

EMILY CHAN, BS, SM PIH, MBBS

Dr. Chan is a physician born in HK and holds academic degrees from Johns Hopkins University, Harvard School of Public Health and the University of Hong Kong. She is currently pursuing her doctorate study of Health Policy at London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

Dr. Chan had experienced in working of health relief projects in various NGOs since 1990's. She joined Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) in 1998 and had participated in its activities ranging from field relief work, need assessments to management. MSF, as 1999 Nobel peace prize winning organisation, is the largest private worldwide medical humanitarian organisation that provides emergency medical relief to victims of wars, epidemics and natural disasters. In 2002, MSF became the first international organisation that provides medical ARV treatment for HIV/AIDS patients in China and in 2003 during SARS outbreak, the organisation was actively involved in combating the outbreak in Vietnam, Hong Kong and mainland China. During the course of Dr. Chan's work with MSF, she has taken part in MSF's medical and humanitarian projects in Guangxi, China and Kosovo. She had also travelled extensively in area of crises included countries like Timor, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, Burma, Thailand, Indonesia, Mindanao(Philippines), Brazil and Zimbabwe.

In November 2001, Dr. Chan became the youngest President elected within MSF Hong Kong at the age of 27 and has been serving as the President of the Board of MSF Hong Kong until end of 2005. She continued to serve as member of the Board of MSF Hong Kong and was elected as member of the Board of MSF Operational Centre Brussels until now.

Aside from being active within the field of international humanitarian medical assistance, since 2003, Dr. Chan also holds concurrently a research fellowship at Programme on Humanitarian crises and Human Rights, Francois-Xavier Bagnoud Centre for Health and Human Rights at Harvard University. Her research interests include disaster assessment and evaluation, management, response, especially as related to health impacts and effect of natural disaster, as well as HIV/AIDS treatment in rural populations in China. Her research work also involved close collaborations with the Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters, Ecole de Santé Publique, Université Catholique de Louvain, Brussels.

In addition to her academic interest, she also has strong interest in participating in local community projects. She was a mentor for the secondary school students for Hong Kong Equal Opportunities Commission in 2003, a programme advisor for Radio Television Hong Kong since 2004 and a 2005 Reading mentor for general education unit of Hong Kong University. She is also a freelance writer in various local and regional newspapers for issues related to public health and policy and is the author of “Sans Frontieres under the Sun” published in July 2005.

Dr. Chan was awarded with the Ten Outstanding Young Persons of Hong Kong in 2004, and the Ten Outstanding Young Persons of the World in 2005. She also got the World Medical Association’s World Caring Physician Recognition in 2005.

She is married to Mr. Eric Yau and has a 3 months old daughter Ellie Catherine. Currently, she is working full-time as Assistant Professor of the School of Public Health of the Chinese University of Hong Kong.