

Message from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), USA.

Dear Colleagues,

In association with the launch of the NIH Common Fund's new program on [Harnessing Data Science for Health Discovery and Innovation in Africa](#) (DS-I Africa), NIH is hosting a series of virtual events in September and October. This **State of Data Science Series** includes weekly discussions on a range of data science topics. Each session features presentations by experts in their field, a moderated discussion, opportunities for Q&A, and optional networking activities. See the [schedule of upcoming events](#) (also at the bottom of this email) and register to participate at <https://bit.ly/nih-dsiafrica-register>. After your registration is reviewed, you will receive instructions for joining the KISstorm platform, which is hosting the event on behalf of NIH. If you have already registered for the DS-I Africa Virtual Symposium, you can join through KISstorm as you have for past events.

Please join us on **Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 am EDT | 4:00 pm EAT** for a session on **Leveraging Data Science Approaches to Address Environmental Health Challenges in Africa**. This session will explore unique aspects and analytic challenges of environmental health data and will highlight recent data science approaches to characterizing hazardous exposures on the African continent, connecting environmental exposures to health outcomes, and reducing the risk of disease connected to the environment. The event will include a 90-minute session of panelist presentations and Q&A, followed by an optional 30-minute networking activity.

The speakers will be:

Moderator:

- **Gwen Collman**, Acting Deputy Director, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

Panelists:

- **Kiros Berhane**, Professor and Chair, Department of Biostatistics, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University
- **Engineer Bainomugisha**, Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Computer Science, School of Computing & IT, Makerere University
- **Caradee Wright**, Senior Specialist Scientist, Environment and Health Research Unit, South African Medical Research Council

If you use social media, don't forget our hashtags: **#DSIAfrica**, **#NIHAfricaData**, and **@knowinnovation**.

Please contact [DSIAfrica.Symposium@mail.nih.gov](mailto:DSIAfrica.Symposium@mail.nih.gov) with questions about the program or contact [support@knowinnovation.com](mailto:support@knowinnovation.com) for technical issues joining KISstorm.

We look forward to seeing you on September 23<sup>rd</sup>!

## DS-I Africa State of Data Science Series

**Detailed Schedule** - <https://commonfund.nih.gov/africadatasymposium/events-schedule>

Date	Session
Tuesday, 15th September 9AM EDT / 4PM EAT	<b>Biomedical Imaging: Acquisition and Analysis</b>
Wednesday, 23rd September 9AM EDT / 4PM EAT	<b>Leveraging Data Science Approaches to Address Environmental Health Challenges in Africa</b>
Wednesday, 30th September 9AM EDT / 4PM EAT	<b>Biomedical Informatics and Data Sciences in Africa</b>
Wednesday, 7th October TIME TBC	<b>Innovative Approaches to Improve Maternal and Child Health</b>
Tuesday, 13th October TIME TBC	<b>Infectious Diseases</b> (more information coming soon)
Wednesday, 14th October 9AM EDT / 4PM EAT	<b>Using Data Science to Fight COVID</b>
Wednesday, 21st October TIME TBC	<b>Innovations in Health Metrics Sciences</b> Measuring, Mapping, and Monitoring Morbidity and Mortality at the Regional, National, and Local Levels in Africa