

Solutions Dialogue on Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for climate

Weaving shared prosperity through interoperability

UN Digital Cooperation Day

Overview and Agenda

Monday, 22 September 2025, 12:30 – 14:00

Ease, 605 3rd Avenue, New York City

Background

The Paris Agreement is working in its purpose to respond to climate change in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication – though not fast enough to prevent dangerous global warming. Digital technologies can provide the missing boost and scale to accelerate low-carbon and climate-resilient development worldwide. The 2023 India G20 demonstrated that well-designed digital public infrastructure (DPI) augmented by artificial intelligence (AI) can enable the use of data for accelerated progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through inclusive digital transformation. The Global Digital Compact, adopted in September 2024 by UN Member States, underscores that advancing trusted, inclusive, and interoperable DPI is foundational to delivering on the 2030 Agenda.

As humanity stands at the crossroads of accelerating climate impacts and rapid technological disruption, COP30 offers a historic opportunity to merge the digital and climate transformations into a single planetary agenda. Data, information, and knowledge related to climate and development remain widely fragmented. Meanwhile, financial, technological, and capacity-building resources continue to be deployed incrementally. This fragmentation and piecemeal approach have impeded structural transformation towards inclusive development and just climate transitions. Moreover, while AI promises to drive progress, its advancement has often concentrated power and deepened inequalities.

Open, Safe and Inclusive DPI could allow AI's power and benefits to be accessible and distributed, thus promoting shared prosperity and fairness in inclusive exponential transformation. The interoperability that the DPI Approach provides holds the potential to provide radical transparency, accountability, speed, and scale – all at relatively low cost. These features could be the missing link for accelerating development and the implementation of the Paris Agreement by triggering exponentiality through versatility, experimentation, and adaptive governance. The future can be decentralized, digitalized, and decarbonized.

As we have learnt from many large-scale DPI efforts, such as Brazil's Forest Code and India's Aadhaar and UPI, it is possible to embrace radical but practical transformations and show how ambitious ideas can be realized at scale. DPI as a way of thinking and approach embraces the principles of open, inclusive design and governance without impinging on the sovereignty of individuals, communities or nations.

Objectives

Organized in the context of the UN ODET's Digital Cooperation Day, this event is also part of a series of Solutions Dialogues convened jointly by the United Nations and the incoming COP30 Presidency in the lead-up to the Secretary-General's Special High-Level Event on Climate. The event will be co-chaired by the COP30 President-Designate, Ambassador André Corrêa do Lago, the Under-Secretary-General and Special Envoy for Digital and Emerging Technologies, Amandeep Singh Gill, and the Assistant UN Secretary-General for Climate Action, Selwin Hart. The **Solutions Dialogue on DPI for Climate** will focus on the potential of DPI to serve

both as a signal as well as an ecosystem enabler. As a **signal (the “brain”)**, DPI can help to deploy solutions (for mitigating emissions or increasing resilience) that are already viable but not visible at scale in the geographies or among the communities that need them the most. As an **ecosystem enabler (the “backbone”)**, DPI can create the conditions for continued investment in technology innovation, inclusive design and market blueprints for solutions that are not mature yet and need more collaborative and coordinated efforts.

Format: Moderated roundtable, around 3-minute intervention per speaker in response to a set of guiding questions.

Participants: Representatives from governments, private sector, civil society, think tanks, research institutions, coalitions, networks, legal experts and practitioners, project developers, the United Nations and other international organizations, and the incoming COP30 Presidency.

Outcomes and recommendations from this event will be captured in a **Chair’s summary** and presented at the closing of the Secretary-General’s Special High-Level Event on Climate Action to be held on 24 September.