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Dr. Tomas Zapata is a health services and health workforce expert with more than 17 years of experience in policy advice, research, and programme implementation. His international career includes long-term work with the World Health Organization (WHO), UNFPA, and Doctors of the World, with field experience in Mozambique, Angola, Namibia, Bangladesh, India, and across South East Asia. He has also provided short-term technical advisory support in more than 25 countries across Africa, Asia, and Europe.

For the past five and a half years, he has led the Health Workforce and Health Services Unit at the WHO Regional Office for Europe in Copenhagen, focusing on strengthening health systems and workforce capacity across the region.

Dr. Zapata is a medical doctor specialised in Family Medicine, trained at the University of Alcalá in Spain. He holds a Master's degree in Health Policy, Planning and Financing from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) and the London School of Economics (LSE), as well as a Master's degree in Humanitarian Medicine from the Complutense University of Madrid. He has also completed specialised training in Human Resources for Health at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

He is a Visiting Professor at the National School of Public Health in Portugal.

