Summary of ICODA Scientific & Strategic Advisory Council Meeting – December 2020

Date: 09 December 2020  
Chair: Agnes Binagwaho and Martin J Murphy  
Attendees:  
- Trudie Lang  
- Professor WanNian LIANG  
- Nicky Mulder  
- Frank Rockhold  
- Steve Webb  
- Wang Yu  
- Andrew Morris (HDR UK)  
- Névine Zariffa (DP1 lead)

1. **Welcome & Introductions**

   AB invited everyone to introduce themselves and express their motivation to join the SSAC. The data science experience of the members was extensive, with members drawn from diverse geographies.  

   Strong commitment to support ICODA to succeed was expressed by members including:  
   - Commitment to evidence-based public health improvement;  
   - Opportunity to demonstrate trustworthy data sharing and an ethical consortium as a global solution to a global challenge;  
   - Opportunity to provide evidence-based resources to frontline researchers and communities.

2. **Introduction to the International Alliance**

   Andrew Morris introduced ICODA’s vision to unite data in fair manner to enable discoveries globally in a trustworthy data ecosystem, for both this and future pandemics and health challenges. SSAC is one of two advisory councils and will provide collective wisdom to shape ICODA’s direction.

3. **Role of the SSAC and Terms of Reference**

   AB introduced the Terms of Reference (TOR) and stated that SSAC members would be expected to identify opportunities to tackle COVID-19 pandemic through data science
and the workbench, ensure the platform is trusted and delivers scientifically. The ToR was discussed and agreed with no amendments and a broad discussion followed.

4. **Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic: Driver Projects**

Nevine Zariffa gave an overview of Driver Projects 1 and 2. Driver Projects are exemplar studies where ICODA is working in close partnership with data contributors and the research community. They will both address important research questions and serve to test our processes and tools as we build an approach for the long-term. Driver Projects allow us to bring together data, make it accessible and generate valuable insights. There are currently two Driver Projects:

- **DP1 – Holistic evaluation of efficacy and safety of drug treatments.**
- **DP2 - International Perinatal Outcomes in the Pandemic (iPOP) Study**

5. **What do we need to do to have reach and longevity beyond the COVID-19 pandemic?**

Possibilities for ICODA’s future evolution were discussed:

- Evidence Platform
- Real World Data
- Awareness, Engagement & Impact