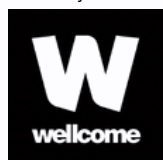


Funded by:



**WARWICK**  
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK



# **THERE IS NO APP FOR THIS!**

## **Regulating the Migration of Health Data in Sub-Saharan Africa**

# **PROJECT NEWSLETTER**

**January 2024**

### **Workshop on Human Rights and Digital Health**

On November 2nd, 2023, a workshop tackling human rights concerns in digital health, data migration, healthcare access, and equity took place at the School of Law, University of Warwick, UK. The event attracted a diverse audience of lawyers, activists, policymakers, students, and academics eager to engage on these critical issues.

Eight thought-provoking presentations explored a range of topics, including:

- Legal Protection of Human Genetic Resource Information in China
- Decolonising the Migration of Digital Health Data in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Global Health Governance's Colour Line: How International Finance Has Shaped Global Health Disparities
- UK Digital IDs and Access to Healthcare in Uganda
- Digital Health and Rights: Early Reflections from a Transnational Participatory Action Research Project
- UK Regulating the Corporate Sector's Involvement in the Transnational Movement of Data in Sub Saharan Africa
- The Online Green Wave: Digital Resistance, Abortion, and the Right of Peaceful Assembly in Argentina
- The Intersection of Health, Human Rights, and Activism



Among the esteemed presenters was Allan Maleche, a Kenyan lawyer, activist, and the Executive Director of the Kenya Legal & Ethical Issues Network on HIV and AIDS (KELIN). Mr. Maleche shared his learnings on activism in Kenya and internationally at the workshop. During his visit to Warwick, he also conducted a public lecture on “The Crucial Intersection of Human Rights in Health Crises” and a workshop for students exploring legal careers in humanitarianism.

This engaging workshop fostered dialogue and critical reflection on how to navigate the complex intersection of digital technologies, healthcare, and human rights, paving the way for a more equitable and just future.



### **Seminar on Regulatory Sandboxes in Health**



On 31st January 2024, a hybrid seminar discussing regulatory sandboxes was led by Anna Hinder at the School of Law, University of Warwick, UK. Anna Hinder is an independent business consultant on governance, innovation and professions and is currently affiliated with the University of Oxford.

The seminar was organised to support and strengthen Work Package 2 which looks at regulatory sandboxes in the Health domain.

## Key Outputs

- Prof. Sharifah Sekalala had the distinct honour of delivering the Joep Lange Institute Lecture at the Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development. This prestigious lecture series invites leading experts in the fields of health and science, and Prof. Sekalala's participation is a testament to her significant contributions. Her lecture at the [Joep Lange Chair and Fellows Symposium](#) was a thought-provoking analysis of legal issues relating to digital health surveillance and innovation.
- 
- The Collaboration on International ICT Policy for East and Southern Africa (CIPESA), our civil society partner in Uganda, published a commentary blog titled '[Patient Data Privacy in the Age of Telemedicine](#)'. The blog discusses how e-health startups in Ghana, Rwanda and Uganda are dealing with privacy implications around patient data.
  - On December 7th, 2023, as part of the broader aims of the project, the University of Warwick conducted a virtual capacity-building workshop on "Conducting Interviews and Transcribing" for our partner organisation in Uganda, Afya na Haki. Attended by over 15 participants, the workshop served as a valuable platform to discuss the challenges and best practices associated with conducting field interviews.
  - Dr. Lyla Latif, from the University of Warwick, published a blog titled '[Regulating Health Apps to Comply with Health Rights](#)' in the Health and Human Rights Journal. The blog highlights the critical need for robust mHealth regulations to protect privacy, ensure non-discrimination, and uphold health rights.
  - Afya na Haki convened a co-creative Think-tank which brought together diverse stakeholders in Uganda to shape data governance policy for future public health emergencies. Participants shared knowledge and best practices for managing data ethically and equitably during crises. This resulted in a policy brief for policymakers and the formation of an alliance to advocate for data governance frameworks that uphold human rights and ethical standards across Africa.
- 

---

## Announcements

We are thrilled to announce that the Wits University Law School's Health Apps project team has received a US\$100,000 grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for a 15-month data governance preparatory project. This project will explore the strengths and weaknesses of data governance structures across Sub-Saharan Africa's health data ecosystem. This work complements the 'There is No App for this' project's ongoing efforts in Work Package 3 to create harmonised guidelines through Pan-African standards, ultimately fostering a more robust and equitable health data landscape in Sub-Saharan Africa.

---

## Next Steps

The project continues to make significant strides this quarter, with a multitude of informative and engaging content planned for release. Stay tuned for a series of blog posts, articles and podcasts on the project's latest research, findings, and insights. These materials will be accessible through the [project website](#) and [Twitter](#), ensuring you're always up-to-date with our progress.

Furthermore, our dedicated project members across all work packages are actively engaged in exciting work. Their commitment and expertise continue to drive the project forward, and we look forward to sharing their achievements and contributions with you!