Dear IGF participants,

Day 2 continued with a spate of rich discussions from Artificial Intelligence – how it can be designed, regulated and harmonised to better serve society – to exploring stakeholder engagement with the UN Global Digital Compact process ahead of the UN Summit of the Future next year, among many others.

In case you missed it, here are some highlights for Tuesday 10th October:

The day in numbers

- Universal and meaningful connectivity – the possibility for everyone to enjoy a safe, satisfying, enriching, productive and affordable online experience – remains a distant prospect for Least Developed Countries (LDCs).
- Only 36% of the population in LDCs used the Internet in 2022, compared with 66% globally.
- As many as 17% in LDCs did not even have access to a fixed or mobile broadband network, the so-called *access gap*.
- The remaining 47% offline population, representing the *usage gap*, were facing other barriers, such as the affordability of ICT services.
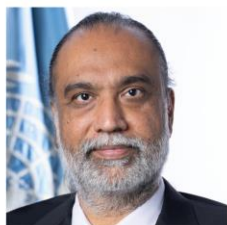
Source: ITU

Photo of the Day

Robot data centre exhibit in IGF Village

For more photos, please visit: IGF-Internet Governance Forum's albums | Flickr

18th Internet Governance Forum

"Tech is not waiting. The challenges are not waiting – they are multiplying exponentially. We need to take the ecosystem to the next level of agility, dynamism, responsiveness. The UN Secretary-General's vision on digital cooperation is inspired by that."

Amandeep Singh Gill
UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology

HIGHLIGHTS

Global Digital Compact & Beyond: A Multistakeholder Perspective

A Global Digital Compact is one of the proposed outcomes of the UN Summit of the Future next year, but how that looks and what its' potential impact might be came under the spotlight today in this highly interactive panel. Covering a sweep of issues that participants felt should be covered by the Compact, the multistakeholder session ranged from the continuing rise in Internet energy consumption and the need to reduce the environmental impact of new technology, to the need to ensure data privacy and root the Compact in existing human rights law to protect people from multiple forms of discrimination, including online gender-based violence. Participants further advocated that what was needed was a feminist, sustainable and transformative vision for a digital future that is really and truly open, free and secure.

Key links:
• IGF website: https://www.intgovforum.org/en
• Programme: https://www.intgovforum.org/en/schedule
• Follow live and on demand: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCk0zf4oI0IsJLh1owvUQSfQ
• IGF Village: https://intgovforum.org/en/igf-village-2023

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