

## **Dr Yoshihiro Takashima**

He is a Specially-Appointed Professor at the Osaka University Center for Vaccine Development (Advanced Modalities and Drug Delivery System) and a Guest Professor at the Osaka University Center for Infectious Disease Education and Research.

He worked with WHO for 24 years, from 2000 to 2023, using vaccines and immunization programmes to control, eliminate, and eradicate infectious diseases in the Western Pacific Region.

From 2018 to 2023, he led the WHO's Programme on Vaccine-Preventable Diseases and Immunization in the Western Pacific Region as Coordinator in: (1) sustaining the status of polio eradication; (2) achieving and sustaining measles and rubella elimination; (3) accelerating hepatitis B control; (4) developing and implementing the Regional Strategic Framework for Vaccine-Preventable Diseases and Immunization in the Western Pacific 2021-2030; and (5) leading in planning and implementing vaccination response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

He graduated from the Faculty of Medicine at Osaka University in 1991, the Harvard School of Public Health in 1997, and the Osaka University Graduate School of Medicine in 1999.