The 4th
UNESCO GLOBAL FORUM
ON THE ETHICS OF AI 2026

GFEAI
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
14 - 17 Sep 2026

Workshop Program



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SDAIA
الهيئة السعودية للبيانات والذكاء الاصطناعي
Saudi Data & AI Authority

ICAIRE
International Center for AI Research & Ethics
Under the auspices of UNESCO

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Day 2 | 16 SEPTEMBER 2026

Program at a glance

▼▲ Launch ▼▲ Fireside Chat ▼▲ Panel discussion ▼▲ Virtual Session

Time	MIRZAB HALL
11:30–12:45	▼▲ **At Speed or at Risk? Leaving No One Behind in the Age of AI** Speakers: • Dr. Blaise Robert, Global AI Advisor, International Red Cross Committee (ICRC) • Helen McElhinney, Executive Director, CDAC Network Co-Founder of SAFE AI • Dr. Mohammed Alawad, General Manager of the General Administration of Studies, Saudi Data & AI Authority (SDAIA) • Mumtaz Tamim, Chief Information Officer (CIO), and Director, Digital Impact, Technology Innovation Department, United Nations Relief Works Agency (UNRWA) • Stella Suge, Executive Director, FilmAid Kenya **Moderator** Amina Hamshari, Head of Social Human Sciences, UNESCO Regional Office for the Gulf States Yemen
12:45–14:00	Break
14:00–15:15	▼▲ **A Women4Ethical AI Network Session: Turning the Gender Lens for AI Governance into Action** Speakers: • Dr Bhavani R. Rao, Dean of the School of Social Behavioural Sciences, UNESCO Chair on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham • Rehab Alarfaj, Assistant Chief, Strategy Management Office for Partnerships and International Relations, Saudi Data & AI Authority (SDAIA) • Amna Usman Chaudhry, Financial Economist and AI Governance Expert; Executive Fellow, Digital Growth Collective • Gökçe Çobansoy Hızel, Board of Directors' Executive Director, Dias Technology Group **Moderator** Paola Gálvez Callirgos, AI Ethics Manager, Globethics
15:15–15:30	Break
15:30–16:30	▼▲ **From Research to Decision: Navigating the Ethics Governance of AI Across Four Health Domains – with the World Health Organisation (WHO)** Speakers: • Dr. Batoul Baz, Vice President of the Health Sector, King Abdulaziz City for Science Technology (KACST) • Dr. Dari Alhuwail, Associate Professor (Adjunct) of Information Science and AI, Kuwait University • Dr. Suliman Alghnam, Executive Director of Surveillance, Saudi Public Health Authority • Prof. Jerome Singh, Adjunct Professor in the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto • Rohit Malpani, Consultant, World Health Organization **Moderator** Dr. Faryal Khamis, Senior Consultant, Royal Hospital, Oman
16:30–17:30	▼▲ **Human-machine Relationships in the Design of AI-enabled Workflows – Hosted by the UNESCO Business Council for Ethics** Speakers: • Lucia Russo, Senior Economist at Division for AI and Emerging Digital Technologies, Organisation for Economic Co-operation Development (OECD) • Vikram Nagendra, Director, Corporate Sustainability, SAP • Prof. Virgilio Almeida, Professor Emeritus of Computer Science, Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG), Laureate of the UNESCO-Uzbekistan Beruniy Prize, for Scientific Research on the Ethics of AI, • Youchul Kim, VP, LG AI Research **Moderator** Kasia Odrozek, Coordinator, UNESCO Business Council for the Ethics of AI
17:30–18:00	▼▲ **UNESCO and Somerset House Studios AI Ethics Art Residency Screening** Speakers: • Joshua Ashish Dawson • Mac Andre Arboleda • Minne Atairu **Moderator** Marie McPartlin, Director of Somerset House Studios

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Time	MANWR HALL
11:30–12:45	▼▲ **Advancing Child Safety and Youth Well-being in an AI-Powered Digital Age** Speakers: • Dr. Asma Humayun, National Technical Advisor on Mental Health, Government of Pakistan • Lidiya Beisembayeva, UNESCO RAM Consultant, Kazakhstan • Mohammed Althaly, Deputy for International Cooperation, Saudi Human Rights Commission • Prof. Raian Ali, UNESCO Chair in Digital Technologies & Human Behaviour, Hamad Bin Khalifa University • Sophia Tawonga Longwe, Project Manager Policy, Wikimedia Germany • Prof. Sonia Livingstone, Department of Media Communications, London School of Economics Political Science **Moderator** Dr. Dafna Feinholz, Chief of the Bioethics Ethics of Science Technology Section, UNESCO
12:45–14:00	Break
14:00–15:15	▼▲ **Shaping a Responsible Future in Life Sciences: The Age of AI-Enabled Synthetic Biology** Speakers: • Dr. Batoul Baz, Vice-President, Health Sector, King Abdulaziz City for Science Technology • Dr. Marilene Pavan, Director of Technology, IGEM • Prof. Dr. Marileen Dogterom, Professor of Bionanoscience, Delft University of Technology **Moderator** Dr. Dafna Feinholz, Chief of the Bioethics Ethics of Science Technology Section, UNESCO
15:15–15:30	Break
15:30–16:30	▼▲ **Who Bears the Costs? Addressing Social Inequalities from the AI Revolution** Speakers: • Prof. Jake Okechukwu Effoduh, Assistant Professor, Lincoln Alexer School of Law, Toronto Metropolitan University • Prof. Hisham Alhadlaq, Vice President for Graduate Studies and Scientific Research, King Saud University • Paula Istúriz Cavero, Programme Specialist for Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO Regional Office of the Caribbean **Moderator** Irakli Khodeli, Chief of Section, Management of Social Transformation, UNESCO
16:30–17:30	▼▲ **Synergies between AI Safety and Ethics** Speakers: • Akmaral Orazaly, Principal Researcher, Mohammed Bin Rashid School of Government • Dr Bernard Ghanem, Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Computer Science, KAUST • Dr. Faisal Alotaibi, General Manager of Public Policy and Licensing, Saudi Data & AI Authority (SDAIA) • Mark Daley, Chief AI Officer, Western University • Nino Taganashvili, Head of International Relations and Strategic Planning Department, Georgia's Innovation and Technology Agency (GITA) **Moderator** Gemma Galdón Clavell, Founder CEO, Eticas

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Day 3 | 17 SEPTEMBER 2026

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Time	MIRZAB HALL
10:00–11:15	▼▲ **Enhancing Inclusion and Access to Justice in the Age of AI** Speakers: • H.E. Alpha Sesay, Attorney General & Minister of Justice, Sierra Leone • Abdulaziz bin Mohammed Alsamani, Judge, Board of Grievances • Smita Mutt, Strategic Initiative lead, DAKSH • Stella Murungi, Chief Digital Officer (CDO), Justice Sector, Rwanda Ministry of Justice **Moderator** Prateek Sibal, Programme Specialist, Communication and Information Sector, UNESCO
11:15–11:30	Break
11:30–12:45	▼▲ **Sustaining the Public Purposes of Education in the Age of AI: Focus on Higher Education** Speakers: • H.E Pierre Gomez, Minister of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology, The Gambia • Dr. Datuk Habibah Abdul Rahim, Director, Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) • Prof. Ig Iber Bittencourt, UNESCO Chairholder on AI in Education Unplugged, Professor of Computer Science and Learning Technology, Federal University of Alagoas • Dr. Najla Altwaijri, Education Advisor, Saudi Data & AI Authority (SDAIA) **Moderator** Dr. Shafika Isaacs, Chief of Section, Technology and AI in Education, UNESCO
12:45–14:00	Break
14:00–15:15	▼▲ **Co-creating Impact: How Civil Society and Academia Are Shaping Ethical AI Governance** Speakers: • Paola Gálvez Callirgos, AI Ethics Manager, Globethics • Valentine Goddard, Founder and Executive Director, AI Impact Alliance • Jamila Venturini, Co-Executive Director, Derechos Digitales • Dona Mathew, Law and Policy Researcher, Digital Futures Lab • Merrin Muhammed Ashraf, Researcher, IT for Change **Moderator** Camilo Sarmiento, Associate Programme Specialist, Sciences Sector,, UNESCO

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Time	MANWR HALL
10:00–11:15	▼▲ **Whose Language Does AI Speak? Advancing Cultural and Linguistic Diversity in AI – with the Coalition for Linguistic Diversity in AI** Speakers: • Dr. Abdullah Alharbi, Head of the Computational Lexicography Department, King Salman Global Academy for Arabic Language • Dr. Aliaa Youssif, Dean, College of Computing and Information Technology, Arab Academy for Science and Technology • Aline Sara, CEO Co-Founder, NaTakallam • Dr. Faisal Alotaibi, General Manager of Public Policy and Licensing, Saudi Data & AI Authority (SDAIA) • Óttar Kolbeinsson Proppé, Director of Policy & International Relations, Almannarómur **Moderator** Irakli Khodeli, Chief of Section, Management of Social Transformation Programme, UNESCO
11:15–11:30	Break
11:30–11:40	▼▲ **The Ethical Use of AI in Museums** Speakers: • Salah Khaled, Director, UNESCO Regional Office for the Gulf States and Yemen • Rola Al-Ghrair, Director General, Saudi National Museum
11:40–12:45	▼▲ **The Ethical Use of AI in Museums** Speakers: • Alaa Otain, UNESCO Conventions Manager, Saudi Heritage Commission • Fatma Soliman, Director General of Training, Grand Egyptian Museum • Ethan Leem, Youth Ambassador, My Chosen Vessels; Maasai Heritage Center • Mohammed Al-Rumaihi, Chair, International Council of Museums (ICOM) Arab • Nailanna Tenorio Lima, Head of Institutional Communication, Museum of Tomorrow **Moderator** Klara Dreze, Executive Office, Culture Sector, UNESCO
12:45–14:00	Lunch Break
14:00–14:05	▼▲ **Ethical Implications of Physical AI** Speakers: • Wei Liang, Vice President, China Academy of Information and Communications Technology
14:05–15:15	▼▲ **Ethical Implications of Physical AI** Speakers: • Dr Fawaz Alqahtani General Manager of Government Excellence in the Business Development Sector, Saudi Data & AI Authority (SDAIA) • Wei Liang, Vice President, China Academy of Information and Communications Technology • Prof. Jerry John Kponyo, Professor and Director, Office of Grants and Research, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology • Prof. Selma Šabanović, Associate Professor of Informatics at Indiana University • Prof. Yi Zeng, Wu Yuzhang Chair Professor, Gaoling School of AI, Renmin University of China **Moderator** Dr Bhavani R. Rao, Dean of the School of Social Behavioral Sciences, Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham

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