AI4PEP (Africa) Bulletin -November 29th to December 13th, 2023
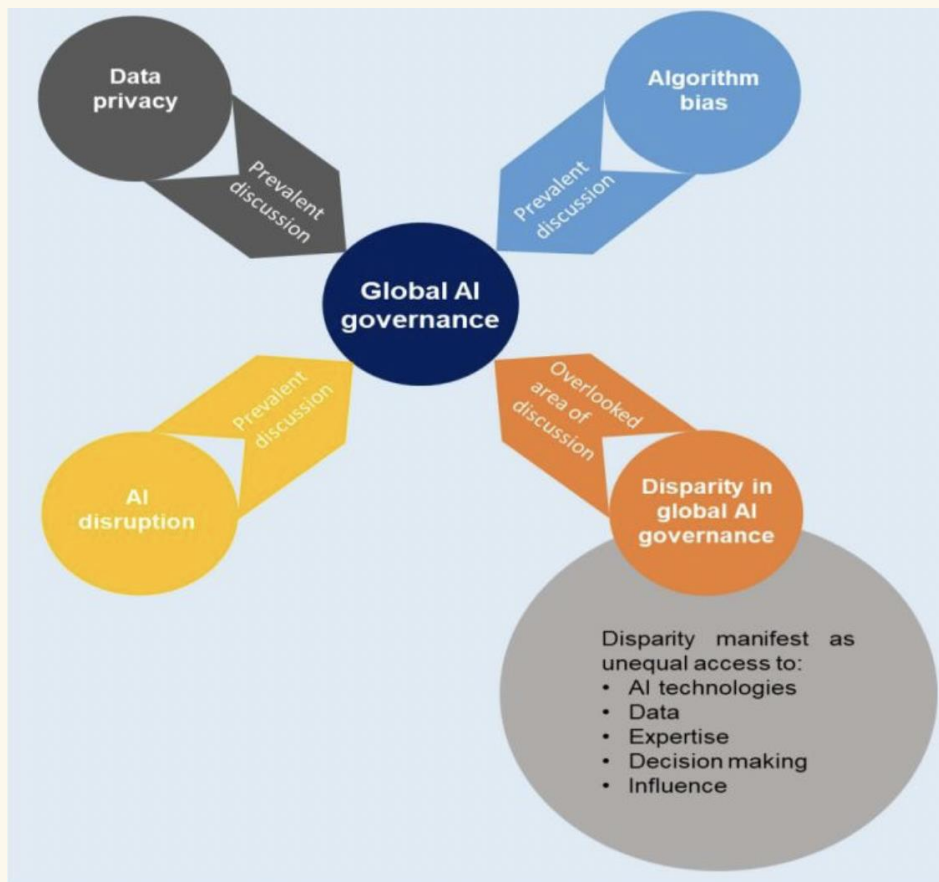
Welcome to the AI4PEP bi-weekly News Brief.

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

Congratulation to the Africa cohort on their recent publication!

Prof. Ayana reported the preprint for the policy paper that the cohort had put together had been uploaded. Judging from the number of downloads, the paper was doing quite well. The title of the paper is "Decolonizing global AI governance: Assessment of the state of decolonized AI governance in Sub-Saharan Africa." It may be accessed via: **https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4652444**

Call for Proposals! (Science for Africa Foundation)

The team wrapped the year with a bang as they found an opportunity to deliberate on the call and tackle how they would approach the division of labor as they prepared themselves for the bid. Prof. Gelan Ayana provided direction

and guidance and further volunteered to coordinate the proposal writing exercise. More than anything, he appealed to his colleagues for commitment, emphasizing that even though they were going for holidays, they still needed to honor their proposal-write up appointments and respond to emails. https://scienceforafrica.foundation/funding/call-applications-epidemic-science-leadership-and-innovation-networks

Collaboration

Team Africa had yet another chance to host Prof. Cortez from The Global Health Network (TGN). The team discussed crafting a unique AI4PEP-Africa cohort strategy and using that to pitch a concept for funding at the International Development Bank of Latin America. Prof. Cortez would use his expertise and previous experience with this body to fundraise for a joint proposal in partnership with AI4PEP Africa.

Ethiopian Delegate Shines at the COP28

Congratulations to AI4PEP-Africa, Dessalegn Yohannes from Ethiopia, under the supervision of Prof. Gelan Ayan who was attending the COP 28 conference in Dubai. Dessalegn is reportedly spending his time networking and connecting with other experts in the field. He is reportedly inspired to network with global experts and learn about the global trends in the data science field. Upon his return, he will share more details about his experience.

Another team member Bontu, also from Ethiopia was reported to have won an outstanding national entrepreneurship contest & received a remarkable prize of ETV 100, 000.00 from Afri-fana. The project was set to produce drones for agriculture, which radically revolutionized the agriculture industry using Artificial Intelligence, and the prize will help them with their start-up business.

Arts Tv YouTube link to their pitch in April this year: https://youtu.be/YsLQh_7wV1k?si=RUcfR4G-KUbtelwb
Dashen Bank's post on Facebook (Top 1o contestants among the whole Ethiopia): https://m.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=676331351272051&id=100066855756513&set=a.575286698043184&source=57&refid=52&__tn

Our very own Bontu's startup team, AfriFana, won ETB 100,000 on the Dashen National Kefita Entrepreneurship Contest