

CAICT Input to the Global Digital Compact

1. CONNECT ALL PEOPLE TO THE INTERNET, INCLUDING ALL SCHOOLS

a. Core Principles

- i. Take the promotion of digital infrastructure development and the achievement of universal and meaningful digital connectivity as the overarching principle of the Global Digital Compact, and ensure that all people have access to affordable digital connectivity and devices, necessary digital skills and literacy, and appropriate Internet applications and services.
- ii. Adhere to the sharing, inclusiveness and universality of digital technology for all, and ensure that vulnerable groups such as the elderly, women, children, persons with disabilities, indigenous people, and poor people have equal rights to share digital technology.
- iii. Encourage the deployment and utilization of new technologies, and give full play to the role of digital technology in achieving the goals of The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by the United Nations, promoting the balanced regional development, and bridging the digital gap.
- iv. The provision of development assistance such as capacity building should respect the cyber policies and regulations of each country, and be based on local cultures, languages and needs to ensure long-term sustainable development.

b. Key Commitment/ Pledges/ Actions

ITU and other related international organizations, governments, the private sector and other stakeholders shall jointly build a community of development in the digital age based on the *Tunis Agenda for the Information Society* and the *Geneva Declaration of Principles*, adopt more proactive, coordinated and inclusive policies, enhance international experience exchange and cooperation, share best practices, and work together to:

i. Promote digital infrastructure development and innovation through greater multilateral and multi stakeholder cooperation in an inclusive and equitable manner:

- Encourage the incorporation of universal connectivity into national strategy to
 promote investment in digital infrastructure. Mobilize and utilize multi-channel
 funds, such as national special plans and budgets, universal service funds,
 international aid and financing, to achieve universal connectivity based on
 reasonable development goals and evaluation period.
- Invest in and deploy technology solutions that are economical, flexible, environmentally friendly, quality-reliable, and introduce more development-friendly policies for frequency spectrum, sites, right of way, construction, and power supply, etc., to reduce the cost of building, operating and maintaining digital infrastructure.
- Encourage to interconnect submarine cable networks and satellite networks globally, and jointly explore the cross-border interconnection of digital infrastructure such as the industrial Internet and blockchain.
- Encourage cooperation on joint research on cross-border applications, implementation of international standards, verification of regulatory rules, construction of public services, incubation of innovative applications and cultivation of industrial ecology based on digital infrastructure, to promote the innovation and development of the global digital economy.

ii. Increase the supply of affordable smart terminals and digital applications through the following measures:

- Reduce the production, circulation and transaction costs of entry-level smart terminals.
- Encourage the development, distribution and operation of apps suitable for entry-level smart terminals.

iii. Ensure that digital applications and digital devices are accessible to vulnerable groups such as the elderly and the disabled, through the following targeted measures:

- Provide policy guarantee for safe and equal access to digital technology for vulnerable groups.
- Collaboratively promote the development of global unified technical standards and specifications for digital inclusion in areas such as mobile internet applications and smart terminal devices.
- Encourage global developers of digital technologies and applications to integrate
 the universal design concept into the whole product lifecycle, expand the scale of
 inclusive digital product supply, and explore replicable and sustainable business
 models.
- Encourage innovation and application of digital technologies such as artificial intelligence and big data in digital inclusion.

iv. Empower everyone with digital skills and literacy through the following measures:

- Provide legal, regulatory or policy guarantee to enhance digital skills and literacy.
- Encourage the digital industry to carry out education and training on digital literacy and skills, and design targeted training content according to user characteristics that is easy for user to understand and operate.
- Develop and provide online training platforms accessible to all, and conduct
 offline education and training activities in communities and elderly nursing homes
 at irregular intervals.

v. Promote the use of digital technology to achieve SDGs, including:

- Actively track and evaluate the role of digital technologies in the achievement of SDGs.
- Promote experience sharing and cooperation related to the application of digital technology in achieving SDGs such as poverty alleviation, quality education, decent work and economic growth, innovation and infrastructure, reduction of inequality, sustainable cities and communities.
- Provide financial input, technical and policy training, personnel training, etc. for developing countries to accelerate digital infrastructure construction, and the application and popularization of digital technologies.

2. DIGITAL PUBLIC GOODS (DPGs)

a. Core Principles

- **i. Driven by digital innovation:** The core driving force of DPGs comes from digital innovation. DPGs should provide innovative digital solutions, promote continuous innovation, better meet social needs, provide higher-quality social public services, and help achieve SDGs.
- **ii.** Accessible and usable to anyone: Based on the non-rivalrous and non-excludable nature of public goods, DPGs should be operated and used in a way that allows unrestricted and equitable access by all.
- iii. **Sustainability:** DPGs should be stable throughout their life cycle, able to ensure long-term operation under normal use as well as foreseeable risks, able to respond to all kinds of emergency.
- **iv. Scalability:** DPGs should be able to be deployed flexibly to accommodate growing, iterative and localized needs.
- **v. Harmlessness:** DPGs should be free of harm to all users. DPGs should be safe, adhere to international and local regulatory frameworks, protected data privacy and security, and prevent discrimination and bias. DPGs should not be exploited for illegitimate gains.
- **vi. Interoperability:** DPGs should ensure interoperability to the maximum extent. Through a unified standard framework, the processes and mechanisms of all aspects of the DPGs should be standardized to achieve reciprocal sharing among stakeholders.

vii. Inclusiveness: The entire life cycle of DPGs should ensure the fair and transparent participation of all stakeholders, with particular attention paid to the development needs of low- and middle-income countries as well as the demands of vulnerable and marginalized groups. It should adopt an inclusive design concept to ensure that the public can gain benefit. It should promote inclusive digital transformation to bridge the global digital divide.

b. Key Commitment/ Pledges/ Actions

i. Promote the common understanding of DPGs

Encourage in-depth exchanges and discussions on the definition and scope of DPGs, to seek common ground, promote common understanding, enhance the inclusiveness and representativeness of the concept of DPGs, and promote DPGs to maximize people's well-being.

ii. Cultivate a good innovation ecology

- Promote multidisciplinary cross-fertilization and the exchange and sharing of science, technology, and data, and bring together all stakeholders to promote innovation.
- Foster the initiation of more open-source projects and prosper more open-source communities, to enhance the contribution of DPGs.
- Set up an expert evaluation committee in the DPGA with the support of the UN, to analyze and advise on the feasibility of DPGs.
- Encourage and support capacity building in implementation countries, to empower localized applications and innovation.

iii. Maintain the public good attributes of DPGs

- Open access to data and resources as much as possible while abiding by the FAIR principle and ensuring digital security and privacy.
- The functions of DPGs should be convenient and operator-friendly.

iv. Guarantee the stability of DPGs

- Develop an archiving mechanism, prepare records and timely update source code, user instructions, functional requirements and other documents.
- Establish a risk warning mechanism and plans, to ensure regular maintenance of projects and data.

v. Ensure the safeness and harmlessness of DPGs

- All projects should demonstrate before implementation that measures have been taken to ensure that they are foreseeable, preventable and harmless.
- Guarantee security and privacy of materials (information, data, etc.) received in projects, identify sources, content and types of materials, and take steps to prevent adverse effects while collecting, storing and distributing them.
- Comply with agreements and licenses permitted by international and local laws and regulations, and respect different cultural environments.

vi. Provide a conducive international development environment

- Explore the establishment of a governance mechanism under the UN framework to regulate and govern the entire life cycle of DPGs, and ensure stakeholders' participation.
- The participation of all stakeholders and consistency of stakeholders' needs and objectives should be ensured while developing DPGs.
- Encourage stakeholders to participate in setting up standardization and assessment mechanisms for DPGs, facilitate the participation of developing countries in relevant works.
- UN should facilitate collaboration among stakeholders and support countries in establish their own repositories to identify, document and share DPG projects, organizations and best practices, and link them with the DPG Registry.