Bridging the Gap: Exploring the Role of AI in the Climate and Health Intersection

Panel Discussion
Date: 09th October '23
Venue: 555 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20001
Time: 14.00 – 16.00 EST, followed by high tea

Climate Crisis, Health, and AI: Understanding the Interlinkages

The World Health Organization has deemed **climate change as the 'single biggest threat facing human health',** projecting an annual increase of 250,000 deaths by 2030-2050 due to malnutrition, malaria, diarrhoea, and heat stress caused by its effects. Developing nations feel the direct impact of climate variability on their economies, social structures, nutrition, health, and access to healthcare. Underserved groups like the urban poor, indigenous communities, women, the elderly, and children are particularly vulnerable to these impacts. In this context, Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as a promising tool to address climate-related health challenges. AI's advanced data analysis and prediction capabilities can revolutionize our response to these issues. The convergence of health, climate, and AI is creating a new paradigm, but these intersections remain largely unexplored.

About the Session:

The curated panel discussion, facilitated collaboratively by Dasra's ClimateRISE Alliance and the Gupta-Klinsky India Institute at Johns Hopkins University, will bring together a diverse set of stakeholders to explore the intricate connections between health, climate change, and the transformative potential of artificial intelligence in mitigating and adapting to the climate-induced challenges for human health. Speakers will discuss the susceptibility of developing countries like India to climate-related health vulnerabilities while exploring the pathways to building resilient healthcare systems. The session will underscore the significance of exploring AI-driven solutions at the intersection of climate and health; and explore pathways for collaborative action across stakeholders

Discussion Points:

Current climate-health nexus: An overview of the health impacts of climate change, especially in vulnerable regions like India and for marginalized population groups

Implications for healthcare systems and value chain: increased vulnerability of healthcare systems and infrastructure, pathways for building resilience

AI's potential: Discuss how AI-driven technologies can catalyze innovations in the health value chain (delivery, predictive health analytics, and climate resilience strategies)

Scaling AI: Strategies to strengthen and scale healthcare systems with AI-powered tools in developing countries, enhancing readiness to counter climate-induced health challenges

Role of philanthropy: Philanthropy's role in providing risk capital to explore, test, and catalyze the implementation of innovative solutions at these intersections