**BREAK-OUT GROUP: “Welcome to the SSPH+ Post-Doc Group” Tuesday 07.05.2024, 17:30-18:30**

**THEME: We want YOUR input to the SSPH+ Post-Doc Group!**

Format: Parallel break-out groups of 30-minutes

Number of parallel groups: Groups of max. 4-5 participants

Material provided in advance: This info

Moderators: (1 per group) Self-organized

Rapporteurs: (1 per group) Reporting to Flaka Siqeca (SSPH+ Post-Doc Group Coordinator): flaka.siqeca@unibas.ch (using this document)

**Context:** The SSPH+ Post-Doc Group is intended for “individuals who holds a PhD (up to 8 years after its completion) and who is affiliated with an SSPH+ university or institution or in the team of an SSPH+ faculty member". Post-Docs are often under-represented or supported in the SSPH+ network. The purpose of the SSPH+ Post-Doc Group is to provide relevant support and opportunities for Post-Docs. The following break-out session sessions are designed to help shape and formalize the core pillars of the Post-Doc Group, namely; professional development workshops, networking events, research collaboration and career development research and support.

**Objective:** To gather feedback and get specific input on the proposed activities and goals of the Post-Doc group so that Post-Doc activities, offers and support can be developed accordingly.

**WE RECOMMEND TO FOCUS THE DISCUSSION ON THE RESPECTIVE QUESTION SET**

**How to work:** Please discuss the question set assigned to your group –once you have finished, feel free to move to the next set of questions. It is not expected that each group will discuss all questions. The rapporteur is asked to summarize the response/suggestions or agreements/disagreements directly in this file.

**Please fill in the names of the participants of this group:**

**BREAK-OUT GROUP 1 to start with question set 1:**

**QUESTION SET 1: Professional Development Workshops**

BACKGROUND: Post-doctoral students often face challenges in developing essential skills crucial for their current roles and future career opportunities. The SSPH+ Post-Doc Group aims to organize workshops on practical topics such as; grant writing, research ethics, time management, and project management. The questions seek to understand specific challenges post-docs have faced in these areas and gather input on the concrete skills and tools they need. Please answer the following questions and give specific examples where possible.

**QUESTION 1A)** In your opinion, what specific skills or knowledge areas should be emphasized in the professional development workshops to enhance post-docs' career growth?

ANSWER /DISCUSSION 1A:

**QUESTION 1B)** Are there any additional workshop topics or specific elements you would like to see included to address the diverse needs of post-docs?

ANSWER /DISCUSSION 1B:

**QUESTION 1C)** How do you envision the workshops contributing to your current role and preparing you for future career opportunities?

ANSWER /DISCUSSION 1C:

**BREAK-OUT GROUP 2 to start with question set 2**

**QUESTION SET 2: Networking Events**

BACKGROUND: Building a professional network is essential for post-docs to foster interdisciplinary collaboration and open doors to research opportunities. The SSPH+ Post-Doc Group plans to organize networking events like seminars, panel discussions, and conferences. The questions aim to explore practical strategies for effective networking, share experiences where networking has had a real impact, and identify specific themes for panel discussions that would be beneficial. Please answer the following questions and give specific examples where possible.

 **QUESTION 2A)** What types of networking events do you find most valuable, and how can they be structured to maximize engagement and collaboration?

ANSWER /DISCUSSION 2A:

**QUESTION 2B)** Are there specific experts or fields you would like to see represented in these events?

ANSWER /DISCUSSION 2B:

**QUESTION 2C)** How do you believe participating in networking events can benefit post-docs?

ANSWER /DISCUSSION 2C:

**BREAK-OUT GROUP 3 to start with question set 3:**

**QUESTION SET 3: Research Collaboration**

BACKGROUND: Collaborative research projects can lead to innovative outcomes and contribute to the professional growth of post-docs. The SSPH+ Post-Doc Group seeks to encourage and facilitate such collaborations. The questions seek to address ways to foster collaborative research, experiences with successful or challenging projects, and concrete resources or mechanisms that would support collaborative research within the post-doc community. Please answer the following questions and give specific examples where possible.

**QUESTION 3A)** What factors do you think contribute to successful collaborative research projects among post-docs, and how can these be fostered within the group?

ANSWER /DISCUSSION 3A:

**QUESTION 3B)** In your experience, what are the potential challenges to successful collaborative research and how do you propose that these are avoided or mitigated?

ANSWER/DISCUSSION 3B:

**QUESTION 3C)** How can the SSPH+ Post-Doc Group actively support and facilitate the initiation of collaborative research initiatives among its members?

ANSWER/DISCUSSION 3C:

**BREAKOUT GROUP 4 to start with question set 4:**

**QUESTION SET 4: Career Development Resources and Support**

BACKGROUND: Post-doctoral students often navigate uncertainties related to career transitions. The SSPH+ Post-Doc Group aims to compile resources and provide support to address these uncertainties. The questions focus on the practical impact of career development resources, specific challenges faced in career transitions, and concrete suggestions for resources or support mechanisms to assist post-docs in diverse career paths. Please answer the following questions and give specific examples where possible.

**QUESTION 4A)**

ANSWER /DISCUSSION 4A: What challenges do you forsee for Post-Doc career development, and how can the SSPH+ Post-Doc Group provide support in this respect?

**QUESTION 4B)** How could a comprehensive compilation of career development resources benefit post-docs in making informed decisions about their future careers?

ANSWER/DISCUSSION 4B:

**QUESTION 4C)** Are there specific types of resources or support mechanisms you believe are crucial for diverse career paths that should be included in the group's offerings?

ANSWER/DISCUSSION 4C:

**Thank you for your contributions!**