



Sella Nevo

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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- Senior Information Scientist at the [RAND Corporation](#), focusing on preventing and mitigating future pandemics and biological risks.



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 Firsttime 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.