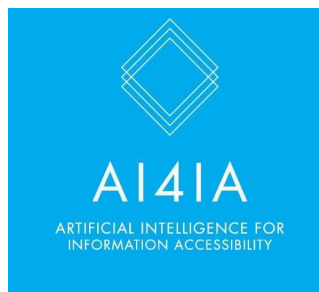


5th Annual Artificial Intelligence for Information Accessibility (AI4IA)



Conference Report

In observance of the International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) - September 28, 2024

The Artificial Intelligence for Information Accessibility (AI4IA) Conference is dedicated to exploring AI's implications for society, governance, ethics, and humanity's future. This event, organized by the UNESCO Information for All Programme (IFAP) Working Group on Information Accessibility (WGIA), is hosted under the auspices of the UNESCO Cluster Office for the Caribbean and the UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa. It is also supported by a number of other partners including the Broadcasting Commission of Jamaica, the University of Alberta, and the Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute (Amii). It is timed to coincide with the International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) on September 28, underscoring the importance of inclusive access to information as a human right. In addition to the annual main event, this year's staging featured a series of satellite events. We will report on all activities but we begin with the main event.

Disclaimer: The views summarized in this Conference Report are meant to reflect those of the presenters and should not be attributed to UNESCO, the UNESCO IFAP Working Group on Information Accessibility (WGIA), or members of the WGIA.

Artificial intelligence for Information Accessibility 2024 on Gather.Town

AI4IA CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

Room 1: AI & Accessibility	Room 2: AI & Governance	Room 3: AI & Sustainable Development of Society
1A - Rodrigo Balbontin 1B - Shanti Harjani-Williams 1C - Paul-Alain Zibi Fama 1D - Dr. Eduardo Villanueva-Mansilla 1E - Dr. Tabani Moyo 1F - Dr. Xianhong Hu 1G - Camille Stewart Gloster 1H - Alexandre Le Voci Sayad 1I - Ambassador Dushyant Savadia 1J - Nadeen Matthews Blair 1K - Hibaq Warsame 1L - Patrick Lafayette 1M - C��line Caruso Dixon 1N - Dr. Eleonore Fournier-Tombs 1O - Siddharth Peter de Souza 1P - Dr. Tshiamo Motshegwa 1Q - Botswana Satellite Event 1R - China Satellite Event 1S - Latin America satellite Event	2A - Katrina Ingram 2B - Jillian Kowalchuk 2C - Afari Darfoor 2D - James A. Sherer 2E - Dr. Jan Christopher Kalbhenn, LL.M. 2F - Dr. Judit Bayer, habil. 2G - Professor Jan Oster 2H - Dr. Felipe Tobar 2I - Matias Karlsson 2J - Tanja Ker��evan 2K - Jessica Rose Smith 2L - Chris Taylor 2M - Suvarna Mandal 2N - Viktoriia Romaniuk 2O - Stuart Hylton 2P - Launch - Caribbean AI Policy Roadmap 2Q - Jamaica Satellite Event 2R - Professor Yasmeen Abu-Laban 2S - Fatima Roumate, PhD 2T - Dr. Samantha-Kaye Johnston 2U - New York/Carnegie Satellite Event 2V - Europe Satellite Event 2W - Canada Satellite Event	3A - Aradhana Khowala 3B - Theo Chambers 3C - Elliot Arledge 3D - Professor Gabriel Okafor 3E - Dr. Jaimee Stuart 3F - Professor Dr. Marco Ricceri 3G - Niza Aritha Zulu 3H - Dr. Paulina Assmann 3I - Caleb Gichuhi 3J - Scott David, J.D., LL.M. 3K - Shamaria Graham Barnes 3L - Dr. Alvaro Soto 3M - Dr. Siva Prasad Rambhatla 3N - Dr. Mukesh Mehra 3O - Dr. Namrita Sandhu 3P - Jeff Greenberg 3Q - India Satellite Event

The main event featured pre-recorded presentations by over [60 speakers from diverse global backgrounds](#). These presentations are accessible through the [Gather.Town platform](#), which also provides the venue for live virtual salon discussions with our speakers which take place on September 28th. The pre-recorded conference videos fall under three major themes of: AI & Accessibility, AI & Governance and AI & Sustainable Development of Society.

Theme 1 is AI and Accessibility and includes sub-themes such as connectivity, digital divide, inclusion: underserved/vulnerable communities e.g. gender/age/disability etc, education and literacy.

ROOM 1 - AI & ACCESSIBILITY		 AI4IA ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FOR INFORMATION ACCESSIBILITY 2 0 2 4 CONFERENCE
1A - Rodrigo Balbont��n Challenges for AI Adoption in Emerging Asia 1B - Shanti Harjani-Williams When I asked AI to compose a Haiku 1C - Paul-Alain Zibi Fama Artificial Intelligence as a Lever for Access to Legal Information and the Protection of Human Rights: Bridging the Digital Divide in Africa for Accessible Justice 1D - Dr. Eduardo Villanueva-Mansilla IA and Globalization 1E - Dr. Tabani Moyo Affordances of Generative AI, Devaluation of Truth and Vulnerability 1F - Dr. Xianhong Hu Fostering Human-Centered AI for Building Knowledge Societies 1G - Camille Stewart Gloster Values Align Innovation Requires Long Term Investment 1H - Alexandre Le Voci Sayad AI as a Local Technology 1I - Ambassador Dushyant Savadia Bridging the Gap: How Generative AI is Transforming Information 1J - Nadeen Matthews Blair The importance of the Caribbean topping the AI medal table: Why and how?	1K - Hibaq Warsame Curated Realities: AI, Personalized Narratives, and the Fragmentation of Shared Truth 1L - Patrick Lafayette The Pros and Cons of AI Disabling Disabilities 1M - C��line Caruso Dixon Can We Use AI for Inclusion Work? A Conversation on Inclusion in the World of AI 1N - Dr. Eleonore Fournier-Tombs Dimensions of Gender Inclusion in the AI Economy 1O - Siddharth Peter de Souza Data Silences: The Practice of Managing What We Measure 1P - Dr. Tshiamo Motshegwa African Open Science Platform - Implementing The African Open Science and AI Vision 1Q - Botswana Satellite Event Artificial Intelligence for Information Accessibility: An African Perspective 1R - China Satellite Event AI-Powered Accessibility: Redefining Digital Inclusion 1S - Latin America Satellite Event I.A Informaci��n accesible ��Para todos? Una mirada Latinoamericana	



Theme 2 is AI and Governance and includes sub-themes such as law, regulation, ethics/self-regulation, power structures, trust including biases, and disinformation/misinformation.

ROOM 2 - AI & GOVERNANCE	
2A - Katrina Ingram Contemplating AI's Affective Labour 2B - Jillian Kowalchuk Educators as Ethical Guides: Understanding Moral Agency in the Era of AI 2C - Afari Darfoor Privacy and AI-driven Bionic Limbs 2D - James A. Sherer Improving Accessibility through AI Program Accountability 2E - Dr. Jan Christopher Kalbhenn, LL.M. AI / Information Access: Importance of Media Law 2F - Dr. Judit Bayer, habil. Legal Implications of Using Generative AI in the Media 2G - Professor Jan Oster AI and Diversity of Opinion 2H - Dr. Felipe Tobar Aligned Algorithms: Understanding and Addressing the Challenge 2I - Matias Karlsson Leveraging AI to Improve Justice and Monitor Judicial Systems 2J - Tanja Kerševan Epistemic Authority of Journalism in the Era of AI-powered Newsrooms: Governance Implications 2K - Jessica Rose Smith Harmful Deepfakes: What Do They Mean for Safety Online? 2L - Chris Taylor Bridging Environmental Concerns, Digital Rights, and Digital Inclusion	2M - Suvarna Mandal Regulatory Trends Relating to AI and Information Access in India 2N - Viktoriia Romaniuk The Application of AI in Manufacturing and Disseminating Disinformation 2O - Stuart Hylton Generative AI: Reshaping the Landscape of Information 2P - Launch of Caribbean AI Policy Roadmap 2Q - Jamaica Satellite Event Generative AI: Impact on Misinformation and Disinformation 2R - Professor Yasmeen Abu-Laban Human Rights Centered Migration and the Question of AI 2S - Fatima Roumate, PhD How is the Weaponization of AGI and Information Reshaping the Global Dynamics? 2T - Dr. Samantha-Kaye Johnston Project Amplify: Metaverse Ethics Through the Eyes of Jamaican Young People 2U - New York/Carnegie Satellite Event Focus on AI for Information Accessibility: From the Grassroots to Policy Action 2V - Europe Satellite Event Panel 1: AI and the Future of Information Panel 2: Governing AI 2W: Canada Satellite Event Responsible AI: What is Responsible in Responsible Artificial Intelligence?



AI4IA
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FOR
INFORMATION ACCESSIBILITY
2024
CONFERENCE




unesco
Information for All
Programme



**BROADCASTING
COMMISSION**
PEOPLE • TRANSITION • DIGITAL

Theme 3 is AI and Sustainable Society and includes sub-themes such as opportunities, citizenship, rights (SDGs/human/digital), innovation, environment, medicine, health, agriculture and creativity.

ROOM 3 - AI & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIETY	
3A - Aradhana Khowala Empowering the Many: AI's Role in Transforming Industries for Collective Benefit 3B - Theo Chambers AI Presentation 3C - Elliot Arledge Lecture: High-level Overview of the Transformer Neural Network 3D - Professor Gabriel Okafor Artificial Intelligence to the Rescue: Uprooting Challenges in Traditional Lecture Delivery 3E - Dr. Jaimee Stuart Women, Peace, Cybersecurity, and AI: The Rise of Deepfakes 3F - Professor Dr. Marco Ricceri Open the Doors to a Shared Digital Progress 3G - Niza Aritha Zulu Harnessing AI for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security in Zambia 3H - Dr. Paulina Assmann Protecting Digital Freedom: Quantum Innovation in the Age of AI	3I - Caleb Gichuhi Deliberative Technologies: Deploying AI Tools in Democratic Systems to Gather Public Insights for Governance Processes 3J - Scott David, J.D., LL.M. First Contact: A "Meeting of the Minds" in the Global Intelligence Agora 3K - Shamarla Graham Barnes AI & Ordinary People 3L - Dr. Alvaro Soto Chilean National Center for AI 3M - Dr. Siva Prasad Rambhatla AI and Accessing Indigenous Knowledge Systems for Sustainable Development 3N - Dr. Mukesh Mehra The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Medicine 3O - Dr. Namrita Sandhu Role of Artificial Intelligence in Health Care esp. Obstetrics and Gynaecology 3P - Jeff Greenberg Democratizing Creativity: AI's Role in Inclusive and Ethical Content Creation 3Q - India Satellite Event The Era of AI: Future of Peace and Security



AI4IA
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FOR
INFORMATION ACCESSIBILITY
2024
CONFERENCE




unesco
Information for All
Programme



**BROADCASTING
COMMISSION**
PEOPLE • TRANSITION • DIGITAL

The promotion for the 5th Annual Global AI4IA Conference focused on encouraging global participation in the main event held on September 28, 2024. The goal of the four-week campaign was to drive awareness and registrations for the conference. The promotion successfully attracted a total of 1,350

registered participants from over 100 countries, reflecting the global relevance of the conference topics and the effectiveness of the promotional campaign. Participants represented regions from across the globe, including: Africa, Asia & the middle east, Caribbean & Lat Am, Europe and North America. This comprehensive global participation reflects the event's success in attracting a wide audience interested in exploring the critical issues surrounding artificial intelligence (AI) and its impact on society. Further details about the promotional activities of the conference can be found in the appendices and examples can be found throughout the AI4IA conference's online community.

The AI4IA Community

AI4IA Conference Website:	ai4iaconference.com
Digital Library Link:	https://ualberta.aviaryplatform.com/collections/1845
AI4IA Conference on Gather.Town:	https://app.gather.town/app/qyp8rGGY81tp7do5/AI4IA2024
AI4IA Conference on Youtube:	https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLTULETeBko5G--y7nXR8MtPPDN1a-c4Ay&si=sf4c2mdF9Z7Xnp5Y
AI4IA Conference on Instagram:	https://www.instagram.com/ai4iaconference/
AI4IA Conference on X:	https://x.com/ai4iaconference?s=11&t=mZyd_AD0h-B9gg1leMv5wQ
AI4IA Conference on Facebook:	https://www.facebook.com/AI4IAConference
Get in touch with us at:	ai4iaconference@gmail.com

RECOMMENDATION I:

Gathertown was generally praised for its engaging and intuitive design, especially for mobile users. High-quality video presentations were also highlighted as a major strength. However, some attendees and speakers faced difficulties with registration and platform usage. It is recommended that we offer more user guidance for navigating Gathertown, especially for speakers and explore integration with other platforms like Zoom for better accessibility, access to language/interpretation services and improved reporting.

AI4IA 2024 Regional Events

Recording: <https://youtu.be/zy45aKgJUiY>



AI4IA 2024 Regional Events

Jamaica

“Generative AI: Impact on Misinformation and Disinformation” Focus: Ethical challenges and societal implications of generative AI in the Caribbean context, including **the launch of the Artificial Intelligence Roadmap for the Caribbean and the implementation of the Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence and its accompanying tools;**

Recording: <https://youtu.be/ikdcwVcRSPo>



China:

"AI-Powered Accessibility: Redefining Digital Inclusion"

Focus: Enhancing digital inclusion through AI, focusing on underserved communities.

Recording: <https://youtu.be/iHUEZ0WiErM>

India:

Focus on AI's role in governance and social equity in partnership with UNESCO India.

Recording: <https://youtu.be/AL8la33n0dw>



AI4IA 2024 Regional Events

Colombia:

Focus on AI's impact on social justice and human rights in Latin America.

Recording:



Canada

Focus on AI-driven innovation in healthcare, education, and public services.

Recording:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZAAZZ_FjAk



AI4IA 2024 Regional Events

Europe I

Focus on AI governance, information ethics, and transparency.

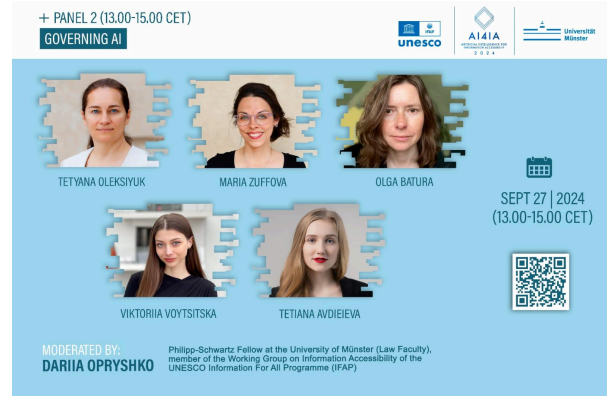
Recording I: <https://youtu.be/zSkma5s0SFg>



Europe II

Focus on AI governance, information ethics, and transparency.

Recording 2: <https://youtu.be/MVEKzZJ2t58>



RECOMMENDATION II:

The satellite events were well-received across various regions, showcasing diversity in themes. However, short lead time for strategy and marketing, overlapping schedules, and inconsistent event durations made it harder for attendees to participate in multiple sessions. It also made it more difficult to expressly address important themes and ideas, such as the promotion UNESCO's Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence, across all events. It is recommended that we extend strategy and marketing timelines, provide clearer event links, and improve scheduling to avoid conflicts between events.

Visit [this folder](#) for a detailed financial report as well as reports on promotions, the Jamaica Satellite Event, the Europe Satellite event and the Latin America Satellite Event.

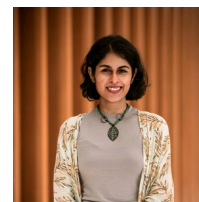
CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS

IFAP Working Group for Information Accessibility(WGIA)

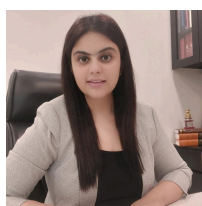
Cordel Green
WGIA Chair



Trisha Ray



Samridhi Arora
Conference Committee
Chair & India Satellite
Event Organizer



Maria Dolores Souza
Latam Satellite Event
Organizer



Dr Nicolàs Arnàez
Gather.Town
Management & Canada
Satellite Event
Organizer



**Andrea Millwood
Hargrave.**
Themes



Dr Dariia Opryshko
Europe Satellite Events
Organizer

Ayushi Khemka
New York Satellite
Event Organizer

Monica Desai
Themes

Xuan Tang
China Satellite Event
Organizer

Co-opted Conference Committee Members:

Janine Sale
Promotions and
Registration



Sasha Harrison
Speaker
Management &
Jamaica Satellite
Event Organizer



Al Amin Yusuph
Botswana Satellite
Event Organizer

Conference Volunteers:

**Camesha
Petrie**
Video
Management



Shalise Petrie
Video
Management



Abigail Francis
Gather.Town
Card
Management



Gather.Town Volunteers:

1. Josiah-John Green, Jamaica	2. Kevonteh Brown, Jamaica
3. Tatiyanna Davidson, Jamaica	4. Anamika Ratan, India
5. Derrone Young, Jamaica	6. Tanushri, India
7. Jonathan Bryce, Jamaica	8. Sanjana , India
9. Glenford Williams, Jamaica	10. Sakshi, US
11. Douglas Byfield, Jamaica	12. Annirudh, US
13. Matthew Patterson, Jamaica	