

Virtual workshop on Workshop on Data Revolution, Health Status Transformation and the Role of AI for health and pandemic preparedness in the African Context

21 to 24 June 2021 (All times are GMT+1)

Day 1	Time	SESSION NO	SESSION	Session Description	Speakers
26 April	11.30 - 11.40	1	Official Opening - WHO AFRO	Remarks	WHO Representative
	11.40 - 11.50	2	Opening remarks - ITU Regional Office for Africa	Remarks	ITU Regional Director
	11:50 - 11.55	3	Opening remarks - USAID Representative	Remarks	USAID Representative
	11.55 - 12.00	4	Opening remarks - Government representative	Remarks	

<p>12.00 - 13.00</p> <p>15minutes for each session</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>WHO agenda on Digital Health</p> <p>Theme 1: Setting the Scene</p> <p>Theme 2: Global perspectives</p> <p>Theme 3: Regional Perspectives</p> <p>Q & A</p>	<p>This session will draw on lessons learnt in the past decade in eHealth/Digital health at both regional and global level. Data from the global observatory on eHealth and other relevant sources will be used to trigger discussion and reflections on the future of technology in health, in advancing UHC and the WHO 13th General Programme of work. Opportunities and challenges for digital health in the wake of COVID-19 will also be discussed.</p>	
<p>13.00 - 14.00</p> <p>15minutes for each session</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>COVID-19 and Digital Health Opportunities</p> <p>Theme 1: Key digital health tools for COVID-19</p> <p>Theme 2: Telemedicine</p> <p>Theme 3: Health Data Governances and Electronic health record systems and patient reminders</p> <p>Q & A</p>	<p>In the wake of COVID-19, health systems around the world have been put under immense pressure. Many countries around the world and in the African region have taken key steps in using digital health to mitigate COVID-19. This session will demonstrate key digital health interventions in the African region and across the world. Key issues to be discussed under this session will include digital governance of these systems, sustainability and future states.</p>	

	14:00 - 15:00 15minutes for each session	7	<p>What is Artificial intelligence and what are the opportunities in health?</p> <p>Theme1: What is artificial intelligence, machine learning and deep learning?</p> <p>Theme 2: The role of data science Q&A</p>	<p>Since the mid1950s, artificial intelligence has been a subject of discussion in academic circles. There has however been slow adoption in health settings. Data remains a key enabler for AI based technologies. This session will explore artificial intelligence and the opportunities in health and the role of data science.</p>	
Day 2	Time	SESSION	SESSION	Session description	Speakers
27 April	12.00 - 13.00 15minutes for each session	8	<p>AI for health programmes in the Africa region</p> <p>Theme 1: Anglophone country experiences</p> <p>Theme 2: Francophone Country experiences</p> <p>Theme 3: Lusophone country experiences Q & A</p>	<p>A number of AI initiatives have been underway in the Africa region. WHO and the ITU have led the deployment of government owned AI digital solutions. Development partners have also worked with various countries on similar initiatives. This session will showcase various AI initiatives in the African region and explore foundations of these technologies with illustrations of solutions in the African region, while drawing best practices from the global community.</p>	

	13.00 – 14.00	9	AI4 Good Current situation of AI use in healthcare around the world Theme 1: Global experiences Theme 2: AI maturity modeling Theme 3: AI for Universal Health coverage Q & A	The global community has been instrumental in providing lessons learnt in digital health solutions implementation. A key goal of digital solutions is to enable the attainment of better health outcomes and fast-tracking universal health coverage and other internationally agreed goals and targets. This session will explore the proliferation of AI solutions at the global level, and discuss their maturity.	
	14:00 – 15:00	10	Regulatory issues in AI for health Theme 1: AI governance at national level Theme 2: Ethics in AI, human rights and equity Theme 3: AI regulations in health and data governance Q & A	While health outcomes and health services continue to benefit from the great gains brought about by frontier technologies, gaps remain regarding the ethical use of these technologies. Digital technologies and AI can play a critical role in strengthening patient safety, including strengthening infection prevention and control so as to prevent harm caused by infection to patients and health workers. This session will deliberate on key issues related to AI governance, Ethics, privacy, safety, human rights, equity, capacity building, regulations and data governance among others.	
Day 3	Time	SESSION	SESSION	Session Description	Speakers

28 April	12.00 – 13.00	11	<p>AI for health financing</p> <p>Theme 1: Sustainable AI financing and sustainable costing methodologies</p> <p>Theme 2: The role of private sector</p> <p>Theme 3: AI business models Q & A</p>	<p>The COVID-19 has revealed how fragile and vulnerable health systems are across the globe. Strategic investments across all sectors and actors is needed to increase impact of health interventions. .</p> <p>This session will aim to identify robust approaches to costing methodologies and evaluations to ensure sustainable AI adoption.</p>	
	13.00 – 14.00	12	<p>Predictive analytics for health</p> <p>Theme 1: Predictive analytics in health</p> <p>Theme 2: AI data sources for resilient health systems</p> <p>Theme 3: Data mining in health Q & A</p>	<p>While significant investments have been done in data collection and reporting systems, much of the data remains unused. Moreover, data from other related sectors remains disconnected, thereby limiting the use of predictive analytics. This session will discuss how AI through a well-coordinated data ecosystem can be used to predict health emergencies</p>	

	14:00 – 15:00	13	<p>Collaboration and Partnerships in the digital health ecosystem</p> <p>Theme 1: Illustrations of frontier technologies in the African region</p> <p>Theme 2: The role of academia</p> <p>Theme 3: The role of private sector Q&A</p>	<p>The African region has seen tremendous growth in digital and innovative solutions for health. Some of these tools were highlighted at the last WHO AFRO African Health Forum, where several innovators showcased their products. However, more work is needed to strengthen the role of various players in the digital health ecosystem, to ensure that even stronger partnerships are created and sustained. This session will discuss the role of various actors in the digital health ecosystem, limitations and proposals for strengthening these partnerships.</p>	
WORKING GROUP DISCUSSION:					
Day 4	Time	SESSION	SESSION	Session Description	Speakers
29 April	12.00 – 13.00	14	Summary of deliberations from day 1 to day 3	This session will provide an overview of the deliberations made during Day 1 to Day 3 to guide the working group discussions.	
	13.00 – 14.00	15	Working group discussions by language group to form recommendations for Ministerial meeting	This session will aim to formulate and suggest recommendations on AI for the African region	
	14:00 – 15:00	16	Draft AI recommendations for the African region	The AI recommendations suggested will be drafted during this session in preparation for the future Ministerial meeting to be confirmed.	

