

Welcome to the AI4PEP bi-weekly News Brief.

This week we bring you some exciting updates from Team MENA: **Lebanon, Tunisia, Morocco, and Palestine & Jordan.**

## Solidarity with Palestine

The AI4PEP Team sent their message of solidarity and condolences to the people of Palestine, and the entire region. Prof. Kong invited the rest of the cohort to observe a moment of silent in honor of the lives that had been lost in the ongoing conflict.

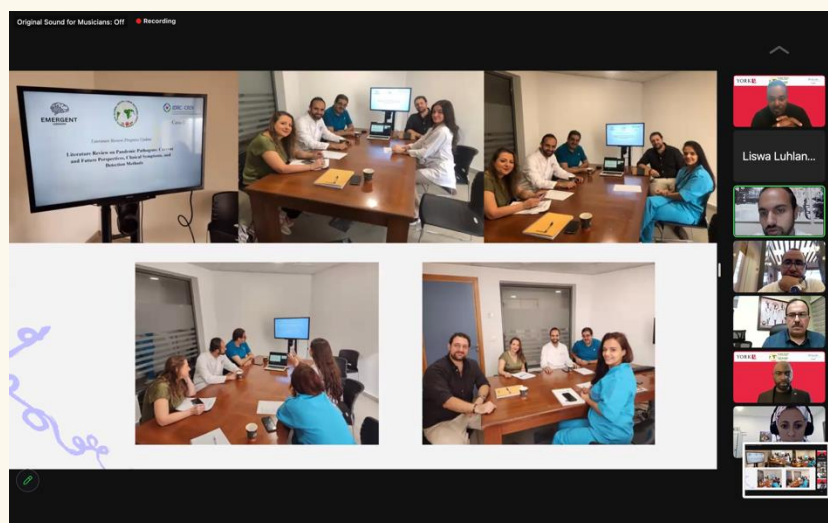
In other news, the team focused a great deal of their time and energy strategizing for the Grants Challenge call for proposal:

<https://gcgh.grandchallenges.org/challenge/strengthening-health-and-disease-modeling-public-health-decision-making-africa>

It was agreed that both the Gates Foundation and Welcome Trust priorities were aligned with the AI4PEP mandate. There was consensus that the team should form a core team that will brainstorm and craft a proposal, either as the MENA collective or in partnership with the Africa cohort. Given the deadline, the team agreed to cooperate and ensure that all the necessary information was provided swiftly to support the vanguards in the writing process.

## Lebanon

Two members of the team, Dr. SAAB and Cynthia Khali represented the team at the Health Erasmus Scientific Day held on the 10<sup>th</sup> of October, at the Notre Dame University in Lebanon. The event was themed: “the Use of AI for Public Health and Healthcare Applications.” This offered the team an opportunity to showcase its leadership in the field.



## Morocco

Within the past two weeks, Team Morocco was hard at work, brewing the following three research papers.



## AI4PEP (Africa) Bulletin – October 7<sup>th</sup> to October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023



1. Survey on AI for TB Propagation Modelling & Resistance and Prediction (Dr. Imane Chaoi).
2. AI Aided Detection for TB- Diagnosis: A survey (Onessime Mbulayi).
3. Meta Survey on AI for Mycobacterium Detection (Mohammed Ahmed Amine).

All these papers were anticipated to be ready within the coming few weeks.

### Palestine & Jordan

The past fortnight had also been a very productive time for team Jordan and Palestine as they were both working on some interesting research papers.

1. The Palestinian sub-group was working on a paper on AI Performance Analysis in Infectious Diseases Diagnosis (“**Evaluating Artificial Intelligence performance in Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases Outbreak in MENA Region: A Systematic Review.**”)
2. The Jordan group was also reportedly working on a paper on Common Infectious Diseases in the Region (Pathogen, Severity, Diagnostic Methods...) under the title: “**Systematic Review of Infectious Diseases in MENA: Diagnostic Techniques, Pathogens, Severity, and Regional Impacts.**”