

Welcome to the AI4PEP bi-weekly News Brief. This week, we're excited to announce a potential collaboration with Sub-Saharan team(s) for Grants Challenge Call for Proposal's active call whose focus is Africa. We are thrilled to celebrate with Team Philippines for their successful project launch which took place recently. Finally, Team Malaysia finally got their clearance from the Ministry of Finance!

Resource Mobilization & Collaboration

- Prof. Kong has announced that the Grants Challenge has launched yet another Call for Proposals, albeit with a focus on Sub-Saharan Africa. He encouraged the partners to move swiftly and indicate their interest to bid for the call. It appears that the call is worth a lot of money, and there may be room for a meaningful collaboration with partners in Sub-Saharan Africa. The call was for Science and Innovation in Sub-Saharan Africa, and it was worth up to 4 million dollars. The deadline for the call was on the 31st January, 2024.

<https://scienceforafrica.foundation/funding/call-applications-epidemic-science-leadership-and-innovation-networks>



Congratulations are in Order!

- Prof. Angela Lee from the Sunway University in Asia has announced that the Department of Finance has granted the team a clearance certificate. The team was excited to move on and focus of their ethics approval. Another colleague, Prof. Wong was excited about this progress. Wong was reportedly working on securing ethics approval for the team to facilitate their access to data from the hospital.



Philippines

- Congratulations to Team Philippines on their successful launch events. The team held two launch events: a regional and a national one. These were held on the 27th and 28th November respectively, and the events coincided with the commemoration of the mental health month among Indigenous communities. This proved to be very strategic because it successfully profiled the project regionally, and nationally, attracting the attention of different media houses and strategic partners.

Prof. Jong de Castro, the Principal Investigator mentioned that the launch was a huge deal for the team, and they put a lot of effort in preparing for it as it marked a transition from their ATIPAN project, which was about telehealth to the current AI4PEP project in partnership with York University. He mentioned that the team had rebranded the project and named it ATIPAN+. This time around, the project has scaled up to include three more Indigenous communities that were initially not part of the project. We wish our Philippine partners success in their implementation.

