Mads Melbye was trained as a physician and since his university days has been engaged in research in the field of infectious diseases. He made important contributions to the clarification of HIV transmission and the long-term consequences of the AIDS epidemic, and was responsible for several groundbreaking discoveries related to the involvement of viruses in the development of cancer. In addition to his employment as Chief Executive Officer at SSI, Mads Melbye is a Professor both at the University of Copenhagen and  Stanford University School of Medicine.