



2025 STI Forum – ID: V-07; Summary of Side Event Emerging Health Technologies and Health Development

Date: 07 May 2025; Time: 1:15 pm to 2:45 pm, EST (New York Time)

Background



In view of the scale of today's global challenges, and the great potential of Science, Technology and Innovation to deliver responses and global cooperation in STI is indispensable to achieve health- and education-for-all. Global partnerships around STI are necessary to mobilize financial and knowledge resources from governments, businesses, academia and civil societies and unfold the potential of all Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Both public and private sectors play an essential role in financing research and development. Therefore they are essential to create a balanced strategy that leverages the strengths and weaknesses of both. Current trends indicate that the world is not on track to achieve the SDGs, but science-based tools can help drive change. Advanced digital technologies are set to change the way we work and live. While scientific evidence is key in addressing complex global challenges, science is not a cure-all. When we work together – across national borders, across groups, disciplines and stakeholder groups – we as humanity can harness science and technology to the benefits for all of us. We need to look and appreciate the benefits of long-term commitment to fundamental research, but we also need to look ahead and anticipate challenges and possibilities. What is urgently needed is to enhance international solidarity and cooperation, revitalize global trust and partnerships in STI research and development.

Concept Note: <http://www.womenshealthsection.com/content/documents/2025-STI-Side-Event-Concept-Note.pdf>

Key Concepts Discussed



1. Member States should implement policies to raise awareness about anthropomorphizing (humanizing) of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies that recognize and mimic human emotions, including in the language used to mention them, and assess the manifestations, ethical implications and possible limitations of such anthropomorphizing, in particular in the context of robot-human interaction and especially when children are involved.
2. Encourage and promote collaborative research into the effects of long-term interaction of people with AI systems paying particular attention to the psychological and cognitive impact that these systems can have on children and young people.
3. Member States should encourage research on the effects of AI technologies on health systems performances and health outcomes.

4. Member States, as well as stakeholders, should put in place mechanisms to meaningfully engage children and young people in conversations, debates and decision-making with regard to the impact of AI systems on their lives and futures.
5. Member States should, according to their specific conditions, governing structures and constitutional provisions, credibility and transparently monitor and evaluate policies, programs and mechanisms related to ethics of AI, using a combination of quantitative and qualitative approaches.
6. Processes for monitoring and evaluation should ensure broad participation of all stakeholders, including, but not limited to, vulnerable people or people in vulnerable situations. Social, cultural and gender diversity should be ensured.
7. In the interests of promoting best policies and practices related to ethics of AI, appropriate tools and indicators should be developed for assessing the effectiveness and efficiency thereof against agreed standards, priorities and targets, including specific targets for persons belonging to disadvantaged, marginalized populations, and vulnerable people or people in vulnerable situations, as well as impact of AI systems at individual and societal levels.

WHEC Statement: <http://www.womenshealthsection.com/content/documents/2025-STI-Forum-Side-Event-7-May.pdf>

Key Recommendations and Actions

To strengthen global trust in STI, Education & Health Cooperation, for SDGs 3, 4, 5, 8, and 17, Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC) encourages to:

1. Developing countries should formulate strategic plan for STI with clear, specific and measurable goals to seize the opportunities brought by technological advancement. The planning should reflect country's strengths and weaknesses in science, technology and innovation and highlight the connections (and missing links) between the national needs and objectives and the UN 2030 Agenda – Building inclusive STI global agenda. <https://hlpf.un.org/2022/programme/improving-global-partnerships-for-education-and-health>
2. Governments should create the conditions for accessible, affordable and high-quality digital infrastructure that supports STI development.
3. Developed and developing countries should develop collaborative mechanisms to incentivize technology and knowledge transfer among universities, research institutions, and the private sector. International partnerships should aim to closing gaps in knowledge capabilities that hamper effective technology transfer.

We get involved in the capacity building, shape the research agenda and engage stakeholders in improving the ethical foundation for use of Big Data and AI in public health. Developing global ethical guidance for UN Member States also requires an analysis of knowledge gaps and setting priorities for research to address these gaps. We publish that on our educational platform routinely, and in our monthly newsletter *WHEC Update*. <http://www.WomensHealthSection.com>

YouTube Video: <https://youtu.be/VzHLhS44OFU>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VzHLhS44OFU>