



MEDIA RELEASE

Global health expert to speak at Gippsland PHN event

28 September 2023

Globally renowned public health expert and advocate, Dr Sandro Demaio, will be guest speaker at the Gippsland Primary Health Network's annual general meeting and 2023 Gippsland Primary Health Awards on 15 November.

Chief Executive Officer of VicHealth, Dr Demaio originally trained and worked as a medical doctor at The Alfred Hospital in Melbourne. Before taking his role at VicHealth, he was CEO of the EAT Foundation in Norway and a medical officer for the United Nations World Health Organisation in Switzerland.

Gippsland PHN Acting Chief Executive Officer, Angela Jacob, said Dr Demaio had a passion for public health including issues around nutrition and obesity.

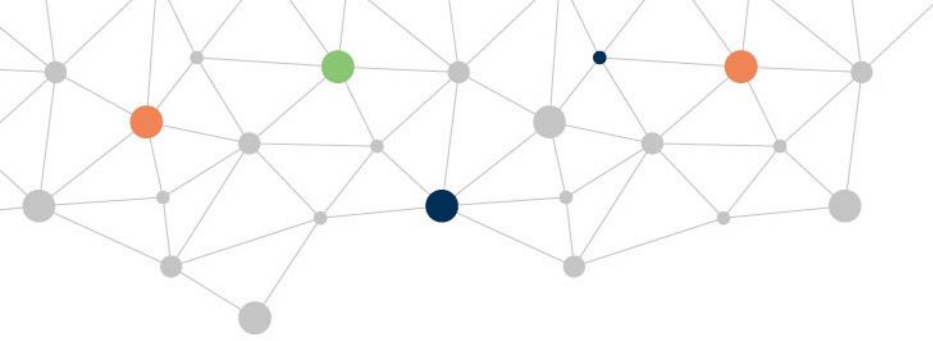
"He has had an extraordinary career that has taken him all over the world and we are thrilled to have him as our special guest," Mrs Jacob said.

At VicHealth, Dr Demaio oversees more than 70 staff and a multi-million-dollar budget for direct health promotion, sports and community grants and health research.

He also holds a Masters degree in public health, a PhD in non-communicable diseases and has held fellowships at Harvard Medical School, Copenhagen School of Global Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and the University of Melbourne.

To date, he has published more than 40 scientific papers, including coordinating the 2019 Lancet series on nutrition. He is also the author of "The Doctor's Diet" and is a regular television presenter.

The event will be held in the Traralgon Little Theatre at 6pm with a special performance by a group of young Indigenous dancers from Ramahyuck in Sale.



Dr Demaio will announce the winners of the primary health awards which acknowledge and celebrate primary care health professionals across Gippsland. [Entries for the awards](#) close on Monday 2 October.

[Register here](#) to attend the event.

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For more information, contact Lynne Smith at lynne.smith@gphn.org.au or 0437 918 234.