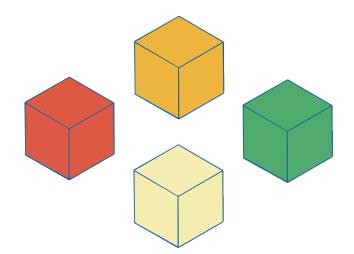


# IT for Change Annual Report 2022 - 2023

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# About the Organization

Dominant approaches to digital technologies are steeped in ideologies of market fundamentalism, and have displaced the cornerstone ethics of participation, social justice, and gender equality.

At IT for Change, we believe that progressive development sector actors must come together to influence the techno-social structures that are redefining our societies. We seek to build bridges across different sectors to strive towards a digital society that is equitable.

Our work, straddling Data and Artificial Intelligence (AI), Big Tech and Digital Economy, the Digital Public Sphere, Feminist Digitality, Education and Technology, and more, pushes the boundaries of theory and practice to explore new horizons for development justice.





#### MISSION

Democratizing the control and use of digital technologies so that individuals and communities are able to use them freely towards their empowerment



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A society in which digital technologies contribute to social justice and equality

#### VALUES

Equity, Social Justice, Gender Equality, and Democracy

#### STRATEGIES

VISION

- Partnering with local communities
- Forging local and global networks
- Undertaking research
- Engaging with policy spaces
- Creating new institutional capacity

## A Note from the Directors

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair."

~ Charles Dickens, A Tale of Two Cities ~

The past year was an intense and contradictory period.

At the start, it seemed as if the chink in Big Tech's armor had been finally exposed – with many leading digital corporations suffering a critical reversal of fortunes. However, later developments, especially the generative AI leap, belied these hopes. The long-term trajectory of the digital revolution seems more likely to entrench the tech leviathans, condemning the majority of the world to an uncertain and precarious future. The wherewithal to generate data-based intelligence is heavily concentrated in private hands, with four transnational digital corporations controlling 67% of the world's cloud computing facilities. A continued lack of democratic arrangements to govern the essential infrastructure of the 21st century means we are nowhere close to unlocking the social value of data and the digital commons. The tragicomedy of Twitter's painful transition to 'X' is, in fact, a grim reminder of the deeprooted flaws in the digital economy. As we traverse into the metaverse, a new world of simulation and sensory experience awaits us; but extended reality is nowhere close to utopia.

Amidst this gloom, hope flickers – in the efforts of people's movements, civil society groups from the Global South, and transnational alliances that have taken up the good fight against Big Tech. Public pressure has led to legislative change in many countries to rein in the excesses of digital

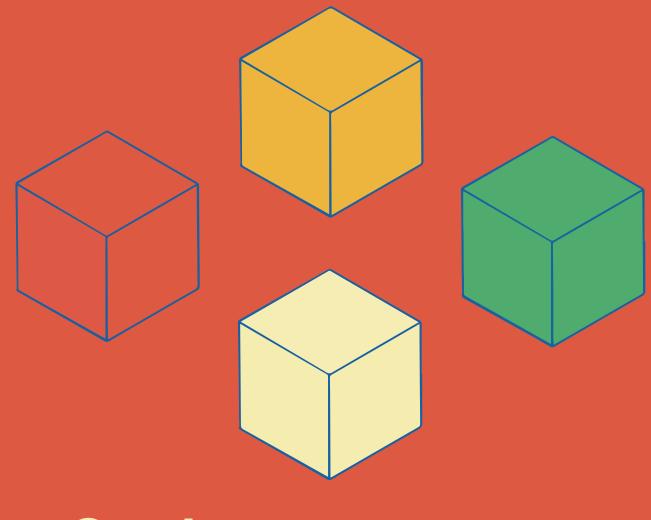


corporate power. The need for guardrails to prevent harm from emerging data and AI innovation systems is reasonably well understood in public discourse today. Solutionism and multistakeholderism in digital policy spaces have come under the scanner, pointing to the inevitable corporate capture wrapped in glib 'tech for SDGs' language. The UN Secretary-General's office has initiated a process of consultations to evolve an intergovernmental agreement on an open, free, and secure digital future for all – the Global Digital Compact. A groundswell is emerging with respect to the imperative to address the global governance deficits in the digital paradigm.

In this flux, our discourse and practice have seen impact in four critical areas. We have challenged the dominant digital architectural paradigm, *re-making tech* through a disavowal of extractive and colonial innovation; we have expanded the lexicon of tech for development, *re-centering community* participation in and ownership of digital and data infrastructures; we have brought individual and structural aspects of equity and justice together, *re-imagining rights* for our emerging digital condition; and by centering a Southern epistemic on digitality that draws from the wisdom of people's movements in policy spaces, we are *re-claiming the narrative*.

Working in a field where rapid change is the only constant means embracing agility even as we stay true to abiding values and faith in community. From serving as a voice of the South in global, regional, and national policy spaces to actively building up the next generation of digital justice champions and leveraging successes and setbacks in the wider institutional space with alacrity, we believe we have moved the needle.

We invite you to delve into our annual report, which captures the high points of this journey. Our stories are not ours alone. We share our myriad victories and struggles with our allies, partners, and comrades.

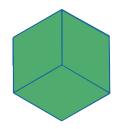


# **Our Impact**

# 1 Re-making Tech

Digital innovation ecosystems have been captured by transnational digital corporations, as a result of which a narrow, profit imperative has overtaken public interest. In our work, we have attempted to challenge the dominant digital paradigm, identifying the building blocks of a sustainable, people-first strategy for digitalization that is led from the South. Our multipronged strategies include research on digital public infrastructure and data rights, policy engagement to center feminist perspectives in platform regulation, and public-community models for AI in education.







## We developed a people-centric vision of digitalization in India.

With critical civil society constituencies in India, we have been able to take forward the idea of 'right digitalization' – moving from a negative agenda towards a <u>positive vision</u>.

For instance, we worked with digital rights groups and grassroots organizations like the Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan (MKSS) to evolve a vision of people-first digital policy approaches in critical domains such as education, health, agriculture, and social security with the intent of influencing policy trajectories at the national level. We were successful in inputting this thinking into the Government of India's IDEA initiative for agriculture and the AgriStack data exchange. We have been invited by the office of the Chief Knowledge Officer, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, on multiple occasions to provide expert inputs into the design of a farmer-centric AgriStack to deploy open government data in the agriculture sector for equitable outcomes that privilege marginal and small farmers, rather than a corporate-controlled farming paradigm.

In another instance, when invited by NITI Aayog, the Government of India's nodal planning and visioning body, to provide expert comments on their report, 'India's Booming Gig and Platform Economy - Perspectives and Recommendations on the Future of Work', we took the opportunity to co-convene a <u>roundtable</u>. The event



helped crystallize and channel diverse perspectives on platformization and the future of work(ers) from Indian academia and civil society, reflecting evidence from research and practice by several organizations.

We are happy to report that we have been able to share the deliberations and recommendations from this consultation with NITI Aayog to feed into a 'Platform India' roadmap of the government.

We also provided advisory inputs to the EdTech Plan developed by the Telangana SCERT, an apex academic body of the state of Telangana that is responsible for the state's curricular policy.

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#### We championed the right to digital infrastructure and datarights in global innovation roadmaps.

In May 2022, at the Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs, Anita Gurumurthy supported the curation of the thematic session, 'Global Digital Public Goods, Digitalization, Artificial Intelligence, and Connecting the World by 2030', in her capacity as a member of the 10-Member Group of High-level Representatives on STI for the SDGs appointed by the UN Secretary-General.

We also developed a <u>policy brief</u> charting a roadmap for public digital infrastructure development in the Global South, which was published as a chapter in the UN Inter-Agency Task Team on STI for the SDG's report for the Forum.

#### Cross-border 'Data Flow With Data Rights'

Going beyond the 'Data Free Flow with Trust' (DFFT) framework to include economic rights to data

IT for Change Policy Brief | September, 2022

#### Bringing the Rule of Law to Cross-border Data Flows



Cross-border data flows (CBDF) is the most hotly contested issue in digital trade. The default approach has been to promote 'free flow of data'. Data sharing and data flows are indeed fundamental to the functioning of a global digital economy. But data today is deeply and inextricably linked with social. economic, cultural, and political systems in every society. If a society is to be under the rule of law, so must its data. Such rule of lav could be national or international. Despite the global nature of the digital society and economy, there is very little global governance of data. Until an appropriate international data governance framework is developed, countries may have no option other than to require localization of various socially sensitive and economically valuable data, in order to protect citizens' and national interests. There is hardly any country with no cross-border data flow restrictions at all. It is therefore not an issue of whether or not to localize, but which data to, and which not. and with what conditions, if any,

Efforts at enabling easy global data flows must focus on international agreements that

sensitivities, and interests, including economic ones, as well as jurisdictional issues, UNCTAD's 2021 Digital Economy Report recommends developing a holistic global data governance framework that simultaneously addresses data's noneconomic as well as economic aspects. The report inter alia implies that governing data primarily through international digital trade agreements, like the WTO's Joint Statement Initiative on e-commerce and its many plurilaterals and bilaterals, is not the right way to go. In fact, these just seek to preempt more comprehensive global and national data regulation 'Data Free Flow with Trust'

take into account various national needs



At the 2019 G20 Summit in Osaka, the host country Japan proposed amending the crossborder 'free flow of data' doctrine to admit one specific kind of concem, that of privacy and security. A new term, 'Data Free Flow with Trust' (DFFT), was coined. However, major developing countries in the G20, South Africa, India and Indonesia, in particular, refused to buy into this new term.

During Indonesia's G2O presidency, Parminder Jeet Singh represented us at the Policy Dialogue Forum – a space for civil society (C2O) and government working groups to meet and deliberate upon policy outcomes. His contribution on <u>'Data Flows with Rights'</u> helped push the envelope on a new data governance framework for cross-border data flows, incorporating civil and political rights of data privacy and security, economic rights over data, and collective data rights. The policy brief saw 300+ downloads from our website.

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#### We mainstreamed feminist perspectives on platform regulation.

With InternetLab, we co-organized a <u>virtual roundtable</u> in April 2022, bringing together scholars and thinkers to re-imagine social media governance from a feminist perspective. Acknowledging that viral hate in algorithmically mediated environments requires fresh thinking on free speech theories, the effort charted a fresh, feminist approach to platform regulation.

We were able to leverage these insights and co-shape UNESCO's 'Guidelines for Regulating Digital Platforms to Safeguard Freedom of Expression and Access to Information'. The <u>Guidelines</u> reflect our assertion that platforms must be held accountable not only for the impact of their content moderation function on freedom of speech and access to information, but also for the impact of their content curation function.

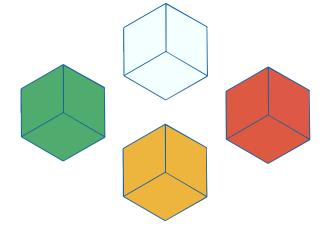
We also participated in deliberations of the Working Group on the Pluralism of Information in Curation and Indexation Algorithms convened by the <u>Forum on Information and Democracy</u>, where we stressed the need to go beyond a choice-centric approach and make platform recommender





INTERNETLAB

systems sensitive-by-design to diversity and plurality of content. We are pleased to see our contributions reflected in the <u>report from the group</u>, which came out in February 2023. The report also voiced our concern that platform recommender systems can hinder individual autonomy and have a long-term impact on the ability of users from marginal social locations in exercising their voice.



### We initiated a unique public AI program in education.

The state of Kerala in India uses a digital multimedia library to augment English language learning in its public education system – <u>the E Language</u> Lab. Teachers and education officials of the Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE) unit felt that it would be very useful to develop an AI tool for oral assessments that could be linked to the Lab, in order to enhance the effectiveness of focused classroom interventions.

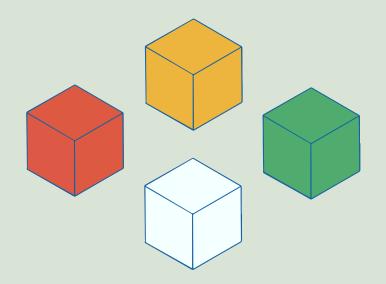
In collaboration with the <u>Regional Institute of English, South India</u>, we conducted a longitudinal <u>impact study</u> of the English Language Lab, which helped us identify potential use cases for the AI assessment tool. We demonstrated a Free and Open Source (FOSS) 'speech-to-text' AI use-case that can potentially assist teachers with assessments. This year, we will proceed to a formal proof of concept phase covering six schools in three districts.



This is an ambitious undertaking that seeks to evolve a unique public-community partnership for AI development in the education sector, centering the larger public interest and furthering progressive educational aims, rather than procuring proprietary ed-tech from vendors. The Language Lab is an excellent example of public sector software innovation, and our impact study concluded that it has had a significant impact on students' English communicative skills. Since the Lab itself is licensed under FOSS, it can freely be used by other state governments as well.

# **2** Re-centering Community

The promise of digital technologies for development can be realized only when technological affordances and social practices intersect in specific cultures of use that benefit marginalized communities. In our work with adolescent girls, rural women's collectives, and students from marginalized backgrounds in the public education system, our in-depth knowledge of techno-social grammars has catalyzed communities of practice that further individual and collective empowerment.

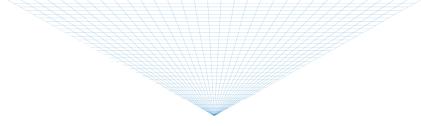


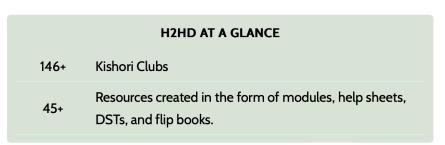
#### We enabled adolescent girls to engage confidently with digital media.

The pandemic resulted in a spike in the marriage of underage girls in Karnataka, with a large proportion of families being unable to take care of their daughters' basic needs and safety. Through our program, *Hosa Hejje, Hosa Dishe* (H2HD - New Steps, New Directions), we explored <u>tech-enabled</u> <u>empowerment</u> strategies that can enable adolescent girls to successfully realize their right to education and self-determination, and avoid succumbing to familial and community pressure for early marriage.

Recognizing the value of systemic support, we entered into a formal collaboration with the Government of Karnataka's Department of Primary and Secondary Education to set up in-school safe spaces, or Kishori Clubs. The Kishori Clubs are facilitated by female teachers trained by the H2HD team, to transact a <u>digital media-based curriculum</u>, specifically designed keeping in mind the needs of adolescent girls. The program directly engages with 673 adolescent girls, and indirectly covers 11,440 girls through active engagement with teachers and parents.



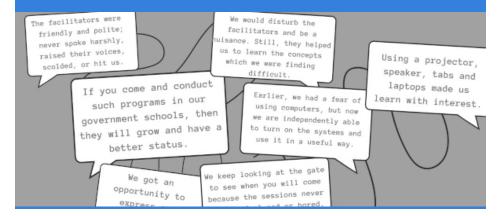






#### 🔛 We designed and implemented a path-breaking inclusive education program.

Inclusive education approaches in the classroom have become more critical than ever, as the prevalence of learning difficulties in children has aggravated due to pandemictriggered school closures. To address this imperative, we designed and deployed a year-long program (April 2022 to March 2023) for students in classes VI-IX studying in South Bengaluru government and government-aided schools in the domains of language, science and mathematics. We focused on differentiated instruction in collaboration with the teachers - incorporating multilevel, multilingual, multimodal, and multisensory resources and pedagogies, leveraging FOSS learning tools such as PhET, GeoGebra, and TuxMath. The endline assessment of the program showed significant improvement in learning outcomes among program participants.



#### We strengthened local information and knowledge cultures to support women's claims-making.

Our field center, Prakriye, runs seven internet-enabled community information centers in partnership with local women's collectives, facilitating their access to public information, welfare entitlements, and public services in over 60 villages in rural Mysuru, Karnataka. In the village of Tumbasoge, during a session on women's rights, the sakhi (young woman infomediary associated with the information center) spoke to the women about the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employee Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) scheme under which one is entitled to 100 days of work, and a daily wage of INR 309 (USD 4). After hearing this, one of the women participants exclaimed, "I had no idea about the job card (eligibility document for the scheme)." Meanwhile, another participant added, "I have a job card, but did not know its benefits. I thought this was just like any other [identity] card." The scheme also guarantees men and women equal pay.

Inspired by the discussion, within a week, nine women collectively went to apply for a job card at the information center. There, they also learnt about the free bus pass, which allows women to travel up to 40 kilometers for free in the state, and about first-aid kits available for job cardholders. "We came here to apply for a job card, but also applied for the bus pass and got first-aid kits. These are beneficial for us daily-wage workers. We should visit the center more often to gain benefits that are meant for us," one of the participants said.

# **3** Re-imagining Rights

The mainstream digital rights discourse tends to frame rights in individualistic terms, ignoring the interplay between individual freedoms and social structures that shape choice. Our work attempts to re-imagine human rights as both individual and collective affordances, freedoms that obtain from both enhanced autonomy and capabilities that improve life-chances. This year, we pushed for an expanded idea of data rights beyond individual privacy in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) policy debates on corporate due diligence; urged workers' organizations and policymakers to account for data rights in the platform workplace; and exhorted civil society groups at the 67th UN Commission on the Status of Women (UN CSW67) to move beyond demands for inclusion towards an agenda of structural change that paves the way for systemic responses to equity and diversity.





# We brought data justice center-stage in the OECD debate on corporate due diligence frameworks.

This year, we worked closely with members of the global civil society alliance, OECD Watch, to shape inputs into the official public consultations on the revision of the 'OECD Guidelines on Responsible Business Conduct of Multinational Enterprises'. Our recommendations demanded a sharper articulation of digitalization and datafication of value chains in the Guidelines, highlighting the inadequate attention to data harms.

Although the Guidelines did not go much beyond tackling privacy risks, we managed to bring <u>new thinking</u> to the debate – including, about corporate accountability for algorithmic discrimination, exploitation, and exclusion; facilitation and amplification of violence; manipulation of democratic processes; spread of misinformation; risks associated with dual-use technologies, that is technology with both civil and military application; and environmental impacts of technology.

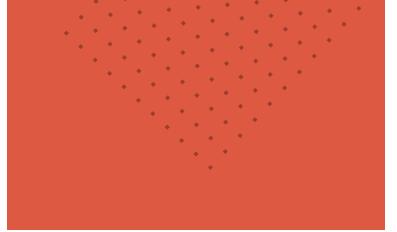




#### We put workers' data rights front and center in the gig economy debate.

In June 2022, we published a <u>cutting-edge analysis</u> of workers' data rights, making a strong case for on-boarding new risks to decent work in platformized workplaces. While freedom from surveillance is recognized by national and international frameworks, a whole host of data rights, including those implicating algorithmic management of workers, are missing in the debate. We have taken our analysis into capacity-building programs of trade unions such as Public Services International (PSI), our engagement with the ILO, and with national-level organizations and academics working on gig economy regulation in India. Some of the critical issues identified by the paper were taken forward through a podcast series titled, <u>'Platform</u>. <u>Predicament'</u>, launched in December 2022 that featured interviews with labor economy researchers, platform workers, and platform founders. As a result of these efforts, we were approached by the National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Bengaluru, to provide expert input on specific regulatory provisions for algorithmic governance in platform workplaces. This work will directly feed into Karnataka state's proposed legislation for ride-hailing and food delivery sectors.





#### We galvanized a Declaration on Feminist Digital Justice, taking it to the outcomes of UN CSW67.

Between August 2021 and December 2022, along with Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN), we convened a working group of 36 feminist scholar-practitioners from the Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Africa to deliberate upon and delineate a gender-just digital future. The group's discussions over the course of several months generated the <u>Declaration of</u> <u>Feminist Digital Justice</u>.

The central pillars of this Declaration are: a digital economy based on social and solidarity enterprise models that equitably distribute data value, a digital society based on reciprocity and solidarity, a digital state grounded in a feminist social contract, and a new democratic digital constitutionalism that furthers the right to development of the peoples of the Global South.

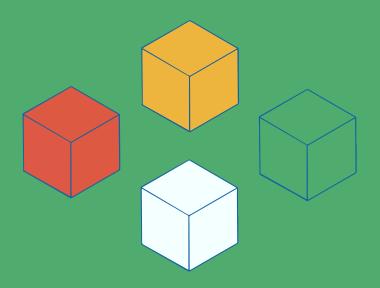


On 6 March 2023, we launched the Declaration at UN CSW67, the first-ever CSW to focus on digital technologies and gender equality as a priority theme, and in just a week, the Declaration received over 1,000 views!

Channeling the spirit of the Declaration, we also contributed an <u>expert</u> paper to the CSW and made numerous inputs to the text of the Outcomes Document, arguing the place of public digital innovation. We underlined how market-led connectivity and design solutions cannot deliver on gender equality unless the innovation ecosystem is imagined as a public good in the first place.

# 4 Re-claiming the Narrative

Majority world perspectives are under-represented in the trajectories of digital innovation and the leading edge of digital policy discourses. Using our convening power, we joined hands with progressive civil society actors and people's movements to lead from the South – raising our voice against neo-colonial digital trade policy regimes, bringing the perspective of the 99% on the extractivist Big Tech paradigm to the table, foregrounding a Southern narrative of digital justice in the ongoing negotiations on the UN Global Digital Compact and building advocacy and research capacities of Southern civil society on digital issues.





#### We put up a powerful resistance to the dominant digital trade agenda.

For a few years now, we have been working actively with civil society actors, researchers, and trade union activists to push back against Big Tech's efforts to rewrite the rules for the digital economy through its influence in international trade negotiations. Our efforts saw some critical successes this year.

For one, labor groups who engaged with the workshops and sessions we anchored at the UNCTAD eCommerce week 2022, called for a rejection of 'plurilateral' initiatives on e-commerce – essentially, an effort by a select group of wealthy nations to circumvent the rules-based processes of the WTO through extra institutional arrangements – in the lead-up to the WTO ministerial. Registering a strong protest against the hegemony of some countries at the WTO's 12th Ministerial Conference in Geneva, we participated in a muchpublicized 'die-in' protest.

# REJECT PINKWASHING IN THE IPEF

We co-led a <u>feminist campaign</u> with the Third World Network (TWN), PSI, Gender and Trade Coalition, and other groups to call out the pink-washing tactics in the 'Upskilling Initiative for Women and Girls' launched as part of the acampaign was a huge success, with <u>our statement</u> receiving 60+ endorsements from organizations globally.



## And...we continued to set the agenda on digitalization for the 99%

Since its launch in October 2021, DataSyn, our newsletter covering the impact of the Big Tech business model on people and the planet with a special focus on the Majority World, has been growing from strength to strength. In 2022-23, we published 12 issues with over 68 unique contributors, reaching a global readership base of 18,000+ readers. This year, we focused on a range of topical and slow burn issues, including Big Tech developments, Web 3.0, digital economy regulations, trade and e-commerce, gender in the digital economy, labor rights, food security, fintech, edtech, and more. Our newsletter is now being read in more than 25 countries, reaching strategically placed allies and advocates from various constituencies.

We also brought out our flagship <u>State of Big Tech Compendium</u> in November 2022, featuring 20 key voices from research, advocacy, policy, and civil society, offering their takes on the current digitalization landscape and the way forward. The compendium was widely read and shared, garnering over 7400+ views. It was covered by Lynn Fries from the Global Political Economy, in a <u>short video</u> reaching influential financial/economics news and analysis aggregators.

Some key essays were also cross posted by the Transnational Institute, in its <u>State of Power Report</u> in January 2023. Critically, the State of Big Tech compendium has served as a significant advocacy and knowledge resource and furthered capacity development with our allies and partners.

Check our most read piece from the year, <u>'The Nth Rooms and the</u> <u>Ungovernable Digital Bodies'</u>. Interest piqued? All our past issues to date are available on Substack. Check them out <u>here</u>



#### DATASYN AT A GLANCE

12	Issues
30+	Contributors
2300	Loyal Readers
50%	Opening Rate
10+	Countries Reached
18000+	New Readers On Bot Populi
30+	Articles Published
34500+	Article Views On Bot Populi



### We brought Southern frames into the ongoing consultations on the UN Global Digital Compact.

The UN consultations on the proposed Global Digital Compact (GDC) are a critical milestone in international digital cooperation. This year, we brought our networks and partners onto a common platform – the Global Digital Justice Forum – to make a dent in this important process. Through several months of dialogue, deliberation, and consultation with several communities in the Global South, we coconstructed <u>submissions</u> for the UN's open consultation and deep dive sessions. In addition, we also co-led a process to evolve a <u>feminist</u> <u>charter of demands from the Global South</u> through consultations with nearly 100 feminist academics, scholarpractitioners, activists, civil society representatives, and trade unionists working closely with the Asia-Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD), Access to Knowledge for Development Center at the American University in Cairo, Research ICT Africa, FES Berlin, and FES Regional Trade Union Project in Latin America and the Caribbean. This charter of demands, released at UN CSW67, generated a buzz, and was the first to have gathered feminist views on the GDC agenda.

#### We nurtured Southern leadership on digital issues.

#### Institute on Frames and Frontiers for a New Digitality

Big Tech impunity has triggered public concern worldwide. Recognizing the importance of nurturing this groundswell, we organized a residential institute for emerging civil society leaders titled, <u>'Frames and Frontiers for a New</u> Digitality. The institute was held from 30 January to 3 February 2023 in Chiang Mai, Thailand, as part of IT for Change's School of Digital Justice, a pedagogical vehicle to further the vision of re-imagining and realizing sociostructural transformation for a just digital economy. It sought to provide participants with the necessary vocabulary and tools to appropriately frame and approach emerging digital intersections with their work, as well as develop strategies for effective political organization.

It is a testament to our credibility in the space that over 150 applicants applied to be part of this opportunity, with the applicant pool including several digital experts in their own right who sought the institute out to capstone their knowledge with development-oriented perspectives. From this pool, we brought together 27 participants (all either working on or from the Global South) from 14 countries across Asia-Pacific, Latin America, and Africa in an intense week-long program of sessions and activities designed to expand their learning and capacities to engage with digital issues, and facilitate longer term South-South alliances and solidarity-building.

The institute was a resounding success, with participants taking away a rich plethora of learnings and connections from the gathering. In addition to being evaluated highly by the participants, we are pleased to report that it was showcased as a case study for exemplary capacitybuilding as part of the mid-term review of the Fair, Green and Global Alliance that we are a part of. Our alliance partners from the Fair, Green, and Global Alliance, Transnational Institute, and Samadhana Institute also joined the institute as participants.

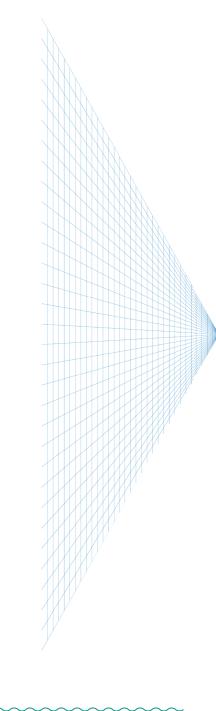
We were also glad to have our allies and partners from the digital rights and development communities, including from LirneAsia, TWN, ETC Group, SOMO, Oxford Internet Institute, PSI International, University of Western Australia, Just Economy and Labor Institute (JELI), and many more, who generously shared their time and expertise as resource persons, recognizing the vital nature of the intervention.

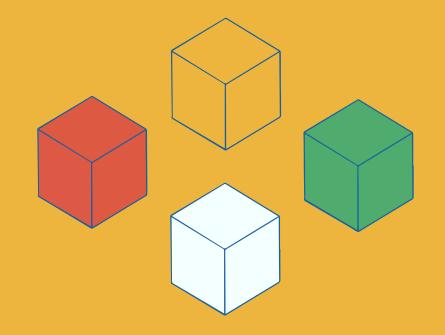


#### Research fellowship on gender and the digital economy in India

The first round of our research fellowship program for early career women scholars on gender and the digital economy in India, initiated in 2021 with support from the European Commission, came to a successful close. All 10 research fellows submitted their final papers, which were published after a peer review process in late 2022. We also undertook a social media launch of the <u>compendium of research synopsis</u>, which received considerable traction. We consider this a critical contribution to expanding the nascent domain of feminist scholarship on the digital in the Majority World.







# **Thematic Highlights**

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#### The Future of Work and Workers' Rights

The impact of digital technologies in the labor market and the shifting nature of work in the platform paradigm has emerged as the central peg of focus for our research and advocacy. This year, we built on the solid foundation of past work to continue tracking the evolution of this dynamic in multiple ways.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE VAULT

- Check out outputs from one of our latest studies, <u>'The Future of Work We Seek: A</u> <u>Philanthropic Agenda for Workers and the</u> <u>Digital Economy'</u>
- Listen to all episodes of our podcast,
   'Platform Predicament Making Sense of
   a Datafied Future of Work'. You can also
   check out this <u>blog post</u> that synthesizes
   key themes emerging from this podcast

#### KEY MILESTONES

- Shaping discourse through popular writing and media. Through our podcast series, 'Platform Predicament Making Sense of a Datafied Future of Work', we explored the issue of worker data rights and the new meanings of labor rights in the digitalizing context. We also brought out a number of <u>think</u> pieces and essays on labor issues, of note among which is our May Day series for <u>DataSyn</u>, which engaged with the pandemic's long shadow on work and worker rights.
- Building out the field through research. Our team worked on a number of research initiatives tracking this space. We developed inputs for the consideration of the ILO Meeting of Experts on Decent Work in the Platform Economy in 2022. We also undertook an ambitious landscape study assessing the impact of digital technologies on work and workers, to develop actionable insights to aid the philanthropic sector's decision-making and programmatic agenda in this domain.

#### WHAT'S ON THE HORIZON?

- A global strategy event convened in collaboration with international union federations looking at the future of worker rights and their crucial intersections with data rights
- A study in collaboration with the Centre for Labour Studies at the National Law School of India University, Bengaluru that seeks to understand the algorithmic management impacts in the ride-hailing and food delivery sectors

#### **Dismantling Big Tech**

This year, we expanded our work on Big Tech, exploring through writing, research, and advocacy the policy directions necessary to rein in the monopolistic tendencies in the platform economy, and reclaim the potential of data for equitable development.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE VAULT

Read our piece, '<u>The Big Wave of Platform</u> Regulation is Here - <u>What's Next?</u>'

Check out this Business Standard article outlining our take on the 'Make Amazon Pay' global campaign

#### **KEY MILESTONES**

- Launching the 'State of Big Tech' report. To build strategies to respond to the aggrandizement of Big Tech power, we launched our <u>flagship report</u> on the state of Big Tech, mapping the maneuvers and machinations of large digital corporations and providing course corrections for democratic governance of the digital economy. A unique aspect of our report is its inclusion of strong development voices from social movements, with our partners at GRAIN, the People's Health Movement, FIAN International, and Our World is Not For Sale (OWINFS) serving as contributors.
- Engaging with platform regulation. We engaged with important regulatory developments coming out of India with respect to the digital economy and data governance, including notably the Government of India's <u>Intermediary</u>. <u>Guidelines</u> and Digital Media Ethics Code.
- Building a network of Big Tech and Society Media fellows. This year, we also set up a fellowship program to enrich our newsletter, DataSyn's, scope and range. Our dynamic cohort of Big Tech and Society Media fellows allowed us to tap into an exciting new pool of long-form contributions and media outputs that will be published in future issues.

#### WHAT'S ON THE HORIZON?

- A new multi-modal initiative on Big Tech crimes that takes our work on challenging corporate power in the digital economy to the next stage
- Engagement with the Global Digital Justice Forum and upcoming WSIS+20 processes to challenge corporate influence in multilateral policymaking



### The Political Economy of Data and Al

The architecture of the digital is coopted to serve big business, through seductive narratives of efficiency and seamless convenience. Concerns of privacy, dignity, and autonomy are pushed to the background, in the incessant extraction that drives digital capitalism. Our work has advocated using data and its associated ecosystem as a knowledge commons through a measured approach that deters flagrant exploitation by the private sector, especially deeppocketed Big Tech companies.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE VAULT

Read our policy brief on <u>'Cross-Border Data</u> <u>Flow With Data Rights</u>, where we proposed a new framework to govern data flows

Check out <u>this piece</u> discussing the potential of digital public infrastructures in e-commerce

#### KEY MILESTONES

- Building out the field through research. We worked on a range of research outputs and media articles on various data debates, including on the role of public goods in rebalancing the e-commerce sector, the efficacy of national-level legal-policy frameworks in addressing workers' data rights, possible approaches to community data, and a multilateral framework for data and AI governance.
- **Critical policy interventions.** We responded to developments in the national data and digital policy space in India with agility over the year, making timely and critical interventions into public consultations such as the <u>Draft National Data</u> <u>Governance Framework Policy</u> and the <u>Digital Personal Data Protection Bill</u>.
- Broadening the data governance conversation. We sought opportunities to further original discourse on data governance. For instance, we brought together leading academics working on competition law, knowledge commons, and data economy valuation from the EU with technologists from India and representatives from UNCTAD and the South Centre. This workshop will serve as a pivotal stepping stone for further engagement with key policy stakeholders in these spaces.

#### WHAT'S ON THE HORIZON?

- A research project on digital public infrastructures
- Convening a global Platform Cooperativism Conference in late 2023
- A roundtable and essay series on generative AI debates





#### Gender Justice in the Digital Paradigm

Our research and advocacy adopts a feminist lens – interrogating new forms of erosion of the public and the commodification of the private in the digital paradigm. We take stock of these implications, striving for a new political grammar of feminist digital justice.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE VAULT

Read about gender-based abuse on the Metaverse in this <u>Bot Populi piece</u>

Check out think pieces from our <u>'Gender</u> <u>Perspectives on the Digital Economy'</u> collection

Pursue our <u>curated compendium</u> analyzing the role of misogyny and sexism in inhibiting the right to equal political participation in the platformized public sphere

#### **KEY MILESTONES**

- Building out the field through research. In a first-of-a-kind study, we carried out empirical analysis of Indian case law with respect to online gender-based violence. This study, which looks at 90 cases examining judicial responses to different kinds of cases of technology-facilitated gender-based violence, has yielded striking insights into the pervasiveness of certain regressive patriarchal stereotypes, particularly related to non-consensual intimate image distribution cases.
- Making crucial policy interventions. We contributed gender perspectives to the development of key national policies in 2022, including the NITI Aayog's Platform India strategy and the expert committee of the Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council's digitalization and knowledge economy strategy. We also engaged with the W20 a platform focused on gender equality to equip them in integrating digital perspectives into the Indian government's G20 outcomes in 2023.
- Strengthening feminist scholarship. We made numerous efforts to diversify and support original feminist scholarship on key questions of gender and the digital economy. This included creating a fellowship cohort of young women scholars from India, and coordinating a compendium of essays on <u>'Feminist Perspectives on Social Media</u>. Governance'.

#### WHAT'S ON THE HORIZON?

- Building a resource guide for members of the judiciary on online genderbased violence
- Capacity-building programs directed at members of the judiciary and the legal fraternity, as well as college and school managements
- Expanding research into women gig workers and social infrastructures of care for a feminist future of work, gender and fintech, social and solidarity economy enterprise models for the platform-data epoch, with a view to engage in evidence-based policy dialogue



#### Prakriye Field Center for Community Informatics and Development

Since 2005, our Prakriye field center has been leveraging new digital technologies for socio-political empowerment of women and adolescent girls from marginalized communities in three sub-districts of rural Mysuru in south India. Two strategies are at the heart of the Prakriye center's efforts: a network of seven community information centers that are the nodes of a women-oriented information and knowledge ecosystem at the grassroots; and a para-counselling service comprising 37 gender help desks providing a first port of call for emergency responses to domestic violence.

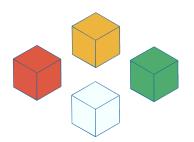


#### **KEY MILESTONES**

- Creating support networks. We convened Namma Maathu (discussion) Forums for women in 24 villages in Mysuru's Hunsur and HD Kote blocks involving the participation of as many as 700 women. With a view to providing a reliable network of support for women and girls facing violence, we initiated Sangha support group meetings, continuing the conversations from the Forums.
- Mobilizing young people. To increase the effectiveness of our work on gender justice, we
  introduced new strategies, including school-based interventions, workshops, and tech
  meets. We are also building a cadre of 'community media champions', by working with
  adolescent girls to develop and hone their media skills.
- **Expanding footprint through grassroot leaders.** We recruited new Gram Sakhis, villagelevel community mobilizers, who will be responsible for sharing public information with women in the villages we cover.

#### WHAT'S ON THE HORIZON?

- New directions for Prakriye and its information centers based on impact evaluation of the Namma Maathu, Namma Jaaga project
- Deepening interventions with men and adolescent boys through new strategies
- Identifying leaders from among the Namma Maathu Forum participants to build their capacities, and deepen their feminist perspective



#### PRARKIYE IMPACT AT A GLANCE

20+	Short films and digital stories produced
265+	Screenings held in operational villages
6,000+	women, men, adolescent boys, and girls reached through screenings
75+	Joint public meetings held
2,300+	Women and adolescent girls participated in public meetings
1,900+	Entitlements and claims processed through Namma Mahithi Kendras
750+	Women across 24 villages trained on women's rights, and leadership
140+	adolescent boys and girls trained on gender rights





#### Education and Technology

The long shadow of the pandemic continues to expose and accentuate the stratification in the Indian school system, while giving impetus to an unchecked, unaccountable digitalization in education that robs the sector of its public nature. Through our work, we strive to support and advocate for the idea of education as a public good as the sector struggles to address these challenges.

#### **IMPACT AT A GLANCE**

2600+	teacher capacities built
40+	workshops organized
8	Courses conducted
20%	academic institutional collaborations
7+	states covered
600+	Open Educational Resources created

#### KEY MILESTONES

- Undertaking capacity-building initiatives with educators. We conducted numerous webinars, courses, and workshops on integrating technology into education. Our Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on 'Teaching Mathematics with Technology' (TMT), which was conducted in collaboration with the Commonwealth of Learning (COL), was highly sought after, with more than 1,000 teachers from across the globe registering and participating in the offering. IT for Change, in collaboration with the COL, also conducted a course for women professionals in higher education institutions in India to equip them with a critical understanding of gender, technology, and education and improve working knowledge on safe internet use. We also conducted an online course for government high school teachers across Karnataka to design safe spaces for adolescent girls. Last, but not the least, we designed and developed online courses for various public educational institutions as part of their programs, including for Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, and the University of Calicut; and conducted blended programs for studentteachers from Vijaya Teachers College, Sarvajna College of Teacher Education and NMKRV College for Women.
- Engagement in curriculum and resource development. We partnered with the Tamil Nadu Samagra Shiksha and SCERT - Tamil Nadu to set up their Open Education Resources portal, using the MediaWiki FOSS platform. Additionally, in collaboration with the Regional Institute of English South India (RIESI), we supported the development of district-level professional learning communities of teachers, and also assisted pedagogical improvements through multilingual approaches for English language teaching. Our latest course, 'Teaching Thinking through Concept Mapping' was popular in both pre-service and in-service teacher education.



#### RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE VAULT

Read our action research study on 'Technology Integration for Inclusive Education' based on our year-long work in government higher primary schools in Bengaluru South

Browse through our <u>user manual</u> on a wide range of Free and Open Source Software applications that non-profits and educational institutions can adopt. This is part of our <u>Open Educational Resources repository</u> **Bringing out outputs on EdTech.** We edited a <u>special issue of the Shiksha Vimarsh Journal</u> published by Digantar, on 'Education and Technology' and translated some articles into Hindi.

**Making critical interventions into education policy.** We reviewed a position paper on 'Educational Technology for School Education' and a focus paper on 'School Governance and Leadership' developed by the Chhattisgarh government and participated in meetings with the Telangana SCERT on the Telangana EdTech Plan.

#### WHAT'S ON THE HORIZON?

- Conducting an action research on teacher professional development using the 'Technological-Pedagogical-Content Knowledge' (TPCK) framework in collaboration with RIESI and KITE, and exploring smartphone-based deployment of our speech-to-text AI use case in English language learning
- Scaling up Kishori Clubs in government high schools in three districts of Karnataka and experimenting with an AI chatbot for our work with adolescents in schools to build gender-sensitivity
- Launching 'Kishori Adda' on Instagram as a 'fun hangout' for adolescent girls, while harnessing the potential of social media to be a transformative educational space
- Developing a 'teacher-led' systemic model for inclusive education, integrating digital technologies in Bengaluru South government schools and continuing our pre-service teacher education programs in Bengaluru Teacher Education colleges
- Conducting a state-wide program in Karnataka for developing audio libraries for language learning in Kannada, Urdu, Marathi, and English, in collaboration with the Karnataka Education Department
- Engaging in advocacy against Big Tech in education through webinars, courses, and workshops

#### Digitalization and Agriculture

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Underscoring the equitable distribution of data value as a key governance consideration in sectoral policies, we continued to expand our focus on digitalization in food systems and agriculture, advocating for communitycentered data rights in the domain.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE VAULT

Read our case study on '<u>Recasting Land</u> Tenure Rights in the Data Epoch: Insights from a Country Case Study of India'

Check out our <u>analysis</u> on food security data on Bot Populi



#### **KEY MILESTONES**

- **Expanding conversations around digitalization and agriculture**. We organized a policy roundtable in partnership with SEWA Cooperative Federation and Vrutti Livelihood Impact Partners to explore the emerging intersections between digitalization and agriculture in India. In collaboration with FIAN International, we also undertook a case study to explore emerging land and agricultural digitalization trends in India, and their impact on the tenure rights of marginal farmers, small-scale producers, and forest communities.
- **Creating a blueprint for gender-responsive platforms**. We undertook baseline surveys with three social enterprises covering over 500 women workers to co-design and create a techno-institutional design blueprint for gender-responsive platforms.

#### ☆ WHAT'S ON THE HORIZON?

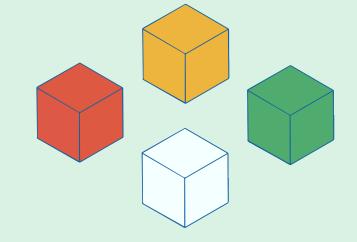
- A learning network on regenerative AI to explore the possibility of AI models that promote just and fair economies
- Deepening our local-to-global advocacy on food systems, agro-ecology, and data justice in partnership with traditional groups working on these issues



# The IT for Change Social Report

#### Programming, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

With a team of 50 odd members, IT for Change has come a long way since its early days. Keeping in lockstep with the expansion of our footprint, we remain committed to bolstering pan-organizational readiness, and streamlining programming priorities and organizational practices to optimize our strategies and approaches. The increased maturity and sophistication in our processes has boosted our ability to successfully execute projects at ever greater scale, convene large global networks, and organize international events.





#### Engineering vital learning, interaction, and professional development opportunities for team members.

The Prakriye field team undertook cross-learning visits with various organizations, including the Equal Community Foundation and Men Against Violence and Abuse, to understand their engagement strategies with adolescent boys on gender sensitization. Additionally, the impact evaluation of our project on gender-based violence in rural Mysuru, which we initiated in 2022 has yielded important learnings for our field strategies. We are excited to envision new directions for Prakriye and its information centers, and will be starting needs assessment and sentiment analysis workshops in the upcoming months.

We took significant steps to deepen our understanding and commitment to inclusion. Some members of our education team enrolled in and completed courses on inclusive education and have been able to apply the same towards their work in schools.



Throughout the year, we organized team-building workshops, which have proven to be highly beneficial in fostering team solidarity and establishing a shared sense of purpose. Additionally, we hosted annual get-togethers in Bengaluru and Mysuru, which saw active participation from employees and their families. These events provided an opportunity for individuals to connect on a personal level outside the work environment, strengthening bonds among team members.

The Education team organized monthly learning-sharing sessions where members presented their insights from their work, and occasionally, articles and books were read together and discussed.

# Continued improvements to human resource and administrative functions.

We made policy and process updates in our key departments, including Human Resources, Administration, Finance, Technology, and Communications. In particular, we crystallized policies on remote and hybrid work arrangements to enhance organizational workflow, and updated our performance review processes.

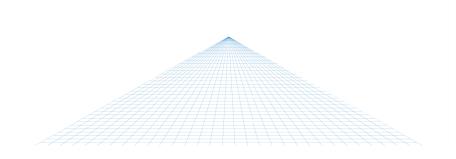
We conducted a comprehensive survey across all teams to gauge employee perception. The feedback received has been instrumental in driving necessary actions to address concerns and improve employee satisfaction.

We introduced monthly and quarterly reporting and review mechanisms with respect to our human resource, finance, and administrative functions, and initiated an internal audit process to enhance our financial resilience.

As part of organizational strengthening, we have also started the preliminary scoping towards an organizational development assessment that will be undertaken in the last quarter of 2023-24.

IT for Change is committed to being an equal opportunity employer and encourages applicants from marginalized social backgrounds. We actively strive for gender equity in senior leadership and middle-level roles, and are committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment for individuals from minority groups and socially vulnerable communities. As of 31 March 2023, our organization comprised a staff of 56, out of which 31 are women. In senior leadership positions, women make up 60% of the representation.





# Impact Footprint

#### VISIBILITY & SOCIAL MEDIA FOOTPRINT

262k	Twitter impressions
257%	Instagram engagement spike
18k	<u>Bot Populi</u> readership

#### RESEARCH & ADVOCACY FOOTPRINT

15+	Research Outputs Produced
15+	Policy Briefs Submitted
25+	Media Articles Written
30+	Events Organized
90+	Events Participated In

# Our Work Out in the World

#### Tanmay Pereira Naik @TanMayISpillTea

Wonderful podcast by @ITforChange on the harsh realities (and positives) of platformization today. @truthfultrash

👔 IT for Change @ITforChange · Dec 12, 2022

We are thrilled to announce the launch of the first episode of our new podcast series, #PlatformPredicament In this episode, we analyze #platformization & its implications by exploring how it all first began. Listen to the teaser here: linktr.ee/platformpredic...

#### Show this thread



2:59 PM · Dec 29, 2022 · 235 Views

**Berlin Tech Workers Coalition** @TechWorkersBER · Jun 17, 2022 · · An incredible presentation on the state of IT and IT Enabled Service union organizing in India by @ITforChange

Different challenges/opportunities due to personal vulnerability, service over product development, high-turnover rate and strong cross-company identity. #OrganizingFTW

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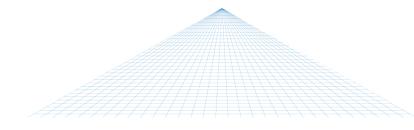
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#### dr alicja pawluczuk @AlicjaPawluczuk

Are #FemTech companies from the Global North datyfing/rendering menstruating bodies from the Global South? #algorithmsforher

Fascinating presentation from R. Vaishno Bharati & Avantika Tewari ( @ITforChange) – a Study of Menstrual Apps







Alek Tarkowski @atarkowski

Collective governance is a mix of trusted institutions, coupled with a community defined in relation to the data and democratic rules (we owe much to @ITforChange and their concept of community data itforchange.net/taxonomy/term/...) 9/13

3:59 PM · Oct 13, 2022 · Twitter Web App



**Dr. Cristina Vanberghen** @VanberghenEU · Jun 12 • Well done #India! I agree with #AnitaGurumurthy from @ITforChange, the #EU #DigitalRightsDeclaration is not perfect!

The world expects a perfect Declaration from **#Europe!** This Declaration is a good starting point!

I am convinced that the final version will be great!

CONCORD @CONCORD\_Europe · May 31

"Ideas about the social and public value of data, cooperative value creation by communities nurtured by the internet, find no place in the Declaration."

- Anita Gurumurthy, @ITforChange

Read the full blog about the #EU's #DigitalRightsDeclaration bit.ly/3PRvqXy



shrutipushkarna @shrutipushkarna

So happy to be part of an (almost) all women round table conference on gig economy and inclusive workforce for India @NITIAayog @shanti\_raghavan @ITforChange



Nanjira @NiNanjira · Nov 21, 2022 As ever, @ITforChange with a timely publication.

#StateofBigTech: Dismantling Digital Enclosures Themes addressed include labour rights in the platform economy, health, fintech, role of regulators, and more!

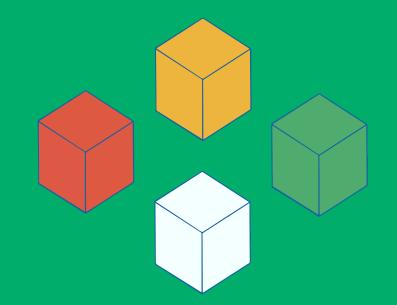
Well worth checking out!



projects.itforchange.net State of Big Tech - Dismantling Big Tech Enclosures Envisioned as an evolving, year-on-year endeavor that will track and unpack the developments in the Big Tech space.

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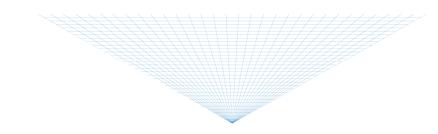


# Testimonials

**66** IT for Change has been an invaluable partner for the Transnational Institute. There is no other organization working on digitalization that combines its incisive analysis with critical interventions at key policymaking fora, while being rooted in the movements of workers and users most impacted by technological change. Its collaborative approach has enriched our own work to challenge corporate domination of global policymaking processes at the UN, under the guise of multistakeholderism. It has helped to build our own capacity to explore the implications of digitalization for many social movements with which we work. IT for Change is a thought leader and our ally in one of the most critical struggles of our time - to ensure that the digitalized world serves people and the planet rather than lining the pockets of a few Big Tech billionaires.

#### **Fiona Dove**

Executive Director, Transnational Institute



#### 66

IT for Change has done valuable work in the area of the digital economy. The 'State of Big Tech' is a compendium of important research on the evolving influence of Big Tech on various dimensions of the economy and society and what can be done about it. This will certainly be useful for actors from both government and civil society in understanding these dynamics and crafting appropriate responses to ensure a more just development of technology such that it serves the many and not just the few.

#### **Abdul Muheet Chowdhary**

Senior Program Officer, South Center

OECD Watch, the network that represents civil society at the OECD, greatly appreciated the support of IT for Change during the OECD's 2021-2023 revision of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct (Guidelines). We relied on them to provide regular, expert advice on text revisions needed in the technology, human rights, workers' rights, consumer interests, and competition chapters in particular. IT for Change focused on many critical issues such as addressing tech impacts on worker rights and targeting North-South inequalities in sharing ownership and benefits of data. We also appreciated their participation directly with the OECD through written submissions to public consultations and an oral intervention at a closed-door OECD policymakers meeting.

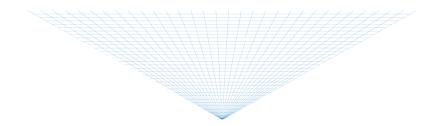
#### **Marian Ingrams**

Coordinator, OECD Watch

Technology is rapidly changing our world and IT for Change is leading the charge in fighting for an inclusive and equitable digital world. As one of the few organizations not beholden to the narratives of Big Tech, IT for Change offers a refreshing and essential perspective on the world today. Their work has been exemplary in framing technological change in progressive ways, in advocating for those who, too often lack a voice, and in offering real solutions to the problems we face today.

#### **Nick Srnicek**

Researcher and Author of After Work



We have collaborated with IT for Change for several years, focusing on issues concerning working conditions, worker rights, and data rights in the platform economy. During this time, we have actively contributed to their projects and publications, participated in joint panel discussions, and produced podcasts, all with the sole aim of enhancing the working conditions of platform economy workers. This partnership has proven to be mutually beneficial as we continue to expand our knowledge and expertise in this particular field and advocate for policy reforms. The initiatives undertaken by IT for Change align seamlessly with our overarching mission of advancing workers' rights and promoting social justice. IT for Change has an exceptional team, characterized not only by their expertise but also by their unwavering dedication and collaborative spirit. Their Communications team, in particular, is highly skilled and adept at translating complex findings into easily understandable language, making crucial information accessible to a wider audience.

#### Uma Rani Amara

Senior Economist, ILO

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IT for Change is a crucial and indispensable institution at the forefront of the fight for a more just, inclusive, and less colonial digital future. For years now, IT for Change has brought together actors, scholars, and activists from around the globe, paying particular attention to those voices that too often remain unheard in the Western-centric discourse on digitization. Additionally, the organization has continually produced excellent, groundbreaking research and organized conferences on the most pressing issues concerning our ever-more digital societies. By bridging theory and praxis and building sustainable progressive networks globally, IT for Change has contributed to generating a much-needed change to the current status quo. I cannot strengthen enough the importance of their work to create equitable and fully democratic alternatives to the techno-solutionist narratives dominating the contemporary techno-economic discourse.

#### **Anna-Verena Nosthoff**

Director, Critical Data Lab

Working with IT for Change on a project to shape the intellectual and policy agenda on intersectional approaches to development research in, and for, the Global South has been a privilege and eye-opening experience. Their research on the abuse and misogynistic trolling targeting Indian women in the public-political sphere on Twitter is truly commendable. The significance of this study lies not only in its insightful findings but also in its intersectional approach. Recognizing that meaningful change requires an understanding of the multifaceted identities shaping marginalized individuals' realities, IT for Change's research goes beyond the surface to address the interlocking forms of oppression within social hierarchies.

#### Hannah Dawson

Senior Researcher, Southern Centre for Inequality Studies, Wits University

#### 66

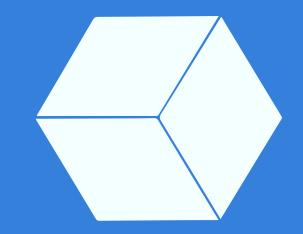
Over the years, IT for Change has established itself as a critical thinking organization and a champion of social justice in the field of technology-enabled education, developing novel models for strengthening public systems and advocating for right digitalization in education. The organization's focus on participatory and democratic models of governance has been particularly impactful and has helped foster greater engagement and participation among those who are often excluded from the decision-making process. As someone who is familiar with their work, I can say that the organization has made significant contributions to the discourse on the intersections of digital technologies with social justice and equity.

#### **Matthew Smith**

Senior Program Specialist-Education and Science, International Development Research Centre KITE's recent collaboration with IT for Change has been on an impact assessment study on our E-Language Lab program, in association with the Regional Institute of English, South India. This study gave us insights on the necessary changes in the design and implementation to improve the program for promoting English language proficiency in government and aided schools across Kerala.IT for Change's significant contributions to the use of digital technologies and open educational resources (OER) for teaching and learning, and also in promoting the use of Free and Open Source Software can provide valuable insights and lessons to various organizations. Their focus on using technology as a tool for social transformation and equitable development is a unique approach that can inspire other organizations to adopt similar strategies.

#### **Anvar Sadath**

Chief Executive Officer, Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE), Government of Kerala



# **Event Highlights**

In the past year, we have been involved in key global policy events, convened critical roundtables and institutes, and been part of conferences and webinars to contribute key messages on digital justice in its many forms. Here are some highlights: Feminist Perspectives on Social Media Governance

February 2023



6 For Change

INTERNETLAB

Read a <u>curated compendium</u> of essay submissions from participants.

IT for Change at UNCTAD eCommerce Week 25-29th April, 2022

Know more about our sessions.

#### Roundtable on Feminist Perspectives on Social Media Governance

#### 18-21 April 2022

To deepen our understanding of how women's first-order right to participation can be reclaimed in the platformized publics of the internet age, we co-organized a roundtable with InternetLab. The aim of the roundtable was to catalyze a productive debate revolving around the central question: What new imaginaries of social media governance will be adequate to eradicate the unfreedoms arising from misogyny in online communications agora? During the four-day event, we brought together 20 academics, lawyers, digital rights activists, and scholar-practitioners committed to feminist politics, to collectively reflect on, discuss, and debate this question, in order to weave a rich tapestry of perspectives on future directions for social media governance.

### IT for Change at UNCTAD eCommerce Week

#### 25-29 April 2022

At IT for Change, we are constantly working towards building more resilient and inclusive societies to ensure that the Global South benefits from the digital economy and the latest developments in the e-commerce space. To this end, we hosted and participated in an exciting line-up of sessions at the 2022 UNCTAD eCommerce Week. Our sessions covered a wide range of topics ranging from data value in the information economy to designing a global framework for data governance.

#### Is EdTech a Danger to Education?

#### 23 December 2022

The recent burgeoning of EdTech platforms has necessitated a deeper understanding of the possibilities, benefits, and dangers of EdTech, as well as a critical evaluation of its role in supporting different aspects of teaching-learning. To facilitate a discussion on these issues, we co-organized a webinar in collaboration with TISS, Oxfam India, and the National Coalition on Education Emergency.

# Institute on Frontiers and Frames for a New Digitality

#### 30 January-3 February 2023

As part of our efforts to transform emerging civil society engagement with digital issues into a lasting global movement for change, we organized a five-day residential institute in Chiang Mai, Thailand. The institute aimed to equip civil society actors with the necessary vocabulary and tools to effectively address the emerging digital landscape and develop strategies for political organization. It brought together 27 participants and 10 + resource persons from over 20 countries.



Read our submissions to the Commission.

# IT for Change at the 67th UN Commission on the Status of Women (UN CSW67)

#### 5-15 March 2023

To expand our work on feminist digitality, we hosted and participated in a diverse lineup of sessions during UN CSW67. These events included conversations with numerous feminist scholars and experts, including the Head of UN Women, the launch of our Declaration of Feminist Digital Justice, and panel discussions on various topics ranging from feminist development policy to a global digital compact for gender justice.

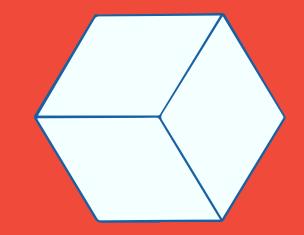
#### IS EDTECH A DANGER TO EDUCATION?



#### Tune into the session recording.



Know more about the institution.



# **Collaboration Footprint**

We have worked alongside, and are associated with 100+ CSOs, academic institutions, union federations, private-sector entities, and government and multilateral bodies across the globe. Here is a glance at our list of collaborations for the year:

### **Partners**

### CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSOs)

#### National Arghyam ASHA Bharatiya Krishak Samaj Breakthrough India Center for Health and Social Change Centre for Internet and Society Digantar Shiksha Evam Khel Khud Samiti Gig Workers Association of India Gyan Vigyan Samiti, Jharkhand Hawkers Joint Action Committee Internet Freedom Foundation Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan Oxfam India Tattle Civic Technologies Sathya Educare Competency Trust Tamil Nadu Science Forum

#### Asia-Pacific

Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD)

ETC Group

Focus on the Global South

**IBON** International

Just Economy and Labor Institute

Khazanah Research Institute

Konfederasi Pergerakan Rakyat Indonesia (KPRI)

Lirne Asia

Samadhana Institute

Third World Network (TWN)

Vietnam Organization for Gender Equality (VOGE)

#### Africa & MENA

Africa Open Data and Internet Research Foundation

AfronomicsLaw Forum

Arab NGO Network for Development

Poliicy

**Research ICT Africa** 

Southern and Eastern Africa Trade Information and Negotiations Institute (SEATINI)

#### North America

Centre for Innovation and Governance (CIGI)

**Drivers Coopeative** 

Public Citizen

#### Europe

Centre tricontinental (CETRI)

Clean Clothes Campaign (CCC)

**Diplo Foundation** 

Food First Information and Action Network (FIAN)

Groupe de Recherche Pour Une Stratégie Économique Alternative (GRESEA)

The Centre for Research on Multinational Corporations (SOMO)

Transnational Institute (TNI)

Whynot Lab

Latin America

Data Impacta

Equidad

Instituto de Estudios Ecuatorianos

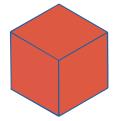
InternetLab

Latin American Information Agency (ALAI)

Mora Research Institute

Social Watch





#### Global

Civil Society Group on Financing for Development

Commonwealth of Learning

CONCORDE Europe

Forum on Information and Democracy

Gender & Technology Institute

**Global Digital Inclusion Partnership** 

GRAIN

MediaLab

**Open Knowledge Foundation** 

People's Health Movement (PHM)

#### UNION FEDERATIONS

Indian Federation of App-based Transport Workers (IFAT)

International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)

International Transport Workers Federation (ITF)

Public Services International (PSI)

UNIglobal

#### **GOVERNMENTS, GOVERNMENT** AGENCIES AND MULTILATERAL **AGENCIES**

Commonwealth of Learning (COL)

Directorate of State Education Research and Training (DSERT), Karnataka

European Union

Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence

Human Resources Development Centre, University of Calicut

International Labour Organization

Karnataka Residential Educational Institutes Society (KREIS)

Kendriya Vidyalaya Sanghatan

Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council (K-DISC), Government of Kerala

KITE (Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education), Government of Kerala

Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands

National Human Rights Commission, Government of India

NITI Aayog

(Philippines) Department of Information and Communications Technology

Regional Institute of English, South India (RIESI)

SCERT and Samagra Shiksha Tamil Nadu

South Centre (G-77)

State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), Telangana

**UN STI Forum** 

UNCTAD

UNESCO

UN Special Rapporteur on the Freedom of Expression

UNWOMEN

#### **PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITIES**

Indian Software Product Industry Round Table (ISPIRT)

LabourNet

Sewa Cooperative Federation

Vrutti

#### DONOR AGENCIES, FOUNDATIONS AND **PHILANTHROPIES**

A.T.E Chandra Foundation

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

**British Telecom** 

**Cognizant Foundation** 

**Edelgive foundation** 

**European Commission** 

Ford Foundation

Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

IDRC Canada

Internet Society Foundation

Kotak foundation

Ministry of Forieign Affairs, Netherlands

Tony Blair Institute for Global Change

#### **ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS**

Access to Knowledge for Development Centre (A2K4D), American University of Cairo

BES College of Teacher Education, Bengaluru

Center for Excellence in Teacher Education (CETE), Tata Institute of Social Sciences

Christu Jayanti College

Comparitive Education Society of India (CESI)

Institute of Development Studies (IDS)

Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST)

London School of Economics

Montfort Group of Institutions

NLSIU, Bangalore

NMKRV College for Women, Bengaluru

Open Data Institute

Regional Institute of English, South India (RIESI)

Sri Sarvajna College of Education (SSCE), Bengaluru

The New School

**Tilburg University** 

University of Calicut

University of Manchester

University of Melbourne

University of Sao Paulo

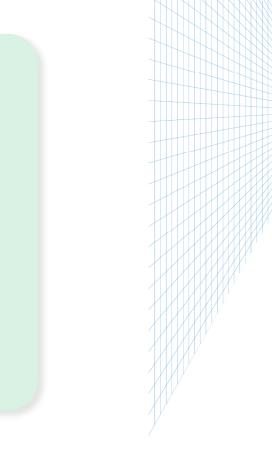
University of Western Australia

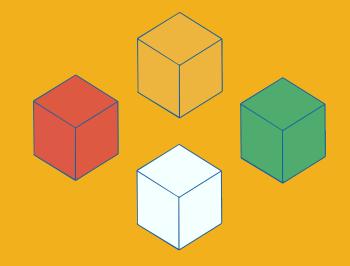
Vijaya Teachers College (VTC), Bengaluru

### Networks

We also anchor, and are closely involved with various policy, advocacy, and research networks on global digital justice issues. Here is a glance at the key networks we are part of:

APRCEM South Asia Working Group	Just Net Coalition (JNC)			
Campaign of Campaigns	Make Amazon Pay			
Data Governance network (DGN)	National Coalition on Education Emergency (NCEE)			
Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era	Our World is not for Sale (OWINFS			
Fair Green and Global Alliance	OECD Watch			
EdTech Watch	People's Working Group on Multistakeholderism (PWGM)			
Gender and Trade Coalition	Platform Cooperativism Consortium			
Global Digital Justice Forum				
Global Policy Forum	Platform Governance Research Network (PGRN) RTE ForumRight Digitalisation Network			
Global Trade Justice Network				
Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence	Transform Health Coalition			
Joint Action Committee Against Foreign Retail and E-commerce (JACAFRE)				





# **Projects & Publications**

# The Essential IT for Change Resource List: 2022-23

#### **RESEARCH REPORTS**

<u>The Future of Work We Seek: A Philanthropic</u> <u>Agenda for Workers and the Digital Economy.</u> Anita Gurumurthy, Deepti Bharthur, and Amay Korjan.

State of Big Tech 2022: Dismantling Digital Enclosures. IT for Change.

Longitudinal Impact Study on the Kerala E-Language Lab. IT for Change in collaboration with the Regional Institute of Education, South India.

#### FROM THE PRESS

What a Withdrawn Karnataka Memo Seeking Rs 100 from Parents says about Education Funding in India in Scroll. Gurumurthy Kasinathan.

Digital Transformation for Gender Equality: Will 'Inclusion' and 'Diversity' Alone Get Us <u>There?</u> in Bot Populi. Anita Gurumurthy and Nandini Chami.

#### JOURNAL ARTICLES

<u>Musk's Twitter Acquisition: Out of the Frying</u> <u>Pan into the Fire</u> in Economic and Political Weekly. Gurumurthy Kasinathan. Taming the Intelligent Corporation: Why the Data Paradigm Necessitates a Re-think of Responsible Business Conduct Obligations of MNEs in Multinationales: En finir avec l'impunité? Anita Gurumurthy and Nandini Chami.

Special issue on <u>Digital Technologies and Education</u> in Shiksha Vimarsh. Edited by IT for Change.

#### **EVENT REPORTS**

<u>The Digital Ecosystem Opportunity for Indian</u> <u>Agriculture: Making the Right Choices.</u> observations from a workshop. Sakhi Shah and Ranjitha Kumar.

<u>Unlocking the Platform Dividend for the Indian</u> <u>Economy</u>, notes from a policy roundtable on NITI Aayog's roadmap for an inclusive future of work. IT for Change.

#### FROM THE DATASYN VAULT

Dismantling Digital Enclosures: Reflections from the State of Big Tech. Deepti Bharthur, Amay Korjan, and Shreeja Sen.

<u>Gender-based Abuse on the Metaverse: The New</u> <u>Internet is Being Coded on a Toxic Palimpsest.</u> Merrin Muhammed Ashraf.

#### PODCASTS

<u>Platform Predicament: Making Sense of a Datafied</u> <u>Future of Work, hosted by Sonakshi Agarwal.</u>

#### ADVOCACY STATEMENTS

Statement Rejecting Pinkwashing in the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework. IT for Change and allies.

<u>NCEE Urges Due Diligence by Government of Andhra</u> <u>Pradesh Before Implementing MoU with BYJUs</u>. IT for Change and allies.

#### NOTES FROM THE FIELD

What it Takes to Maintain Access to the Digital: Experiences of Adolescent Girls in Rural Mysuru. Nayana Kirasur.

#### POLICY BRIEFS

<u>Cross-Border 'Data Flow With Data Rights'</u> Parminder Jeet Singh.

Innovation to Tackle Gender Inequality: A Back-to-Basics Roadmap. Anita Gurumurthy and Nandini Chami.

<u>Workers' Data Rights in the Platformized Workplace - A</u> <u>New Frontier for the Labor Agenda.</u> Anita Gurumurthy, Nandini Chami, Sreyan Chatterjee, and Sakhi Shah.

#### **POLICY SUBMISSIONS**

Rajkumar, M., Ashraf, M. M., & Gurumurthy, A. (2023). Response from IT for Change to the Draft 2.0 UNESCO Guidelines for Regulating Digital Platforms. IT for Change.

#### BLOGS

<u>Declaration of Digital Rights and Principles: A Reality</u> <u>Check in Concorde Europe. Anita Gurumurthy.</u>

#### FORTHCOMING

Forging a Survivor-Centric Approach to Online Gender-Based Violence: A Judicial Resource Guide. IT for Change.

Unskewing the Data Value Chain. IT for Change.

You can access our complete list of publications here.

### **Projects Overview**

Assessing the AI Moment from a Global South Perspective (2022-current)

<u>Centering Women in the Digitalizing</u> <u>Economy</u> (2020-2024)

Data Governance Network (2019-current)

Fair, Green and Global (FGG) Alliance (2021-2025)

State of Big Tech Report (2021-current)

- Digital Economic Integration of MSMEs in the Global South
- (2022-current)
- DataSyn Newsletter
- (2021-current)
- Big Tech & Society Media
   Fellowships (2022-current)

Feminist Digital Justice (2019-current)

Future of Rights and Citizenship in the Digital Age (2020-2023)

Hosa Hejje Hosa Dishe (2019-2022)

IT for Change under BUILD (2021-2022)

Namma Maatu Namma Jaaga, Phase II (2020-2023)

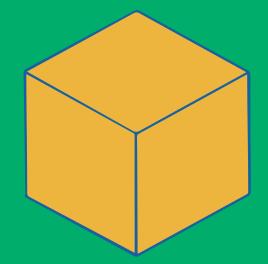
Recognize, Resist, Remedy: Addressing Gender-Based Hate Speech in the Online Public Sphere (2019-2022) Reform the Gig: Research and Advocacy on Platform Workers' Rights in India (2020- current)

School of Digital Justice (2022-current)

The Feminist Observatory of the Internet (2020-current)

Towards Gender Just Public Information System Design (2021-current)

Transforming School Education through ICT Integration (2022-2023)





### **Events we organized**

April 19-20, 2022 | Roundtable on Feminist Perspectives on Social Media

IT for Change & InternetLab | Closed Event

#### April 23, 2022 | Panel Discussion Challenges, Needs, and Possibilities of Digitalization in Education

National Coalition on Educational Emergency (NCEE), RTE Forum, and IT for Change

April 30, 2022 | Right-Digitalisation IT forChange, Internet Freedom Foundation, and Bharatiya Krishak Samaj Link

April 2022 | Workshop Workshop for In-Service Teachers IT for Change & VVS School

#### April 2022 | Workshop Workshop on Digital Competency IT for Change & SVVK School

May 2, 2022 | Curriculum **MOOC on Teaching Mathematics with Technology** Commonwealth of Learning & IT for Change

#### May 2022 | Workshop Pre-Service Teacher Education Programs

IT for Change, Vijaya Teachers College, and Sri Sarvajna College of Education, Bengaluru

May 2022 | Talk Talk on Digital Technologies and Education NCERT

June 2, 2022 | Concept Note Online Policy Dialogue on the Impacts of Multistakeholderism on Multilateral Governance

Peoples Working Group on Multistakeholderism

June 3-4, 2022 | Workshop Workshop on Techno-Pedagogy Literacy IT for Change & Sri Sarvajna College of Education

June 8, 2022 | Notes What Next for Worker Rights: Lessons from the Data Frontier at the 11th RightsCon 2022 Summit

IT for Change, Why Not Labs, and the ILO

#### June 9, 2022 | Closed Filling the Legal Blanks: Access to Justice for LGBTQIA+ in Online Gender-Based Violence Laws at the 11th RightsCon 2022 Summit

IT for Change and InternetLab

June 14, 2022 | Closed Feminist Visions of the Digital Economy in MENA The Access to Knowledge for Development (A2K4D) Center, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) - Berlin and IT for Change

June 19, 2022 | Presentation Inclusive, Plural, and Diverse Virtual Knowledge Cultures: How do we get there? | IT for Change, Gender & Technology Institute

June 2022 | Online Course Institute on Gender, Technology, and Education IT for Change

June 29-30, 2022 | Recording A Critical Approach to the Digitalisation of Food Systems IT for Change and ETC Group

August 1, 2022 | Offline **Workshop on ICT Integration in Teaching-learning** ITfC, Vijaya Teachers College (VTC), and Sri Sarvajna College of Education (SSCE), Bengaluru

August 24, 2022 | Concept Note The Digital Ecosystem Opportunity for Indian Agriculture: Making the Right Choices IT for Change, SEWA, Vrutti

August 25, 2022 | Concept Note Unlocking the Platform Dividend for the Indian Economy - A Policy Roundtable on NITI Aayog's Roadmap for an Inclusive Future of Work IT for Change September 20-21, 2022 | Closed event Feminist Visions for Digitalizing Economies in Asia APWLD, IT for Change, and FES

September 30, 2022 | Recording Governing Data for Global Flows and Exchanges for Digital Trade IT for Change, The South Centre, and the Transnational Institute

November 21, 2022 | Closed event State of Big Tech Dialogue IT for Change

November 26, 2022 | Closed event **Exploring the Education Technology Landscape** IT for Change, Comparative Education Society of India (CESI), Centre of Excellence in Teacher Education (CETE), Tata Institute of Social Sciences and National Coalition on the Education Emergency (NCEE)

December 1, 2022 | Offline **Pre-Service Teacher Education Program** IT for Change, Vijaya Teachers College (VTC), and Sri Sarvajna

College of Education

December 13-14, 2022 | Online Feminist Digital Economy ITFC, ResearchICT Africa, and FES

December 18, 2022 | Offline Gloom in the Classroom Schooling crisis in Jharkhand and beyond NCEE, IT for Change December 23, 2022 Is EdTech a Danger to Education? IT for Change, TISS, Oxfam India, and NCEE

December 24, 2022 Audio OER workshop RIESI

January 30 - February 2, 2023 | Offline Event Institute on Frontiers and Frames for a New Digitality IT for Change

February 9, 2023 | Twitter Link **Prof. Ingrid Schneider visit to ITfC office** IT for Change

March 6, 2023 | Offline Event **A Feminist Digital Justice Declaration for Generation Equality** IT for Change and DAWN

March 9, 2023 | Offline Event **Fit for Future? - A Global Digital Compact for Gender Justice** IT for Change and FES

March 15, 2023 | Offline Event Leveraging e-commerce Market places for Women's Empowerment: A Feminist Policy Handbook IT for Change and PSI

March 2023 | Online Course Integrating ICT in Teaching Mathematics IT for Change & KVS, Uttarakhand

# **Events we participated in**

April 23, 2022 | Lecture 11th Krishna Raj Memorial Lecture on Digital Health -Access, Equity, and Surveillance

Anusandhan Trust SATHI, Centre for Health Equity, Law & Policy & Indian Law Society

April 25-29, 2022 | Conference UNCTAD eCommerce Week UNCTAD May 12, 2022 | Workshop **Trade and Investment Agenda Post Covid-19** Transnational Institute

May 13, 2022 | Discussion **Cooperative Platforms: a lever for youth policies and the protection of new jobs** LegaCoop, Centro StudioDoc, Alma Vicoo, ReteDoc

April 27, 2022 | Panel Discussion **Trade, Gender & Post-War Recovery, Part Two: Visioning Feminist Trade Alternatives for Sustainable Peace** Consortium on Gender, Security and Human Rights and Gender and

Trade Coalition

May 3, 2022 | Working Session Data Protection Bill Seminar Bar Association of India

May 5-6, 2022 | Forum **7th STI Forum: Thematic Session 4: Global digital public goods, digitalization, artificial intelligence, and connecting the world by 2030** UN interagency task team on STI for the SDGs (IATT)

May 11, 2022 | Session

Deepfakes, Disinformation, Doxxing: How Countering Gender Violence Online Builds a Better Web for All, the

Good Tech Fest 2022 The Good Tech May 17, 2022 | Webinar **Right to Health and Personal Data Protection: Current Challenges and Potentials** Brazilian Institute of Consumer Defense (IDEC)

May 18, 2022 | Webinar **Strengthening the Governance of Health Data** Transform Health

May 23, 2022 | Webinar Digital Tools for Teaching, Learning and Assessment of Specific Subjects CIET

May 25, 2022 | Session

Gender-based Violence and Judicial Practices in the 2022 Global Cooperation and Training Framework

(GCTF) Confer ence on Ending Gender-based Violence Gender Equality Committee of the Executive Yuan May 27, 2022 | Meeting **7th All India Educators Meet** Kristu Jayanti College

June 16-17, 2022 | Assembly Organizing for the win: Game and Tech Workers Assembly Uniglobal, FES & Verdi

April-June | Webinar ICT Textbook Development KREIS Schools (IT for Change - Education Team)

July 12, 2022 | Lecture Optimal Governance of NPD 2.0 CUTS International

July 16, 2022 | Program Young Researchers for Social Impact Program

July 20, 2022 | Dialogue Future of InstitutionsDialogue CIGI

July 26-28. 2022 | Dialogue **C20 Policy Dialogue Forum** Civil 20

July 27, 2022 | Framework Discussion **A Post covid Feminist Framework for Digital Justice in the MENA Region** Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) July 28, 2022 | Discussion **The Role of Tech in Mitigating Online Gender and Sexual Abuse** The Centre for Internet and Society & Tattle Civic Tech

August 2022 | Workshop Strategic Planning X-Leap in association with EdelGive

August 5, 2022 | Consultation National Consultation on the State of Access to Education for Children of Migrant Workers NCEE, Aide et Action International, and the Centre for Migration and Inclusive Development (CMID)

August 9, 2022 | Webinar Data in the Deep: Considerations for Marine Genetic Resources Beyond Jurisdiction WWF-Pacific, PANG & DAWN

August 12, 2022 | Webinar **Revisiting the Social Contract - Imperatives for the Future** Public Affairs Centre

August 16, 2022 | Policy Dialogue Future of Work(ers) Policy Dialogue Series: Emerging Forms of Worker Power in the Digital Economy Southern Centre for Inequality Studies

August 16, 2022 | Workshop Feminism and Al Workshop Global Index on Responsible Al August 24, 2022 Financing Education Learning Community: Sectoral

Launching of The Great Takeover — Education Global Campaign for Education and the Transnational Institute

September 2, 2022 Data Governance in the Digital Economy Diplo Foundation

September 14-17, 2022 State of the World 2022 Global Conference Transnational Institute

September 19, 2022 Virtual Learning Call on Non-Personal Data SFLC.in

September 27, 2022 Digital transition - Cooperative platforms have a future! Global Innovation Coop Summit

September 27, 2022 Democratic Technological Development and Overcoming the Digital Divide in the post-Covid

**recovery** Rosa-Luxemburg-Foundation

September 29, 2022 **Trustworthy Data Spaces: A Dialogue between North and Sout** Diplo Foundation, Swiss Federal Office of Communications (OFCOM, Switzerland), and Geneva Internet Platform (GIP) September 30, 2022 Social Media, Networks, and Movements for Women's Empowerment The Gender & Health Hub, UNU-IIGH, University of Cape Town and

The Gender & Health Hub, UNU-IIGH, University of Cape Town and BBC Media Action

27-30 September, 2022 Civil Society Strategy Meeting for LDC5 United Nations

October 6, 2022 High-Level Panel on Cross-Border Data Flows C2O Sub-WG on Digitalization,Indonesia for Global Justice (IGJ), Lokataru, HINTS, Oxfam Indonesia, IT for Change, Transnational Institute, Wikimedia Foundation, and ELSAM

October 7, 2022 Global Manifesto for Fairer Platform Work Fairwork

October 10, 2022 Leveraging the Digital Transformation for Decent Work in the Global South International Training Centre, ILO

October 11, 2022 Indian Perspectives on STI for SDGs The Office of Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India, and Research and Information System for Developing Countries

October 11, 2022 India online: Inclusive digital education for the next generation SRF Foundation October 14, 2022 Virtual Policy Roundtable on Consent Manager Framework Aapti and the Swasth Alliance

October 15, 2022 **Roundtable Discussion on Developing Legislative Interventions for On-cDemand Platform Work in India** Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy and FES

October 20, 2022 Data Colonization Hinders a Just Transition Asia-Europe People's Forum

October 28, 2022 Boon, Bane, or Bust: Can our Planet Survive Tech? ORF

October 31, 2022 Gender Digital Divide – Impact on Societies and Democracy UNDP India

November 4-6, 2022 Owning the Future: Sustainably Scaling Platform Cooperatives With the Global South Platform Cooperatives Consortium

November 6, 2022 Owning the Future: Sustainably Scaling Platform Cooperatives With the Global South Platform Cooperativism Consortium and the Institute for Technology and Society. November 17, 2022 The Impact of Digitalization, Innovation, and

Technological Change on Women and Girls NGO Committee on the Status of Women/New York

November 25, 2022 **Make Amazon Pay** Hawkers Joint Action Committee and Gig Workers Association of India

November 30, 2022 Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights National Law School of India University

December 1, 2022 Silicon Valley and the Global South Berkeley Student Forum

December 1, 2022 Our Future is Public Conference The Democracy Collaborative and Transnational Institute

December 2, 2022 EdTech and its Implications for Public Education Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University, Delhi

December 2, 2022 How can Data Justice be Realised Practically? Research ICT Africa

December 2, 2022 Talk at Ambedkar University, Delhi on 'Platformization of Education' December 3, 2022 Digital Delhi Conclave 2022, IIT Delhi. Panel on the 'Quality and equitable Education'

December 3, 2022 Digital Delhi Conclave, 2022: Quality and Equitable Education IIIT-Delhi

December 6, 2022 Learning Call on the Digital Data Protection Bill, 2022 SFLC.in

December 9-11, 2022 CESI Conference: 'Educational Transformations: Crisis and Resilience'

December 10, 2022 **"EdTech Trends: Challenges and Implications"** Comparative Education Society of India (CESI) Annual International Conference, Hyderabad.

December 13, 2022 2022 Study Week on Macroeconomic, Trade,

**Investment and Development Policies** Arab NGO Network for Development, the Asfari Institute for Civil Society and Citizenship, and Third World Network

#### December 13, 2022

Models for the future: Leveraging IoT, Big Data and AI for the SDGs

India's G2O Secretariat in collaboration with MEA, Government of India, Observer Research Foundation, UN Secretary-General's Tech Envoy, and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) December 16, 2022 Commercial Determinants of Health WHO

December 16, 2022 **Public Spaces as the Primary Terrain of Contestation with Digital Emerging as Counter/Parallel Public** Krea University

December 29-31, 2022 Workshop on Multilingual approaches to English Language Teaching, RIESI

January 11-13, 2023 STI EGM 2023 UN-DESA, UN-Habitat & UNCTA

#### January 18, 2023

Enabling Data Sharing Eco system: Challenges and

Expectations from Data Management Office (DMO) Wadhwani Foundation & Chase India

January 22-24, 2023

Re-imagining Research and Teaching and Learning during times of Crises TISS, Mumbai

January 24, 2023 The Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF): What is

in store for partner countries and India? Trust India and Third World Network

January 30 - February 1, 2023 2023 Global Gathering OECD February 1, 2023 Will UK-India trade deal hinder sustainable development? Bond and Trade Justice Movement

February 6, 2023 Asia Pacific Regional CSO Forum on the Priority theme of CSW67 APWLD

February 9, 2023 Expert Group Meeting on SDG 11 UN-DESA, UN-Habitat, and UNDP

February 16, 2023 Lets Talk Economic Justice Campaign of Campaigns

February 18-19, 2023 Conference on Agriculture, Land and Forests Focus on the Global South

February 23, 2023 Enabling Technology For Social Impact Civil20

February 23, 2023 FDJ on Governments' role in Education Bengaluru City University and IGNOU

February 23-24, 2023 Workshop on English Language Teaching – Multilingual Pedagogies

Regional Institute of English, South India

February 26, 2023 Datafication: A New Paradigm Spanning the World Symbiosis Center for Information Technology

March 4, 2023 **Plain Language Draft - A Draft for Layman** SVKM's Pravin Gandhi College of Law

March 4-9, 2023 LDC Civil Society Forum UN

March 5, 2023 Conversation with the Head of UN Women and Cochair of CSW67 NGO CSW67

March 6, 2023 **Feminist Development Policy Goes Digital** Germany, National Council of German Women's Organisations

March 7, 2023 DigitALL: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality International Cooperative Alliance Asia and Pacific Committee on Women

March 7, 2023 Feminist Digital Alternatives in the Here and Now AWID March 7, 2023 Policy & Implementation: Understanding Experiences and Reacting in Order to Mainstream Gender in Digital

**Development** Global Digital Inclusion Partnership

#### March 9, 2023

A Phone of My Own: Sexual, Economic and Gender Empowerment

Finland, ACT Alliance (lead), Act Church of Sweden, Bread for the World, Christian Aid, DanChurchAid, Finn Church Aid, LWF, World Renew, Norwegian Church Aid, World Council of Churches, and World YWCA

March 10, 2023 For a Gender-Transformative Digital New Deal Public Services International

#### March 14, 2023

Interactive Expert Panel on Innovation and Technological Change, and Education in the Digital Age for Achieving Gender Equality and the Empowerment of All Women and Girls UN CSW

#### March 19, 2023

Workshop on 'Rural libraries in Rajasthan – spaces for development and deepening democracy' Government of Rajasthan with MKSS

March 21, 2023 Making Digital Liveable: The Social Economy and the Digital Age OECD March 23-24, 2023

Algorithms for Her? 2' Conference University of Sheffield

March 25, 2023 Resisting Monopoly Capitalism Global Justice Now

March 29, 2023 **26th UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)** UNCTAD

March 29, 2023 Education and Digital Transformation Working Group Civil20

# Full List of Publications

#### **RESEARCH PAPERS**

Gurumurthy, A., & Chami, N. (2022). <u>Taming the</u> <u>Intelligent Corporation: Why the Data Paradigm Ne-</u> <u>cessitates a Re-think of Responsible Business Conduct</u> <u>Obligations of MNEs.</u> Centre tricontinental (CETRI).

Gurumurthy, A., & Dasarathy, A.(2022). <u>A Study of</u> <u>Abuse and Misogynistic Trolling on Twitter Directed at</u> <u>Indian Women in Public-political Life.</u> IT for Change.

Gurumurthy, A., Chami, N., & Kumar, R. (2022, October). <u>Recasting Land Tenure Rights in the Data Epoch:</u> <u>Insights from a Country Case Study of India.</u> IT For Change.

Gurumurthy, A., Chami, N., Chatterjee, S., & Shah, S. (2022). <u>Workers' Data Rights in the Platformized</u> <u>Workplace - A New Frontier for the Labor Agenda.</u> IT for Change. Gurumurthy, A., Chami, N., & Sharma, A. (2023). <u>Charter of Feminist Demands from the Global South:</u> <u>A Global Digital Compact for Gender Equality.</u> IT for Change & FES.

Ibrahim, M., Desai, A., & Kasinathan, G. (2022). <u>View-</u> ing Teacher Agency through the Circle of Influence <u>Framework.</u> Language and Language Teaching

Ibrahim, M. (2022). <u>Effects of COVID-19 on Learning</u> and Development of Children: Insights from a Survey of Parents After Opening of Schools. Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) journal.

IT for Change (2023), <u>Breaking Barriers: A closer look</u> at the Technology Integration for Inclusive Education (TIIE) Program

IT for Change (2022), CLIx Phase 2 Evaluation Report

Kasinathan, G. (2022). <u>National Education Policy 2020</u> <u>– Imagining Digital Technologies as a Resource to</u> Achieve Educational Aims. NCERT. Kasinathan, G., & Ganapathy, A. (2022). <u>Digital Dollar?</u> An exploratory study of the investments by IFC in the Indian educational technology sector. IT for Change.

Kumar, R., & Shah, S. (2022). <u>SEWA Cooperative Feder-</u> ation Baseline Survey Report. IT for Change.

Mann, L. (2023). <u>The Gendered Creep of Neo-classical</u> <u>Economics through Digitisation</u>. IT for Change.

Mukku, S., & Hussain, H. (2023). Digital Futures in Asia. IT for Change.

Shah, S., Zainab, K., Kumar, R., Wani, S., & Basheer, I.P. (Eds). (2023). <u>National Gender Fellowships on</u> <u>Gender and the Digital Economy.</u> IT for Change.

Rashid, S. (2023). <u>Intelligent but Gendered: Lessons</u> from Welfare Automation in the Global South. IT for Change.

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Ashraf, M. M. (2023, January). Gender-based Abuse on the Metaverse: The New Internet is Being Coded on a Toxic Palimpsest. Bot Populi.

Bartha, O., & El-Sayed, S. (2023, March). <u>Big Tech</u> <u>Makes Political Choices About Our Data: We Should Do</u> <u>the Same.</u> Bot Populi.

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Leterme, C. (2023, March). <u>Digital Justice is a Matter</u> of Environmental Justice. Or at least, it Should be. Bot Populi.

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The DataSyn Team. (2022, July). <u>"The Best Platforms</u> Remain Unwritten...:" Alistair Fraser on Data Grabs, Slow Computing and More. Bot Populi.

#### **POLICY BRIEFS**

IT for Change. (July 2022). <u>Submission to the NHA on</u> the Data Sharing Guidelines draft for PM-JAY.

IT for Change. (July 2022). <u>Submission to MeitY on</u> <u>Part-I and Part-II of the IT (Intermediary Guidelines</u> and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021.

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IT for Change. (Sep-tember 2022). <u>Cross-Border 'Data Flow With Data</u> <u>Rights'.</u>

IT for Change. (October 2022). <u>Innovation to Tackle</u> <u>Gender Inequality - A Back-to-basics Roadmap.</u>

IT for Change. (November 2022). <u>IT for Change's in-</u> put at India's G20 Presidency in 2023: Opportunities for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.

IT for Change. (February 2023). <u>Response from ITfC</u> to the Consultation Draft of the OECD Guidelines for <u>MNEs and their Implementation Procedures</u>.

IT for Change. (February 2023). <u>ITfC's Input for</u> <u>Report on 'Pluralism of News and Information in</u> <u>Curation and Indexing Algorithms.</u>

#### MEDIA APPEARANCES/

#### **EVENT REPORTS**

Gurumurthy, A. (2022, August). <u>In Solidarity Episode</u> <u>1: The Great Gender Digital Divide. SEWA Federation.</u>

Kumar, R., & Shah, S. (2023, February). <u>The Digital</u> <u>Ecosystem Opportunity for Indian Agriculture - Making</u> <u>the Right Choices.</u> IT for Change. Singh, P. J. (2022, November). <u>Hawkers Joint Action</u> <u>Committee, & Gig Workers Association of India. Make</u> <u>Amazon Pay.</u>

#### POLICY SUBMISSIONS AND STATEMENTS

Encoding Digital Technologies for a Feminist Social Contract. (May 2022).

Digital Public Goods for an Inclusive Digital Future: A Roadmap Towards 2030. (May 2022).

Joint CSO post-MC12 Statement on Access to Medicine. (June 2022).

Inputs from IT for Change to MeitY on the Draft National Data Governance Framework Policy. (June 2022).

Submission to the NHA on the Data Sharing Guidelines draft for PM-JAY. (July 2022).

<u>Comment to Meta's Oversight Board in the Case of</u> <u>'India Sexual Harassment Video (2022-012-IG-MR)'</u>. (September 2022). Decent Work vis-a-vis Workers' Data Rights and Social Security Concerns in an Algorithmified Workplace. (October 2022).

Submission to UN Special Rapporteur for FOE—Asia Consultation. November 2022).

<u>Civil Society Roundtable Consultation – India-EU</u> <u>Free Trade Agreement. (November 2022).</u>

Submission to the Public Consultation on the Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2022. (December 2022).

Statement Rejecting Pinkwashing in the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework. (December 2022).

Endorse Rejection of Pinkwashing in the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework. (December 2022).

Response from the 'UNESCO Guidance for Regulating Digital Platforms: A Multistakeholder Approach'. (January 2023). <u>Consultation on Global Digital Compact.</u> (February-March 2022).

Response from the Draft 2.0 UNESCO Guidelines for Regulating Digital Platforms. (March 2023).

Response to Draft Amendment to the IT (Intermediary Guidelines And Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021.(March 2023).

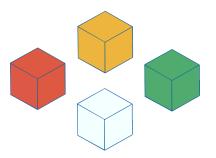
#### CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

<u>Call for Research Partners: Digital Economic Integra-</u> tion of MSMEs in the Global South (May 2022)

Call for Applications: Big Tech & Society Media Fellowships 2022 (May 2022)

<u>Call for Applications: Short Course for Women Pro-</u> <u>fessionals in Higher Education Institutions in India</u> (June 2022)

Call for Applications for Institute on Frontiers and Frames for a New Digitality (July 2022)



#### **BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31 MARCH 2023**

All amounts are in INR (rounded)

2021-22	Liabilities	2022-23	% of total	2021-22	Assets	2022-23	% of total
31,144,106	Organisation Stabilisation Fund	39,447,696	22	2,799,471	Fixed Assets	2,661,069	1.5
240,000	Corpus Donation	270,000	0	103,374,048	Current Assets, Loans and Advances	175,461,357	98.0
21,680,345	General Fund	26,491,576	15	935,778	Receivables	795,428	0.5
2,799,471	Asset Fund	2,661,069	1				
44,638,968	Advance Account	103,719,163	58				
6,606,407	Sundry Payables	6,328,350	4				
107,109,297	Total	178,917,854	100	107,109,297	Total	178,917,854	100

#### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

All amounts are in INR (rounded)

2021-22	Expenditure	2022-23	% of total	2021-22	Assets	2022-23	% of total
37,257,090	Personnel Costs	44,152,997	59	51,848,396	Funds Received	64,647,410	86
10,915,101	Operating Costs	15,501,548	21	5,220,667	Interest on Term Deposit & Savings Bank Account	5,385,875	7
3,268,931	Administration Costs	4,397,514	6	1,043,553	Income to the extent of Depreciation transferred from Asset fund	1,167,378	2
1,043,553	Depreciation	1,167,378	2	38,459	Withdrawal from Asset Fund	0	0
4,841,780	Excess of Income over Expenditure	4,811,231	6	2,101,528	Donation	15,975	0
4,841,780	Appropriation towards Organizational Expenses	4,811,231	6	1,888,598	Professional Fee and Other Income	3,559,509	5
				27,034	Interest on IT Refund	65,752	0
62,168,235	Total	74,841,899	100	62,168,235	Total	74,841,899	100

Field & Team Images: IT for Change Image Bank Icons, Images & Graphic Elements: Mansi Thakkar Report Typesetting & Layout Design: Salim Shafi