

# Artificial Intelligence and Data Science for Society Special Track

International Conference on Intelligent Systems Design and Applications (ISDA 2019), Dec 2019

## **Session Information**

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Data Science (DS) approaches to tackle social challenges has been receiving attention over the last few years. This entails using Machine Learning, Statistics, Mathematics, and other related tools to tackle challenges that lead to Social Impact. This is exemplified by organisations that work with government, NGOs, private entities with the sole purpose of affecting some process that is a public good or at least has externalities that are public good. Overall this encompasses more than just using Data Science in social good settings; it involves understanding society, factors that contribute to or impede progress, building skill for public servants, creating receptive environments, sharing experiences within the sector with other and more. Covering all these factors is in the pursuit of having lasting impact.

There are different paradigms being used to tackle problems in different areas and there is value in learning the insights gained in all these areas. We aim to provide a session where practitioners, industrial representatives and researchers in this field can share their experiences, present current research results and discuss the modelling or analysis in various problem areas.

## Goal 1: Research papers

This session invites full research papers covering AI/DS Research, Practice & Capacity building in:

- Food, water, and utilities
- Public safety and disaster relief
- Inclusiveness
- Ethical issues, fairness in Machine Learning or Artificial Intelligence
- Efficiency and sustainability
- Government transparency
- Economic, social, and personal development
- Transportation
- Energy
- Smart cities
- Education
- Social services, unemployment and homelessness
- Healthcare

- Policymaking
- Environment
- And more....

## Goal 2: Idea contributions

The session invites submission of

- Extended abstracts of work in progress
- Challenge announcements

## Goal 3: Competition Track

The session invites submission of AI/DS competitions with the theme around AI/ML for Society.

### **Organisers**

- Vukosi Marivate (UP, South Africa)
- Dina Machuve (NMUST, Tanzania)
- Bubacarr Bah (AIMS, South Africa)
- Ciira Maina (DKUT, Kenya)
- Ernest Mwebaze (Google AI, Ghana)

Prior workshops or special sessions by organisers

- Deep Learning Indaba 2018 - Ethics and Policy for AI
- Deep Learning Indaba 2019 - ML for Good
- DALI 2019 - Fair and transparency in ML
- Data Science Africa - Workshops
- Data Science sessions in SANUM 2017 and SAMSA 2018
- Data Science Workshops at AIMS