LEAD KREA UNIVERSITY — LEVERAGING EVIDENCE FOR ACCESS AND DEVELOPMENT

School of Public Health and Family Medicine
Isikolo Sempilo Yoluntu kunye Namayeza Osapho
Departement Openbare Gesondheid en Huisartskunde
UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

JOHNS HOPKINS BLOOMBERG SCHOOL of PUBLIC HEALTH

GxD hub
Digital Equity. Connectivity. Insights.

Partners Meet
Measuring Digital Access in India

> August 30, 2024 > 10:00 am – 2:00 pm IST > The Ambassador, New Delhi

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER(S)
10:00 am - 10:30 am	Opening Remarks Introductions to GxD hub and ecosystem partners Workshop overview	**Saachi Bhalla,** Deputy Director, Gender Equality, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation **Sharon Buteau,** Executive Director, LEAD at Krea University
10:30 am - 11:00 am	**Setting the Context** **What are the challenges underpinning the measurement of digital access and use in India?** This first presentation will delve into the following aspects: • Why does digital access matter? (For DPI, programmes, and policy) • Review the core challenges associated with measuring digital access and use • Review current definitions and approaches for measuring digital access in surveys • Provide an overview of access domains **Followed by Q&A**	**Dr. Amnesty LeFevre,** Associate Professor, University of Cape Town **Anjora Sarangi,** University of Cape Town
11:00 am - 12:20 pm	**Gender Divide in Access to Digital**	
11:00 am - 11:10 am	Introduction to digital gender divide in access using NFHS data	**Dr. Diwakar Mohan,** Associate Research Professor, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
11:10 am - 12:20 pm	Panel discussion **Measuring Digital Access: Key Constructs, Challenges, and Innovations in Women's Mobile Phone Connectivity** This panel will bring together measurement and evaluation experts to explore the foundational elements of defining and measuring various constructs of digital access, with a specific focus on women's access to mobile phones. Panelists will also delve into broader challenges of digital access and data gaps. **Followed by Q&A and tea**	**Dr. Amitayu Sengupta,** Fellow, Centre for the Digital Future **Diksha Radhakrishnan,** Associate Director & India Lead, DataDelta, IDinsight **Dr. Santanu Pramanik,** Research Director, LEAD at Krea University **Dr. Diwakar Mohan,** Associate Research Professor, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health *(Moderator)*

TIME	TOPIC	SPEAKER(S)
12:20 pm - 2:00 pm	**Group Work on Measuring Access**	
12:20 pm - 1:10 pm	This session will start with a deep dive into select domains, including identification of missing constructs. Participants will work in groups to review each domain with a gender intentional lens, and map measurement requirements for men/women. Group 1: Physical access (ownership, sharing, device type, condition, mobility, and periodicity) Group 2: Financial access Group 3: Connectivity (SIM, network, and internet access)	Co-moderated by GxD hub and University of Cape Town
1:10 pm - 1:40 pm	Group reporting back	
1:40 pm - 2:00 pm	Reaching consensus on a minimum set of survey questions for measuring digital access • Review and input on a proposed module	Moderator: UCT/JHU

Speakers and Presenters

Saachi Bhalla is a seasoned professional, currently serving as Deputy Director, Gender Equality, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. She has held various roles including Program Officer and Associate Program Officer, focusing on global health and development initiatives. Previously, Saachi worked at Deloitte Consulting as a Senior Consultant, Consultant, and Senior Analyst. Her early career includes a stint as a Research Associate at the Centre for Science and Environment and a Project Facilitator and Peer Educator at The YP Foundation. She holds an MSc in Global Politics from LSE and a degree from Lady Shri Ram College for Women.

Saachi Bhalla
Deputy Director, Gender Equality, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Sharon Buteau is the Executive Director of LEAD at Krea University, bringing over two decades of experience in research and international development to her role. Sharon's research addresses critical questions around enhancing socio-economic outcomes for micro and small businesses, fostering women's entrepreneurship and economic empowerment and its intersections with mental health and wellbeing, and the impact of gender-intentional technologies, among others. Prior to her tenure at LEAD, Sharon was an economist with the Analysis Group in Montreal, Canada. She is currently pursuing her doctorate from the Chair of Development Economics at CeMIS—Georg-August-Universität Göttingen. Sharon holds an MSc in Economics from the Université du Québec à Montréal and an MA in Social Research Methods from the London School of Economics. Her research and insights have been widely published in peer-reviewed publications and featured in leading press outlets.

Sharon Buteau
Executive Director, LEAD at Krea University

Dr. Amnesty LeFevre is an Associate Professor at the University of Cape Town's School of Public Health, with joint appointments on the faculty at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and as a Visiting Research Fellow at the United Nations University International Institute for Global Health. Amnesty has over 20 years of experience leading evaluations of health and development programmes in over a dozen low-and middle-income countries globally. For the last decade, her work has focused on generating evidence on the impact of digital innovations in the development sector. This includes research to improve evaluation methods, including optimising the measurement of digital access and use at a population level and for specific use cases, including health workers and self-help groups.

Dr. Amnesty LeFevre
Associate Professor,
University of Cape Town

Anjora Sarangi is a social scientist and independent research consultant with Johns Hopkins University and University of Cape Town. She has been working in the development and policy space for over 10 years. Anjora has been involved in and driven mixed methods and qualitative research and evaluation studies in India and more recently in Kenya. Her domain interests and experience span gender, economic empowerment, public health and digital inclusion. Before this, she has worked with organisations such as BBC Media Action, PATH, BCG and her academic background is in political science.

Anjora Sarangi
University of Cape Town

Dr. Diwakar Mohan is an epidemiologist who has worked in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa, primarily working in program evaluations, implementation research and community-based randomised trials of digital interventions. He works towards the development of rigorous methods for the measurement morbidity and mortality burden and risk factors. He has extensive experience in the development, implementation, and evaluation of mHealth technologies to strengthen and improve health systems in lower income countries, with a focus on Maternal & Child health, sexual and reproductive health, and immunisation.

Dr. Diwakar Mohan
Associate Research Professor,
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg
School of Public Health

Dr. Amitayu Sengupta has a doctorate in economics and over 19 years of experience in both academic research and industry associations. He specialises in developmental economics with a keen focus on the digital sector and is currently serving as a Fellow at the Centre for The Digital Future.

Amitayu was previously at the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) and worked on public policy for the digital sector.

Dr. Amitayu Sengupta
Centre for The Digital Future

Diksha Radhakrishnan is an Associate Director, India Lead DataDelta at IDinsight, based in New Delhi, India. She leads the gender research portfolio at IDinsight India, driving strategic initiatives to advance gender equity by bridging data gaps and empowering decision-makers with the insights needed to address gender disparities.

Diksha worked as Deputy Director at the Centre for Social & Behaviour Change, Ashoka University where she served as Founding Team Lead for the first-ever Behavioural Insights Unit with NITI Aayog. She also helped establish a Behavioural Design Lab at the Centre to bring together design-thinking with behavioural science for innovative solutioning. Diksha completed her MS in Development Studies from the School of Oriental & African Studies, University of London and her BA in Political Science from Lady Shri Ram College, University of Delhi.

Diksha Radhakrishnan
Associate Director & India Lead, DataDelta, IDinsight

Dr. Santanu Pramanik is a seasoned research leader and statistician, with nearly two decades of experience in steering large-scale data innovation initiatives. As a Research Director at LEAD, Santanu oversees the research portfolio across thematic areas and provides methodological inputs and strategic oversight to guide project implementation. Prior to joining LEAD, Santanu was a Senior Fellow at the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) and Deputy Director of NCAER's National Data Innovation Centre. He has previously worked as a Research Scientist at the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) and as a Survey Statistician at NORC, an independent affiliate of the University of Chicago. Santanu holds a PhD in Survey Methodology from the University of Maryland, College Park and a Master's degree in Statistics from the University of Calcutta.

Dr. Santanu Pramanik
Research Director,
LEAD at Krea University