African Sustainable Development Advisors, Inc.

WHO KNOWS AFRICA BETTER THAN US?

Beyond COVID-19: The Future of Digital Health in Africa

I. Event overview

Digital technologies[1] are being harnessed to support the public-health initiatives including the COVID-19 response worldwide through population surveillance, case identification, contact tracing and evaluation on the basis of mobility data and communication with the public. These rapid responses leverage billions of mobile phones, large online datasets, connected devices, relatively low-cost computing resources and advances in machine learning and natural language processing.

All United Nations member states have agreed to try to achieve universal health coverage by 2030. As such, African leaders have been taking bold steps to improve healthcare systems in the process and at low cost and acknowledge the potential of digital health. However, with the Covid-19 pandemic that has weakened the health care system worldwide and exacerbated the already fragile situation in Africa, more needs to be done not only to address the existing challenges, but also to maintain the momentum during and beyond the pandemic.

Africa's healthcare systems have been under pressure to fight the Covid-19 pandemic as well as the ongoing threats of other diseases such as malaria, Ebola and HIV/AIDS. The future of public health is likely to become increasingly digital, but as far as the implementation of digital innovations for the public-health response to COVID-19 worldwide is concerned, evidence has shown that there are some limitations, and roadblocks at various levels: legal, ethical and privacy, organizational and manpower. This pressure on digitalization of the health system should be seen as an opportunity – not only for the governments to facilitate the processes but also for innovators, donors and local organisations to partner and provide essential healthcare services that are affordable, reliable and tailored to local needs.

On that note, African Sustainable Development Advisors, Inc [Afrisda, Inc.] and partners will organize a 2-hour 15 minutes virtual event (Webinar/Zoom) on **Tuesday June 29th at 1:00 pm Eastern time/ 5:00 pm GMT/ 8 pm EAT**. This webinar is designed as part of Afrisda, Inc. strategy workstream based on Collaboration, Partnership, Stakeholders' ownership and Knowledge transfer and aimed to raising more awareness on digital health in Africa mostly during and beyond Covid-19.

During this event, Canadians and international development bodies (donors, investors, health specialists, health academies, etc..) will interact, share and discuss the future of digital health technology during and beyond covid-19 and advocate for relevant and sustainable solutions to strength the health system in this digital health era

1 https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpubh.2019.00341/full

Beyond Covid-19: The Future of digital health in Africa

1pm EST/ 8 pm EAT/ 5 pm GMT

June 29th, 2021

Dr. Djo Matangwa

Co founder and CEO
of Afrisda. Inc.
Toronto, Canada

Her Excellency Kilumba Nkulu

Guest of honor
Vice-Minister of Public Health
DRC

Mr. Vincent Keunen

Founder and CEO of
Andaman7
Liège, Belgium

Mr. Daniel Messer

Vice President and Chief
Information Officer for Digital
Health & Technical Integration
at Population Services
International (PSI)
Washington DC, USA

Ms. Rosine G. Assamoi

Co-founder and
Executive Vice-President
of Afrisda, Inc.
Toronto, Canada

Mr. Eric Mutonj

Consultant ANICiiS
Ministry of Health
DRC

Dr. Amer Sattar

Experienced Director and
Consultant in public health
Guinea Conakry

Dr. Mamello Muhanuuzi
Group Head of Medical
Services & Quality Assurance at
International Medical Group
Uganda

Mr. Jan Kennis

Digital For Development Lead
Expert at Enabel
Antwerp, Belgium

II. Organizer:

African Sustainable Development Advisors, Inc. [Afrisda, Inc.]

https://afrisda.ca/

Afrisda, Inc. is an advisory group of international development experts and consultants from various horizons with a good knowledge and experience of the African landscape. Our goal is to help enhance and improve capacity building and systems strengthening initiatives of African governmental, national and local organizations in the implementation and delivery of quality sustainable development programs through innovative approaches.

III. Meet our Presenters

Name and Title	Biography
Dr. Amer Sattar Experienced Director and Consultant in public health, Guinea Conakry	Dr. Amer has a medical background and over 25 years of entrepreneurship, international business, and global health experience. He worked in Europe, Asia, Africa, & the Caribbean. He currently specialises in African Health Systems Strengthening and is a vocal campaigner for health system digitalization, Primary Health Care strengthening, and basic Universal Health Care.
Mr. Daniel Messer, Vice President and Chief Information Officer for Digital Health & Technical Integration at Population Services International (PSI). Washington DC, USA	Daniel has over 20 years experience driving technical innovations and implementing digital and health information (HIS) systems in Africa, Asia and Latin America. In his role as CIO, he implemented global enterprise-grade productivity applications, ERP systems and strongly believes in consumer powered Digital Health. Daniel was co-founder and chair of the Non-Profit Organizations Knowledge Initiative (NPOKI), helping organizations to better manage information using systems that are considered "Global Goods". Prior to PSI, Daniel was in London directing International Planned Parenthood's information systems, including EMR systems for the Federation's network clinics across the globe.
Dr. Djo Matangwa Co-founder and CEO of Afrisda, Inc. Toronto, Canada	Djo has 15 years of experience in developing, implementing, and leading complex sexual and reproductive health and right and gender equity portfolio, HIV and Nutrition in development and humanitarian context such as refugees, IDPs and returnees. He also supported national offices in the coordination and strategic planning of multi-stakeholder grants as a Health program technical advisor in complex matrix environments. Country of Experience: Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Central African Republic, DRC, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Mozambique, Tanzania, Uganda, Senegal, and Sudan. Experience with donors: GAC, DFID, USAID, EU, Belgium Government, and UN agencies.
Mr. Éric Mutonj, Consultant ANICiiS, MoH Kinshasa, DRC	Eric is an experienced Technology professional with exceptional Engineering and Commercial skills, and specialised in Telecommunications/Broadcasting. He carries a wealth of knowledge regarding the African continent with the ability to operate both in English and French.
Mr. Jan Kennis Digital For Development Lead Expert at Enabel Antwerp, Belgium	Jan is very passionate about natural resource management, innovative capacity strengthening and digital for development, which he applied in research, development, cooperation management and education. He is an expert in Digitalization for all partner countries in Africa and the Middle East, focussed on enhancing impact through the use of digital approaches and supported a wider use of innovative digital solutions in all his programmes and projects. He also coordinated a project co-financed by the EU and the BMZ on strengthening the resilience for COVID-19 through digitalization and implemented in partnership with the GIZ.

Dr. Mamello Muhanuuzi,
Group Head of Medical Services
& Quality Assurance at Interna-
tional Medical Group,
MB ChB/MPH
Kampala, Uganda

A medical doctor, healthcare management specialist and seasoned hospital administrator with over 14 years progressive experience in comprehensive technical, operational and administrative healthcare support and oversight in the private healthcare sector. He is also an expert in Hospital Administration, Operations & Management, Health and Hospital Business Case Analysis, Healthcare Insurance, Health Systems Planning and Management, Public Private Partnerships for Health, Health-worker Performance Management, Improvement and Appraisal. Following his Mb ChB and as part of his personal development, he completed a master's degree in Public Health (Health Policy, Planning and Management on Women in Leadership from Strathmore University Business School).

Rosine G. Assamoi,
Independent Development
Consultant &
Co-founder and Executive
Vice-President, Afrisda, Inc.
Toronto, Canada

Very passionate about development, Rosine is a fierce advocate of issues of equity and dignity and strongly believes in the potential of Africa to meet the challenges of sustainable development. Rosine has over 22 years' experience in international development. As a country representative and people leader/Sr. Program Manager, she provided strategic leadership in the management of multi-country and multi-sector grants in many countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Experience in strategic planning, result-based-management, program design and implementation, oversight, coordination, and technical support, she worked extensively on rights-based programming and was involved in issues and field work related to due diligence programming on child labour, forced child labour/exploitation, abuse and trafficking, Gender Equality and Gender-Based-Violence (FGM), Women rights and empowerment, FGM, SRHR, MNCH, Education (literacy/formal/non-formal), Water/Sanitation and Hygiene, HIV/AIDS and youth, Corporate Social Responsibility, Food Security, Nutrition and Economic Growth, Governance. Rosine is fluent in both French and English.

Her Excellency
Véronique Kilumba Nkulu,
Vice-Minister of Public Health,
Hygiene and prevention of the
Democratic Republic of Congo
Kinshasa,
DRC

Former first vice coordinator of Civil Society Haut-Lomami consultation framework; Coordinator of the Synergy of Women's Organizations, Initiatives and Associations (SOIAF); President of the NGO AFEDEPE (Women's Action for the Development and Protection of Children) ; local expert in conflict management, prevention and peaceful resolution; leadership and gender expert; President of the communication task force of Haut-Lomami province and President of the provincial council of health NGOs (CPOS). She has dedicated her life to fighting for many causes such as: the rights of women and children, where she had to build a female prison cell at Kamina prison with funding from MONUSCO and advocated for the release of minor children in conflict with the law; Literacy Training for small groups of mothers in Kamina and outlying villages; Sensitization of the population of Haut-Lomami on HIV / AIDS and sexual and gender-based violence; Screening and psycho-social and health care for people living with HIV.

Mr. Vincent Keunen,
Founder and CEO of Andaman7
Liège,
Belgium

20 years of experience in the health IT sector, Vincent has developed numerous systems in Belgium, some of which are still being used by 90% of hospitals in the country. In 2011, Vincent was recognized as national CIO of the year. Andaman7 is his third company. When he was diagnosed with leukemia in 2007, and his 10-year-old son was diagnosed with bone cancer 3 months later, he decided to use his software engineering skills to provide all patients with a tool to manage their health information on their smartphone, Andaman7. The tool is associated with a platform to help pharma and medical device manufacturers run clinical trials and engage patients with PRO (Patient Reported Outcomes), RWD (Real World Data) collection and virtual clinical trial.

IV. AGENDA

Beyond Covid-19: The Future of Digital Health in Africa

ACTIVITY	SPEAKER/PRESENTER	DESCRIPTION
1:00 pm	Rosine G. Assamoi	Opening remarks Land acknowledgement Introduction of Djo Matangwa
1:05 pm	Dr. Djo Matangwa	Overview of program Introduction of Panelists (Bios)
1:15 pm	Her Excellency Véronique Kilumba Nkulu, Vice Minister - Guest of Honor	DRC government policies on digitalization of the health system and its implementation before, during and beyond Covid-19
1:25 pm	Jan Kennis	Covid-19: Impact on international development Aid in Africa: Enabel - Belgian Development Agency' response.
1:35 pm	Dr. Amer Sattar	Digitizing Primary Health Care in the Global South - How to translate technology into PHC/UHC responsibly and sustainably.
1:45 pm	Daniel Messer	How consumer powered digital health will change access to care?
1:55 pm	Moderator: Rosine Assamoi	Q&A Session I
2:15 pm	Dr. Mamello Muhanuuzi	Telemedicine: Creating Access to Healthcare in the African Context.
2:25 pm	Vincent Keunen	Can Africa leapfrog other countries by focusing on patients in digital health?
2:35 pm	Eric Mutonj	Digitalization and Health System Strengthening – Why is African health system still lagging behind despite all the development Aids? (Infrastructures? Policies?). Is Africa ready to fully implement digital health?
2:45 pm	Moderator: Rosine Assamoi	Q&A Session II
3:05 pm	Her Excellency Véronique Kilumba Nkulu, Vice Minister - Guest of Honor	Last note and Call to action
3:15 pm	Dr. Djo Matangwa	Closing remarks