AI4PEP (MENA) News Bulletin 2 - August 6 to August 20, 2023

Welcome to the AI4PEP bi-weekly News Brief. In this issue, we highlight the recent meeting of the AI4PEP-MENA Cohort, where important administrative matters took center stage. Professor Kong provided guidance to the teams as they progressed in their projects. Here are the key updates from Lebanon, Cameroon, Tunisia, and insights from Dr. Katharina Lauer of Airfinity.

Team Morocco (AI4TB) met to review their research plan, focusing on Tuberculosis (TB) cartography across multiple African countries. They are actively identifying relevant data sources, including hospital records and government databases. Prof. Kong emphasized the need for impactful launches and strategic partnerships to establish their presence in the field.

Team Tunisia (INTERACT) reported progress in communication efforts, launching Facebook and LinkedIn accounts. They are in the recruitment phase for project staff. The team is dedicated to investigating water pathogens and epidemic risk management, aiming to integrate AI and data science for higher impact.

Team Lebanon (EMERGENT) successfully launched its project with the Department of Health's representative in attendance. They initiated their literature review and established a social media presence.

Dr. Lauer presented Airfinity's services, focusing on efficient data storage, analysis, and interpretation for pandemic preparedness and response. Airfinity aims to complement the regional network's efforts and is open to collaborative agreements.

The meeting emphasized the importance of strategic launches, timely funding disbursements, and thoughtful collaborations. Prof. Kong encouraged partners to contemplate the agreements that align with the network's goals, fostering impactful outcomes.

Stay tuned for more updates from the AI4PEP-MENA Cohort!