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The Impact of Digital Technologies on Public Health in Developed and Developing Countries

18th International Conference, ICOST 2020
Hammamet, Tunisia, June 24–26, 2020
Proceedings

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Preface

This year we organized the 18th ICOST conference, an event which has succeeded in bringing together a community from different continents for over a decade and a half and raised awareness about the frail and dependent people's quality of life in our societies.

After 17 very successful conferences held in France (2003, 2009, 2017), Singapore (2004, 2013, 2018), Canada (2005, 2011), Northern Ireland (2006), Japan (2007), the USA (2008, 2014, 2019), South Korea (2010), Italy (2012), Switzerland (2015), and China (2016), we decided to open the conference for the African continent and tackle the digital technologies impact on public health in developed and developing countries. This 18th edition of the International Conference on Smart Living and Public Health (ICOST 2020), was organized by the Digital Research Center (CRNS), Sfax, Tunisia, and the Institut Mines-Télécom (IMT), Paris, France, during June 24–26, 2020. The conference was intended to be hosted in Hammamet, Tunisia, but was finally hosted virtually given the COVID-19 situation faced this year. The theme of the conference was “The Digital Technologies Impact on Public Health in Developed and Developing Countries.”

ICOST 2020 provided a premier venue for the presentation and discussion of research in the design, development, deployment, and evaluation of AI for health, smart urban environments, assistive technologies, chronic disease management, and coaching and health telematics systems. ICOST 2020 aimed to understand and assess the diverse and disparate impact of digital technologies on public health in developing and developed countries. ICOST 2020 brought together stakeholders from health care, public health, academia, and industry along with end users and family caregivers to explore how to utilize technologies to foster health prevention, independent living, and offer an enhanced quality of life. The ICOST 2020 conference featured a dynamic program incorporating a range of oral and poster presentations, along with panel sessions.

ICOST 2020 was proud to extend its hospitality to an international community consisting of researchers from major universities and research centers, representatives from industry, and users from 17 different countries. We would like to thank the authors for submitting their current research work and the Program Committee members for their commitment to reviewing submitted papers. The ICOST proceedings have now reached over 150,000 downloads and are in the top 25% of downloads of Springer LNCS. We are extremely thankful to our sponsors for their commitment and support to the vision and mission of ICOST.

June 2020

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