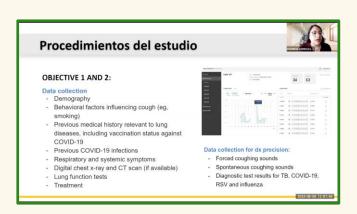Welcome to the AI4PEP bi-weekly News Brief. In this issue, we are introduced to AI4PEP's Latin America and Caribbean initiatives, shedding light on innovative projects tackling healthcare disparities and promoting inclusivity in research. Learn about the organization's evolving structure, the pivotal role of grassroots involvement, and the impactful projects unveiled in Brazil, the Dominican Republic, and Peru.
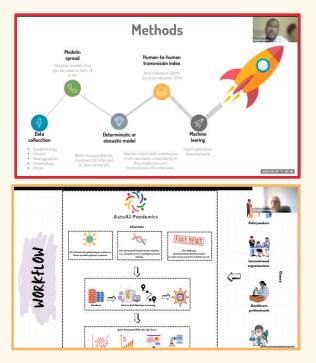
In the recent Latin America and Caribbean bi-weekly check-in meeting of AI4PEP, key stakeholders convened to discuss the organization's progress and future initiatives. Dr. Jude Kong, the Executive Director, highlighted AI4PEP's evolving structure, emphasizing inclusivity and strategic input from grassroots players. The network's role was defined as fostering collaborative learning, supporting local and regional programs, and facilitating capacity building in AI, One Health, Decolonial research, and Global health policies.

Partners were urged to form a fundraising working group to sustain AI4PEP's impact. Dr. Kong emphasized the importance of ambitious local launches to establish through leadership. Chaitali Sinha, Senior Programs Specialist from IDRC, emphasized the need for evidence-based, multi-sectoral, intersectional, and gender-transformative initiatives to address global health inequities.

During project presentations, the partners introduced their research and shared their plans. Brazil showcased "Auto AI – Pandemics: Democratizing Machine learning," the Dominican Republic presented "Artificial Intelligence and Eco-Epidemiology-Based Early Warning Systems," and Peru introduced "Household Screening for Respiratory Infections Using AI-Based Cough Monitor."