



**DIGITAL HEALTH AND RIGHTS:  
PARTICIPATORY ACTION RESEARCH PROJECT**

**PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

THE  
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# DIGITAL HEALTH AND RIGHTS PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Faced with the global COVID-19 pandemic, states increasingly apply new digital technologies in health systems, accelerating an ongoing trend. But while these new tools may gather intrusive personal data in ways that can have lasting impacts on young people, youth rarely have input into the policy decisions that shape what kinds of data are gathered about them, by whom, and how that data is used or managed. The Digital Health and Rights Project of the Global Health Centre investigates both threats and the opportunities digital health present for vulnerable populations, using a participatory action research design in which a consortium of civil society, lawyers and social scientists work together to design and implement research, reflect on the resulting data and evidence, and use the research to shape national and global policy recommendations.

The main objective of the project is to develop a set of global health policy recommendations grounded in human rights principles and legal and ethnographic research, and in the lived experience of affected communities. The research team also aims to empower youth activist networks with the knowledge, networks and opportunities to raise the recommendations in health policy.

The role of the Advisory Committee is to support the activities of the project by providing external advice, analysis and reflection. Committee members also contribute to the policy recommendations produced by the project team and promote collaboration and networking between partners, institutions, and activists.

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

**Project Director:** Sara (Meg) Davis

**Project Owner:** The Global Health Centre, Graduate Institute, Geneva

**Project Partners:** Global Network of People Living with HIV (GNP+), Kenya Ethical & Legal Issues Network on HIV & AIDS (KELIN), STOPAIDS, Centre for Sustainable Healthcare Education at University of Oslo

**Project Funder:** Fondation Botnar

**Project Period:** 2021-2022



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## KENECHUKWU ESOM

Policy Specialist, United Nations Development Programme



Kenechukwu Esom is a Policy Specialist with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). His work focuses on enabling legal and policy environment for effective rights-based responses to health, and the intersection of law, human rights and gender. He also works on the ethical and human-based use of digital technologies in HIV and health. Prior to joining UNDP, he worked on various human rights and development issues including asylum and forced migration, sexual and gender-based violence and sexual orientation and gender identity. He is a Barrister-at-Law and holds a Master of Law in Human Rights and Democratisation in Africa from the University of Pretoria and a certificate in Global Health Delivery from Harvard University.

## AMANDEEP GILL

Director, I-DAIR; Professor of Practice, The Graduate Institute



Amandeep Gill is the Project Director of the International Digital Health & AI Research Collaborative (I-DAIR), a global platform that aims to enable inclusive and responsible research, hosted at the Global Health Centre. Professor Gill is an engineer, diplomat, and international learning specialist. He is the former Executive Director and co-Lead of the Secretariat of the UN Secretary General's High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation. He previously served as India's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva and 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. Professor Gill has a BTech in Electronics and Electrical Communications from Punjab University, Chandigarh, and an Advanced Diploma in French History and Language from Geneva University. His Ph.D. degree from King's College London focused on Nuclear Learning in Multilateral Forums.

## CHRISTIAAN VAN VEEN

Director of the Digital Welfare State and Human Rights Project, Center for Human Rights and Global Justice



Christiaan van Veen is the Director of the Digital Welfare State and Human Rights Project at the Center for Human Rights and Global Justice at NYU School of Law. He is also an Adjunct Professor of Law at NYU Law. His current research focuses on the impact of the digitalisation of government on human rights, especially on the rights of poor and marginalised groups. He has extensive experience in the field of international human rights law. From 2014 until 2020, he served as, first, senior advisor, and then special advisor on new technologies, to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights. He has also been a consultant for the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. Previously, he worked as an attorney for a top-tier law firm in the Netherlands, as well as for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands and the European Commission.

## KEITH SABIN

Senior Advisor, Epidemiology, Strategic Information and Evaluation Division, UNAIDS



Keith Sabin is a senior advisor for epidemiology with the Strategic Information and Evaluation Division of UNAIDS. His foci are on improving monitoring of the HIV epidemic among key populations and modelling the epidemic in concentrated epidemics. Dr. Sabin began his career working on HIV serosurveillance with the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene in 1992. Prior to joining UNAIDS, he was an epidemiologist with the U.S. Centres for Disease Control and Prevention for 12 years. During his first 6 years with CDC, he developed and managed surveillance systems for viral hepatitis, and HIV among injection drug users in the United States. Over his last 6 years with CDC, he served as the HIV surveillance team lead for the Global AIDS Programme, which is responsible for implementing the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. After CDC, he worked for two years with the HIV department at WHO headquarters on surveillance and strategic information. He is a globally recognised leader in HIV surveillance, particularly behavioural surveillance, with more than 40 peer-reviewed publications, and numerous training workshops worldwide, to his credit. He worked extensively on the formalisation of respondent driven sampling and led the development of UNAIDS' Key Population Atlas. His recent work focuses on improving epidemic modelling and monitoring and evaluating HIV prevention programmes providing services to high risk, socially vulnerable populations, such as sex workers, men who have sex with men, transgender people and people who inject illicit drugs. He sits on the UN Artificial Intelligence Interagency Work Group. He holds a PhD from The Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health and an MPH from Columbia University School of Public Health.

## TIM DAGORI

Project Manager, Governance and Digital Security, iHub



Tim Dagori works at the intersection where business, government, public policy and the law meet technology and innovation. He is a seasoned operator, lawyer and project manager with experience working in startups, SMEs, legal practice, impact and government. Currently, he is iHub's Project Manager in the Governance and Digital Security Practice (GovLab). GovLab supports, develops and rolls out initiatives to promote good governance, improve public service delivery, increase citizen engagement and protect the online space.

## AMY DAO

Assistant Professor, Department of Geography and Anthropology, California State Polytechnic University



Amy Dao is an anthropologist and Assistant Professor at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona. She is interested in the structural forces that shape health and the use of ethnographic methods to inform policy. Her most recent project examined how the campaign for universal health coverage impacted health and financial decision-making in Vietnam.

## **SANDRA ROTZINGER**

Sector Programme Global Health, Division Economic and Social Development, GIZ



Sandra Rotzinger has a social and health psychology background and has been working in health- and gender-related projects at UNFPA and German Development Cooperation (GIZ) for the past 15 years. In her current work, she is advising the German Federal Ministry on Economic Cooperation and Development on a broad range of digital health topics. She also supports the strategic development of GIZ's 'digital by default' agenda in contribution to digital transformation of the health sector in partner countries and champions the capacity building on digital health within German Development Cooperation. She is, thus, very interested in and working on the change processes and capacity development aspects related to a sustainable and inclusive digital transformation of health.

## **YOLOKAZI MFUTO**

UNFPA Youth Panel, UNFPA South Africa



Yolokazi Mfuto is from KwaMathole, Eastern Cape in South Africa. She is currently pursuing her Masters in Political Science and International Relations at the University Fort Hare in Alice. She also holds BA honours majoring in History, Communications and Political Science. She is a young woman who is passionate about development from the grassroots. Her passions include education, gender equality, health particularly Sexual Reproductive and Health Rights, and Pan-Africanism. She is a member of the UNFPA SA Youth Advisory Panel, a project officer for the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Fort Hare Autumn School Alumni Board SA. The former President of Enactus UFH, is also an award-winning public speaker with Junior Chamber International South Africa.

## **MAARJA-LIIS FERRY**

Branch President, Scotland & New Ireland coordinator on steering committee, Students for Global Health



Maarja-Liis is a medical student in Scotland and will begin working as an academic trainee doctor in August 2021. She has previously completed a BSc in International Health. She currently sits on the 2020-21 Students for Global Health UK national committee and has represented SfGH-UK on the International Federation of Medical Student's Association Standing Committee on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights. She has been engaged in digital health work for many years, having been involved in contextualising the application of distributed ledger technology to healthcare within the private sector, with a focus on issues of secure data sharing and privacy. She is passionate about promoting and improving the health of marginalised people, particularly in issues surrounding digital health and sexual and reproductive health and rights.

## CATHY MWANGI

Founder and Chief Executive Officer, mHealth Kenya



Cathy Mwangi has over 25 years' experience in business, digital health management, public health, impact evaluations and research in the private and public sector. She founded mHealth Kenya to innovate, develop and implement mobile solutions to improve care and treatment in public and private health. She also works as the Principal Investigator for all the funded projects attracting millions in research grants. She has worked for academic and health institutions both in the United States and Kenya. Her experience in these institutions cuts across implementation of digital platforms, managing large national projects, system impact evaluations and research of already implemented projects for the Ministry of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and more. For the last 10 years, she has led a team in coming up with various innovations currently managing people living with HIV in Kenya and COVID-19. She has been part of the technical experts developing digital health policy documents at the national and international policy level. Cathy has won several awards including an Ethical Leadership Award by Ethical Leadership Network 2017, ICT Leadership Award 2015, ICT Woman of the Year 2014 by the ICT Association of Kenya at the ICT Value Awards and recently won the PEPFAR Heroes Award by the US Embassy, Kenya.

## TIGEST TAMRAT

Technical Officer, World Health Organization



Tigest Tamrat is a Technical Officer at the World Health Organization based in Geneva, Switzerland. Her work focuses on the use of digital technologies to accelerate health system improvements and support sexual and reproductive health. Within this role, she has coordinated multisite research on the design and impact of digital tools, as well as led key WHO resources in digital health. These include the development of the WHO Guidelines on digital interventions for health system strengthening, the Classification of Digital Health Interventions, Digital Investment Implementation Guide (DIIG), mHealth Assessment and Planning for Scale (MAPS) Toolkit, a handbook on Monitoring and Evaluation of Digital Health Interventions, and the web-based Digital Health Atlas. Trained as an epidemiologist, she holds a Masters in Public Health from Columbia University.

## HEATHER DOYLE

Senior technical advisor, Community Rights and Gender, The Global Fund



Heather Doyle works at the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria as a Senior Technical Coordinator in the Community, Rights and Gender Department. She is also a 2021 Fellow at the Global Health Centre focusing on questions related to community-led and based service delivery, health governance and the role of international funders.

## **WISDOM ATIWOTO**

Physician, Data Science and Digital Health Specialist, Ghana Health Services



Currently working with the Ghana Health Service as a Health Informatics specialist, Dr Wisdom Atiwoto is an experienced physician with graduate training in health informatics. He has had extensive experience in informatics practice spanning over 15 years with active involvement in the digital transformation of Ghana's health system through the various digital health initiatives that span areas such as patient care, health insurance, and evaluation. He previously served as a faculty member at the University of Ghana. He currently works in data science and AI in telehealth to support delivery of essential public functions at the primary healthcare level.



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