

Welcome to the AI4PEP bi-weekly News Brief.

This week we bring you some exciting updates from Team Africa: **Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, South Africa, & Senegal.**

## Special Acknowledgement on Gender Inclusivity

Big ups to Team on their engagements on gender, diversity, and inclusivity! The last meeting demonstrated high quality engagements on gender and decoloniality. While the team members may be at different levels regarding their understandings and capacity to integrate a gender lens into their research, there is an undisputable commitment to grapple with the notion of gender transformative research. This level of engagement has provided room for peer learning, reflexivity, and solidarity. This has further challenged individual teams to step up and seek the necessary tools and support to integrate gender in their work.

### Cameroon

- The team reported that they were traveling to a conference in Yaonde (Yaonde One Health Summit) where they would have a great opportunity to present multiple papers, network, and profile the project.
- One team member was reportedly away in Geneva, Switzerland, attending a 2-week Leadership Training on Policy as it relates to One Health.
- 2 Members were also away in Kigali where they were participating in a 2 -day workshop on Data Analysis.



## Ghana

### **Congratulations are in order Team Ghana!**

- A student team member (**Kofi Agyapong Addo**) who gave a talk in the context of the project won an award entitled **“Young Investigator Award.”** The award was accompanied by a cash price of USD \$700.00, and they were quite thrilled by his contribution which speaks volumes about the impact of mentorship. The title of the project was **“Molecular Based Evidence of Transmission of Atypical Trypanosomiasis**
- In other news, the Principal Investigator, Dr. Kingsley Badu was also elected as an Executive Council Member at the ACME Annual Council Meeting. He found the network to be quite influential at the higher level of Health Policy Engagement, including the ability to influence the WHO. Dr. Badu also noted that the ACME council had numerous opportunities including awards that people, especially in Africa seldom here about.



## ASTMH conference

PhD student won  
Young Investigator

Award 



### Ethiopia

- Congratulations to Dr. Gelan Ayana (Team Ethiopia's Principal Investigator). He has consistently demonstrated great leadership acumen. He has taken the responsibility of steering the Africa cohort towards great strides, offering his time and skills to fundraise on. Behalf of the collective, and further galvanize a culture of thought leadership through collective publication.
- In other news, the Team reported that it had officially begun its preliminary data capturing process. Members of the team spent the past 2 weeks in the field, capturing the voices of the stakeholders to inform their research tools & methodology.

### Senegal

- **Big ups to Team Senegal on successfully co-organizing** the Indabax Senegal Conference 2023 in partnership with GALSEN AI, Women in Machine Learning & Data Science, which was held on the 25<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> October 2023. The theme of the conference was “**Challenges and Perspectives of the Effective Implementation of National Strategies in Data and AI in Senegal.**”
- Link: <https://letechobservateur.sn/indabax-lintelligence-artificielle-et-les-donnees-au-coeur-de-ledition-2023>
- The conference offered a local deep machine learning to strengthen and promote innovation and research in the AI field.

- The team also participated in the Problematic Algorithm and Solution (PAS) Challenge that was organized by the Institute of Algorithms of Senegal (IAS). The objective of the challenge was to encourage young people to implement solutions based on the mobilization of AI to solve social issues. <https://www.ias.sn/pas>



### South Africa

- The Principal Investigator, Prof. Bruce Mellado explained the project was still undertaking its Air Quality monitoring. The information on the status of the Air Quality was being updated every 5 minutes via the website: <https://sacaqm.web.cern.ch/sensor.php?sensorid=350457791749938>
- Additionally, the team submitted that they had received an invitation from CERN to a workshop where they would showcase their work on the 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2023. The workshop offers a space for the team to showcase their work to the world, (including key stakeholders like the WHO) how technology is helping Africa transcend health challenges.