

Shaping an equitable post-COVID world: the role of Global South think tanks

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via  zoom

Preparing for the next Pandemic: Fostering vaccine equity

led by [IEA](#) - Kenya

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12:00 (UTC)

7:00 (UTC-5 NYC), 13:00 (UTC+1 Lagos), 17:30 (UTC+5:30 Delhi)

Languages: English, Spanish, and French

The COVID-19 health crisis has exposed inadequacies in health systems, overwhelming hospitals and health workers in most countries. Although the development and deployment of the COVID vaccine was successful in the Global North, the existing methods of production and distribution of vaccines have failed to guarantee equitable access to them for the countries in the Global South. This affects not only the countries with insufficient vaccines but the rest of the world as well.

Concerns over this unbalance in access have coined the term "Vaccine apartheid", alleging that vaccines are kept from developing countries intentionally. However, this notion is based on moral concerns. It is neither adequately informed by the political-economic contexts of the nations in which vaccines are produced, nor by the mechanisms for their distribution.

This session will unpack lessons learnt from this pandemic to be ready for the next one. It will propose solutions to be better prepared. Among them, the establishment of efficient public institutions and frameworks to ensure better and equitable access to vaccines in the Global South.

Session Moderator

- Kwame Owino – CEO, Institute of Economic Affairs (Kenya)

Panelists

- Neelesh Kapoor, Program Leader – Immunization, Foundation for people-Centric Health Systems (India)
- Ama Fenny – Research Fellow, ISSER (Ghana)
- Carlos Felipe Escobar – Director, INNOS (Colombia)
- Jacky Kagume & Leo Kemboi – Institute of Economic Affairs (Kenya)