

Improving resilience  
in developing countries



# **Digital Health Provision Through Telemedicine Ecosystem Against Pandemics, Epidemics and Natural Disasters in Sub- Saharan Africa**

Theme: Digital Inclusion for Job Creation and Health

21 April 2022, 12:00-13:30 CET

# Our Team



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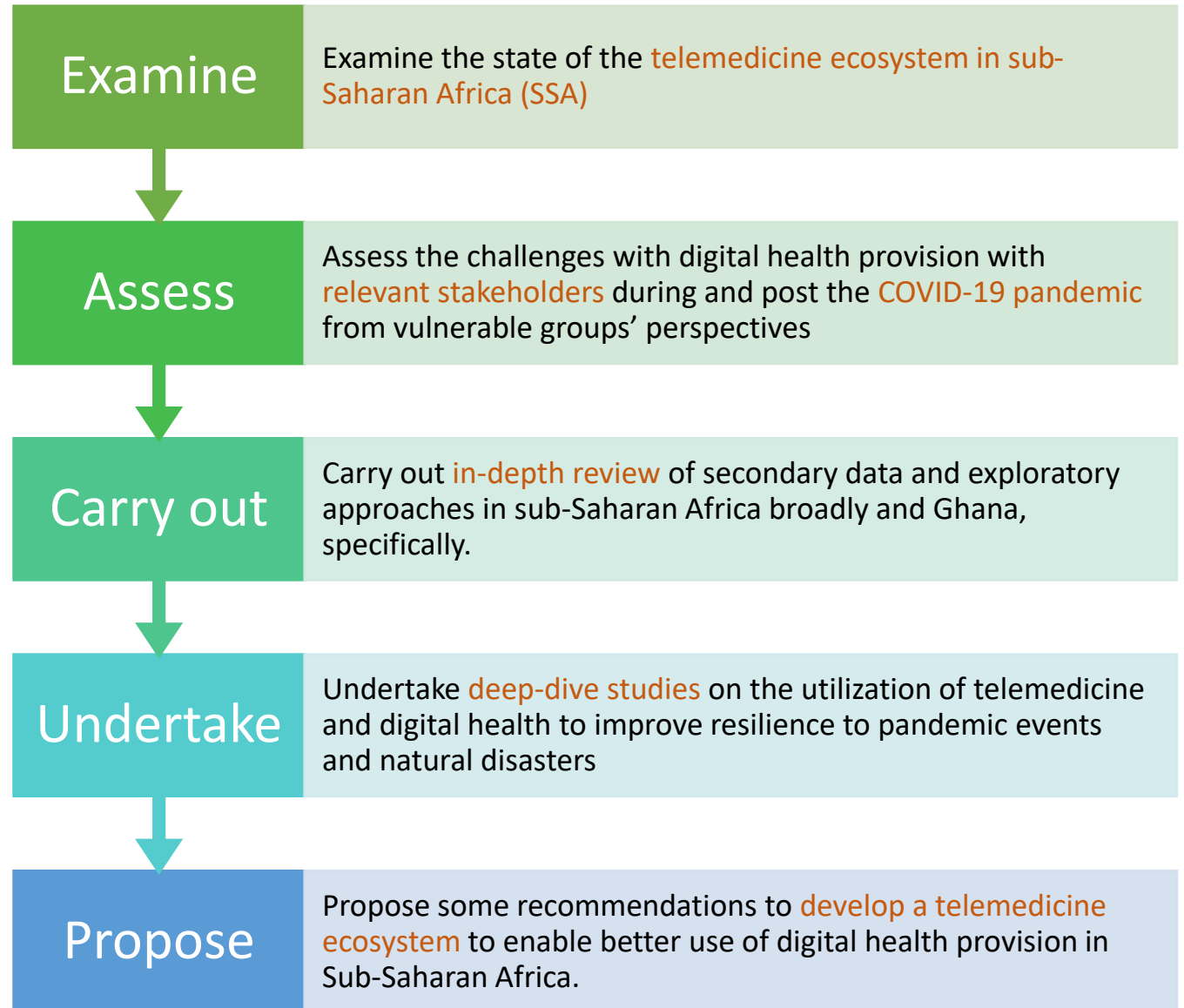


Dr Shang Gao

# Introduction

- Global health shocks, including the Covid pandemic have become rampant in the past few decades.
- The economic and social consequences of such events, even though nontrivial for many countries, are much dire for many developing countries.
  - poor health infrastructures
- Telemedicine ecosystems can be leveraged to expand health service delivery particularly to the poor and the vulnerable (children, women and the elderly) in remote communities.

# Project Aim



# Research Questions

- **What** is the state of the telecommunication and telemedicine ecosystems in sub-Saharan Africa?
- **How** has telemedicine been diffused to vulnerable groups (elderly, disable; poor) in sub-Saharan Africa?
- **How** has the telemedicine ecosystem been leveraged to improve resilience to pandemics, epidemics, and natural disasters?
- **What** are the challenges and successes of expanding access to telemedicine in Sub Saharan Africa?

# In Depth interviews with different stakeholders of the telemedicine ecosystem in Ghana

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NHIA Staff

Ministry of  
Health Staff

Ministry of  
Communication  
Staff

Ghana Health  
Service Staff

Private mobile  
health  
companies

Health NGOs

People from old  
pilot  
communities

Vulnerable  
people (elderly,  
disabled, etc)

Some initial findings so far.....

## SSA countries face the challenges of

Inadequate  
ICT  
Infrastructure

Technological  
Illiteracy

Low Internet  
Quality

Erratic Power  
Supply

High Cost of  
Internet

Inadequate  
Human Capital

Technical  
Support

# Proposed Research Outcome



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Research reports on the digital health provision through telemedicine to improve resilience to pandemic events and natural disasters in Sub-Saharan Africa.

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Those reports will be disseminated and presented to all the parties across the telemedicine ecosystem including Government Policy Makers, practitioners from Healthcare Industry and ICT Industry, and university academic scholars; Industry reports (ICT, Healthcare) Scientific Journal articles

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Research Outcome conference with NHS Ghana / Ghana University/ Stakeholders of the telemedicine ecosystem in Ghana