9ᵗʰ Multistakeholder STI Side Event 2024

Artificial Intelligence Literacy in Health & Education Sectors
Artificial Intelligence: A Friend or A Foe

Date: 09 May 2024; Time: 1:15 pm to 2:45 pm (EST, New York Time)

Concept Note

Artificial Intelligence (AI) literacy to the public on all levels in all countries in order to empower people, and reduce the digital divides and digital access inequalities, resulting from the wide adoption of AI systems, is essential. All United Nations Member States should work with international organizations (IGOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), education and health sectors and institutions to provide AI literacy and education – such as basic literacy, numeracy, coding and digital skills, media and information literacy, as well as critical and creative thinking, teamwork, communication, socio-emotional and AI ethics skills. In the countries and in regions or areas within countries, where there are notable gaps in the education of these skills, this is a priority. Because the complexity of the ethical issues surrounding AI literacy necessitates the cooperation of multiple stakeholders across various levels and sectors of international, regional and national communities.

Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC) aims to enable stakeholders to take shared responsibility based on a global and intercultural dialogue.

The objectives of this Side Event are:

1. To provide a universal framework of values, principles and actions to guide Member States in the formulation of their legislation, policies and other instruments regarding AI - consistent with international law.
2. To guide governmental, non-governmental organizations, individuals, groups and communities, institutions and private sector companies to ensure the embedding of ethics in all stages of the AI system life cycle.
3. To protect, promote and respect human rights and fundamental freedoms, human dignity and equality, including gender equality.
4. To safeguard the interests of present and future generations.
5. To preserve the environment , biodiversity and ecosystems, and respect cultural diversity in all stages of the AI system life cycle.
6. Can inequality in education and health sectors be fixed in Africa and other low and middle-income countries, with AI?

Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC) aims to foster this Side Event to promote multi-stakeholder, multidisciplinary and pluralistic dialogue and consensus building about ethical issues relating to AI systems. We hope, our efforts contribute to promote equitable access to developments and knowledge in the field of AI and the sharing of benefits, with particular attention to the needs and contributions of low- and middle-income countries, including the Least

Developed Countries (LDCs) identified by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The trustworthiness and integrity of the life cycle of AI system is essential to ensure that AI technologies will work for good of humanity, individuals, societies and the environment and ecosystems, and embody the values and principles set out in this discussion.

Underlining that the strengthening of global cooperation and solidarity, including through multilateralism, is needed to facilitate fair access to AI technologies and address the challenges that they bring to diversity and interconnectivity of cultures and ethical systems, to mitigate potential misuse, to realize the full potential that AI can bring – especially in Health & Education Sectors. The future of education and health sectors is digital.

Our aim is to ensure that national AI strategies are guided by ethical principles.

Join the discussion! We Welcome Everyone!

Speakers / Expert Opinions / Recommendations from:

- Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC);
- World Health Organization (WHO);
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- Carnegie Mellon University (Pittsburg [USA] and Rwanda [Africa]);
- Children's Hospital Los Angeles, California (USA) and
- The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), USA.

Additional Information:

WHEC @ CSocD62 (Towards Education- and Health-for-All)
Side Event/Summary published by UNSDN
UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs; Social Inclusion
https://social.desa.un.org/sdn/towards-education-and-health-for-all

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