

Rael Adhiambo

Kenya



YOUTH FOR BIOSecurity

Rael Adhiambo is a scientist at Kenya's National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation. She focuses on strengthening biosecurity governance, with a particular interest in dual-use research risks involving biological agents and emerging technologies.

Her work bridges science and policy to promote responsible research and innovation in Kenya.

Abhaya Shekhar Adhikari

Nepal



Abhaya Shekhar Adhikari is a Ph.D. candidate researching biosecurity and biological threats, with prior degrees in Microbiology and International Relations.

Professionally, he works as an Officer for the Government of Nepal, with a focus on integrating science and governance in areas of biosecurity and biological threat prevention.

Feruza Alikulova

Uzbekistan



Feruza Alikulova is a communications and PR specialist passionate about using strategic stories to drive social impact.

With a strong background in journalism and over a decade of experience in international development, she has led communications for projects focused on digital education, women's empowerment, green skills, and science.

Zia Ashraf

Pakistan



Zia Ashraf is a biosecurity expert and academic leader from Pakistan with over 9 years of experience in biosecurity and biorisk management.

An IFBA-certified professional in six domains, he has led national and international trainings and research initiatives, mentoring over 1,000 professionals to strengthen global health security and responsible research.

Bokai Chen

China



Bokai Chen, a youth researcher at the Global Biosecurity Governance Center of China Foreign Affairs University, leverages his biomedical engineering background to advance research in biosecurity governance.

For a long-term academic pursuit, his work is intended to explore international institutions for biological disarmament and the risk management of AI-Bio convergence.

Valentin Disashi

Democratic Republic of the Congo



Valentin Disashi's extensive contributions to global biosecurity are both impactful and diverse. He actively participated in G7-led initiatives while enhancing physical security of BSL3 labs in the DRC.

As the technical manager of High Containments Laboratories, he has been securing High Consequence Pathogens, and his capacity-building efforts empower young leaders to safeguard our future.

Wendy Dogbegah

Ghana



Wendy Dogbegah, an aspiring scientist and leader, is advancing science, education, and biosecurity.

While pursuing an MPhil in Applied Parasitology at the University of Ghana, she leads Women in Synthetic Biology Africa, mentors youth globally, and champions ethical research, advocating for inclusive science, policy engagement, and biotechnology in Africa.

Felix Kangwa

Zambia



YOUTH FOR BI-SECURITY

Felix Kangwa is a Medical Licentiate and health innovator from Zambia, driving impactful work in biosecurity, digital health, and healthcare resilience.

A multi-award-winning leader and recipient of the Presidential Innovation Recognition Award, he is pursuing a Master of Science in Innovation and actively mentors youth across Africa in health leadership.

Dana Khaltayeva

Kazakhstan



Dana Khaltayeva currently works as a microbiologist at the National Scientific Center for Especially Dangerous Infections. She holds a Master's degree in Molecular Genetics from Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest, Hungary, supported by the Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship.

She currently applies her skills in molecular biology techniques such as PCR and DNA analysis in a high-containment laboratory setting.

Siphiwe Khumalo

South Africa



Siphiwe Khumalo is a public health pharmacist specialist registered with the South African Pharmacy Council. She holds a master's degree in pharmacy Public Health and Management.

As International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation AfRO Secretary and an Africa CDC Bingwa Champion, she promotes biosecurity through research, vaccination advocacy, and youth engagement in global health security.

Mahutin Natacha Anne Michelle Aivodji

Benin



Mahutin Natacha Anne Michelle Aivodji is a postdoctoral researcher in physiology and pharmacology at the University of Abomey-Calavi (Benin).

She advocates for biosecurity, women's leadership in STEM and science communication. She has conducted postdoctoral research in Spain and Germany and contributes actively to the Benin Women in Biosecurity Network.

Yared Pagés Mejía

Mexico



Awarded the prestigious Leaders of Tomorrow scholarship, **Yared Pagés Mejía** earned her degree in Biotechnology Engineering from Tecnológico de Monterrey and is now pursuing a master's in brain cancer research at the University of Manitoba.

Yared is committed to harnessing science to fight cancer, advance global biosecurity, and lead ethical innovation and social transformation.

Reward Muzerengwa

Zimbabwe



Reward Muzerengwa is a PhD Candidate in Microbial Genomics and Scientific Lead of LEBEN Milk Microbiome Mapping Grant Project at the African Genome Centre (AGC), University Mohammed VI Polytechnic (UM6P) in Morocco.

He has over ten years work experience as a Senior Research Scientist and Biosafety Supervisor in biotechnology research, biosafety and biosecurity with the National Biotechnology Authority of Zimbabwe (NBA).

P.T. Nhean

Cambodia



P.T. Nhean is a co-director of Southeast Asia Biosecurity (SEA Bio), where she leads initiatives on indoor air quality, gender-equitable biosecurity, and regional collaboration.

She has conducted AI-bio dual-use risk assessments with RAND Europe and CLTR, and co-developed the SEED Framework, recognized by NTI Bio as one of the winning papers.

Zanthose Czarina B. Perez

The Philippines

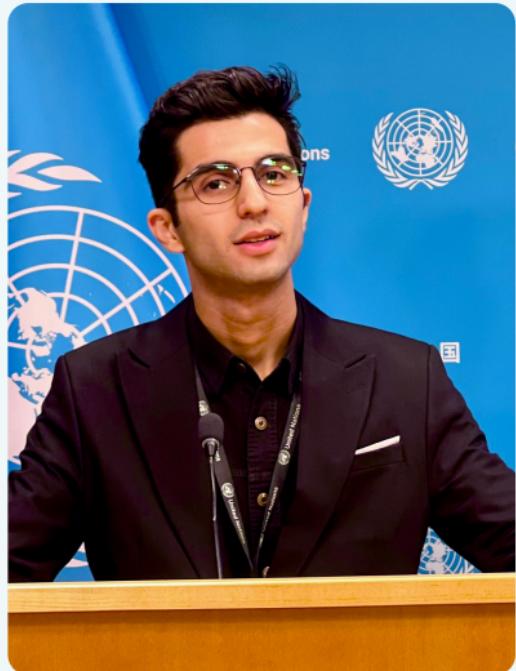


Zanthose Czarina B. Perez is a veterinarian and Assistant Professor at Southwestern University PHINMA. She leads student organisations in One Health campaigns addressing zoonotic and transboundary diseases, as well as animal welfare.

Committed to integrating academic knowledge with community engagement, she combines education, advocacy, and leadership to cultivate the next generation of biosecurity champions.

Nojus Saad

Iraq



Nojus Saad is a global health diplomat, physician, and social entrepreneur. As a Technical Advisor to WHO, he co-develops adolescent health indicators adopted by UN agencies and governments.

Founder of Youth For Women Foundation, he's directly impacted over 16,500 people across three countries. He leads health security innovations and now advises UNOPS, advancing digital-first health systems.

Vorathep Sachdev

Thailand

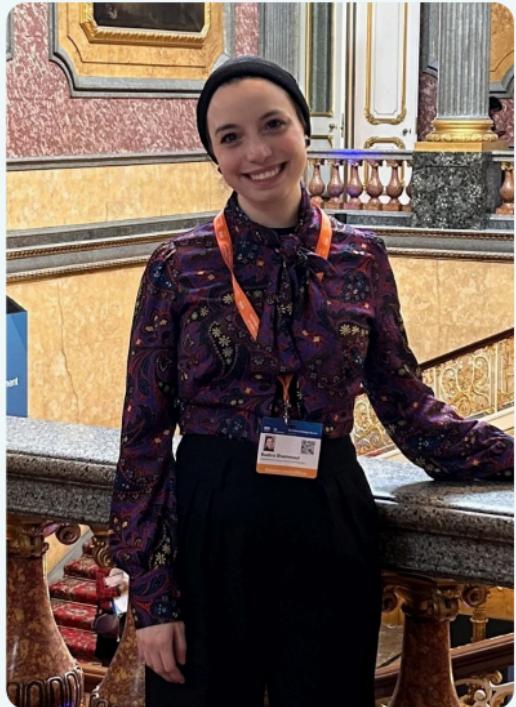


Dev (he/him) is currently a PhD Candidate at the University of Edinburgh. His PhD project focuses on Thailand as a case study to improve biosafety and biosecurity governance in Southeast Asia, and it sits disciplinarily in the intersection of critical-socio-legal, scientific research and ethics.

He enjoys playing sports, coaching football, reading, and films in his free time.

Bushra Shammout

Jordan



Bushra Shammout is a scientist and policy strategist whose systems-based approach to biosecurity is rooted in her biomedical research training. Her PhD led to the creation of Fibraxis, a biotech spinout developing therapeutics for lung fibrosis, sharpening her ability to translate complex science into high-impact policy.

She is a Fellow at Transform VC, supporting deep tech commercialisation and scientific due diligence. In recognition of her leadership in global resilience, she was selected as a Biosecurity Fellow at the Council on Strategic Risks and an Atlantic Council Millennium Fellow.

Anthony Torres

Peru



Anthony Torres is a Peruvian scientist interested in enhancing biosecurity in Latin America. His research spans infectious diseases, immunology, and vaccinology across Peru, France, Singapore, and the UK.

During COVID-19, Anthony and his team were among the first scientists to identify SARS-CoV-2 regions that could serve as vaccine targets. He aims to advance his health diplomacy skills to promote equitable global health outcomes, especially in LMICs.

Bayu Wicaksono

Indonesia



Bayu Wicaksono currently serves as a Communications Assistant at ASEAN-IPR. He holds a Bachelor's degree in International Relations and European Politics from Masaryk University and a Master's degree in Strategic and Arms Control Studies from Saint Petersburg University.

His research focuses on strategic affairs, WMD, arms control, and regional security in Southeast Asia.