

FII INSTITUTE SERIES: HEALTH IS WEALTH

UNGA side event by the FII Institute

September 21, 2021 | 8:30 - 10:30AM EDT
New York City



EVENT OVERVIEW

Alongside the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), this hybrid event on the topic of **“Health is Wealth”** will convene the world’s most prominent governmental and corporate leaders to address the pressing issues of today: the future of health, pandemic responses, biotechnology, and more. COVID-19 has transformed the world as we know it: the global economy shrunk by approximately 4%, mobility came to an abrupt standstill, millions of people were pushed into extreme poverty, and weaknesses in our global health systems were harshly exposed. Amidst the extreme challenges experienced by the world over the past year and a half, the pandemic has propelled global leaders forward toward finding solutions to these complex issues. Now is the moment to charter a path toward more equitable, sustainable, and resilient health systems.

EVENT PROGRAM

8:30-8:35

WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

High-level introduction to “Health is Wealth.”

8:35-8:55

Debate

REVITALIZING RESILIENCE INVESTING IN HEALTH FOR GROWTH

Each year, poor health around the world results in about 15% lower GDP from premature death and lost productivity (Brookings). Beyond the obvious benefits to individuals and societies, addressing health weaknesses has the potential for massive economic payoff. It is estimated that for every \$1 invested in health, we could see an economic return between \$2 and \$4 across developing countries (Brookings). This conversation will address how sustained interest and investment in the health and pharmaceutical sectors can position the world for growth.

- How can we incentivize governments and the private sector to invest in health?
- How can investing in health build resilience toward other health risks (e.g., future pandemics, climate change, antimicrobial resistance, etc.)?

8:55-9:05

In Conversation

SPECIAL CONVERSATION WITH A WORLD LEADER

While COVID-19 has indiscriminately caused health and socioeconomic crises around the world, some regions have fared better than others in terms of both death toll and economic impact. While sub-Saharan Africa’s confirmed case numbers and per capita death figures are lower than any other region, the continent is currently experiencing a regional third wave that is seeing their case numbers and deaths surge. Meanwhile fewer vaccines per capita have been administered in Africa than in any other region. Despite these challenges, Africa has also shown the world resilience and the value of decades of experience in combating communicable disease. This conversation will discuss how COVID has uniquely impacted Africa and how the continent can build back stronger.

- What can be done to rectify Africa’s critical vaccine shortage and unequal access to health technology?
- How can a focus on strengthening health and building back stronger help restart African economies and bolster them?
- How can Africa leverage its unique multilateral institutions and human capital to build toward a stronger future?

EVENT PROGRAM

9:05-9:15

In Conversation

ONE VACCINE, INFINITE POTENTIAL

The rapid design and rollout of the COVID-19 vaccines were great feats of innovation made possible by decades of scientific research. This year a similar RNA-based technology was patented to vaccinate against malaria, and scientists are exploring how this technology could be used against the flu as well as other maladies (The Atlantic). The evolution of medical research over the COVID-19 pandemic provided hope to many and reinvigorated public interest in the possibilities of medical research. This one-on-one conversation will discuss how innovations in health research made globally known by the COVID-19 vaccines can be leveraged to impact future health solutions and outcomes. How can we build on the experience gained from the COVID-19 fueled breakthroughs in medical science and apply it to other critical diseases, such as tuberculosis (TB), malaria, and HIV?

- Which best practices from the COVID-19 vaccine development process as well as other recent drug development processes can we apply to other pandemic and non-pandemic vaccines or drugs?
- It has been 100 years since the first administration of the only TB vaccine – what can COVID-19 vaccine development teach us about the research, funding, and attention needed to create new treatments for TB?
- What is needed from governments and the private sector to fully leverage mRNA technology's potential?

9:15-9:20

Spark Talk

VACCINE DISTRIBUTION: FOR ALL?

The pandemic has illuminated the vast inequity of our world: a variety of factors cause COVID-19 to disproportionately impact certain demographics over others. These inequities have further surfaced during the process of COVID-19 vaccine distribution.

- How can governments and private organizations ensure that vaccine-related innovation benefits all, regardless of age, race, socioeconomic class, geographic access, and other demographic-based determinants?
- How can leaders leverage the lessons learned from the COVID-19 vaccine rollout to strengthen health systems of the future?

9:20-9:40

Debate

BALANCING THE SCALES OF GLOBAL HEALTH HOW TO ERASE THE HEALTH GAP

According to the World Health Organization, about one third of the world's people lack access to essential health products, including vaccines and diagnostic tools. The low rates of vaccination against COVID-19 across middle to low-income nations support this fact. In a globalized world, where we are all intrinsically connected to one another, the world cannot afford to have such health disparity that places a disproportionate burden on vulnerable populations. What are the world's leaders doing to close the dangerous health gap that exists globally?

- What is the role of private sector investment and public-private partnerships in driving health innovation and decreasing disparities in healthcare?
- Surrounding recent discussions regarding vaccine passports, how can leaders ensure that the world does not become further divided along lines of wealth and vaccine access?
- How can global leaders advance universal health coverage around the world?

EVENT PROGRAM

9:40-9:45

Spark Talk

HEALTH IN THE ANTHROPOCENE

We are living in an age where humans have had a substantial impact on our planet, effecting significant change including global warming and habitat destruction. Climate change influences human health and disease, with the WHO reporting that between 2030 and 2050, climate change is expected to cause approximately 250,000 additional deaths from malnutrition, malaria, diarrhea, and heat stress per year. Environmental shifts, including the destruction of natural habitats, has gravely impacted our proximity to wild animals, consequently influencing the spread of viruses. What can we do to prevent and slow the changing environment's impact on worsening health outcomes?

- How do climate change and environmental shifts impact pandemic occurrence and severity?
- Not all populations are evenly impacted by the influences of climate change: how can we ensure that we build back better in a way that brings benefit to all, especially the most vulnerable populations?
- How can governments and the private sector most efficiently act in the area of climate change (e.g., policy changes, technological innovation, etc.) to optimize health outcomes?

9:45-10:05

Debate

SURGING TOWARD THE FUTURE

HOW TO DRIVE DISCOVERY

Scientific innovation and discovery are critical pillars of progress. Over the past year and a half, populations around the world have increasingly relied on innovation for improved medical care, ranging from the development of telemedicine apps to the groundbreaking research behind precision medicine. Health practitioners, executives, and scientists have been exploring digital health's positive impact on efficiency, access to holistic patient data, physician satisfaction, clinical trials, and more. To continue the momentum driven by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the unparalleled vaccine development efforts it necessitated, governments, institutions, and the private sector must promote innovation.

- How can health systems best find solutions to extant health-related conundrums?
- Is telemedicine here to stay, and if so, how can our health systems shift to deliver the highest quality of care to the broadest range of demographics?
- How can an increase in digital health solutions impact clinical trials and scientific innovation?
- What do governments and the private sector need to do to foster curiosity and discovery through research?

10:05-10:15

In Conversation

SPECIAL CONVERSATION WITH H.E. YASIR AL-RUMAYYAN

10:15-10:30

Debate

BUILDING BACK HEALTHIER

A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Lessons learned over the past decade, including insights gained from the COVID-19 pandemic, can bring about a brighter future for the health of the world. As we imagine what more effective, sustainable, and equitable health systems could look like, where should world leaders prioritize their attention and investment?

10:30

CLOSING REMARKS

A message of hope for the future.

ABOUT FII INSTITUTE: OUR DNA

FII Institute is a new global nonprofit foundation with an investment arm and one agenda: **Impact on Humanity.**

Global, inclusive and built on ESG principles, we foster great minds from around the world and turn ideas into real-world solutions in five critical areas: Artificial Intelligence and Robotics, Education, Healthcare and Sustainability.

We are in the right place at the right time: when decision makers, investors and an engaged generation of youth come together in aspiration, energized and ready for change. We harness that energy into three pillars: THINK, XCHANGE, ACT.



THINK

We empower the world's brightest minds to identify technological solutions to the most pressing issues facing humanity.



XCHANGE

We build inclusive platforms for international dialogue, knowledge sharing and partnership.



ACT

We curate and invest directly in the technologies of the future to secure sustainable real-world solutions.

OUR PURPOSE

Enabling a brighter future for humanity.

OUR VISION

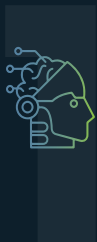
Empowering the world's brightest minds to shape a brighter future for ALL, and with ALL.

OUR MISSION

Curating and enabling ideas to impact humanity sustainably.

Join us to own, co-create and actualize a brighter, more sustainable future for **Humanity.**

FII Institute has the below main focus areas:



AI & Robotics

Harnessing the power of AI software and Robotics hardware to address complex problems using cutting-edge technology.



Healthcare

Leverage new dynamic applications of technology to disrupt the traditional healthcare industry.



Sustainability

Deploy technologies to ensure development meets the needs of the present while considering needs of future generations.

[FII-INSTITUTE.ORG](https://www.fii-institute.org)

@FIIKSA FII Institute

[#IMPACTONHUMANITY](https://twitter.com/IMPACTONHUMANITY)
[#FIIINSTITUTEUNGA](https://twitter.com/FIIINSTITUTEUNGA)
[#FIIHEALTHISWEALTH](https://twitter.com/FIIHEALTHISWEALTH)