WILL DIGITAL INNOVATIONS BE A GAME CHANGER FOR PANDEMIC SURVEILLANCE AND RESPONSE?

5 May 2020  I  14:00 – 15:00
WEBINAR

BIOGRAPHIES OF SPEAKERS

More information: graduateinstitute.ch/covid-webinar-technology
Nanjira Sambuli (@NiNanjira) is a researcher, policy analyst, and advocacy strategist who works to understand the intersection of information and communications technology adoption with governance, media, entrepreneurship, and culture through a gender lens. Nanjira led policy advocacy to promote digital equality in access to and use of the web at the World Wide Web Foundation (2016-2020). She previously worked at the iHub in Nairobi, where she provided strategic guidance for growth of technology innovation research in the East Africa region. Nanjira is a Commissioner on The Lancet & Financial Times Global Commission (Governing Health Futures 2030), a board member at The New Humanitarian and a member of the DFID’s Digital Advisory Panel. She also advises the Triple A Affirmative Action for Algorithms initiative by Women@TheTable, and the World Economic Forum’s project on Preparing Civil Society for the Fourth Industrial Revolution. She served as a panel member on the United Nations Secretary General’s High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation (2018-19), as a trustee at UK Citizens Online Democracy (mySociety) (2016-2019), and as a deputy on the United Nations Secretary General’s High-Level Panel for Women’s Economic Empowerment (2016-17). Nanjira was named one of New African Magazine’s 100 Most Influential Africans in 2016, and BBC 100 Inspiring and Influential Women in 2019.

Anne Liu currently co-teaches Introduction to Global Health at SIPA, with a focus on health systems strengthening, community health worker systems, and health technology. Her interests are in the design and deployment of innovations to accelerate disease elimination and strengthen health systems. Anne’s current work is focused on digital solutions for disease surveillance - including childhood illnesses, malaria, and Ebola, and has previously also worked on technology for managing health worker performance and cultivating data for operational decision making. She currently also serves as Technical Advisor at the Clinton Health Access Initiative, focusing on developing, implementing, and monitoring a suite of digital solutions to enhance surveillance capability in malaria elimination settings across Southern Africa, Southeast Asia, Mesoamerica and Hispaniola. Additionally, she has supported the UN Population Fund Technical Division on monitoring and assessing investments in innovation. Previously, Anne led the Community Health Worker and Mobile Health programs in the Millennium Villages Project from 2010-2015, and oversaw the deployment of mobile tools for Ebola surveillance in Guinea during the West Africa
Ebola Outbreak in 2014. Additionally, Anne has also built expertise in software deployment at health technology start-up Zocdoc, Inc, where she led implementations of online scheduling software across US-based health systems and spearheaded scalability initiatives to expand implementation capacity. Anne received her Masters in International Health at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Masters in Biomedical Sciences at Tufts University School of Medicine, and BS in Biology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

TINA PURNAT
Technical Officer, Digital Public Health Technologies, World Health Organization

Tina Purnat is responsible and accountable for the overall coordination and implementation of activities involving health informatics and data communications and visualisation to support WHO Europe health information research, evaluation and dissemination. She also leads the design, development and implementation of the WHO Europe integrated health information platform. Furthermore, she is responsible for activities in the areas of eHealth/digital health and innovation; providing technical support and guidelines for the development and implementation of interoperability standards for eHealth/digital health applications in Member States, including, for example, electronic health records, mHealth applications for monitoring and improvement, and promoting interlinkages with relevant systems from other sectors, such as eGovernment services, citizen/personal identification and registration systems. Finally, in addition to identifying and conceptualizing priority areas and directions of WHO EURO health informatics activities and strategic data communication, she also provides support to the development of a joint health information strategy for Europe.

SAMEER PUJARI
Manager, Be He@lthy Be Mobile Initiative, World Health Organization; Vice-Chair of the ITU/WHO Focus Group on AI for Health

Currently with WHO, Sameer is working with the newly established Department of Digital Health and Innovations helping the creation of the department and the development of Global Digital Health Strategy and Action Plan. He is also the acting head and one of the co-creators of the Be He@lthy Be Mobile initiative which is flagship WHO and ITU joint program on digital health for Non-Communicable Diseases. Most recently the Be He@lthy Be Mobile team was coveted with the DG’s Reward for excellence for 2016 and the Greenpeace Innovations Award in 2018. With WHO since 2008, he has also provided technical advise and support to over 50 countries in the development of digital health and information system programs. Sameer is currently
the Vice-Chair of the WHO ITU Focus group on AI for health which is creating benchmarking for AI solutions for health. In addition he is also a core member of the Health Data Forum at WHO. With regards to the Covid response, WHO is co-leading the tech4covid on citizen and community engagement track from WHO. Sameer has worked to support more than 50 countries build information and digital health systems and solutions over the past 20 years. Before coming to WHO, he worked with the US Governments health agency helping various countries build informatics systems for immunisation and vaccination programmes in Asia Europe and Africa. He started his career working with WHO's National Polio Surveillance Project in India for 7 years, where he led the development and implementation of various information management systems for surveillance across the country. He holds bachelor degrees in business and software engineering and a master's degree with a gold medal in management, he also has an earned fellowship in public health informatics from the US government health and human services and has delivered at various forums and published several articles on digital health and frugal innovation.

MODERATOR

AMANDEEP SINGH GILL
I-DAIR Project Director, Global Health Centre; Visiting Lecturer, Graduate Institute, Geneva

Ambassador Amandeep Gill is Director of the Global Health Centre project on International Digital Health & AI Research Collaborative (I-DAIR). He also teaches an inter-disciplinary masters’ course on technology, security, politics and norms. Amandeep was Executive Director and co-Lead of the Secretariat of the UN Secretary General’s High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation until August 2019. He previously served as India’s Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva. He joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1992 and has served at the Indian Missions in Tehran, Colombo, and Geneva. From 2013-2016, he served as Head of the Disarmament and International Security Affairs Division in the Ministry of External Affairs. In 2017, he helped set up the National Task Force on AI for India’s Economic Transformation. Amandeep chaired the Group of Governmental Experts of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) on emerging technologies in the area of lethal autonomous weapon systems from 2017-2018. He has served on the UN Secretary General’s Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters and on WEF’s Global Futures Council on Values, Ethics, and Innovation; currently he serves as a member of the GFC on Global Public Goods and as a Commissioner on the Lancet/FT Commission on ‘Governing health futures 2030: growing up in a digital world’. Amandeep has a B Tech in electronics and electrical communications from Panjab University, Chandigarh and an Advanced Diploma in French History and Language from Geneva University. His PhD degree from King’s College London is on Nuclear Learning in Multilateral Forums.