A Global Network of AI Excellence Centres in Sustainable Development – NAIXUS

The International Research Center in AI - IRCAI (Slovenia), the Data-Pop Alliance (USA), the ELLIS Unit Alicante Foundation (Spain), the Knowledge 4 All Foundation (UK), the UNESCO Chair in Analytics and Data Science at University of Essex, and the Regional Center for Studies on the Development of the Information Society - CETIC (Brazil) have established NAIXUS - a global network of AI centres of excellence for sustainable development.

NAIXUS was launched as multi-stakeholder initiative with the goal of bridging the gap between AI and sustainable development at the side event of the STI 2022 Forum on May 4, 2022. Speakers at the event included Ambassador Boštjan Malovrh, Permanent Representative of Slovenia to the UN in New York, Marielza Oliveira, Communications and Information Sector, IFAP Secretary, UNESCO, and John Shawe-Taylor, IRCAI Director. The main part of the agenda consisted of short presentations introducing the history, goal, objectives, composition, activities, programmes and technological focus of the network with supporters and initial partners of the initiative to build this global network of excellence centres in sustainable development.

The recording of the event is available here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kSca6amLeyU.

Background of NAIXUS

By 2030, the world's population is expected to reach 8.5 billion, all of whom will be directly or indirectly affected by artificial intelligence (AI). Already, AI is having a measurable impact on all sectors and ecosystems - human, environmental, and economic - on an unprecedented scale. IRCAI, its partners, and their teams have extensive experience in building and leading AI research networks dating back to 2004 (NeuroColt, NeuroColt2, PASCAL, PASCAL2, AI4D) and continuing from 2020 with ELISE and HumaneAI.

Network for Artificial Intelligence, Knowledge and SUStainable development
– a nexus and central meeting point between AI and SDGs
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The vision of NAIXUS

The network will support cutting-edge research and applied activities on SDG-related priorities through a network of affiliated research centres and companies around the world. NAIXUS will mobilise researchers to collaborate on key AI methodologies and sustainable development topics, to achieve critical mass on these topics, and to collaborate across cultural and language barriers. In short, the focus is on science, which is urgently needed to achieve the SDGs.

For more information about NAIXUS' mission, a list of members, projects, calls to action, and contact information, visit NAIXUS.net.

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