AI4PEP (ASIA) Bulletin - September 17 to October 7, 2023

Welcome to the AI4PEP bi-weekly News Brief. This week,

During the recent meeting, Prof. Kong commended Team Asia for their successful submission of the first paper on AI governance in response to the United Nations call for papers.

In terms of global engagement, Prof. Kong announced the AI4PEP Global Network's plan to host its inaugural Global Conference in Year 2 of the research projects. The Strategic and Activities Committees were formed to kick-start planning, with considerations to invite regional partners.

A key proposal emerged for the team to write an editorial, elucidating AI4PEP's pandemic preparedness initiatives and achievements, reinforcing the network's contributions in the field.

In project updates, Team India held a successful third meeting with a local municipality microbiologist, progressing water-based surveillance for early disease detection. As well, to further their engagement efforts, they worked on communication strategies.

Indonesia:

Team Indonesia awaited ethical clearance and country permit.

Completed the Letter of Agreement with York University, pending IDRC approval.

Ongoing activities included data sharing agreement, landscape analysis, and stakeholder interviews.

Planned podcast debut in October and participation in ASEAN Mitigating Biological Threat Coordination Meeting.

Malaysia:

Awaited project clearance from the Malaysian Ministry of Finance.

Recruited a Research Assistant, engaged in collaborative paper writing on AI governance.

Planned the launch of its project website and podcast on technology in curriculum design.

Philippines:

Signed the cash advance agreement, awaiting fund disbursement.

Ongoing recruitment for various positions, website development, and social media engagement.

Engaged multiple communities and reviewed data collection systems.

Prepared for the project launch meeting, featuring international speakers and lectures.

Participated in the Datathon 2023 competition, winning the 3rd prize.

Planned lecture series and colloquia, focusing on data and AI initiatives.

Partners were encouraged to send presentation materials to the Communication Officer and contribute content for AI4PEP's social media platforms to enhance network visibility and outreach.