

T20 TASK FORCE NOTES

MEANINGFUL DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY, CYBER SECURITY, EMPOWERMENT

TOPIC ISSUES

Task Force 2 sees that digital technology advancements, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic situation, have accelerated growth and development in a variety of sectors, most notably digital transformation. Currently, the spread of information is very fast and can be accessed by anyone, making it increasingly difficult to control the spread of harmful and prohibited information. Therefore digital transformation will have a major impact on organizations and institutions.

Apart from COVID-19, the world faces plenty of other challenges, including the global economy, foreign and security policy, development, and climate change, which are connected to digital transformation. The problems or challenges that arise from digital transformation are as follows: providing broadband access to all at an affordable price; smartization and meaningful digitalization for Sustainable Development Goals (SDG); data governance, e.g., data protection and cross-border data flow; cybersecurity risks, threats, and data privacy; AI governance and ethics; digital literacy and skills for closing the digital gender gap; and the impact and potential of digital development collaboration.

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND SMARTIZATION OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVING

- 1. **Privacy:** protecting personal data and information by making the user the main controller and enhancing the quality of privacy law, competition/antitrust law, and their global implementation.
- 2. **Cyber Security:** Rapid digitization is accompanied by a rise in threats to data, systems, and people. Because of this, it is important to teach people how to use technology in a way that protects their privacy and cyber security.
- Competition: Market concentration can prevent MSMEs from competing on a level playing field by eliminating competition. MSMEs can be strengthened by supporting cross-sectoral collaboration in digital innovation—smart cities, digital transformation—and by encouraging the adoption of "good technology" in developing countries.
- 4. Digital Divide: Depending on education, skills, and infrastructure, countries, businesses, and individuals' digital readiness vary greatly. In the meantime, the proposed actions include finding common measures of digital literacy, forming partnerships with the private sector and non-governmental organizations to design and implement digital literacy programs, and gradually improving and adding infrastructure to close the gap, especially in developing countries.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. Promote affordable, high-quality fixed and mobile broadband to enable digital transformation and prevent digital divide by establishing a consortium to expand internet access and dividing industrial policy and regulatory responsibilities appropriately.
- G20 requires collaboration with the various government and service providers to provide universal access through infrastructure development, adopt open digital governance, set up internet tariff plans, and utilise citizen-generated data to achieve sustainable development.
- 3. Forming a consortium to enable universal Internet access and utilizing citizen generated data is essential for enhancing governance to achieve sustainable development. With three policy actions establishing clear pathways for worldwide research and standardization of wireless 5G/6G technologies for Internet of Vehicles/ Energy and smart transportation platforms.
- 4. According to the G20 AI Principles, control of personal data should be transferred from data aggregators and third-party funders to digital consumers. The objective is to correct human-centered digital governance regimes without sacrificing the technological advantages of AI. Proposed is a global initiative to develop a globally standardized AI policy that may regulate the use of AI across nations.
- Recommendations include the need to create a regionally focused database on children's access to and use of digital resources. Meanwhile, in the post-pandemic era, the adoption of a coordinated and diverse global strategy that promotes digital inclusion and empowerment of women entrepreneurs is critical.
- 6. To formally institutionalize the smart world living lab activities in order to ensure successful planning, implementation, and evaluation through a common global platform ("G20 Smart World Living Lab (G2SWL)" as an approach to solve problems in a small and manageable area through a living lab). A living lab provides a gradual bottom-up solution to a complex problem, making it highly feasible for G20 countries to collaborate on its resolution.
- 7. Encourage the G20 countries to come up with frameworks and models for smart cities that are sustainable and can help solve social, economic, and environmental problems. The G20 should identify countries that are working on smart city development and encourage them to share their experiences and create a unified smart city framework and model. The G20 should also support the creation of common standards for smart cities to unlock the potential for innovation and investment opportunities and promote an effective digital governance system to accelerate the transformation.

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