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| ITU Logo | INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION**TELECOMMUNICATIONSTANDARDIZATION SECTOR**STUDY PERIOD 2017-2020 | FG-AI4H-C-029 |
| **ITU-T Focus Group on AI for Health** |
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| **DOCUMENT** |
| **Source:** | FG-AI4H Management |
| **Title:** | Call for Topic Group Participation |
| **Purpose:** | Approval |
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| **Abstract:** | This document contains an initial draft for a call for participation in the different topic areas under the FG-AI4H. |

In the context of the Focus Group AI 4 health (FG-AI4H), a topic is a health area of broad interest in which the community wishes to establish benchmarks.

FG - AI4H Topics are health areas where:

* the problem is relevant; e.g. it impacts a large and diverse part of the global population and/or it solves a problem that is difficult/problematic/expensive for humans;
* where AI algorithms promise tangible improvements relative to the current practices either in terms of quality, efficiency, or both (leading to better care, results, and/or cost effectiveness); and where such algorithms can be quantitatively evaluated and benchmarked with clear metrics.

A topic group is the driving force to establish benchmark in a particular health area. In particular, it is tasked to:

* Bring together the relevant stakeholders interested in the establishment of the benchmark
* Define the details of the quantities to be measured and benchmarked
* Work with relevant stakeholders to ensure that the benchmark will be relevant to clinicians, researchers and policy makers.
* Establish the undisclosed test data set on which AI models are to be evaluated on
* Work with stakeholders to establish an publicly available data set for model training, where possible
* Ensure the datasets comply with accepted ethical and legal standards
* Ensure that the data complied with the data handling policy established by the FG
* Coordinate the overall benchmarking establishment together with the FG management and relevant working groups.

**Participation**

Participation in the Topic Group is open to everyone.

**Background**

An AI algorithm can only be used with complete confidence if it has been quality controlled through a rigorous evaluation against a system of standards. Towards developing such standards, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has established the Focus Group on "Artificial Intelligence for Health" (FG - AI4H) in partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO). ITU and WHO have considerable experience in the standardization of information/communication technologies and the health domain, respectively, making FG - AI4H ideally suited for establishing a standard assessment framework of AI for health.

The discussions within FG - AI4H have led to a two - step process. First, a call for proposals: use cases and data has been issued to generate the necessary framework to issue the secondary call for AI technology for health, which is targeted towards evaluating AI applications for the use cases and data that were selected and evaluated as a result of this initial call. This approach provides an open and transparent process that allows participants to become involved with suggesting and selecting use cases and the associated data, and to participate in the testing of AI algorithms at and international/world - wide level.

The call for proposals has identified a number of topic areas of great interest. In the process, it was decided that for topics that are of interest and appear feasible, a topic group will need to be established to organize, in a coordinated fashion with possibly multiple stakeholders, the evaluation / benchmark, by identifying the relevant data sets (both public datasets for training, where possible, and an undisclosed data set for testing), and by defining the exact quantities to be measured.

Documents to be consulted are the FG - AI4H documents B - 103 (data acceptance criteria), B-104 (thematic classification scheme), and B - 105 (data handling) on our website (<https://www.itu.int/go/fgai4h>).

**How to apply**

The Focus Group website (<https://www.itu.int/go/fgai4h>) lists the topic drivers. In order to participate in a topic, contact the topic driver via email and copy in the Focus Group secretariat ([tsbfgai4h@itu.int](tsbfgai4h%40itu.int)).

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