Global Digital Compact: Consultation for the Americas

Mexico City February 15-16, 2023









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Introduction

The present document gathers the results of the Americas Consultations of the Global Digital Pact, held in Mexico City on February 15th and 16th, 2023.

The first section includes the welcoming remarks from representatives of the convening institutions.

The following sections collect the results of three thematic sessions held with members of civil society, governments and multilateral organizations, the private sector and academia in the Americas on the following topics:

Universal connectivity

Digital inclusion 1. Equity in access

Digital inclusion 2. Empowerment and active participation in the digital transformation

In these, a synthesis of the panels with the participation of experts is first presented, and of the subsequent session of questions. Secondly, the contributions collected in the participatory discussion work groups based on guiding questions are presented. Thirdly, a summary of the conclusions of each thematic session is presented.

Finally, the report contains a brief section of Conclusion and perspectives towards the future.

Executive Summary: Main Recommendations and Findings of the Americas Consultation

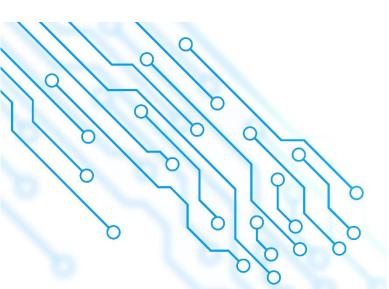
- Internet access, as a multidimensional factor, must be understood from a human rights perspective.
 - Some level and access to connectivity must be guaranteed to all people.
 - Individuals and groups must have their right of access recognized and be capable of selfdetermination in the design, deployment, use and management of connectivity infrastructure.
 - Connectivity must remain a right and not an imposition. The option of not connecting (staying offline) must be respected and digitization policies must always consider accessible analogue alternatives for access to essential services and the exercise of fundamental rights.
- Connectivity conditions should be fostered through public, private, community initiatives or multisector alliances, including collective access alternatives, for example with the promotion of community centers for connectivity and community networks, or the use of public facilities. Such policies must be adopted from a perspective of complementarity. In this sense, it is necessary to:
 - Reform political, normative, and regulatory environments to enable the coexistence of different connectivity provision models, including community networks, and cooperatives for the provision of internet services.
 - Develop complementary approaches for private, public and community solutions, based on public-private partnerships.
 - Implement complementary approaches and models that surpass the idea of connectivity based on commercial terms, fostering connectivity through public, private, community initiatives, and multi-sector alliances, where it is not attractive from a market perspective.
 - Promote the creation and maintenance of free and subsidized community infrastructure networks derived from public-private alliances.
 - Governments should encourage public policies and regulations that are flexible to stimulate innovative business models, competition, and complementarity of formats to foster connectivity.
- There is a need to dismantle a logic of access to connectivity as an end in and of itself and avoid the reductionist imperative of connecting the unconnected; in this sense we must shift the focus on how to connect and what to connect for.
 - o It is essential to generate political, financial, regulatory, and technical conditions to increase individual and collective autonomy for the entire population in terms of access.
 - It is necessary to generate mechanisms for an efficient use of universal service funds from programs with specific goals and with the objective of reducing structural inequality gaps that affect communities in more vulnerable conditions.
 - Women and girls, LGBTQIA+ people, rural populations, Afro-American, and indigenous communities, among others, must be able to participate in the decision-making process on digital inclusion programs and connectivity policies, as well as in monitoring their implementation.
- The Global Digital Compact should generate practical guidelines for States to implement digital inclusion policies aligned with human rights and sustainable development standards based on the establishment of mechanisms that facilitate the exchange of experiences and cooperation.

- The Global Digital Compact should focus on sharing best practices, definitions and concepts based on pre-existing constructions in specialized forums and other spaces for multilateral and multisectoral construction to encourage the creation of effective policies and avoid duplication.
- The Global Digital Compact can make a fundamental contribution in recognizing the main structural factors that hinder the universalization of access to connectivity, such as coverage and costs.
- The Global Digital Compact represents an important opportunity to advance agreements that allow countries at a structural disadvantage or without access to fiber optics, to engage in infrastructure sharing among other countries in their region and facilitate access to connectivity infrastructure.
- o It is necessary to encourage the creation of agreements to share digital infrastructure between countries and establish the corresponding audit and control mechanisms.
- The Global Digital Compact should contribute to creating measures, standards or indicators that can be taken as existing indicators and guides to promote agreements and conventions between countries.
- It is necessary to deepen our understanding of some of the main challenges in the Digital Transformation, such as: (1) the potential contributions of large companies through market schemes, (2) collaborations between the public and private sectors and (3) technology as an innovative tool to increase connectivity.
- It is necessary to take advantage of connectivity for the Disaster Risk Reduction in the context of climate change, as well as prevention of fires and deforestation.
- Digital Access must be understood from a comprehensive perspective that considers the concept of meaningful access. This includes the following dimensions:
 - The development and use of digital skills should be strengthened, focusing on overcoming gaps, such as the accessibility for people with different abilities and speakers of different languages (multilingualism).
 - Digital access should not be an isolated policy issue. Instead, it needs to be closely related to educational, health, housing and sanitation policies, and other rights enjoyed by all communities. It is necessary to address issues of digital education and the development of soft skills in all the actors involved, in order for them to be able to insert themselves and benefit from the digital transformation.
 - Efforts to address digital inclusion should be tailored to different target audiences (i.e., rural communities, people with different abilities, native communities, farmers, etc.) and must establish differentiated and clear objectives and strategies to guarantee digital inclusion considering their needs under a human rights protection approach.
- It is necessary to adopt an intersectional gender perspective in the formulation of policies on access and connectivity.
- In the formulation of policies on technologies and digital inclusion, it is essential to guarantee the participation of each community from their own perspective, recognizing their needs from a systemic approach and considering their differences and particularities.
 - Equity access policies must be built on evidence-based diagnoses and determine shared responsibilities so that each sector can design complementary actions that integrate the criteria of transparency and accountability.

- o It is necessary to consider challenges and issues at the subnational level in order to integrate all actors in achieving universal connectivity.
- We must review the existing frameworks regarding exceptions and limitations for content protected by copyright to encourage the production of content at the local level, obtain greater plurality and diversity in the digital environment and move towards meaningful access.
- Considerations on socio-environmental justice, climate change and energy transition must be part
 of the formulation of policies on connectivity and digital inclusion seeking to promote responsible
 and sustainable initiatives.
- The design and implementation of digital policies and strategies at the local, national, regional, and global level must incorporate human rights standards by design; and establish formal mechanisms for multisectoral participation, including at the monitoring, follow-up, and evaluation stages.
- State digitization and digital transformation policies, as well as initiatives for the implementation of automated or semi-automated systems for the public function, must be widely discussed with society since the design stage.
 - The diversity of social realities must be considered in the design of consultation mechanisms, including consultations focused on organized groups; online and offline consultations, among other formats that seek to guarantee concrete actions to enhance the participation of groups that have historically been excluded from decision-making on technology decisions.
 - It is necessary to generate mechanisms to prevent and mitigate risks in the development and implementation of systems —especially from the public sector—, including prior analysis of the impact on human rights, prior to the adoption and deployment of digitization policies.
- It is necessary to establish responsibility mechanisms for technology companies in relation to potential abuses and violations of human rights, as well as potential adverse effects on the environment through policies on transparency and accountability
- Digital governance must be strengthened, establishing mechanisms for multi-stakeholder participation and coordination in the design and implementation of digital policies. It is also necessary to establish a structure at the national level that maintains leadership in the implementation of said policies, with the necessary resources and tools that allow for the follow-up and monitoring of the implementation of said policies.
 - The State must create coordination mechanisms with experts in the field, and international cooperation to generate technological solutions. It is necessary to generate value and train civil and public servants in the development soft skills and form multidisciplinary teams.
 - It is necessary to integrate digital identity and interoperability in the development of digital services needed by rural communities, native populations, people with disabilities, and communities in vulnerable conditions,
- The United Nations System must establish mechanisms to support the implementation of the Global Digital Compact from the multistakeholder perspective of Internet governance. The model of the 2030 Agenda could serve as an inspiration to organize cooperation and coordination between UN agencies and commissions in its preparation and implementation.
- Sustainable and responsible digitization and mechanisms to account for the environmental impacts of technologies should be promoted, for example in relation to electronic waste.

Day 1, Februrary 15 2023





1. Welcoming Remarks. High-level intervention

1.1 Martha Delgado, Undersecretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of Mexico

Mrs. Martha Delgado welcomed all the participants and expressed Mexico's pride in hosting one of the three regional consultations aimed at producing tangible recommendations to be included in the Global Digital Compact, which will be adopted at the Summit of the Future in 2024

She stated that, as revealed by the COVID-19 pandemic, digital technologies have become essential for the achievement of fundamental rights, including the right to health, education, access to information and privacy, among many others, as well as for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

However, they also represent new risks to address the deep inequality gaps, as well as to sustain sustainable development models around the world.

She exemplified that, with half of the world's population disconnected, talking about sustainable development will only be valid if these people have access to the digital tools that characterize the lives of the other half of the population.

In this sense, Undersecretary Delgado affirmed that the Global Digital Compact is an opportunity to outline among all of us the path we want to follow in the use of these new technologies, as well as to redefine the social contract and revitalize international cooperation.

It is a time to catalyze new opportunities and mitigate the challenges before us. For this reason, we believe that its core axis must be to achieve universal, meaningful, and accessible connectivity, which places the well-being of the human being at the center of all policies. In that sense, she reiterated that Mexico is deeply committed to participating in this global effort.

She highlighted that for a long time a model has prevailed that conceives science and technology as being asocial; and that technological progress is intrinsically good and that, it thus automatically promotes well-being and prosperity. This approach needs to be corrected.

Given this scenario, Mexico considers it essential that technology and science maintain their link with the complex social system to which they belong and guarantee that they are at the service of humanity.

She expressed that we must understand this challenge as one that no country or government can effectively address alone.

In this sense, Mexico considers that a Global Digital Compact must incorporate a variety of perspectives that jointly respond to the opportunities and challenges of the present. Governments, technology companies, academic institutions, international organizations, as well as civil society from all regions, contexts and stages of development must be present in the conversation.

In view of the foregoing, Ms. Delgado expressed that these Consultations for the Americas are crucial, as they bring together experts from a wide variety of sectors to participate in informed discussions that will lead to lasting partnerships.

From Mexico's multilateral perspective, it is with this approach based on collective conversations that we will achieve an open and free society, as well as a secure digital future for all people.

In conclusion, she reaffirmed that, for Mexico, digital inclusion is crucial for sustainable development and access to fundamental rights.

She extended an invitation to work together to address the digital divide, so that all people have access to the necessary technologies that allow them to fully participate in society with dignity, both online and offline, and thus build a future that is inclusive, equitable and sustainable and we forge a just digital transformation, *leaving no one behind*.

1.2 John Reyels, Head of the Cyber Department at the German Foreign Affairs Office

For his part, Mr. John Reyels began his welcome speech by thanking the authorities present and the government of Mexico for hosting the consultations for the Americas. He thanked the experts from the different countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, who met to prepare the consultations for the Global Digital Compact. He especially appreciated the presence of the United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology, Amandeep Singh Gill, for his commitment during the regional consultation process.

He noted that the consultations seek to create a space to design and collect the opinions of different sectors and digital experts from the Americas.

On the German side, he highlighted two aspects:

Firstly. Why is the digital compact important?

The speaker mentioned that the Global Digital Compact is a decisive opportunity for the international community to agree on principles for the appropriate use, development, and regulation of digital technologies. He also noted that the terms of use for these technologies have been established according to commercial, technological, and scientific interests. Reyels emphasized that the Global Digital Compact currently represents an important pathway to align the interests of communities and nation-states around the world and to broaden the vision of digital technologies as part of an international dialogue involving commercial actors and representatives from the fields of science and technology.

He emphasized that the Global Digital Compact will be a key document that will align the use of digital technologies in the future, positioning human development and prosperity at the center. He reiterated that the Global Digital Compact has the potential to become a central universal document as a reference for the sustainable and responsible use of digital technologies.

Secondly. What does Germany hope to achieve through its support of these regional consultations?

He answered that the German government aims to mobilize as many interested actors as possible. He spoke on behalf of communities, interest groups, and regions, emphasizing that their hopes, expectations, and needs should be considered in the negotiations for the Global Digital Compact to make it a meaningful document for all. He mentioned that the process of the Global Digital Compact will be negotiated by the co-facilitator countries Sweden and Rwanda, through their representatives, who he also welcomed.

On the other hand, he emphasized that since the Global Digital Compact is a document negotiated between countries, it is very important to disseminate it as widely as possible and unite the voices of stakeholders to share their point of views. He also noted the importance of documenting comments and agreements in a concrete way, summarizing the main points and conclusions, with the aim of

achieving a sustainable process through a report that compiles all the required information to be shared with the United Nations.

As a representative of the German government, he has emphasized that they are particularly proud of what has been achieved through the consultations. This is because the approach with the host countries of the regional consultations (Mexico, Kenya, and India) has been leveraged to bring together the largest number of regional experts in one place and to bring the results of this multisectoral dialogue to the attention of the United Nations community through dedicated events that will take place in Geneva and New York in 2023.

The importance of working together to train digital diplomats from around the world to successfully negotiate the pact was also highlighted, as well as exploring different implementation methods with stakeholders, which will be an essential part of the development and application of the pact.

To conclude his welcome speech, he mentioned the creation of a tool that will give continuity to the exchange on the topics discussed in the consultations. This will be done through a digital platform that will be presented at the end of the Americas consultation and officially launched at the end of February. It was said that this platform was created by the GIZ team as part of their support in organizing the regional consultations.

1.3 Amandeep Singh Gill, United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology

Mr. Amandeep Singh Gill began his welcome messages by thanking the Mexican government for their role in hosting the Americas consultation and the German government for their commitment to organizing the series of regional consultations. He also expressed his gratitude to the representatives of Sweden and Rwanda, who serve as co-facilitators of the regional consultations. He was also seen appreciative of the experts who participated in the multisectoral dialogue, both as participants and as part of the implementation.

As his first point, he emphasized that from the perspective of the United Nations, the diversity of interested actors gathered is very encouraging in the process of the Global Digital Compact. Likewise, he highlighted the importance of multilateral cooperation by the United Nations as digital technologies are having an impact on the whole of society. Thus, it is crucial to have a universal forum to discuss these issues across different sectors and develop a shared vision of principles and priorities in order to take action for the future.

The speaker addressed that historically, society has progressed through different waves of technological revolution, leaving behind the governance of these technologies until a negative event sparks interest in creating better governance conditions to benefit society in a politically and economically sustainable manner. Therefore, society finds itself at the right moment within this latest technological wave to generate new opportunities for governance.

Similarly, it was argued that the paradigms of Information and Communication Technologies have been implemented since the 1970s and even when they have brought about several benefits to the world, currently new paradigms such as data application and artificial intelligence have emerged as key and central topics.

As a second point, it was mentioned that the Global Digital Compact process provides a space for all voices and topics, taking a comprehensive approach that is not limited to certain aspects. As an example, the speaker mentioned that within the UN Secretary-General's Common Agenda report and various speeches, there has been a wide diversity of topics related to digitization and digital

technologies such as the digital divide and connectivity, but also a great deal referring to data generation, human rights, fighting discrimination, prevention of internet fragmentation, among others.

To conclude his intervention, Mr. Amandeep Singh Gill stressed that while the Global Digital Compact process is currently in the consultation phase, where different ideas and points of view will be heard, comments can be shared through the website, which will be available until April 30th. Finally, the participants were encouraged to remain active and engaged during the discussion in order to generate a unique opportunity for positive exchange and knowledge-building within the construction of the Global Digital Compact.

2. Universal Connectivity

2.1 Open discussion. How can digital public goods move forward in the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs in the Americas?

The dialogue began with representatives from academia and civil society, addressing the following guiding points:

- Understanding the implications for human rights of open-source goods.
- The role of digital public goods in advancing digital social policy.
- Financial models for the development and maintenance of digital public goods.
- How can digital public goods be leveraged to accelerate progress towards the SDGs in the Americas?

2.1.1 Yawri Carr, ITU Youth

During her presentation, Ms. Carr addressed digital public goods as a key driver for advancing the Sustainable Development Goals. These refer to all types of technologies available to everyone, as and when required, with the particular feature that they do not compete with each other. In the field of healthcare, she indicated that open code applications have been developed which have made significant contributions during the Covid-19 pandemic.

In the field of education, it was noted that nowadays various open data models can be utilized by those interested in learning new topics or sharing knowledge. Similar as for innovation, it is important to be able to count on collaborative models where technologies are available at any time. It was then affirmed that such public digital goods contribute to transparency, the eradication of corruption, and the generation of democratic and inclusive governance models and systems.

2.1.2 Ricardo Torres, Digital Public Goods Alliance

Mr. Torres agreed that a general understanding of the meaning of digital public goods is needed. He maintained that the concept should go beyond software, data, and open-source code as they have certain characteristics that contribute to achieving the SDGs. Standards, open content, applications, artificial intelligence models, among others can also be considered as digital public goods. Regarding the creation of value of digital public goods, especially in developing countries, he mentioned the concrete example of Sri Lanka in the health sector.

At the onset of the pandemic in 2020, Sri Lanka was able to create an application to monitor Covid-19 cases within just two days after detecting its first positive case in the country. Said application was implemented in hospitals, airports, and other public places throughout the country. This case stood out for the speed response in face of the crisis, but also for being created using the open-source software DHIS2, a digital public good and information system for the health sector used in over 73 countries. Being a completely public application, it provided an opportunity for 38 other countries to take up the application and adapt their own versions.

Additionally, the speaker reflected that there are privacy, security, and interoperability implications for creating value in all sectors of society, but said that by being open technologies, they can help mitigate the risk of blocking or hacking of basic services such as healthcare. In fact, it was pointed

out that critical digital infrastructure can be made more resilient to cyber-attacks by using digital public goods. The implementation of these types of digital solutions can become essential, particularly in Latin American countries aiming to build a more inclusive and resilient digital infrastructure that benefits citizens, the public sector, and the private sector.

2.1.3 Questions and answers

How to make use of digital public goods to regain "lost ground" during the pandemic?

Mr. Torres mentioned that the pandemic had two very important effects, first in the delay of digitization and the lag of the communities, but also increased the perception of need for how the digital infrastructure must be a service for all.

He mentioned that the real needs must be considered starting from the communities where they come from; therefore, governments and organizations must be the ones who develop the infrastructure from the internal perspectives of each country, taking into account the considerations adapted to the regional and global context.

Miss Carr added that the pandemic was a possibility for the development and opening of data and public information for many countries, especially since in some countries there were no laws applicable to access to public information. Such scenario became a call for decision makers, policy makers and other stakeholders to address not only the global emergency of the pandemic, but also other regional and global challenges.

Comment 1: In the Americas region there is no clear conceptualization or definition of digital public goods, nor are there many related public policy instruments. It is due to determine the state of the art in the region, generate clear concepts, incentives, and impulses for the creation of these concepts.

Mr. Torres mentioned that the Alliance for Digital Public Goods is focused on enabling and finding projects developed in different countries, but an important step is that both leaders and local governments can focus and join the efforts that exist at the regional level.

Comment 2: One of the main concerns is how to relate the issue of digital public goods to public infrastructure. In digital identity systems, technology is usually thought of as the goal, representing the solution that is sought to be adapted to the existing problems. From a digital identity systems perspective, it is necessary to create public policies focused on human rights and on the results, they seek to achieve with it. Considering that the goal is not limited to implementing technology, but aims to foster communication and connection for society, and the open, secure and inclusive internet is the tool to achieve this, but not the objective.

• How to stimulate the development of digital public goods and encourage the cooperation of the production sector and the private sector to participate in these processes?

Ms. Carr mentioned that it is crucial to have the consent of the communities in order to adopt these types of technologies or technological processes and that different cultures and ways of life must be respected. Regarding the new sources of investment, she emphasized that the objective of digital public goods is to encourage collaborative participation, not to impose them on society, respecting opinions while being equitable.

Free software or digital public goods should serve to reduce the existing digital gap in the different countries of the region, for which it is necessary to have a catalog of existing digital public goods that

are easy to understand, access, and download, not only by the authorities of the countries concerned but also by the production and private sector.

• How to integrate a human rights perspective from the outset in public goods, taking into consideration a gender and a culturally appropriate perspective? How to ensure that States develop justice and accountability mechanisms from the outset?

Mr. Torres mentioned that one of the main challenges in the identification of digital public goods are the characteristics and principles with which they can be developed, especially considering the possibility that they may be implemented under schemes that are not beneficial to society. Therefore, a more detailed construction from a human rights perspective is missing, as well as identifying the components that should be integrated into standards and principles.

Ms. Carr identified as a priority to determine what are the needs of the population and to which communities it refers; within the international perspective, it is imperative to recognize digital human rights within international spaces such as the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, since so far there are legal gaps in the currently existing arguments and jurisprudence. Also, she emphasized Latin America's clear lag regarding the implementation of digital rights when compared to other regions such as Europe.

• What specific adjustments do you consider necessary within the ecosystem of internet governance and global digital cooperation? Starting from a perspective that considers and governs the Internet as a public good.

Comment 1: The discussion on digital public goods can also lead, within the compliance of national legislation, to the generation of barriers and disadvantages compared to goods created by the private sector. There are coordinates that can serve as a guide for digital public goods to compete as a fraction of what is produced digitally in the private sector, such as scale, identity management, barriers, cross-border effects, and memory. When establishing a national perspective on the creation of digital public goods, considering the example of the Internet as a public good, it should be taken into account not to hand over the management exclusively to the government, as this is generally what happens with public goods. Therefore, it is necessary to reestablish a strategy focused on digital public goods that includes public policies, as well as cooperation with communities and competition with privatized goods.

While revisiting the topic of internet as a public good and its governance, Ms. Carr mentioned that today there are new generations who are interested in internet governance, but that at the same time, many human rights or basic issues cannot be exercised without the internet. She commented that it is important to start questioning society's current conceptions of the needs of some communities. In addition, she reiterated that States should provide free and good quality access to the Internet so that communities can decide whether to use it or not.

As an example of the results derived from the Covid-19 pandemic, she mentioned that currently there are digital native companies, but there are also companies focused on other products that have faced difficulties in their transition to digitization, leading to other challenges within companies.

She stressed that education and awareness about the challenges and opportunities of new technologies should be key to governance, especially Internet governance. She also reiterated the importance of recommendations within consultations, as there is not always representation from large companies or local governments, which limits the influence of action.

• Returning to human rights and public goods, within the free software movement, many large technology companies have appropriated the logic of this concept. Beyond thinking about the implications of human rights and digital public goods, how to limit the debate from becoming a form of colonial expropriation of knowledge?

Comment 1: The principles related to autonomy and technology development are key to think about the SDGs, but also for the digital future that we want to build. A human rights perspective must be included in the development of technologies, and beyond the technical visions, technologies should consider principles of autonomy and self-determination of people and affected communities; specifically in the management of knowledge and data (privacy, security and interoperability), for the advancement of technologies. It is necessary to think about how to prevent appropriation and improper extraction of knowledge that benefits the communities that are affected.

Regarding governance, it is necessary to strengthen mechanisms for multisectoral participation in political discussions and implementation of policies of any kind as well as mechanisms for effective social participation of the affected communities. Likewise, it is crucial to reflect on what kind of technologies and policies are intended to be promoted, to reach a viable reality.

Countries must develop public policies focused on guaranteeing the dignity of the person in the digital environment and unrestricted respect for human rights, not only as an abstract desire but with objectives and tangible facts that allow generating evidence that the design, development, and implementation of digital public goods are adapted to the needs of society and contributes to closing the existing digital divide in the countries of the region.

Comment 2: The nations' cybersecurity strategies do not include a definition of digital public goods; at least 18 strategies in the region have no mention of this. Partly, this is due to the lack of definition of the concept. Here is an opportunity to advance a definition at the national level, which is easier when a strategy is developed with different interested stakeholders.

There are two ways in which the region is pursuing the issue of digitalization and cybersecurity, there is a polarization between the two issues, as many countries choose to develop a digital agenda and some more develop digital strategies; both compete for the prioritization of public goods and resources, rather than being complementary. Ideally, both tools should define the term digital public goods and coordinate different common initiatives, from their own perspectives. Cybersecurity is important to address issues of human rights, inclusion, etc., if this is not considered, it will be difficult to talk about inclusiveness.

• Access to digital public goods is important for inclusiveness, but is there any consideration for the establishment of cyber diplomacy, policies and/or laws? As many developing countries do not have this availability to protect certain sectors or people develop these solutions.

Mr. Torres mentioned that there is a disadvantage especially for smaller and developing countries to implement this type of digital solutions and that the focus should be on funds that can be gathered by multilateral companies to build this capacity within the countries. He mentioned the debate that currently exists about Chat GPT (artificial intelligence chatbot prototype), whether it is a public good or not, because of the controversy of definition that exists within the general consensus. The model is open, as anyone can use it, although it does not have the legal conditions to be modified by third parties.

He added that this can be applied to other technological tools or social networks, where there is selfdetermination of the technologies. Whereas other open platforms have adopted certain federated models, where there is no single company or geographic location where it is implemented, but it is distributed and jointly preserved by multiple people or stakeholders.

Ms. Carr took up the issue of colonialism and added that it also happens within digital technologies, so it is essential that influential and/or economically powerful people, as well as vulnerable, traditionally marginalized or discriminated populations, are aware of the rights and risks that these technologies entail when using them. In relation to the question on ways to protect the developers of these open technologies, he mentioned that these people can introduce a different model of program development, work with models of responsible research and innovation, or include possible risks; he also mentioned that an evaluation and analysis of people's reaction and interaction with the technologies will be necessary. Considering the involvement of experts in technological ethics to help cover the lack of laws in the development of new technologies for responsible development, he pointed out that it is not easy to develop new technologies for responsible development.

He highlighted that it is not easy to develop general concepts, but by including the technical concept with the incorporation of human rights and privacy issues, it will allow a better understanding of the limitations and fundamental issues, so that people can better understand these concepts and apply them in a responsible manner and avoid them being used for practices with negative impacts on society.

Comment 1: In relation to the definition of digital public goods, it is important to distinguish between the terminologies of public and common as well as to distinguish commons and public goods, as this distinction defines what the governance of goods implies. Digital commons, like non-digital commons, are threatened by a dismantling of life-sustaining possibilities and are inappropriate, yet there is a global trend to appropriate the commons and the life of communities; there are also public interest technologies and critical infrastructures that are also under threat. We are invited to reflect on the way in which discussions are framed, since human rights and public-private relations, which are considered a threat to these goods, can be left aside.

Comment 2: Regarding the distinction of digital goods, it usually implies that the government is the provider of public services, such as security, education, health, etc.; however, in the Latin American region, the public sector is not well known for its efficiency. Given the relevance of digital goods, the definition of public goods should imply the relevance of the role of government, albeit not the best way, especially because of the difference in terminology. The commons are considered a governance model, which can control access to infrastructure or community networks as it is commonly referred to in the Americas region.

There are digital assets created and managed by specific communities which may involve partnership with government, though government should not be the core actor with this responsibility. We know that government management is not the best or most efficient option, especially since government terms change from time to time and the lack of follow-up falls on the management of the government in office.

Another element of the digital ecosystem to be explored in the digital public domains, are the communities that build community networks connected through their own infrastructure, including the management and expansion of the connection, do not need the patronage of the government or the private sector and do not compete with each other; but complement the limits of their approaches, which is known as market areas of numbers, since the market can fail and so can the government.

2.2 Panel. Universal Connectivity

The dialogue began with the intervention of civil society, academia, the public sector, and the private sector to share the different perspectives on universal connectivity based on the sectors they represent.

2.2.1 Salma Jalife, representative of Centro México Digital

Ms. Jalife began her speech by remarking that the world is currently in a phase of digital revolution, which has marked different aspects of daily life, as well as economic interaction in terms of competitiveness, productivity, and economic growth of countries. It has also marked the reduction of inequalities and the success in facing any crisis. She mentioned that universal connectivity is a very important factor and by understanding it as access to broadband and internet, either these terminologies or the technology we should adopt might change in the future.

She considered that universal connectivity is the basis for introducing society in all these aspects, but we must know the details of the gaps that prevent universal connectivity. She pointed out that most countries do not measure these gaps because they ignore how to do it and where they want to go. She used as an example the State Digital Development Index, the aim of which is to turn it into a regional initiative to gradually test it, to know the gaps that exist and to understand why there is no connectivity in all the identified gaps. She added that there is a close relationship between digital development and universal connectivity with phenomena such as social backwardness and per capita income. From a human rights point of view, she stressed the need to empower individuals and communities to decide whether or not to connect and utilize these technologies.

She mentioned three findings about the index:

- Affordability: connectivity in urban areas without the possibility of paying for continuous (monthly) service, and the affordability gap for the devices used that allow access to all Internet tools.
- Reach of technology service providers: there is a gap towards rural and semi-urban areas where there is no affordability. This service is covered by small operators; in Mexico there is a concession of social or community coverage, these seek to be simplified and can be considered as an alternative to reduce the universal connectivity gap.
- MSMEs: in the region, unlike the successful coverage percentages, in the case of MSMEs for the digital use of companies, only 20% are using digital technologies; because they do not have the ability to easily access digitization schemes and enhance their economic development.

2.2.2 Gustavo Siles, representative of Bolivian Private University

From the academic and technical perspective, Mr. Siles commented that there are wireless solutions such as the 5G network, that although it is starting in Latin America within rural areas, the question arises whether it will really bring the same effect as in the northern hemisphere (in rural areas). Nevertheless, he highlighted the importance of reflecting on the promotion of affordable and accessible digital connectivity through "bottom-up" strategies with the support of different sectors as the best way to bring connectivity to new users in underserved areas, and to propose solutions based on their requirements/needs.

He stressed the importance of empowering users to make connectivity affordable and with the cooperation of multiple parties to reduce costs. In terms of business models, he mentioned that

currently within the technology entrepreneurship ecosystem, companies are not always focused on the rural environment. The new generations must be encouraged to reflect on the spaces for improvement through entrepreneurship, jointly developed with the communities and their requirements.

From the regulatory field, he mentioned that governments have to open up to cooperation with new actors to provide connectivity to disadvantaged areas. Within the current model in most Latin American countries, they do not have cooperation with other actors and now community connectivity providers will be a fundamental part of closing the gaps.

Finally, to close his speech, he mentioned the universal service funds, sharing as an example the case of Bolivia, where they concentrate on projects executed by a single company. Although the participation of large players is considered, there is no opportunity for bidding and it becomes a monopoly, coupled with a lack of accountability. He considered that funds should be distributed in a better way, integrating community operators.

2.2.3 Lizania Pérez, representative of Technical Telecommunications Regional Commission (COMTELCA)

Ms. Perez begun by reflecting on the hope that the entire world population will be connected, given that the pandemic has shown how digitalization and connectivity have helped the production sectors to continue their operations by making use of technologies. As a main concern, she pointed out the risks that exist online for all users that resulted from the lack of awareness of the risks and vulnerabilities when making use of the cyberspace.

She agreed that there are multiple barriers for connectivity, affordability being one of the main ones. She noted that the cost to the operator and the price to the end user are generally considered, however, consideration should be given to ways in which it can be made cheaper for both the operator and the end user.

She proposed that having traffic exchange points in the countries could be a way for operators to exchange traffic locally without having to make use of international connectivity, which translates into lower costs for the operator and a lower internet price.

Furthermore, she highlighted the tax burden that telecommunication services signify, using as an example the case of the Dominican Republic. Specifically, that taxes applied to telecommunication services, with 2% going to contribute to the development of these services, but there is also a 10% tax on consumption. Although she pointed out that this tax is applied to luxury goods, different international forums have acknowledged that the Internet is not a luxury good, but rather a basic service that should thus be more accessible for the development of the sector.

As a consequence, she agreed on the need to create measurements and analysis within each country to decide how to generate alliances with the actors that determine the application of taxes in order to generate a fiscal scheme where telecommunications are not affected.

On one hand, in terms of accessibility, she reiterated the importance of promoting the deployment of infrastructure, especially as it is not profitable for operators to deploy infrastructure in remote communities due to the low existing demand. Nonetheless, she commented that there is not much knowledge and analysis on remote communities and their social, demographic, and other needs. On

the other hand, regarding digital literacy rates, she pointed out that currently the focus should be on the productive use of technologies as the first general objective.

Lastly, with respect to the device barrier, she stressed the importance of the homologation of import schemes that allow the entry of low-cost devices to cover the needs of rural areas. As an integral strategy, regulatory bodies must be considered, along with customs requirements, import permits and homologation. She proposed that the regulatory model should promote not barriers, but openness. As an example, she cited the successful case of the regulatory sandbox in Colombia, which aims to enable suppliers to test technologies, exempting them from regulatory compliance for a certain period of time. If it proves to be functional, it can be implemented directly influencing the supply and demand of services.

2.2.4 Elon Parkinson, representative of Digicel Jamaica

Mr. Parkinson mentioned that from a private sector perspective, an understanding between the different actors is sought within three main interests:

- Accessibility of technologies, going through the revolutions up to the current implementation of 5G. The goal is to ensure universal access so that people can use the service as a social and economic good.
- **Affordability** through deals between parties interested in the acquisition of technology and its deployment.
- Availability, as affected by access and entry barriers.

For reflection, he posed the question: what are the real barriers? He shared that currently, more than 62% of internet traffic in the Caribbean is done on behalf of large technology companies such as Facebook, Google, Apple, among others; a large amount of money is paid to carry their internet traffic in order to constantly improve network capabilities to carry the traffic that large companies want to establish within the countries.

He explained that in the last five years, Digicel has invested more than \$442 million USD to improve broadband capabilities in terms of LTE and firewall in the Caribbean. When large companies use approximately 62% of the capacity, it translates into more than \$230 million USD invested for the purpose of carrying their internet traffic. The audience was reminded that these large technology companies do not pay taxes in the countries in which they operate and are hardly subject to compliance with the laws in such countries, in addition to the fact that they do not generate investment.

He highlighted that when one has digital services established in another country and selling content to the countries receiving this technology, along with the pressure from consumers and businesses to increase bandwidth, technology providers must invest in additional services. Compared to the services that customers pay for and the amount of investment by companies, it is not enough and constraints for acquisitions arise.

He assured that there is a limit to what can be achieved with costs, especially because in the future large companies are going to generate new products and it will be the technology providers that will be under pressure to introduce and bring them closer to consumers, such as is the case with 5G technology. And when asked about how to get that return on investment, he shared that in 2015 the internet value chain was \$3.3 trillion USD, while in 2022 it was \$7 trillion USD. He mentioned that

over the last few years, technology companies have been in a structural decline in the returns they get from the value chain with a 12% decline.

Thereafter, as a reflection on the regulatory issue, he highlighted the issue of how to ensure that large companies pay their fair share of taxes. Legislators can establish limits on the amount of data and traffic with which they operate, to determine the percentage they have to pay either at the operational or capital expenditure level. This is done to ensure that local networks continue to advance as they are also affected by the high demand for bandwidth.

Finally, he reiterated the importance of empowering regulators to understand what the challenges are and how to face them. To this end, all stakeholders must be included in the discussion so that connectivity becomes universal (government, private sector, academia, and technology giants).

2.3 Work session. Universal Connectivity

2.3.1 Discussion based on guiding questions

- In what ways can we make universal digital connectivity affordable and accessible for vulnerable communities, such as hard-to-reach rural areas?
- What business models can be fostered to create market conditions for investing in universal digital connectivity?
- What can we do to promote favorable regulatory environments for smaller-scale Internet providers, alongside local and regional connectivity assessments?

Group 1

Promote affordable and accessible connectivity for vulnerable communities	Business models	Regulatory environments	Other relevant aspects
 Qualified, productive, and participatory connectivity. GDC should generate measures, standards, indicators, and guidelines. (20-30 ITU'S Agenda) Consider the Internet as a digital public good. A minimum level of universal connectivity should be provided without creating first and second-class users. Autonomy of connected individuals. 	 Generate a favorable context for businesses from rural communities. Affordable and accessible connectivity. Offer services that reduce service costs and guarantee the neutrality and impartiality of the network. Pricing-focused standards. Universal access funds with citizen oversight or audit. Conditional transfer programs. 	 Protection of small business Internet Service Providers (ISPs). Open data and metrics for competitiveness. Regulatory changes. Regulatory innovation and virtual education. Policies that prioritize the promotion and adoption of open technologies. Regulatory innovation in order to promote connectivity. Regulatory sandbox: testing technology to see if it works before 	 Agreements amongst countries and provinces to share digital infrastructure. GDC would play an important role in promoting these agreements to share infrastructure between countries. Develop and operate a mechanism for monitoring agreements. Promote community networks.

- Traffic exchange points.
- Susceptibility on the company's part.
- Standards of responsibility and ethics for free Wi-Fi.
- Free Wi-Fi access in public spaces
- Recognition of the coverage-based model, its costs, and its limitations
- Enabling conditions:
- Supporting the realization of people's right to address their own connectivity needs
 self-determine how to design, deploy, use, and manage connectivity infrastructure.
- Facilitating multistakeholder coresponsibility: -State/Government -Companies -NGOs/Civil Society -Citizens
- GDC could request that countries clarify their commitments, develop a roadmap, and accountability measures
- Reuse of infrastructure
- Review solidarity fund mechanisms

- Leverage and ways to encourage private investment. State task.
- Promote that free infrastructure is subsidized.
- Encourage complementary models to the traditional one such as cooperatives and community models
- Develop collaboration in digital companies with complementary models such as community initiatives and cooperatives.
- Generate political, financial, regulatory and technical conditions to increase individual and collective autonomy
- Incentives for community networks
- Sustainable emerging technologies eg. satellite
- Circular economy in community networks
- Public / private partnerships
- Community networks
- Cooperative models

- launching it on the market.
- The State must ensure a minimum access as in the case of water. State as guarantor of access.
- Consider the recommendations of ITU-CITEL for the development of community networks
- Reform the political, normative, regulatory environments so that they allow the coexistence of different connectivity provision models, including community networks.
- Empower the last mile
- Better regulation of universal service funds
- Suitable regulatory environment: flexibility and asymmetry (different rules for different contexts), updated indications => how to regulate, what type of connectivity?
- Shared and open infrastructure, (regulatory instrument available to the operator)

- Connectivity for citizen monitoring processes of environmental issues. Ex., a monitoring and containment program in the Amazon with the participation of the 8 Amazon countries.
- Early warning systems on the effects of climate change, such as droughts, hurricanes, frosts, storms, etc.
- Evaluation and attention to climate change issues.
- Area not served.
- Right to connection of people on the move in the region (migrants and refugees)
- Multi-stakeholder participation
- Spaces for dialogue with civil society, academia, government and the private sector
- Zero emissions: electronic waste.
 Opportunities and challenges of ICT Climate Change

Key messages

- Connectivity for risk prevention.
- It is necessary to focus that the GDC can help identify factors that hinder connectivity.
- Need for flexible regulatory frameworks.

Group 2

Promote affordable and accessible connectivity for vulnerable communities	Business models	Regulatory emnvironments	Other relevant aspects
 Important to foster multisectoral alliances, use of existing public facilities. Consider human rights, share best practices, space for multilateral discussion for effective policies. Need of digital literacy starting from better mapping of community's needs. Minorities and vulnerable sectors must have the right to participate. Accessibility: use industry and state actions, promotion, and incentive. 	 Greater wealth through business models with incentives. How digital humanism is built, adaptability of the digital society. Encourage free competition hand in hand with the population. Competition and complementarity of formats to promote connectivity. The State should assume an integrating role, with a modular approach. The option of not connecting must be respected and digitization policies must always consider accessible analogue alternatives for access to essential services and for the exercise of fundamental rights. Address linguistic diversity to promote multiculturalism. 	 Governments should encourage flexible public policies and regulations. State must be financed. Governments must establish innovative public policies and promote connectivity. Taking advantage of forums or consultations such as the GDC and other construction spaces to promote the creation of inclusive policies. Exchange and strengthening of regulatory frameworks that promote new business models. 	 Three great challenges: 1. Financing 2. Alliances 3. Technology keeps innovating in new and affordable products. 4. Deployment of technological infrastructure in rural areas. 5. Endowment of resources, given that public resources are scarce. 6. Manage loans from cooperating sources. 7. Have trained personnel for the deployment of connectivity in rural areas.

Key messages

- Flexible regulatory policies to promote connectivity.
- Efficient use of universal service funds.
- Broad participation in program design, monitoring, and supervision.

2.3.2 Key takeaways from the universal connectivity workshop

Group 1

- Dismantle a logic of access to connectivity as an end in itself and avoid the reductionist imperative of connecting the unconnected; it is necessary to create a focus on how to connect and what to connect for.
- The Global Digital Compact can make a fundamental contribution to recognizing the main factors that hinder the universalization of access to connectivity in the region, such as coverage and costs
- The need to reform political, regulatory, and normative environments that allow for the coexistence of different connectivity provisioning models, including community networks and internet service cooperatives, was raised.
- Complementary approaches for private, public, and community solutions, based on public-private partnerships.
- The need to reinforce the right of individuals and groups at both the individual and collective levels to address their own needs for access, connectivity, and self-determination in the design, deployment, use, and management of connectivity infrastructure.
- It is essential to create political, financial, regulatory, and technical conditions to increase individual and collective autonomy for the entire population.
- Creation of flexible regulatory frameworks that enable the possibility of coexistence of different models.
- Recognition of the tendency to assume connectivity as a human right.
- Global Digital Compact as an important opportunity to advance in agreements that allow countries at a structural disadvantage or without access to fiber optics to enable infrastructure sharing among countries in the region and facilitate access to connectivity infrastructure.
- Internet as a digital public good with a guaranteed minimum of connectivity, without creating first and second level users.
- Create measures, standards or indicators that could be taken from existing indicators and guides to promote the agreements and conventions that the countries would assume.
- As business models, the creation of community networks of free, subsidized infrastructures derived from public-private alliances was proposed.
- Create a regulatory sandbox and provide audit and oversight mechanisms.
- Promote the creation of agreements to share digital infrastructure amongst countries.
- As "other aspects", environmental impacts and climate change were addressed with zero emission targets.

Group 2

- Address connectivity and internet access from a human rights perspective.
- Implement complementary approaches, beyond a connectivity idea based on commercial terms, integrating connectivity through public, private, community, and multisectoral partnership initiatives.
- The importance of the Global Digital Compact being able to base itself on processes and contents previously developed by expert organizations and multisectoral spaces.

- Efficient use of universal service funds, based on programs with specific goals and with the objective of reducing gaps between rural, urban, gender communities, and other gaps identified in the region.
- Broad social participation in the elaboration of public policies, accompaniment, supervision, and monitoring of programs/policies.
- Internet as a right and not as an imposition; respect the decision of the communities to connect or not and consider alternative forms of participation in different formats.
- Flexible regulatory policies that can mobilize different formats and businesses, in order to promote connectivity.
- Propose ways in which technology companies can contribute to universalization funds.
- Different visions pointed to the need to reduce regulation and others more focused on increasing private subsidies.
- Identify that large technology companies financially cooperate with universal service funds to bring connectivity to marginalized communities.
- Integrate the internet as a right for all, in the digital age, the lack of access to information or non-digitized government services impacts human dignity.
- Acknowledge access to digital services as a human right.
- Identification of main challenges: (1) how large companies can contribute to financing the market, (2) collaborations between the public and private sectors and (3) technology as an innovation tool to increase connectivity.
- A connectivity system focused on the prevention of risks and disasters in the context of climate change. Including protection of connectivity infrastructure.
- Improve connectivity for the prevention of deforestation in Amazonian countries, linked to climate change.
- Public policies must have objectives, indicators, and annual goals to close gaps in universal
 connectivity and monitor compliance. They must be part of a State Policy or a National
 Agreement so that when there are changes in governments, continuity in the process of
 closing digital gaps is guaranteed.

Complementary comments in the plenary session

- The Global Digital Compact represents an opportunity to build upon what has already been accomplished and not allow any setbacks.
- Recommendation to use the resolutions and recommendations of CITEL as a reference for community network initiatives and to recognize the role that alternative models play in providing connectivity.
- Regarding monitoring mechanisms, there have been discussions about establishing mechanisms to track the agreements reached in the context of the debate, considering that the final debate will take place between governments and civil society will not have access to monitoring the final text. Therefore, transparency mechanisms should be created for the development of the text that will ultimately be approved by the Member States of the United Nations.
- Universal coverage funds are small amounts of money distributed through politicized mechanisms. Most funds are distributed according to decisions made by a committee on contributions obtained from taxes, which are mandatory for telecommunications operators

and who are in turn paid to establish networks in areas without coverage. Expectations are very high, compared to the 1% coverage of a country. If a global fund is being considered, it is essential to consider how it will be converted into investments within each country and what the decision-making mechanisms will be since it is a government mechanism that needs to be converted into a multi-stakeholder one.

- While the Global Digital Compact is a multilateral framework, there should be a motivating factor for governments to establish a multi-stakeholder model in each country. Although the compact is signed by government representatives, there should also be an invitation to build multi-sectoral groups or an entity where issues are discussed with the participation of civil society, academia, the private sector, technical community, and government, including the large technology companies that currently dominate the digital world. This will make it possible to monitor the agreements of the pact in each country.
- The best approach is to generate social participation, ideally from different interested parties, to identify the best ways to use universal funds to subsidize it. There are also innovative ways, such as how the economy ministries have programs for innovative startups and financing for rural areas to create new businesses, but do not consider micro-telecommunications operators, which can be considered absurd, because it is very easy to implement. Governments can easily do this because they have the resources to do so, it is about making good use of what is already available, as there is a lot of money allocated for this.
- The importance of building upon previous progress is exemplified by the Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean, which originated as a process to articulate the region's positions towards the World Summit on the Information Society. This initiative was subsequently continued through an intergovernmental meeting to discuss digital policy priorities, providing a solid foundation for regional consultations on the Global Digital Compact. A key issue in achieving universal access to digital services is the capacity for leadership and political decision-making, as much of the necessary reorganization is closely tied to the actions of governments.

3. Digital Inclusion

3.1 Panel. Digital Inclusion 1. Equity in Access

The dialogue began with the presentation of representatives of academia, civil society and the public sector.

3.1.1 Matías Dodel, representative of the Catholic University of Uruguay

Mr. Dodel began his intervention with a visual explanation using three graphs to understand the inequalities in digital access better. The first graph reflects the 1962 theory called "Theory of diffusion of innovations," which reflects how technological innovations are adopted in society with an "S" shape. In the beginning, a small number of people (the "early adopters") adopt the technology (about 10%), continuing with the majority (40%), a late majority (approximately 40%), and lastly, the laggards (another 10%). However, this way of understanding access growth has a significant bias: it assumes that everyone starts from the same starting point and has the same opportunities.

Here on, the speaker mentioned the following graphs as two possible solutions. The first one is based on the theory of normalization, which suggests that technologies become cheaper over time and although they start from different contexts, they always reach the same benefits. The second graph reflects the theory of stratification, where one starts later in the adoption of technologies and thus inequalities increase due to the lag it represents.

He also spoke about how to conceive access and gave the example of considering it as a pyramid with different levels of inequality. From where we are born and from the more traditional socioeconomic class, material access is determined (devices and Internet), the next level could be considered skills and uses, and the last one is the internet "for what" or the purpose of use of the Internet (the tangible results). These levels of access are sequential and not dichotomous. Access is complex, and benefits accumulate, but negative factors, such as poor quality, can lead to less potential or diversity in use. This, in turn, reduces the potential impacts of the Internet on people's lives.

The last slide presented the Uruguayan case on the diffusion of access to computers and the Internet in homes. The graphs presented based on official Uruguayan data allow us to observe the "S" shape of the innovation diffusion model. The charts follow the stratification pattern without state intervention (only through the market logic). However, public policies can change the trends toward normalization. Uruguay has the particularity of Plan Ceibal, a much more complex and sophisticated version of the 1-to-1 model than "One laptop per child" (content was generated, and teachers were trained, among others). Plan Ceibal provided computers to boys and girls, which they took home. This caused a reduction in the gaps in access to devices (computers) between households with higher and lower incomes. Digital gaps of origin can be reduced; this can be achieved through public policies and the intervention of governments, and the participation of other actors to change the inequalities of access that stem from ones origin through public policies and government intervention, as well as the participation of other actors, to address inequalities in access.

3.1.2 Federica Tortorella, Internet Ambassador

Ms. Tortorella mentioned that when thinking about the resolution of any issue, it is considered that the government and its dependencies have the abilities and faculties to solve society's problems. However, it is also necessary to reflect on the different approaches for citizen empowerment of

participation in different spaces. As an example, in the Dominican Republic there is a neighborhood council, if it had that voice and vote focus to create knowledge and recognize false news. Or, within local governments, with participatory consultations, it is not about removing the governments' administrative responsibilities, as it is only to consider what is already available and see how it can be better used.

She stressed that in order to talk about digital transformation, knowledge must be created, and people must be empowered, to develop adequate mechanisms. Mentioned as examples:

- The implementation in the Dominican Republic of the basic digital basket, a pilot plan where 2,000 women for two years will receive an internet subsidy, a smart device, and training to generate digital skills.
- From the civil society the use of experiences, similar to video games, are used to create learning. A game called "Social media vs humanity" was created, as there is a lot of interest from people to continue learning about online moderation, which has allowed us to understand this alternative as a solution to understand the benefits and risks of browsing the Internet.

Decisions and policies must be adapted to the problems of society. Each country/region/person has needs, so the policy approach has to be different and take into account diversity and what the global majority says.

3.1.3 Denis Pocasangre, Secretary of State for Innovation of the Presidency of El Salvador

Mr. Pocasangre discussed the case of El Salvador as an example of the implementation of public policies and decisions taken at the governmental level. In response to the implications of the Covid-19 pandemic, digital inclusion policies were implemented at the presidency level, making use of information and communication tools.

The policies were mainly directed towards the education and health sectors.

- From a human rights perspective, it is important to highlight the implementation of a digital health system and the management of information to prevent diseases or risk patterns within a particular population.
- In terms of education, he mentioned the delivery of tools that allow students to increase their access to educational platforms. Delivering smart devices to each student to continue accessing virtual classes and distance learning from their homes.

He concluded by emphasizing the importance of establishing programs that allow and ensure different types of rights, such as data privacy, cybersecurity, among others, as well as ensuring every digital service promotes digital inclusion.

3.2 Work Session. Digital inclusion 1. Equity in access

3.2.1 Discussion based on guiding questions

- How can we promote "equitable, meaningful, and safe access to the use, leadership, and design of digital technologies, services, and associated opportunities for everyone everywhere"?
- What actions must be implemented to create true equity in the framework of digital transformation?

- What policies, frameworks and programs have proven to be most successful and should be scaled up and adapted to other contexts to foster digital inclusion?
- What practical steps do we need to take to guarantee digital skills and digital literacy for vulnerable groups?

Group 1

How to move forward?	Actions for equity	Policies, frameworks and programs	Relevant steps
 Access to connectivity: multiple and beneficial technologies for people. Community use, community content, in the language of the region. Diagnosis of needs of target populations. Policies and strategies: create transversal digital agendas, including various issues that contemplate continuity between governments. Policies that address the vulnerable population. Entrepreneurship: so that the population of LAC countries, mostly consumers rather than creators of technology, transition to the creation of technology and content. Create a sector with specific governance that can create interinstitutional programs. Recognition of the existence of structural inequities and multiple digital gaps Democratic deficit environments are not conducive to equitable, meaningful and secure access. Equity goes through the developing and 	 Address structural inequalities, gaps in the plural form. Use of Technologies by providers of technological companies. Learn about the diversity of offers from digital training. Technologies based on principles in the realities of each individual and group. Information and training as a solution to the challenges Know uses and needs. Generate content that is located and built alongside communities Establish mechanisms that allow the voices of historically marginalized groups to be heard and considered. To discuss and dialogue about digitization issues a common knowledge base is needed Promote more participation of women in all activities. Attention to disabilities, native populations and minorities. Digitization or digital transformation? Mechanisms for other development models (outside the private sector). 	 Creation of impact indicators to measure and monitor. Policies and strategies, based on good practices as experiences. General agenda that addresses particular agendas. Intersectional politics and digital literacy. Have a democratic framework, continuous policies and equity. Context based digital literacy: pedagogies bottom-up, hyperlocal, "pedagogy of oppressed" Support youth from minority groups to develop digital skills, including "structural barriers" addressing Policies aimed at strengthening and the sustainability of community networks Policies for the promotion of open technologies Promote local technological solutions — technological autonomy. Digital skills training: basic, advanced to create technologies. 	 Learn in practice. Create computing autonomy capabilities. Develop skills for technological uses. Digital services based on social needs. Reinforcement of the multistakeholder participation model in the design of access policies, digital literacy programs, and content generation. Promote the generation of intersectional data on digital inequality Design humancentered digital services Rationalize the fascination with new technologies (eg metaverses) Create capacities to process and use information and data Access to information for knowledge creation Technology as cultural transfer

How to move forward?	Actions for equity	Policies, frameworks and programs	Relevant steps
promotion of digital culture. - Invest in the capacities to develop local technology (preferably open source). - In addition to access, focus on training and training. - Recognize inequality, intersectionality and diversity in needs - Address connectivity by layers - Strengthening institutions and the governance of digital policy - Interinstitutional and intersectoral programs	 Bottom-up technology design. Productive use of ICTs Digital languages plan Public-private collaboration. 	 Options on how it is included and non-digital options for others. Create an ecosystem structure for innovation and entrepreneurship. Critical training on how the internet works: security, privacy, bad practices Plan CEIBAL Awareness programs Programs to address resistance to change. Digital agendas: transversal Long term planning. Creation of a governing body/organism 	

Key messages

- Participation in preparing plans and programs related to digital issues is needed to better understand multiple contexts and realities at the local level.
- Importance of advancing digital education policies from a critical perspective.
- We need to think about digital inclusion policies focused on reducing structural gaps.

Group 2

How to move forward?	Actions for equity	Policies, frameworks and programs	Relevant steps
 Education stimulation policies. Available access conditions of devices. Creative industries: flexible economic policies for innovative business models. Consider the different realities in all countries. Use cases and construction for internet users and nonusers. Equal floor for all to guarantee equal conditions. Reflect on the administrative projects of certain governments. Global and open Internet. 	 Country theme, by different realities. The gender gap was imperceptible at the national level but can be extended in some more developed States. There are gaps not yet identified. We forget people who are not connected to the internet. Identify potential users. Socioeconomic rural gaps. Make visible the costs of digital literacy. Identify minorities. 	 Break away from corruption. Work at the subnational level. Access is only meaningful if it is global and open. Creation of active participation mechanisms, with a cultural perspective. Inclusion policies, linked to policies and practical case studies to better understand how to achieve inclusion. Begin to decolonize our views of technologies in communities. Digital inclusion centers. 	 Cybersecurity must be considered one of the pillars of digitization. Digital literacy. Identify gaps that dominate the digital scenario. Establish access points to get internet access

Key messages

- Need to incorporate the human rights perspective into the formulation of policies related to connectivity and digitization.
- Generate legal conditions and integrate public policies to promote meaningful access.
- Address issues of corruption and impunity.

3.2.2 Key takeaways from the work session Digital Inclusion 1. Equity in access

Group 1

- To achieve equity with a view to digital inclusion, it is necessary to understand local needs and particularities. Therefore, adopting bottom-up models is a condition for policies on the matter to have an effect.
- Digital inclusion is directly associated with strengthening individual and collective rights.
 The design, use, access, and development of technologies must be based on respect for human rights.
- Promote incentives for the implementation of objectives and goals.
- Encourage countries to raise their level through "rankings"; this provides credibility and increases reputation; they can be incorporated into the digital agendas of each country.
- The need for diagnoses and public policies is based on evidence and the participation of the communities and nations that make up the compact.
- Determine shared responsibilities, and each sector can design complementary actions.
- Development of abilities and capacities, the autonomy of the user to choose the tools that he wants to implement, that he can determine what type of technology and for what purpose.

Group 2

- There is no one recipe for everyone, but we need to focus on communities and people who
 are not connected and involve them in discussions.
- Access should not be isolated but associated with educational policies. Topics of digital education and soft skills to be able to be inserted in the digital transformation.
- The intersectionality approach should be integrated into the discussions.
- It is necessary to review the exceptions and limitations for content protected by copyright.
- Transparency and accountability on the part of technology platforms and companies are essential to determine the scope of artificial intelligence initiatives and their impact on society.
- Energy transition in non-interconnected areas.
- Connect the issue of digital inclusion with the energy transition to identify mechanisms and ways to use digital technologies to mitigate the environmental crisis.
- Corruption and impunity must be addressed at all levels, and digital technologies should be promoted to instill a culture of transparency and accountability in the governmental and non-governmental sectors.
- Equal access implies recognizing that the other has the same rights and must be treated with respect; they must also participate in the design of public policies, regulations, or technological solutions, which must be focused on satisfying their needs or solving the general problems affect them.

Day 2, February 16 2023





3.3 Panel. Digital Inclusion 2. Empowerment and active participation in the digital transformation

The dialogue began with the presentation of academia, civil society, and public sector representatives.

3.3.1 Joana Varon, Coding Rights.

Ms. Varon emphasized that from the perspective of feminist theories in practice, as a political analysis of the imbalance of power in the development and use of technologies, alternative futures are envisioned based on past and prior knowledge.

She considered that in order to speak about empowerment and inclusion it is relevant to ask, who holds the power? She mentioned that previously, when the interested parties started to debate about digital policies, connectivity was the primary topic on the agenda. Now the context has changed and there is talk of, for example, layered models of monopoly data. And as digitalization advances in all aspects of society, political power is higher in some states, with that also the power to influence human behavior and mental health.

She proposed as an example that in Brazil, monopolies are gaining from threats to democracies with hate speeches, gender violence, social discrimination, among others. These actions are generating profits for these companies, as well as the information of electoral processes, everything is monetized by algorithms and prioritizes the engagement of these issues that are biased towards communities such as LGBT and other vulnerable communities.

Technologies have materiality and unfold in the map of "Cartographies of the Internet", there is key material for technological infrastructure, starting from countries of the global south, with severe social and environmental impacts. Derived from the different stratification patterns on the map, recurring colonial relations can be seen, therefore, it is necessary to transform the current notion of digital transformation by changing the relations between countries and situating the global power asymmetries and geopolitics behind the technology, as well as the materiality.

She emphasized that the debate should be led with key issues to be the focus of other international forums on the digital side to break the monopolies of large technologies, address gender-based violence, the regulation of platforms, limit and prohibit surveillance tools, social and environmental impacts of technological developments, among others.

Finally, within the progressive agenda, she mentioned that structural inequalities must be recognized in different mechanisms with the support of investment in education, research, infrastructure and consider affirmative actions both nationally and considering the consequences of colonization and how they continue to guide relations in geopolitics.

3.3.2 Valeria Betancourt, Association for the Progress of Communications¹

At the beginning of her remarks, Ms. Betancourt mentioned that from the presentation of the report of Our Common Agenda by the Secretary General of the United Nations in 2021, the development of the Global Digital Compact is proposed to be agreed upon at the Summit of the Future in 2024. Based on this, she mentioned that civil society organizations in Latin America that work in the field of digital

¹ The Coding Rights and APC intervention can be viewed in full at: https://www.apc.org/en/pubs/apc-and-coding-rights-intervention-gdc-americas-multistakeholder-consultation/.

technologies, human rights, and development, began a process of facilitation and exchange to exchange points of view and collect inputs and contributions to the Global Digital Compact.

As part of these processes, she mentioned that the Latin American and Caribbean Internet Governance Forum (LACIGF) focused its conversations and discussions on thematic axes, also from the perspective of identifying priorities in the region for the compact process. She showed interest in sharing the views and discussions that have arisen with different actors on digital inclusion, and she highlighted that many of the interests are established by specific groups. This design has an impact on society, especially those that have been subjected to structural conditions of inequality or some discrimination and violence.

She considered it essential that multisectoral social participation processes complement multilateral dynamics so that people can access and enjoy a free and open internet to exercise their autonomy and build collective power and organizational capacity within uneven power relations due to structural factors.

Participation and empowerment in the digital environment cannot be addressed without considering cybersecurity from a rights perspective. The absence of balancing mechanisms that facilitate access to culture and knowledge, generated by the predominant intellectual property paradigm, hinders the production of relevant content focused on people's needs.

Finally, she emphasized the increase in technology-based gender violence as an obstacle to digital participation and inclusion. The gender-based violence that structurally crosses Latin American societies has moved from physical spaces to digital spaces and has been magnified, deepening the gender gap in technologies.

To safeguard rights and build a free, open, and secure environment in a digital future, the idea of the internet as a common good must be prioritized, together with the idea that individual and collective rights are essential to advance the development of a dignified life.

3.3.3 Alejandro Patiño, CEPAL

Mr. Patiño began by pointing out that within policy design, both the governance framework and the institutional framework relate to enable channels of empowerment and active participation in the digital transformation. As a starting point, he argued that the national digital agendas have been considered as an instrument for advancing the policy. According to the last review of 20 Latin American countries, 15 countries have implemented national agendas, while there are leading countries in digital policy such as Uruguay.

He emphasized to retake the dissemination of these instruments in terms of content as they are always linked to infrastructure issues and digital government. Likewise, he added that the strategic objectives must continue to work on productive development. An important part are the digital tools in companies, for innovation and entrepreneurship.

As challenges, he highlighted the following:

- Institutional governance models can be translated in practical terms or in the empowerment
 of active participation, they have to do with how national and local digital agendas are
 designed.
- It is extremely important what lies behind this instrument, as an institutional and governance framework with institutions with important hierarchy linked to these digital issues.

- Not all countries have coordination committees, it is important to articulate policies in different sectors.
- The construction of the policy must have participatory spaces in the design, renewal and updating of the policy as part of the institutional design.

Finally, he brought his intervention to a close by emphasizing the issue of resources, since the budget allocated by governments to these policies is very small or almost nil. The institutional design is important to give practicality to empowerment and active participation in the digital transformation.

3.3.4 Javier López Casarín, President of the Science, Technology and Innovation Commission of the Mexican Chamber of Deputies

According to Mr. Lopez Casarín, innovation is the engine of economies. Likewise, science, technology, and innovation are the route under which the different challenges that each country faces must be addressed. He considers that these elements are also the key to reducing the inequality gaps in society; he assured that there is no bad technology, it depends on its implementation which undoubtedly leads to differentiated responsibilities:

- Technology will help achieve the SDGs, as a route that has been agreed globally.
- Internet connectivity must be considered as a human right; in Mexico it is considered as a constitutional right.
- The impact sought in public policies, is not only to recognize it as a right but to ensure the right to quality and content, as well as civility and ethics in the training of users.
- We must collectively address the current dilemmas in the digital sphere such as freedom of expression and censorship of publications.
- It is important to foster education on digital tools and the use of the Internet.
- Society must acquire co- responsibility in the use of internet or digital world.

Moreover, he shared public policies implemented in Mexico, and mentioned that the power should emanate from society, since it is the users who set the trends. One of these policies is the "Internet for All" program, which aims to increase connectivity to reduce the connectivity gap and provide tools/knowledge to generate economic growth. He also recalled that it is also important to consider that not everyone wants to belong to the digital world.

As part of the initiatives adopted in the Mexican Chamber of Deputies, he mentioned making public policy on Internet access a priority, ethical accompaniment, as well as digital education that can be taught from early childhood through public education models.

He also noted that to address one of the most relevant problems, namely cybersecurity, it is necessary to create a solid legal framework, strengthening the rule of law and classifying crimes in the digital world which warrant a differentiated treatment under the Law than crimes committed in the physical world.

He mentioned the legal framework that Mexico is prioritizing within its rule of law, the following ongoing initiatives:

- Federal Cybersecurity Law:
- Cyber Defense Law
- Digital Identity Law
- Digital Economy Law

In his closing remarks, he mentioned the importance of international collaboration to strengthen the existence of cybersecurity agencies and agencies aimed at other technology-related issues, in order to foster awareness among countries of the co-responsibility we must develop within the region and within local ecosystems.

3.3.5 Questions and answers to Javier López Casarín.

Comment 1: When talking about inclusion and if we are looking for equal access, one must start from the security measures that allow equal access. Security measures must be taken from the origin, as citizens we have a social responsibility about the data we share. The adaptability of the digital society is what will allow it to be acquired.

- a. How to transmit to the local congresses of the different countries of the Americas, in order to convert the initiatives into bills and to determine that a regulatory framework is produced?
- b. Regarding the institutional follow-up of the consultations, it would be interesting to propose, through a multilateral representation such as ECLAC, an entity to follow up on the Global Digital Compact from the Latin American perspective. Since there is no United Nations agency to act as an interlocutor.

The deputy mentioned that the model implemented by Mexico for the cybersecurity framework will be presented in April at the UN meeting in Vienna, to all sectors and the entire ecosystem, through forums and putting into perspective the vision of each one and knowing what their concerns are. One of the challenges is the issue of investment, so that companies and suppliers have social responsibility to invest in infrastructure.

He added that constant parliaments are maintained, through parliamentary diplomacy with different countries for the exchange and strengthening of practices, through what is going to be implemented. One thing missing is an area that can maintain a follow-up despite the fact that people change positions and that is maintained beyond the legislative periods.

Comment 2: We are failing to address the concept of digital humanism; the development of technology is more focused on the corporate and the interests of large technology companies. At present people are living a tyranny of the algorithm and a war for the attention and influence of the big technologies. There is a dehumanization, an algorithm created by other cultures has been created, leaving aside the different cultures of the region. It is also worrying how women are involved from their interests and their purposes can use science and technology, this is related to the educational approach of the future and how human beings are enabled from what they want.

Mr. López Casarín reacted to the previous comment by mentioning that Mexico is analyzing a new Law on Science and Technology, the proposal of the Federal Executive is the Law on Humanities, Science, Technology and Innovation, putting people at the forefront in order to prioritize the perception of the concept of humanism. It must emanate from a collective conscience and the formation of society. Similarly, it is essential to integrate inclusion issues such as youth, environmental issues, privacy, dissemination, among others.

The deputy proposed that after the forum, the conclusions be presented in the Mexican Chamber of Deputies to reach more sectors of society within the country.

3.4 Working session. Empowerment and active participation in the digital transformation

3.4.1 Discussion based on guiding questions

- How can we empower communities to create and influence digital content and development that is relevant to their priorities and environment?
- What practical policies and programs can be put in place to ensure that people in vulnerable conditions are involved in the design, development, testing and evaluation of digital devices, services, policies, and programmes?
- What elements should be included in the GDC to safeguard fundamental rights and freedoms online, as well as user data and privacy, and promote a free, open and secure digital environment?

Questions suggested by the participants:

- What opportunities does the GDC process and broader digital processes offer both to reaffirm the principle that human rights apply online as well as offline and to contribute to the protection of human rights?
- What specific priorities and roles for the UN system would you recommend in order to promote digital inclusion, limit the growing power of corporations and move towards a free, safe and open internet?
- How can governments, the private sector and civil society ensure mechanisms for real social participation in the design, development and implementation of digital technologies and policies around these tools that are relevant to their priorities and environment?

Group 1

Empower communities	Practical policies and programs	Elements on freedoms and rights	Other relevant aspects
cybersecure environment - Empower in critical use of the internet - Participation mechanisms that consider: data security and privacy and mitigation of harassment risks of vulnerable groups	dialogue and political agreements - Boost the digital economy in vulnerable communities through government incentives. - Policy against planned obsolescence	of rights between countries that have managed to hold the private sector co- responsible. For example, accountability of Big techs for abuses of platforms that invade privacy Sensitization of the issues.	

Key messages

- Need to establish responsibility mechanisms for technology companies about potential abuses and violations of human rights that consider elements of transparency and accountability.
- Need to generate means to prevent and mitigate risks in the development and implementation of systems - especially from the public sector - including a preliminary analysis of the impact on human rights and audits.
- Need to establish mechanisms for the participation of multiple stakeholders in decision-making about technologies.

Group 2

Empower communities	Practical policies and programs	Elements on freedoms and rights	Other relevant aspects
 Strengthened digital governance. Technology construction policy from the academy. Involve design, development, implementation and evaluation. Establish a structure at the national level, coordination in the implementation of digital policies. Access to community networks. Synergies between actors in the digital world - same as in the analog world. 	 Formal mechanisms for multisectoral participation. Mechanisms that facilitate the exchange of experiences. Provide the right to community networks. Establish global community access fund. Collaborative participation, understanding the role of each involved actor. The electromagnetic spectrum is a public good. Agree new guiding principles, based on human rights. 	 Understand the needs of communities. Cybersecurity from elementary school education. Vulnerability of communities (poverty and resource scarcity). Focused consultations to online and offline focus groups. Reaffirm the principles of the summit "Build upon what has been built". Vulnerability of sexual preferences, magnified in the Internet 	 Training for public officials, soft skills, clear objectives and clear goals with monitoring Language as a barrier for digital inclusion and used dialects as a means of transmitting information and knowledge.

Key messages

- Freedoms and rights: mechanisms that facilitate the exchange of experiences.
- Identifying opportunities, the GDC offers to reaffirm the contribution to digital inclusion.
- Locate all communities that are not on the daily agenda of governments and encourage their participation in policy formulation, allowing access to communities.

3.4.2 Key takeaways from the workshop empowerment and active participation in digital transformation

Group 1

- The State must create coordination mechanisms, experts in the field, and international cooperation to generate technological solutions.
- From the perspective of the public sector, integrate digital identity and interoperability in developing digital services that rural communities, natives or vulnerable populations, and people with disabilities need, thus putting the State at the service of society.
- Generate value; we must train civil and public servants in soft skills and form multidisciplinary teams.
- Clear objectives, a clear strategy, and good follow-up and monitoring of all the progress of the matter.
- It is suggested to have a local representative, national people by country, etc., to collect the information. It goes hand in hand with active and effective participation to create joint strategies.
- Generate the spaces and the appropriate environment and strengthen the soft skills of public servants to achieve a climate of trust with the peasant and native communities that allow the co-creation, co-design, and implementation of technological solutions to the general problems that affect them.
- The United Nations can contribute to digital inclusion from different perspectives: 1) Generating spaces for debate in the different Member States on the matter, 2) Articulating efforts between the public sector, the private sector, organized civil society, and academia to promote spaces of collaboration in the development of solutions that make it possible to close the digital gaps, 3) Generate a knowledge management platform for technological solutions to public problems that affect vulnerable populations, rural communities, or people with disabilities and share it with the member states; 4) Grant funds to finance technological projects with a high social and environmental impact that allow the digital inclusion of vulnerable groups or rural areas, and 5) Create training spaces on the use and operation of digital technologies and emerging technologies.
- Make good use of what we already have, governments can make participatory mechanisms, but we can also use what we already have, such as the United Nations system, sectoral and commissions that guide the implementation of the GDC, not only creating sound principles but also with ideas and good use of them.
- Support communities to have a voice and vote.
- Freedom of expression, analyze how it can be approached from knowledge.

Group 2

- Ranking to account, we use the example and the idea of doing a similar approach to good digital inclusion practices.
- How this relates to the GDC platform in principles and ideas.
- Determine the process you want to give communities around artificial intelligence and how that works.
- Elements that make us rethink the environment from academia about digital environments.

- Do not lose sight of the fact that countries must have the access speed, transmission rates or bandwidths that are provided to uncovered communities.
- Sustainable, responsible digitization that leads to terms such as electronic waste.
- Important to consider green communications.
- Semiconductors and raw materials, sourced from many countries. Take into account responsible consumption.
- The GOC can suggest to the signatory states that they carry out their national internal processes to comply with the GDC with the participation of multiple stakeholders. This is important to ensure all relevant stakeholders' continued participation.

4. Open space on topics not addressed in the agenda

Representatives of civil society from across the Americas working on human rights and technology proposed and facilitated an open conversation on issues not addressed on the agenda on the second day of the Consultation of the Americas. The conversation took place in an informal round table format. It was proposed to focus on how the Global Digital Compact can reinforce human rights, considering that several instruments currently recognize that human rights apply online and offline.

Several challenges in the region were recognized inside and outside the digital sphere, particularly concerning historically marginalized communities such as LGBTQ+, Afro-American, and indigenous groups. During the conversation, the participants highlighted the following key messages for consideration in the discussions on the Global Digital Compact:

- It is essential to include vulnerable groups in discussions and decisions about technology.
- Human rights considerations related to the development and deployment of technologies and connectivity and access policies should consider the specific needs of migrant populations in the region.
- An intersectional gender approach is necessary when considering adopting measures on connectivity and access.
- The intersectional gender approach should be the basis for designing, adopting, and implementing digital technology policies.
- It is necessary to establish concrete measures to limit and control the development, acquisition, and deployment of surveillance technologies which have been used to violate fundamental rights in the region.
- It is necessary to advance measures to strengthen the protection of privacy and personal data with specific guarantees for children and adolescents.
- When developing and using technologies, it is essential to consider the different gender variants and reflect on how currently artificial intelligence and automated decision-making affect the lives of the LGBTQ+ community from the use of mass surveillance tools or facial recognition tools that reproduce violence and patterns of discrimination, so that they do not become echo boxes for biases that put the fulfillment of fundamental rights of certain groups at risk.
- It is necessary to establish liability mechanisms for technology companies about potential abuses and violations of human rights and effects on the environment so that they consider elements of transparency and accountability.
- From the perspective of public policy, it is essential to apply a systemic approach based on evidence when one wants to address universal connectivity, digital public goods and digital inclusion, for which it is necessary to: 1) Focus and identify the human rights that are may be affected in the matters to be dealt with, 2) Determine the scope of the matters to be dealt with, 3) Determine the magnitude and impact of public problems by matters to be dealt with; 4) Identify, focus and segment the target audience or affected population; 5) Hold meetings with the active participation of the affected public and other interest groups to propose solution alternatives; 6) Review national and international good practices in solving the identified public problem; 7) Select the solution alternatives after analysis of technical, budgetary and legal feasibility and risk analysis; 8) Seek support and coordination with the private sector, academia, cooperating sources, and others; 9) Determine the control and follow-up mechanisms of the chosen alternatives, and 10) Have a technical team for the follow-up, control and evaluation of the results.

5. Conclusion and perspectives towards the future

5.1 Amandeep Singh Gill, United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology.

As a closing message, Mr. Amandeep Singh Gill, mentioned that in the exchange rounds, there were contributions on human rights with extremely powerful testimonies about communities that are being left behind, so that by maintaining a focus on individual rights, a certain community focus is lost.

He emphasized that public policies matter, referring to regulation and self-regulation, having confidence that the industry can do the right thing does not always happen. He mentioned that public policies must be applied at all levels, including the international level. To this end, smart regulations and governments must be generated, without excluding or discriminating against people.

He also highlighted the tension of connectivity approaches, in the case of the internet, the words have a meaning, but it is not always very useful, so who will benefit from these approaches must be considered.

He noted that there was much mention on the intersectionality of the digital world, integrated into the analog world where digitization highlights many social gaps to be addressed and choices must be made by policy makers in each country to address these gaps. A clear idea of the analog world in which we live must be maintained in order to address these issues.

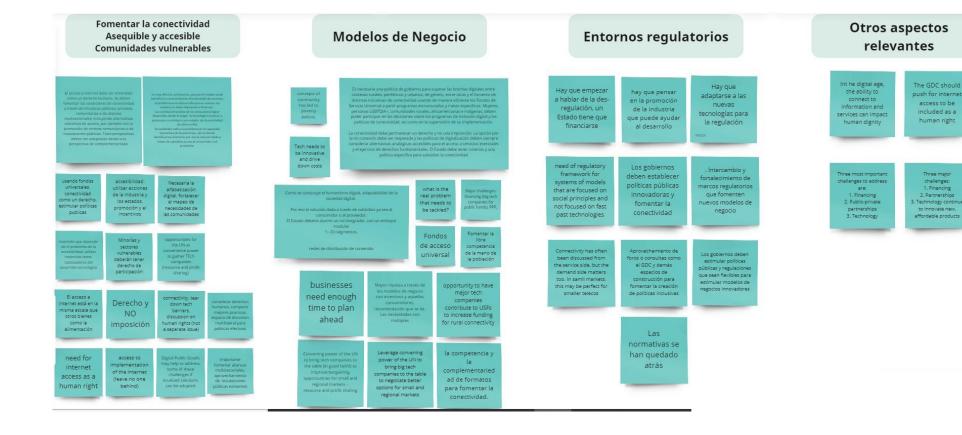
Another point that surfaced during the discussion dealt with the application of the future general data protection regulation, at the international level there are principles, but it cannot allow machines to come to life without human authorization. He pronounced not to agree with the statement that technology is neutral, and from his perspective, shared that technology instead of being neutral, it reflects values.

Lastly, he considered that the discussion during the two days of the Americas Consultation was highly useful in the lead up to the Global Digital Compact. He expressed his gratitude for the collaboration of all the participants and the diversity of ideas that were generated during both days. He also thanked the hosts in Mexico and the German government for the organization and support during the regional consultation phase. He hopes that the building of knowledge will continue, as this is the best way to build international learning.

Annex.

Universal Connectivity





Mensajes clave

Utilizar de manera eficiente fondos de servicio universal

Participación amplia en el acompañamiento y supervisión de programas conectividad como derecho humano, abordajes, allancas multilaterales, GDC.-» en procesos multisectoriales, fondos, participacion ampila, cerrar brechas, politicas regulatorias flexibiles, movilizar diferentes formatos, como pensar formas que pueden apoyar a universilizacion participación de las grandes empresas (monitoreo de procesos, darle seguimiento a la implementación) mecanismo para múltiples partes involucrados y interesados

Internet como un derecho y no como una imposición Considerar nuevo formatos de inclusión social

Políticas regulatorias flexibles para promover la conectividad Nuevas tecnologías, cómo pueden aportar a las nuevas formas de digitalización?

big tech companies should contribute to fonds, human dignitiy = access to internet / human right, financing (scale connectivity) + PPP + technological innovation to make tech affordable conectividad para prevenir riesgos, forestación uno de los temas principales

se requiere una visión cuantitativa

Mensajes clave

Conectividad debe ser de abajo hacia arriba. Las propias comunidades deben decidir sobre su conexión (1C) ¿Cuál es el rol de la cooperación internacional en la conectividad universal? (1C) Conectividad para la prevención del riesgo Necesario focalizar que el GDC puede contribuir a identificar factores que obstaculizan la conectividad Resolver propias necesidades de acceso y de conectividad, autodiseño de despliegue Tendencia a libre acceso a la conectividad como derecho humano Bien público digital sin distinción de nivel

Fondos de acceso universal pueden ser de utilidad para impulsar la conectividad universal (1C) El internet debe ser reconocido como un bien público (1D) Mejorar la conectividad para evitar la deforestación, fomentar políticas públicas para frenar el cambio climático

Alianzas públicoprivadas Necesidad de marcos regulatorios flexibles GDC- Avanzar en acuerdos para países con desventajas, para reestructura y conectividad

Fomentar mecanismos para auditoría y supervisión

Equity in Access



Políticas, marcos, programas

politica interseccional, alfabetizacion digital. Programas seguros, practicas seguras. Creación de indicadores de impacto para medir y monitorear.

Tener un marco democrático y políticas continuas. Políticas y estrategias, partiendo de buenas practicas como experiencias. Agenda general que aborde agendas particulares.

Acciones para la Equidad Políticas, marcos, programas Políticas,

Pasos relevantes

Otros aspectos relevantes



Crear capacidades.
Autonomía
Informácica.
Desarrollar
competencias para
usos tecnológicos.

Servicios digitales basadas en necesidades sociales





Gobernanza que coordine, organice, monitore.

Pasos relevantes

Expert of palents in manifold strategy and of many and

incluir a las personas desconectadas, participación de las personas vulnerables









Otros aspectos relevantes









Mensajes clave



data rich future: introduce math already in primary school

interest into techn. legal approach: Gdi as possibility make inclusiv policies

Empowerment and Participation



Políticas y programas prácticos

Establecer estructura a nivel nacional, coordinación en Gobernanza necesarios y herramientas de Acceso a digital redes monitoreo a fortalecida implemento de políticas digitales comunitarias de dichas políticas Política de Involucrar Negative diseño, contrucción de Integrar grupos multisectoriales mpacts for desarrollo, tecnologías customers nplementació desde la y evaluación academia El gobierno como Evaluadas facilitador, la Promover Corresp sociedad v por la onsabili misma sectores tiene que dad digital tomar acción comunidad Mecanismos de Los estados participación tienen la conformamos er potestad de social relevantes mundo digital generar nuevos del entorno mismos del instrumentos mundo análogo Tiene que Análisis de GDP para el Educación ser viva en construidos a sobre contexto el tiempo y problemas específicos. ciberseguridad por región adaptable

Elementos sobre libertades y derechos

Mecanismos formales par que faciliten el Perspectiva intercambio ala multisectorial participación multisectorial experiencias Brindar Participación El espectro derecho a electromagnético es un bien público activa de redes comunitarias actores Acordar nuevos Que las mismas Establecer rectores, basados fondo global desarrollen e implementen la de acceso de alfabetización humanos las digital comunidades La sociedad sea dirigida Derecho al elefectio colaborativa, ofour razonamiento y a la ciencia entendiendo el values lógico techis and social sciences need to some space for puzzling work together, international together, frameworks and power to push of knowledge large space for things along national laws

Empoderar comunidades

reforzar la educación y la capacitación de habilidades que permitan crear contenido tema de la Considerar ciberseguridad desde la la de las educación de escuela diversidad How can practial policies: communities enable monitisation develop their own monetise Youtube digital footprint, content, create economic motivation expression Entender las de preferencias educación y la necesidades sexuales, en real de las capacidad de de las internet son más vulnerables herramientas habilidades comunidades Vulnerabilidad de

escases de

Otros aspectos relevantes

diseño de tecnologías de acuerdo con los derechos humanos

seguir sensibilizando incentivos para la implementación de los objetivos Cómo dar le seguimiento al cumplimiento: riecesidad de qui todos los países firmantes del pacto formen una comisión par la vigilancia. Determinar un ranking de cumplimiento en todos los países, el cual pueda poseer métricas cada año índice de países por nivel de cumplimiento a los objetivos.

Aspecto metodológico: diagnósticos basados en evidencias, comunidades y países que componen el pacto. Generar una estrategia integral sostenida Podemos seguir metodologías para diseñar una que pueda ajustarse al seguimiento del cumplimiento Estrategias que puedan alcanzar compromisos acordados. Tener una política de monitoreo, en caso de ser necesario, rediseñar y actualizar mediante monitoreo

Experiencia de sostenibilidad.

Las responsabilidades no tienem el mismo peso, la ciudadanía dispersa no tiene la misma responsabilidad que coros sectores. Es un tema de regulación, pero no siempre se conocen los derechos humanos en tinea. plataformas que invaden la privacidad. Capacitar en derecho humanos y derechos humanos enfocados al internet y las herramientas tecnológicas Ciber-rating
Hay acciones de parte
de los estados y otros
sectores que deben ser
compartidos, entender
todas las
responsabilidades

Forzar a que los países a elevar el ranking que da credibilidad y reputación. Metodologí a: principios dentro de las agendas digitales de cada país Varias iniciativas como
- estándar sobre
inteligencia artificial marco regulatorio de
naciones unidas sobre
derechos humanos en
empresas y otras más

La necesidad de pensar en responsabilidades compartidas, es muy importante poner responsabilidades en las partes competentes. Cada sector puede diseñar acciones que se complementen.

Las comunidades tiene que ser aliadas de reforzar esquemas de capacitación para poder incorporar contenido pertinente a las comunidades que están necesitando contenido diferente

Libertades y derechos: gobernanza digital fortalecida, evaluadas por la misma comunidad. Necesitamos tener diagnósticos y pruebas de concepto en la identificación de as problemáticas para resolverlo

inteligencia artificial; tendencia colonial; LATAM no ser nada más usarios, como usar etornos digitales, no generar nueva imposiciones Incorporar y trabajar en la introducción de la educación, del aprendizaje tecnológico y otras tecnologias no relacionadas con lo digital en el campo de la ciencia y humanidades

Sinergia entre actores que conforman el mundo digital y el mundo físico. Nosotros no sabemos utilizar las herramientas para frenar las problemáticas del mundo reol y que la tecnología tenga un impacto más positivo

understand mecanism of contability (i.e. Fair Work), rank/evaluate quality of conditions medir bandas de acceso, publicar datos abiertos, sostenibilidad responsable (consumo responsable), considerar basura electrónica,

consider diversity of interest (traditional marginalised, try to understand the different communities), create trust to meaningful conversation and participation of society, try to use what affendy exists, make good use of what we already

el costo de no hacer, se requieren recursos públicos Ubicar a todas las comunidades que no están en la agenda diaria de los gobiernos, permitir el acceso a las comunidades

Libertades y derechos: mecanismos que faciliten el intercamibo de experiencias

se requieren aliancas supporting young people and monitise ideas, regulatory bodies to smoothen the pathway, prevent child pornography, promiting data ownership and offer legal support, freedom of expression

capacitación a los funcionarios públicos, habilidades blandas, objetivos claros y metas claras con un monitoreo

es importante visualizar como sigue el proceso No ha habido un enfoque de sector público

Unar mecamismo de articulación, de la soporación internacional, internariódigital, servicion digidale, interpresabilidade, requeres expertos en la meteria, interaciona de combustapolitica, co-traer una practife solucionpolitica, co-traer una practife solucionterina, en excesada más entralesquilles, en sil sydomino para solucionar on graphina en sil sydomino para solucionar on differente publica.

que oportunidades ofrece el GDC para reafirmar para contribuir a la inclusión digital El lenguaje como barrera de entrada a la inclusión digital dialectos que se usan como medio de transmisción de la información y el conocimient

Comunidad que debe ser participe de la sociedad moderna (adultos mayores, etc.),