to Abt Associate in a USAID’s Health Financing and Governance project (August 2016 – January 2017).
- Consultant with SEWA Rural for a cRCT of a mHealth Intervention *ImTeCHO* to improve delivery of proven maternal, newborn and child care interventions through ASHAs in Tribal Areas of Gujarat, India (August 2015 – April 2018).
- Consultant with KHPT for assessing costs and cost-effectiveness of health layering interventions implemented through women’s self -help groups in four states in India (July 2015 – December 2017)
- Co-investigator in “Defining the governance, regulatory and institutional architecture for implementing Universal Health Coverage in India - a DFID-PHFI strategic partnership for UHC (January 2014 – April 2016)
- Co-investigator for Assessment and Evaluation of the Safe Childbirth Checklist, funded by The Children’s Innovation Fund Foundation, UK (April 2012- December 2015)
- Co-investigator for Cost Analysis of NIPI Interventions in Rajasthan and Orissa (February – July 2012)
- Principal investigator in a two years project: Impact of credit with health access on health status of MFI clients in India: Study of MFI programs at different levels of integration, in collaboration with London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK. Funded by Wellcome Trust Capacity Strengthening Strategic Award to the Public Health Foundation of India and a consortium of UK Universities. (October 2011-September 2013)
- Principal Investigator in preparing a Report on the State of the Field of Integrated Health and Microfinance in India – 2012, funded by Johnson & Johnson, NABARD and SIDBI. (February – June 2012)
- Coordinated a national consultation Linking Health and Microfinance in India: Improving Income and Promoting Universal Health Care Access for the Poor (26 -27

- July 2011) in collaboration with Freedom from Hunger and Microcredit Summit Campaign, and with support from Johnson & Johnson, SIDBI, NABARD, CSIR, and Ananya Finance for Inclusive Growth.
- Fund flow analysis of Norway India Partnership (NIPI) in Orissa and Rajasthan as part of Assessing and Supporting NIPI Intervention, in collaboration with University of Oslo (March 2010 – September 2011)
 - Co-investigator in a Cost Analysis Study for SURESTART project of PATH Maharashtra (July 2009 – May 2011)
 - Technical Consultant to IndiaCLEN for National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) Phase III – Mid Term Review in India (August 2009 – November 2009)
 - Technical Assistance to the Government of Gujarat in implementing and up scaling a capitation based health financing scheme in the state with voucher as a mechanism for targeting the below poverty line population for availing maternity care during delivery from private obstetrician. (December 2005 – August 2006)
 - Technical assistance to Government of India's NACP III Planning Team for financial planning of the third phase of National AIDS Control Programme in India. (February 2006 – July 2006)
 - Coordinated a WHO Geneva supported project Public-private partnership, contracting arrangements and managerial capacity to strengthen RCH programme implementation in India. (September 2005 – February 2007)
 - Coordinated monitoring and implementation of 14 pilot projects in Gujarat to assist Mental Health sector development in the state of Gujarat. The sector development programme was supported by Royal Netherlands Embassy, New Delhi and coordinated by Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad. (September 2003 – December 2006)

Publications/ Presentation/ Reports (Google Scholar Citations:138, h-index: 7, i10-index:4)

- Pandya A, Trivedi R, Rathore A and **Saha S.** (2019). Towards Positive Policing in India: Improving the Health and Well-being of Police Personnel. The Indian Police Journal, 66(3): 89-96.
- Kotwani P, Patwardhan V and **Saha S.** (2019). Determinants for Utilization of Post-Partum Intra-Uterine Contraceptive Device: A Cross-Sectional Study. Journal of Comprehensive Health, 7(2): 34-42.
- Kotwani P, Patwardhan V and **Saha S.** (2019). Assessment of preparedness activities and beneficiary satisfaction of Dastak Abhiyan. National Journal of Medical Research, 19(1) Jan-March 2019, pp: 32-38.
- Chandrashekar S, **Saha S**, Varghese B, Mohan L, Shetty G, Porwal A, et al. (2019) Cost and cost-effectiveness of health behavior change interventions implemented with self-help groups in Bihar, India. PLoS ONE 14(3): e0213723. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0213723>.

- Varghese, B., Copas, A., Kumari, S., Bandyopadhyay, S., Sharma, J., **Saha, S.**, ... & Kumar, S. (2019). Does the safe childbirth checklist (SCC) program save newborn lives? Evidence from a realistic quasi-experimental study, Rajasthan, India. *Maternal Health, Neonatology and Perinatology*, 5(1), 3.
- Rogers S, Rao DSK, Satish P, **Saha S.** (2018). Integrated Health and Microfinance in India: State of Practice Report — Volume III. Washington, DC: RESULTS Educational Fund.
- Waghela K, Shah NN, **Saha S.** 2018. Morbidity pattern in urban slums of durg and Bhilai City of Chhattisgarh: Health-seeking behaviour of the slum population and the role of community health workers in health seeking of their population. *Indian J Community Medicine*, 43 (3) 229-32.
- Madhur S and **Saha S.** 2018. Protecting the economic health of the poor in India: Does a health mutual provide an answer? *Development Policy Review*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/dpr.12388>
- **Saha S** and Chandrashekar S. 2018. Union Budget 2018: Where's the money to pay for National Health Protection Scheme? Answer lies in the details. *Express Healthcare*, Vol. 12, No. 4, April 2018.
- **Saha S**, Panda R and Gaurav K. 2018. Public-private partnership in health care of India: A review of governance and stewardship issues. *Journal of Comprehensive Health*; 6 (1): 2-8.
- Patwardhan V, Kotwani P, Tiwari P and **Saha S.** 2018. Addressing Malnutrition among Children – An Assessment of Dastak Abhiyan in Madhya Pradesh. *Journal of Comprehensive Health*; 6 (1): 37-41.
- **Saha S.** 2017. Creating public health management cadre. *Deccan Herald*. April 24, 2017.
- **Saha S.** 2017. Expanding health coverage in India: role of microfinance-based self-help groups. *Global Health Action* 1, 1321272, DOI:10.1080/16549716.2017.1321272.
- Chandrashekar S, **Saha S**, Varghese B, Mohan L, Shetty G, Porwal A, Hazra A, Saha J, Kande N, Atmavilas Y. 2017. Costs and cost-effectiveness of health interventions implemented through self-help groups in India. *International Health Economics Congress*; July 7-11, 2017, Boston, USA.
- **Saha S** and Varghese B. 2017. Cost-effectiveness of the Yashoda Program: A Facility-based Mother and Newborn Support Intervention in India. *Journal of Health Management*; 19 (2): 1-9.
- Madhur S and **Saha S.** 2017. Health Mutuals and Micro-health insurance in India: key issues and challenges. Presented at the South Asia Evidence Summit 2017. Manipal University.
- **Saha S.** 2016. The role of microfinance-based self-help groups in improving health behaviours and outcomes of the poor in India. PhD Thesis. *The University of*

Melbourne. <http://hdl.handle.net/11343/122777>.

- **Saha S**. 2016. Microfinance-based self-help groups: Outcomes from rural India. BMJ Outcomes; <http://15762-presscdn-0-11.pagely.netdna-cdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Microfinance-based-self-help-groups.pdf>.
- Sharma R and **Saha S**. 2015. The Quest for Universal Health Coverage in India: Lessons from Peer Countries. Journal of Health Systems; 1 (1): Oct – Dec 2015.
- **Saha S**, Kermode M, and Annear P. 2015. Effect of combining a health program with a microfinance-based self-help group on health behaviors and outcomes. Public Health; 129 (11): 1510-1518.
- **Saha S**, and Annear P. 2014. Overcoming access barriers to health services through membership-based microfinance organizations: A review of evidence from South-Asia. WHO South-East Asia Journal of Public Health 2014; 3(2): 125-134.
- **Saha S**. 2014. 'More health for the money': An analytical framework for access to health care through microfinance and savings groups. Community Development Journal; 49(4):618-630.
- **Saha S**, Rao DSK, Metcalfe M, Rogers S, and Dutta S. 2014. Integrated Health and Microfinance, Volume II: The Way Forward. Microcredit Summit Campaign and Freedom From Hunger (Also covered in a blog post at CFI-ACCION: <http://cfi-blog.org/2014/08/04/integrating-health-and-microfinance-in-india/>).
- Leatherman S, **Saha S**, Metcalfe M, and Mavalankar D. 2014. Integrating Microfinance and Community Health Interventions: A Narrative Review of Evidences from India. International Journal of Development Research. 2014; 4 (3) 442-446.
- Varghese B, Roy R, **Saha S**, Roalkvam S. 2014. Fostering Maternal and Newborn Care in India the Yashoda Way: Does This Improve Maternal and Newborn Care Practices during Institutional Delivery? PLoS ONE 9(1). doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0084145.
- **Saha S**. 2013. Design and Baseline Findings of a Multi-site Non-randomized Evaluation of the Effect of a Health Programme on Microfinance Clients in India. Global Journal of Health Sciences. 2013 Oct 12;6(1):43-51. doi: 10.5539/gjhs.v6n1p43.
- **Saha S**, and Varghese B. 2013. Cost-effectiveness of the Yashoda Program: A Facility-based Mother and Newborn Support Intervention in India. Health Systems Reforms in Asia, Singapore 2013.
- **Saha S**, Nachtnebel M, and Annear P. 2013. Participation in social networks as a determinant for health: Evidence from India. World Health Summit Regional Meeting-Asia, Singapore, April 2013.
- **Saha S**, Annear P, and Pathak S. 2013. The effect of self help groups on access to maternal health services: evidence from rural India. International Journal for Equity in Health. 2013 May 28;12(1):36.

- **Saha S**, Annear P. More than money: Self-help groups and maternal health. Health Policy & Health Finance Knowledge Hub Issue Briefs 2012; No. 6. December 2012.
- Metcalfe M, **Saha S**, Rao DSK, Stack K, Awimbo A. 2012. Integrated Health and Microfinance in India: Harnessing the Strengths of Two Sectors to Improve Health and Alleviate Poverty. State of the Field of Integrated Health and Microfinance in India, 2012. Jointly published by Freedom From Hunger, Indian Institute of Public Health Gandhinagar, and Microcredit Summit Campaign.
- **Saha S**, and Rathod H. 2012. Shortage of doctors in rural health centres: Empirical evidence from Gujarat. International Journal of Medicine and Public Health. Vol 2, Issue 3. 2012
- **Saha S.**, Stack K., Metcalfe M., Dutta S., and Rao DSK. 2011. Linking Health and Microfinance in India: Improving Incomes and Promoting Universal Health Care Access for the Poor. Workshop Proceedings and Report. September 2011.
- **Saha S.** and Metcalfe M. 2011. Linking Health and Microfinance. The Wall Street Journal. April 26, 2011
- **Saha S.** 2011. Provision of health services for microfinance clients: Analysis of evidence from India. Int. J. Med. Public health. Vol 1, Issue 1. 2011
- Leatherman S, **Saha S**, Gash M, Metcalfe M 2010. Findings from Microfinance Institutions Offering Health Services to Clients. Freedom From Hunger Research Report No. 12. December 2010.
- **Saha S.** Murali T., Varghese B. 2010. Cost analysis study for a program to improve maternal and new born health in three cities of Maharashtra. Global Maternal Health Conference 2010, New Delhi.
- Murali T., **Saha S**, Varghese B. 2010. Interventions to stimulate community action for the improvement of Maternal and Newborn Health in Uttar Pradesh (Sure Start). Cost analysis and Implications for Replication. Global Maternal Health Conference 2010, New Delhi.
- **Saha S.** 2009. Protecting microfinance clients from health related emergencies: Health loan program in a microfinance organization in India. 30th Minority Health Conference at Chapel Hill, NC. 27th February 2009.
- **Saha S.** 2008. Assessing Microfinance and Health Protection program of Freedom from Hunger in West Bengal, India. Report prepared for Freedom from Hunger, Davis, California. August 2008.
- Maheshwari S, Bhat R, and **Saha S.** 2008. Commitment among state health officials & its implications: Lessons from Gujarat. Indian Journal of Medical Research 127, February 2008, pp 142-147.
- **Saha S.** 2006. Imperatives of Health Insurance. Theme Papers – Health Insurance. Pravartak. Vol 1, Issue 4. July – September 2006. pp 68-72.

- Bhat R, and **Saha S.** 2006. Costing of HIV/AIDS Intervention of Providing Antiretroviral Therapy. Background Paper for NACP III Planning, January 2006
- Bhat R, Maheshwari S, and **Saha S.** 2005. Roll-out of Antiretroviral Therapy for HIV/AIDS Treatment in India. Management Case for IIM Ahmedabad 2005.
- Bhat R, Maheshwari S, **Saha S.**, and Jain B. 2005. Healthcare in Gujarat: Exploring Social Insurance Option for Maternity Care. Case prepared for IIM Ahmedabad 2005.
- **Saha S.** 2005. Dynamics Governing Women's Decision on Reproductive Matters: Reflections from a Qualitative Study in Central India. Online Journal of Health and Allied Sciences. 2005;2;5
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- Maheshwari S, Bhat R, and **Saha S.** 2005. Third Party Administrators and Health Insurance in India: Perception of Providers and Policyholders. Journal of Insurance and Risk Management, pp: 15-30; Vol III, Issue 06, June 2005, ISSN 0972-7620
- Bhat R, and **Saha S.** 2004. Health Insurance not a panacea. Economic & Political Weekly. Vol 39, No 33; August 18-23, 2004
- Bhat R, and **Saha S.** 2004. South Africa and AIDS Epidemic – Diagnosis. Vikalpa: The Journal for Decision Makers, Vol 29, No 3, July - September 2004

Teaching and training

- Trained 300 Government Health Officers and Program Managers on Project Management for Quality Improvement in Health Care in multiple batches during 2017.
- Teach master's level courses on Impact Evaluation, Project Management, Financial Management for healthcare, and Quality of Care
- Sponsored under Quality Improvement Program of Gujarat Government
- Coordinator for a distance learning program on Improving Management in Healthcare
- Several short courses offered in the past on Monitoring & Evaluation
- Supervise about 4 master's level students every year

Awards

- ⇒ Nossal Global Health Scholar and Research Higher Degree Scholarship from University of Melbourne to pursue PhD.
- ⇒ Future Faculty Programme scholarship to pursue Masters in Public Health from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, USA.