Sella Nevo

May 27th, 1989

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Sella works on the intersection of innovative technology and social impact. He has a wide range of experience across research, development, policy, and management, and has led ambitious projects in the fields of mathematics, computer science, information security, biosecurity and artificial intelligence; starting with his studies in the Arazim academic excellence program, through his service in the 8200 unit, and finally at his work at Google. A core emphasis throughout his work is the attempt at creating scalable positive impact: through his volunteering, teaching, and the founding of the Israeli Effective Altruism community. In his leisure time he reads, plays the guitar, and competes in Debating - in which he has won the World Championship, and trained ten World and European Champions.

Work Experience

	2023-	Director of the Meselson Center at the RAND Corporation, dedicated to reducing risks from biological threats and emerging technologies.
	2017-2023	Senior Staff Engineering Manager, led the Google Flood Forecasting Initiative which provides flood warnings to hundreds of millions of people, alongside other humanitarian and climate-related efforts. Managed a team of 70 researchers and engineers.
	2017-2023	Adjunct Lecturer on Information Security and Applied Ethics at Tel Aviv University.
	2021-	Co-founder and Head of Research at Probably Good, providing impact-focused career advice.
	2020-	Venture Partner at Firstime VC, dedicated to investing in startups advancing the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

Education

	2007-2010	Excellence program including an accelerated double-major degree in Mathematics and Computer Science at Tel Aviv university. Completed degree Magna Cum Laude within two years.

Other Accomplishments

Academic Achievements

Publications
ML for Flood Forecasting at Scale
Flood forecasting with machine learning models in an operational framework
Inundation Modeling in Data Scarce Regions
HydroNets: Leveraging River Structure for Hydrologic Modeling
A Deep Learning Architecture for Conservative Dynamical Systems
Towards Global Remote Discharge Estimation
Spectral Algorithm for Low-rank Multitask Regression

Lectures
Harvard: Towards Scalable Flood Forecasting: Methods and Challenges
World Bank: Emerging Technologies and Innovation
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
Oxford: The Google Flood Forecasting Initiative
COP26: Getting ahead of climatic disasters - Know, Predict, Warn, Act
Many more talks at the UN, Harvard, Yale, Simons Foundation, etc.

Media & Public Outreach

Interviews
When Rivers Rise: How AI is helping predict floods
Talking Machines - Predicting Floods and Really Doing Good
Google bolsters AI-powered flood forecasts for India and Bangladesh
This Monsoon, Google is Working with Indian Government to Predict Flood around Ganga and Brahmaputra
Google Leveraging Machine Learning to Predict India Floods
Google's AI-based Flood Detection and Alert System to Expand Its Coverage
Google is Using AI to Monitor Flood in India, Pilot Project Patna Called a Success

Blog Posts
Summary of the Google Flood Forecasting Meets Machine Learning Workshop
Tracking Our Progress on Flood Forecasting
An Inside Look at Flood Forecasting
Using technology to save lives during India's monsoon season
A big step for flood forecasts in India and Bangladesh
The Technology Behind our Recent Improvements in Flood Forecasting

Volunteer Experience

2018-   Founder and Managing Director of Effective Altruism Israel.

2012   Teaching career workshops to youth at risk, Elem's Kingsroad program.

2005-2007	Educational, social and emotional support as part of [Tzeva](#) and at the [Hatzorey special education school](#).
2004-2009	Several roles in [Latet](#), Israel's largest NGO tackling poverty and food insecurity.

Miscellaneous Awards

2021	Featured on [Fortune's Change The World list](#).
2021	Selected to [TheMarker's 40 Under 40 list](#).
2012-2019	Coach of the Tel Aviv University Debating Society, training four World Champions and eight European Champions.
2015	Led a project that received the [Israel Defense Prize](#).
2012	World Universities Debating Champion.
2011	European Universities Debating Champion.
2002-2007	Multiple top placings across a wide range of mathematics and computer science tournaments and olympiads.

Language Skills

Hebrew	Native.
English	Fluent.