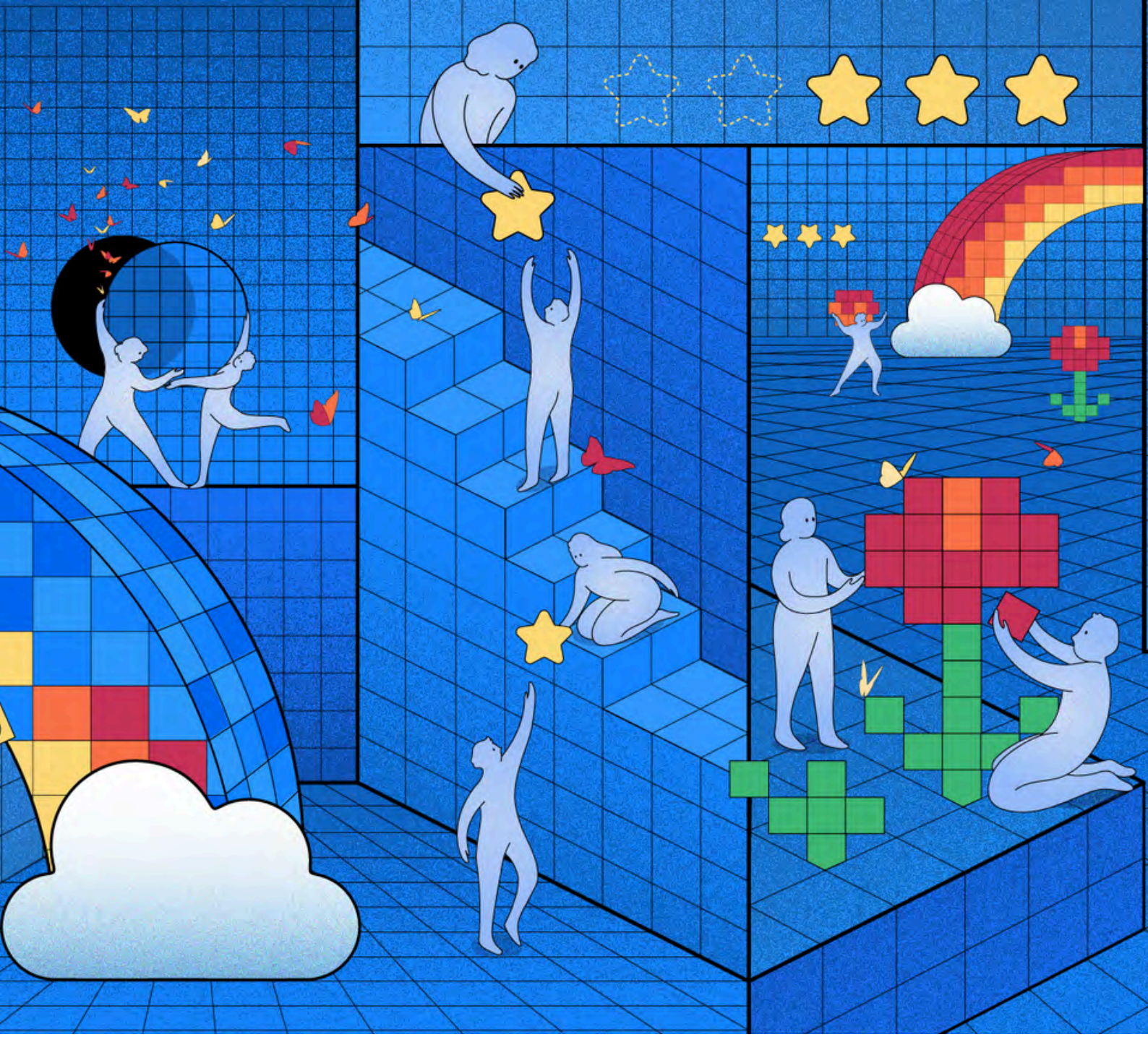


IT for Change

Annual Report 2023 - 2024

IT for Change

About the Organization

The Problem

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.

How We're Different

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

What We Do

Our work, straddling Data and Artificial I telligence (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.

A Note from the Directors

In the digital realm change is a constant. The ebb and flow of the field demands alac ity in directions, agendas, and strategies. At IT for Change, we have attempted to make sense of, and respond with agility to, the ever-shifting frames of the digital, keeping alive the political project that is digital justice.

Even by the old normal that demanded careful attention to techno-social upheavals, both big and small, the past year marks a tectonic shift. For one, the tech discourse moved decisively into the space of public discourse. The racialized and gendered margins powering artificial i telligence (AI) value chains, the colossal energy footprint of Big Data, the dreadful hate churned out by algorithmic social media circuits, the near-impossible enormity of bridging inequities in digital cultural capital are now a part of public discourse. They are also at the center of policy preoccupations.

The 'liberalize or perish' dogma in digital trade experienced a setback from an unexpected quarter. In late 2023, the US dropped digital trade demands at the World Trade Organization (WTO). Big Tech lobbyists in the US had convinced the Trump administration in 2019 to slip into the North American Free Trade Agreement the laissez-faire idea of 'free cross-border data flows.' This would restrict governments, especially in the South, from intervening to protect citizens' privacy, market competition, and regulatory space, even preventing the necessary scrutiny of algorithms by courts. With mounting pressure from digital rights and trade justice activists, the US withdrew the proposal at the WTO.

Additionally, there have been critical gains for labor in the feisty battle with digital capitalism. For platform workers, the European Parliament's vote early this year in favor of new rules to improve their working conditions was an important victory.

Further, renewed multilateral attention to addressing the democratic deficit in glo al digital cooperation has led to an array of measures, including the recent Global Digital Compact.

Closer home, in India as well, we have seen some positive trends. State governments have come forward to recognize gig workers' entitlements; nine out of 10 lower-income Indian households, including in rural India, are now online; and the publicly provisioned Unifi d Payments Interface (UPI) system has created ripples everywhere.

However, technology cannot and does not transform the social opportunity structure on its own. The Digital India story is equally about gendered barriers to access and the lack of online safety for women and girls. Also, with little change in the lived realities of the marginalized, a focus on the basics of systemic change — a complete overhaul of economic and social policy vision — must lead the new techno-institutional order.

Globally and locally, the fig t for our common future hinges on the architecture of societies and economies in the emerging political economy of digitalization. Yes, there is broad consensus that Big Tech's shenanigans need reining in. But the devil is in the details, and a new digital reality needs much more than tweaking at the edges.

For organizations and movements who have engaged consistently with issues of institutional transformation and development justice, 2023-24 was a watershed moment as the digital agenda became integral to their imagination. Global justice now means working closely with digital justice issues whether at national levels on internet access and free speech; digitalization of welfare, agriculture, education, and health; AI-related harms, or with regional and multilateral fora on equitable, inclusive, and democratic digital societies.

The tragic consequences of the weaponization of digital technology — the terror of mindless intelligence deployed for war — have also galvanized people's movements the world over. Many are calling out Big Tech's nexus of violent greed with the imperial powers.

People's movements and organizations are keen to explore alternative imaginaries vigorously, and we are seeing confide t articulations of the tech we want from gig workers of the world, feminists doing tech design, indigenous people reclaiming their data, and climate justice activists protesting digital extractivism.

The groundswell for convergence towards action is here, and we as social change actors seem to be ready with a collective discernment about actors and motivations in neoliberal digitality. We know that big is not necessarily beautiful, and a people's tech, a public interest tech, calls for new institutions to be built for the people, by the people.

The path ahead is not without adversity — the contradictions of a market-fir t model, which simultaneously entrenches corporate power in the economy while legitimizing infini e possibilities for state censorship, are unfolding every day. The discourse of digital sovereignty is on the political agenda of the far right. Governments the world over are bandying about the language of platform accountability while writing laws that happily acquiesce to surveillance capitalism's societal plunder, aggrandizing the powers to censor people's voice. As Rachel Griffin argues, these developments are 'neo-illiberal.'

For the Global South the task is uphill. The political heat surrounding the recent banning of X in Brazil, and right-wing mobilization around agendas of free speech speak to a dangerous alliance of convenience between regressive political forces and the Big Tech lobby. What the turn of events in Brazil suggests is that the struggle to balance basic rights and combat the corporate takeover of society in a deeply polarized environment is tricky and tough. And one that Brazil is far from alone in grappling with.

The canvas is webbed and super complex — we can agree. But this is no moment for paralysis. At IT for Change, we have taken on the complexity, tackling it with quiet gumption — with readiness, resilience, and resolve.

This year, we initiated the mammoth work of cross movements-based advocacy through the Global Digital Justice Forum. We broached conversations boldly with the unconverted. We held briefing essions for officials om the EU and Dutch Ministries on digital innovation and data governance. We were called in as resource persons to orient diplomats in the Permanent Missions in New York on various themes of global digital cooperation and international governance. In these intensive exchanges with policymakers, our inputs came across as pertinent and provocative.

We collaborated with UN agencies on influential processes, shaping agendas, documents, and text, notably, the UN Global Digital Compact negotiations, UNCTAD's Data for Development Issue Paper, and UNESCO's Model Law on Platform Accountability. Government delegations from the South openly voiced their appreciation for our inputs stressing a decolonial data and AI governance paradigm.

We co-developed digital platform services grounded in feminist design principles for marginal women farmers and women workers in the informal urban economy across three states in India, in partnership with leading social enterprises in the country.

We worked with governments in India to concretely push for social justice in tech policies. Our Roots of Resilience conference, co-organized with the Platform Cooperativism Consortium and the Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council, was an important milestone: a civic-public partnership for sustainable and people-oriented tech models.

We embarked on a simple and elegant AI model for language teaching, that puts the teacher at the center of designing pedagogic responses relevant to learner contexts and needs. The model facilitates multilevel, multilingual, and multimodal approaches to language teaching, fostering inclusive education, even as mainstream AI has, tragically, worsened stratific tion in education. For us, our experiments are not only about decentralized language AI models with the potential to build foundational language abilities. They are equally about demonstrating 'public AI' pathways: AI that is publicly owned, with local and decentralized custody and control of device, code, and data.

We are proud to have assisted diverse movements and trade union federations, building their knowledge and tactical repertoire about vexatious questions on data and AI governance, while continuously learning about the frontier issues that escape the ivory towers of policy.

We found enormous hope and joy in our work on digital media with adolescent girls from marginalized urban and rural communities, who creatively owned up the tech to find their voice, forge peer solidarities, and assert their rights — to mobility, education, and self-determination.

We engaged closely with global networks, including the the OECD Watch, the T20, the Platform Cooperativism Consortium, the Coalition against Online Violence, and UN agencies, to shape and inform global guidelines for social media and platform governance.

And we are grateful that our work is having a huge impact in:

- mainstreaming the lexicon of digital equity and digital justice,
- emboldening people's movements to appropriate the ideas of data justice,
- shifting legal and policy frames towards accountability and liability of Big Tech,
- building shared visions of feminist digital transformation across the Global South, and
- setting agendas and challenging the powerful at policy tables.

But we could not have done it alone. We stand on the shoulders of stalwarts and strong partner organizations, from civil society, social movements, and trade unions, to academia, the technology community, and many more. We are also deeply thankful for the trust and confidence e enjoy from the donor community, government departments, UN agencies, and field artners.

For the coming year, our plans include stepping up our field-building, n tworking, and community practice to further digital justice.

We have two flagship research projects in the pipeline: our work track on Regenerative AI that focuses on contextually grounded analyses of the AI revolution from the perspective of equitable development and sustainable digital transitions for the Global South; and the State of Big Tech project that will continue to spotlight the violations of economic, social, and cultural rights of the marginalized in corporate-controlled global data value chains.

Tracking online gender-based violence remains a high priority. We propose to study the gaps in current social media accountability frameworks through a gender equality scorecard for platform companies.

Building on the momentum of the Global Digital Justice Forum, we will co-develop sector-specific p inciples of data justice in key domains, such as food, health, biodiversity, trade, and IP, in order to shape the emergent global policy conversation on data justice.

And we will continue to keep an eye on digital policy processes at the multilateral and regional level from a rights and development standpoint. The WSIS+20 Review and new mechanisms of global data and AI governance emerging from the Global Digital Compact, the ILO's proposed legal instrument on decent work in the platform economy, the Beijing+30 Review, the OCED's Global Partnership on AI, the G20 in South Africa, and more.

We recommit to our local communities of practice to shape alternative grammars of people-led digital innovation. Our 'Public AI' models for language learning, and our adolescent girl empowerment program will be available for wider implementation in public education systems. And our partnerships with local government institutions, social enterprises, and ethical technologists in India will continue to inspire new directions.

Dear friends, we are moving digital justice from the margin to the mainstream. We are cognizant that external relevance at best is a glass that is only half full. Our internal culture and values matter equally, and we know we must invest with care in institution building.

As we embrace these interesting times, we will need friends who help us stay true to our mission. As the Zen Master story goes, it is neither the journey nor the destination that is important, it is the company.

Our Impact

Crafting the lexicon of equity and justice in the digital policy discourse

Digital policy stands at a critical juncture as Big Tech's corporate dominance intensifies amid global crises and deepening social disparities. Through our work, we strive to shape agendas for digital policy discourse that serve the 99% by tackling historical inequalities, human rights abuses, ecological injustices, and the deterioration of pluralism in public discourse, focusing on perspectives from the Global South.

We believe it is essential to move beyond calls for corporate responsibility toward digital governance frameworks that center distributive justice and substantive equality. In the past year, we contributed to shaping a lexicon of social inclusion through discursive interventions that emphasized the state's duty to uphold the public right to participation and promoted a decolonial approach to data governance. We also advocated for public-led digital innovation and the recognition of technology as a public good, particularly in education.

A development agenda in the Global Digital Compact

Today, digital society is built on the failed principles of neoliberalism, which has undermined sustainable development, while benefiting Big ech. In this context, as the UN prepares for the adoption of the Global Digital Compact (GDC), seeking a fair and sustainable digital society, we actively participated in all of its consultations, contributing our insights to ensure that the final ext of the GDC reflects a post-neoliberal macroeconomic policy framework. In our advocacy, we urged the GDC to recognize states' rights to regulate cross-border data flows, ensure international public funding for digital infrastructure in the Global South, and establish global commitments to uphold labor and environmental rights.

Further, underscoring the need to safeguard rights, we engaged with an interim report released by the UN Secretary-General's artificial i telligence (AI) Advisory Body on governing AI for humanity. In our inputs, we recommended a rights-based approach towards AI governance, specifically one th t seeks to address historical and contextual injustices.

Stepping up our efforts to build a digital society that benefits the eople and the planet, we convened the Global Digital Justice Forum (GDJF), an international advocacy network that amplifies civil ociety voices from the margins. The GDJF has actively engaged in the consultation processes related to the Pact of the Future and the GDC, consistently advocating for a widely deliberated and inclusive process to evolve a binding human rights-based global digital constitutionalism that can serve the people and the planet. The work to deepen the impact of the GDJF is high on our priority list.

Emerging Southern voice in global digital cooperation

Throughout the year, we received appreciation and legitimacy from civil society and people-led movements in the Global South for our work, which is now being used widely by various actors for an alternative, people-led digitalization. We are being increasingly recognized as the 'go-to' organization by UN agencies and policymakers from different countries seeking forward-looking thinking on data and AI governance, and a pro-people perspective on the digital economy. This is further evidenced by our recent invitation from the Diplo Foundation and the UN Tech Envoy to lead training sessions for UN Permanent Mission representatives on the GDC and digital governance. We also conducted a similar training program for the Diplo Foundation.

Further, we made our presence felt at the UN Internet Governance Forum (IGF) 2023, where among other engagements, we critically examined the GDC's potential to address global governance gaps in digital cooperation. The event attracted the attention of the co-chairs of the GDC process, government representatives from Rwanda and Germany, as well as international organizations such as UNCTAD, UNESCO, and veterans from the IGF community.

A shift to democratic integrity in platform governance

This year we pushed the envelope of information integrity agendas in key forums, furthering our work on platform regulation. Platform capitalism has fundamentally transformed the conditions of public discourse. Reckoning with this reality, we developed insights and advocated for expanding the information integrity debate beyond platform responsibility. Our work addresses the structural obstacles to achieving communicative justice for all and fostering a vibrant and pluralistic public sphere.

One significa t outcome of these efforts has been our engagement with the United Nations Department of Global Communications. We submitted recommendations during a consultation initiated by the UN body, and we are pleased to share that several of our suggestions have been incorporated into the fir t-ever UN Guiding Principles for Information Integrity. These recommendations address transparency, conflict of interest in state requests to platforms, internet shutdowns imposed on the public, responsibility of states to support public interest media, and obligation of platforms to promote an environment that encourages diverse and pluralistic discourse.

We are actively working to inform the information integrity agenda of the G20 under the Brazilian presidency. As part of our involvement with the T20, the think tank engagement group for the G20, we served as co-chair of Sub-Track 5 within the Task Force on Inclusive Digital Transformation.

We submitted policy briefs on various topics, including the governance of computational resources, social media regulation, and the pitfalls of a techno-deterministic approach to digitization. Our inputs were incorporated into the final tatement developed by the Inclusive Digital Transformation Task Force, which helped shape the Think20 Brasil Communiqué for G20 leaders in 2024.

As the battles over platform governance intensify, our effort to defend the democratic public sphere will need to be as vigorous as well-researched.

The ABC of decolonial data governance

As part of our advocacy for decolonial principles of data governance that prioritize distributive justice and resource sovereignty, we provided inputs that informed sections of UNCTAD's Issue Paper on Data for Development. Our inputs addressed the neocolonial dynamics of the data economy, which exacerbate the Global South's dependency on Big Tech and the Global North. We examined critical issues such as unequal access to digital resources; infrastructure and misinformation challenges; the role of the data economy in the green transition; data ethics; inadequate legal frameworks, and the impact of social media on democracy. In our inputs, we emphasized the importance of a Global South perspective, advocating for frameworks that address the political, economic, and ecological implications of digitalization while prioritizing human rights and ecological considerations. Getting a foot in the door to shape UNCTAD's report was an important opportunity, one that comes at a time when international frameworks on the digital economy are gathering momentum. UNCTAD remains a critical space for our collaboration and advocacy.

Public digital innovation as core to the SDGs

The dominant innovation model driven by venture capital primarily serves the interests of Big Tech. Through our work, we argued for a fundamental rethink on digital innovation, advocating for a transition towards publicly accessible digital innovation ecosystems. To fully leverage science, technology, and innovation (STI) in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we need new public financing m thods and more flexible international Intellectual property (IP) rules. Relying only on public-private partnerships and market-driven tech transfers is not enough; we must focus on developing key digital infrastructures in developing countries to accelerate SDG progress.

As members of the UN 10-Member Group of High-Level Representatives supporting the UN Technology Facilitation Mechanism, we raised concerns about Big Tech in our contributions to a key report that informed the UN STI Forum in 2023. The report offers recommendations directed at the UN Secretary-General, member states, and stakeholders to enhance the role of science, technology, and innovation in sustainable development for current and future generations, including the creation of innovation capabilities in the South to use and develop AI. The ideology of public innovation needs to be mainstreamed with systematic effort in the coming years.

EdTech as a public good

In response to the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, Karnataka established the State Education Policy Commission (SEPC) to develop its education policy. Our contributions to six of the 11 task forces of the Commission underscored the importance of viewing technology as a public good, especially in the educational realm, that facilitates access and participation for all.

Public education is fundamental to establishing a just and equitable school system, and 'public EdTech' is equally critical for advancing educational equity and accessibility. Through our work, we advocated for free and open technologies in EdTech, including both software and content, while emphasizing the necessity for teachers and schools to retain ownership and agency over the digital tools and platforms they utilize.

Beyond state-level collaboration, our partnership with the University of Calicut allowed us to extend our reach nationally. We organized workshops for higher education faculty to deepen their critical understanding of the pitfalls associated with the platformization of education, a trend that exacerbates inequity and undermines autonomy within the education system. Over the past year, we engaged with more than 500 faculty members across India, highlighting the challenges posed by this trend and advocating for 'public EdTech' as a viable alternative.

In the era of large-scale privatization of education, the uphill task of centering public EdTech becomes a vital area of work.

Building the right to digital infrastructure — byte by byte

The Silicon Valley adage, ‘move fast and break things’ has influenced the mindset of those shaping our digital economy and society, where innovation often hinges on reckless experimentation and profit-d iven motives. This approach neglects the need for responsible and inclusive innovation pertinent to the majority. Through our efforts, we not only challenged the dominant paradigm but also advocated for alternative imaginings of the digital transition that prioritize democratic and accountable digital public infrastructures, built with a commons approach and grounded in public interest. We advanced this vision by fostering communities of practice through various means, including our landmark 'Roots of Resilience' conference on the platform cooperatives movement. We also undertook participatory action research, employing co-design approaches to develop bottom-up digital infrastructures with field artners, also collaborating actively with public education systems.

A democratic and accountable digital public infrastructure model

This year we expanded our initiatives on digital public infrastructures (DPI), placing a strong emphasis on gender equality and distributive justice. Our understanding of DPI draws from the United Nations Development Program's evolving definitio , which characterizes it as a network of open technology standards serving the public interest. In this context, we launched a new project with the University of Western Australia. The project connects ongoing debates in traditional sectors, like healthcare and agriculture, with the emerging challenges of digital transformation, emphasizing the importance of digital interventions as tools that can benefit eople.

In parallel, we published a paper titled, 'Gender by Design: Principles for Gender-responsive Public Digital Infrastructure'. The paper examines the National Rural Livelihoods Mission and outlines the principles for thinking 'gender by design' in both the development and implementation of DPIs, and offers a set of pathways toward maximizing gender justice outcomes in public service delivery.

At the national level, we worked with academics and civil society groups to co-author a T20 policy brief on DPI governance, grounded in participatory governance, democratic principles, rights, and strong legal frameworks. Our contribution significa tly influenced the G20 New Delhi Leaders' Declaration, which underscored the importance of "safe, secure, trusted, accountable, and inclusive digital public infrastructure." This marked a major step toward global recognition for a just vision of technological transformation.

Integrating commons and public infrastructure for greater impact

Our work on public infrastructures has been significa tly influenced by a meaningful engagement with the concept of the digital commons. One of the year's standout moments was our international conference, 'Roots of Resilience - Building Platform Cooperatives for Sustainable and Feminist Local Economies.' This exciting event was organized as part of our EU-funded project, 'Re-wiring India's Digitalising Economy for Women's Rights and Well-being,' and was held in collaboration with the Kerala Digital and Innovation Strategic Council (K-DISC) and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung.

The conference was a tremendous success bringing together over 150 diverse civil society organizations, academics, researchers, engineers, policymakers, and designers from across the world to explore alternative worker-led and cooperative-based digital innovation pathways.

In the lead-up to the conference, we hosted two pre-conference events, around the themes of 'The Digital Opportunity for Collective Futures' and 'Co-op Tech and the Digital Commons.'

These events helped shape critical discussions for the conference, focusing on the need to define digi al platform models that prioritize data commons, shared ownership, and democratic governance.

From the learnings of the conference emerged the Thiruvananthapuram Declaration on a New Innovation Ecosystem for Our Collective Digital Futures, a powerful manifesto for a new digital economy model. It outlines a fi e-point agenda aimed at achieving our shared goal of a just, inclusive, and equitable digital future. The Declaration's success paralleled that of the conference, as it was endorsed by 60+ institutions and individuals from across the world. The Declaration has been translated into 11 Indian and foreign languages and has been downloaded 400+ times from our website.

Further, we partnered with Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE) to co-organize Freedom Fest 2023, a four-day event celebrating free, open, and public software. As part of the event, we co-organized the 'Digital Education Enclave 2023,' which saw participation from 10 state-level education departments and pioneering EdTech programs. Raising awareness about these programs will be a key focus for us in the coming year.

The right digital infrastructure for inclusive education

Language learning serves as a crucial foundation for all learning. Effective language acquisition requires immersion in a language-rich environment that includes diverse resources, extending beyond traditional textbooks. However, such immersive opportunities are often limited in most schools. Additionally, conventional language instruction tends to prioritize reading and writing over listening and speaking, resulting in inadequate language skills among students. Consequently, many struggle with fundamental tasks, such as retelling a story.

To address these challenges, we initiated the Kathe Khajane Program in partnership with the Karnataka Department of State Educational Research and Training (DSERT).
The program aims to enhance language learning through digital-enabled storytelling. The program is groundbreaking as it focuses on audio-only stories emphasizing listening (and speaking).

The program was also successfully institutionalized within the state education system, through enabling government school teachers in audio production and storytelling. More than 200 high-quality audio stories were produced by teachers in Kannada, English, Urdu, and Marathi as a result of our workshops. The program marks a paradigm shift, moving teachers from being mere consumers of technology, to becoming creators.

The audio stories were created with Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) tools and published as Open Educational Resources (OER), ensuring broad access and reducing reliance on proprietary software. Upholding the 'public software for public systems' principle, the stories were also made available to teachers via an offline-ca able FOSS podcast app.

Teacher Testimonial

"Today, the education system is transitioning from blackboards to audio-visual technologies. As children are increasingly accustomed to technology, it's crucial for teachers to stay updated. This program has been highly beneficial in that regard." - Arun Kumar, Assistant Teacher, Belagavi.

Tune in here to watch what other teachers had to say about the program.

For the people, of the people: Bottom-up digital infrastructure

In furthering our commitment to empowering women in the digital economy, we collaborated with our field artners — SEWA, Vrutti, and LabourNet — to conduct participatory action research focused on developing alternative platform models. We envision these models as co-designed with the constituencies our partners serve, firmly ooted in the socio-economic, digital, and political contexts in which they operate. Throughout the year, we undertook multiple rounds of field ork at each of our partner sites in Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka.

With SEWA, we developed a techno-institutional blueprint for a sustainable, federated data cooperative, focused on women farmers' rights and interests. We applied this model to analyze SEWA's digitalization efforts in Kheda and Tapi districts in Gujarat, exploring the challenges and potential of platforms addressing the diverse realities of farmer cooperatives. This evolving understanding has inspired SEWA to pursue new digital initiatives tailored to its members' specific n eds and skills.

With Vrutti, we spent fi e months conducting ethnographic research to develop a framework for sustainable livelihoods in Pudukkottai, Tamil Nadu. This led to a two-day workshop where stakeholders — including frontline workers, designers, software engineers, and implementation teams — collaborated to refine Vru ti's digital system and create a fair, financially su tainable path for its farmer-producer companies.

At LabourNet's Bengaluru sites, we conducted the fir t round of a longitudinal survey to understand women's aspirations in the beauty sector and inform our analysis of a fair gig work ecosystem. Our baseline study drew out crucial insights into women's enthusiasm for using digital apps for work, their struggles with balancing paid and domestic responsibilities, and their concerns about personal data and work conditions. We also continued collaborating with LabourNet to develop an inclusive digital gig ecosystem, including regular consultations to refine their digi al app.

Nurturing a feminist digital praxis

There is an urgent need to recenter feminist principles of equity, inclusivity, and social justice as we forge a path toward a fair, democratic, and transparent digital society. Throughout the year our efforts focused on embedding these principles within digital and legal frameworks to address gender unfreedoms and systemic inequities. We engaged with key global debates to shape policies addressing online gender unfreedoms and advancing critical feminist perspectives on the digital economy.

Zero tolerance to gender unfreedoms online

This year we stepped up our efforts to address gender inequities online, particularly focusing on tackling the persistent challenges faced by women and gender minorities in digital spaces. Our engagement with the UN Human Rights B-Tech project was a critical part of this work, as we advocated for technology companies to adopt gender-responsive due diligence practices. Grounded in the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, we emphasized the need for businesses to address the specific isks that digital technologies pose to gender equity and freedom.

We also built a vital line of engagement with the Coalition Against Online Violence. Together with global partners, we created a working group on platform regulation and accountability and pushed for more effective solutions to reduce online abuse, which disproportionately targets women and gender minorities.

In another significa t effort, we shared our inputs with the Office of the UN Hig Commissioner for Human Rights on online hate speech. We highlighted the compounded impact of online hate speech on women and gender minorities, advocating for more accountable and inclusive digital frameworks to protect those most vulnerable. We are happy to share that our inputs provided valuable insights for the UN Special Rapporteur's report on contemporary forms of racism, with a specific ocus on online hate speech, for the 78th session of the UN General Assembly. We remain deeply committed to carrying this work forward.

Survivor-centered approaches in the courtroom

In November 2023, we hosted one of our key events of the year in New Delhi, where we released our research report and a judicial resource guide addressing online gender-based violence (OGBV). Judicial attitudes toward OGBV are a key measure of access to justice for survivors and indicate whether those navigating complex legal procedures feel respected and heard.

Our research report offers a detailed analysis of how OGBV cases are treated in Indian courts, highlighting gaps and recommending improvements. It underscores the necessity for courts to acknowledge the severity of OGBV, enhance victim privacy protections, and hold online platforms accountable for their role in such incidents. The report's findings arnered extensive coverage by national news agencies, effectively igniting discussions on essential legal reforms and establishing a solid foundation for future advocacy and policy change.

Meanwhile, our judicial resource guide equips judges and lawyers with crucial frameworks for implementing gender-sensitive practices in legal proceedings. By providing in-depth case studies, legal typologies, and rights-based solutions, it aims to move the judicial system towards more survivor-focused approaches, enhancing the legal community's ability to handle such cases effectively.

Our report and resource guide were very well-received by judges and the legal community at large. We are also collaborating with the Delhi Judicial Academy to share our learnings from our study, marking a significa t step forward in addressing OGBV through enhanced judicial understanding and practice.

Feminist visions of AI

As frontier technology evolves rapidly, throwing up significa t ethical concerns, we firmly advocated for integrating feminist and human rights principles into AI governance frameworks. This approach is crucial for ensuring that the benefits of AI a e distributed inclusively and equitably. We got a chance to highlight this perspective at Decidim Fest 2023 in Spain, where we engaged in a panel examining AI and data governance through feminist and decolonial lenses, spotlighting the advocacy of feminist organizations from the Global South working with impacted communities.

Building on this, we contributed to a High-Level Symposium to provide our inputs on a UNESCO report on 'Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial I telligence.' This is the fir t global normative instrument to lay the ethical foundations for AI systems, and in our contribution, we highlighted the need for a feminist and human rights approach to AI governance.

Additionally, continuing our engagement with UNESCO to collaborate on AI policymaking, we took part in various international panel discussions to explore how NGOs can aid in the collaborative implementation of AI ethics and governance. In these discussions, we also addressed gaps in mainstream AI ethics discourse and advocated for moving beyond rhetoric and techno-solutionism to tackle the socioeconomic inequalities exacerbated by AI. The societal-scale assimilation of AI will need vigilance and continuous inquiry for us to stay ahead of the curve on AI policymaking.

School of Feminist Digital Justice

For the September 2023 edition of the School of Feminist Digital Justice, we collaborated with our close ally, DAWN, as part of their School of Feminist Economics to analyze the current global expansion of extractivist capitalism, data-driven economies, and the rise of digital platforms. This edition of the School featured a combination of in-person classes, synchronous discussions via Zoom, email exchanges, and pre-recorded sessions.

Established in 2018, the School of Feminist Economics serves as a dedicated training space that investigates how economic dynamics and digital mechanisms perpetuate inequalities. The School aims to cultivate critical reflections on issues such as global financial capi alism, corporate capture, digital economics, public policy financing, the futu e of work, and experiences of resistance, all from a feminist economics perspective.

Feminist futures: Empowering girls, the Kishori Club way

This year, as part of our *Hosa Hejje Hosa Dishe* (H2HD) project, we expanded our Kishori Club program to 150 schools across two districts in Karnataka. Kishori Clubs, led by female teachers in government schools, are designed to be safe spaces for adolescent girls. The curriculum, shaped by a feminist perspective, promotes self-determination and agency among the clubs' participants. Covering topics like gender, patriarchy, health, body image, Protection Of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO), and cyber safety, the modules equip girls with essential skills to navigate adolescence. Teachers in these 150 schools are key contributors, shaping the program through co-creation workshops. Their insights and discussions enrich the curriculum, fostering mutual accountability toward adolescent empowerment.

We tracked the impact of the Kishori Clubs over the year by analyzing teachers' reports and audio recordings of the girls' feedback. The findings of our endline tudy (forthcoming) are encouraging as they reveal the girls' evolving perspectives on the issues that were addressed.

Further, our *Nan Voice Nan Choice* (my voice, my choice) podcast showcases the girls' bold and candid voices, addressing questions that range from the everyday, like "Can I eat eggs while menstruating?" to more complex ones, such as "Why does patriarchy still exist in society?" Their fearless opinions on these issues shine throughout our podcast episodes.

Forging coalitions, sustaining communities

In an era where local issues are intricately connected to global digital realities, fostering connections between grassroots efforts and worldwide movements is essential. Addressing complex challenges such as digital justice, workers' rights, and gender equality demands a cohesive strategy that integrates initiatives across various levels of engagement. As the Secretariat for the Global Digital Justice Forum, we amplifi d marginalized voices, actively shaping agendas for equitable digital futures. Through strategic collaborations and policy interventions, we advocated for progressive workers' rights, influencing regulations in India and contributing to international dialogues on the digital economy. Concurrently, we strengthened grassroots partnerships through initiatives like Kishori Adda and Kishori Media Champions, providing a feminist counter-narrative in the digital space for adolescent girls and cultivating a vibrant community that addresses cyber safety and gender stereotypes.

A global coalition on digital justice

We are pleased to report significa t progress in the Global Digital Justice Forum, for which we serve as the Secretariat. Since its inception, the Forum has expanded its membership and played a crucial role in advancing a people- and planet-centered digital justice agenda on the global stage. It has become a vital platform for unifying progressive civil society efforts and strengthening civil society participation in global digital governance.

The Forum emerged from a civil society strategy meeting that IT for Change, along with Association for Progressive Communications (APC) and the Third World Network (TWN), convened in Penang, Malaysia, in March 2024. This gathering brought together diverse stakeholders committed to tackling the pressing challenges of the digital landscape, and the Forum was envisioned as a space for coordinated, multi-scalar actions to advance digital justice for the Global South, with a focus on key processes such as the 2024 Summit of the Future, the GDC, and the WSIS+20 Review.

Since its formation, the Forum has actively engaged in discussions on the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) commitments and has addressed emerging challenges in the digital economy, such as corporate consolidation, precarious labor, and the growing digital infrastructure divide. Through ongoing dialogue and strategic contributions, the Forum has influenced key global policy processes, including the Joint Questionnaire for the CSTD's 20-Year Review of WSIS Implementation and the structural elements of the GDC. These interventions have raised awareness on critical issues like digital monopolies, online violence, and the unsustainability of current digital models while advocating for inclusive, forward-looking priorities.

Solidarity with platform workers

We are pleased to share that our efforts to advance workers' rights through strategic collaborations and influential interventions have reaped rich rewards both at national and international levels.

We collaborated with the National Law University of India to organize a roundtable on 'Ensuring Algorithmic Accountability in the Platform Workplace.' The roundtable gathered scholars, trade union representatives, lawyers, and civil society organizations from India and abroad to develop an effective legal framework for protecting workers' rights under algorithmic management on digital labor platforms. Importantly, it provided us with an opportunity to influence sub-national governments, including the government of Karnataka, working on state-specific egulations to protect workers in the food delivery and ride-hailing sectors.

To delve into understanding workers' data rights better, we co-organized a successful one-day dialogue in Brussels this year, with Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, titled 'Worker Data Rights in the Digital Economy.' The event witnessed the participation of around 30 experts from the EU policy community, trade unions, civil society, and digital rights researchers. We plan to leverage the insights gained from the event to share perspectives with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and build alliances with trade unions to advance workers' rights worldwide.

We also engaged with representatives from the Government of the Netherlands in The Hague to discuss the concept of 'Right Digitalization.' Officials om the departments of Trade, Supply Chains, and others requested a session on data governance, highlighting the growing recognition of our expertise in this area.

We have been strategically shaping digital policies across India through impactful interventions. For instance, we contributed to the public consultation on the Rajasthan Platform-Based Gig Workers Bill, which has since become law. Our submission emphasized the importance of prioritizing workers' rights, advocating for universal social security and access to transaction data to enable meaningful worker-platform engagement.

Kishori media champions: Girls lead the way

In rural India, women and girls face marginalization not only in the socio-political sphere but also in the digital realm. Prakriye, our field ce ter in Mysuru, has developed innovative techno-social strategies to address this digital divide. This year, we launched the Kishori Media Champions program, piloting it in two villages.

The program equips adolescent girls (*Kishoris*) with media and digital skills while raising awareness on key issues like gender, patriarchy, health, nutrition, rights, and future aspirations. We engaged with *Kishoris* from Doddahejjuru and Kalihundy villages, creating safe spaces for discussion. Recognizing that mobility is often restricted by societal norms and caste lines, we designed assignments that encouraged the girls to explore their villages, interact with community leaders, and document their experiences through photography. Our *Namma Maathu* forums of women's collectives were instrumental to the program's success. The support and the trust we have built with these communities over time were crucial to the program's implementation.

The projects undertaken by the girls exemplify their agency and initiative. A group from Doddahejjuru created a film add essing the issue of child marriage, conducting interviews with a teacher to shed light on its risks, while another group documented the history of their village school. In Kalihundy, the girls utilized the Kishori Media Champions platform to capture the essence of a local festival and advocate for improved bus services.

The Kishori Media Champions program has effectively mobilized adolescent girls, bringing them together for training and equipping them with skills to advocate for their education. The girls have found a powerful voice to share their own stories.

Building an online community for adolescent girls: Kishori Adda

The online world offers adolescent girls new freedoms, from accessing information to connecting with friends by creating, 'liking,' and sharing content. However, it also reinforces negative body image issues. Kishori Adda, our Instagram handle, was designed as a digital hangout for adolescent girls, to leverage the excitement of social media and create a counter-narrative to commonly found social media negativity.

Building Kishori Adda as a vibrant digital community was challenging, as social media favors popular content regardless of its nature. Through experimentation, we developed a strategy that challenges stereotypes while using engaging tools like viral trends, popular music, bold colors, polls, quizzes, and campaigns; allowing us to stay true to feminist principles while creating content that engages our young audience.

Our content resonates with adolescent girls, addressing topics such as cyber safety, technology, gender stereotypes, health, nutrition, feminist history, and career aspirations. We are pleased to share that Kishori Adda now has 470+ followers, has launched campaigns on equality and patriarchy, and has garnered over 149,000 impressions in the past year.

Thematic Highlights

The Future of Work and Workers' Rights

The rapid growth of the gig economy in the post-pandemic period has intensifi d worker exploitation and precarity across the globe, particularly in the Global South. Data exploitation and algorithmic work management practices have opened up new quandaries for the realization of decent work. This year, we sharpened our understanding of these transformations in the world of work and advocated for data rights and algorithmic accountability for workers — taking into account the economy-wide proliferation of platform workplaces.

Key Milestones

- **Contributing to platform work regulation at the sub-national level:** We were closely involved in shaping key legislative initiatives related to platform-based work. We provided inputs on the 'Rajasthan Platform Based Gig Workers (Registration and Welfare) Bill, 2023,' and submitted a memorandum to the Karnataka government on the state's role in providing platform infrastructure for the ride-hailing sector.

- **Building evidence on India's platform work arrangements:** To highlight the role of law and jurisprudence in regulating the platformized workplace, we produced a report, in collaboration with the National Law School of India University (NLSIU), examining algorithmic management practices in India's burgeoning platform economy, their impact on labor relations, and the scope for legislative interventions. We also organized an expert roundtable in collaboration with NLSIU on 'Ensuring Algorithmic Accountability in the Platform Workplace' to refine the insig ts from this report.

- **Evolving global networks on worker data rights:** To address critical issues in the evolving digital workplace, we facilitated key discussions with trade unions, labor policy experts, and digital rights activists from across the globe. We hosted a workshop in Brussels, in collaboration with Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, on 'Worker Data Rights in the Digital Economy.'

What's on the Horizon?

- Initiating a new research report, building on our collaboration with NLSIU, that will explore the various forms of algorithmic management across different platform work sectors in India in greater detail.

- Conducting mutual capacity-building initiatives with trade union federations on strategic engagement with the International Labour Organization's (ILO) forthcoming legal instrument on decent work in the platform economy, to effectively advance the data rights agenda.

Recommendations from the Vault

- Check out this article, 'The Digital Economy Is Broken—But It's Not Too Late,' published in the Stanford Social Innovation Review on building a digital economy that works for everyone.

- Read our report, 'Centring Rights in the Platform Workplace,' which draws on worker interviews and a review of legislation and case law to explore how rights are infringed in platformized workplaces, while outlining key avenues for advocacy.

Dismantling Big Tech

Throughout the year, we continued to challenge Big Tech's extractive and exploitative business models that threaten to dominate our digital futures. Our efforts underscored the urgent need for governance mechanisms that address Big Tech's accountability gaps in data value chains, counter the concentration of power in digital markets, and advance alternative roadmaps for building decolonial digital economies in the Global South.

Key Milestones

- **Framing Big Tech accountability for tech crimes:** We sought opportunities to further the conversation on online safety to include accountability mechanisms for Big Tech. We attended the Tech Crimes Summit in Australia, exploring how the idea of 'tech crimes' can help us effectively pin down accountability on corporations for their gross misconduct that endangers the rights of people, communities, and ecology.

- **Field building through multi-site research on data value chains:** As part of our expanded focus on the complexities of data value chains, we launched the 'Unskewing the Data Value Chain' project. Utilizing diverse frameworks — including theoretical, legal, and political economy — the project aims to explore how data value chains can be restructured to foster a fairer and more equitable economy. We also highlighted the crucial role of equitable data governance mechanisms that can enable data to be leveraged for development imperatives. In this input to the UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), we advocated for a commons and human rights-centric approach towards data governance that can support the development of decentralized digital economies in the Global South that promote innovation for social good.

- **Contributing to the discourse on state and corporate accountability:** Through ongoing consultations with national and international organizations, we contributed to discussions on holding states and corporations accountable for their actions in the digital arena. In our engagement with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Watch, we highlighted the shortcomings of the updated 2023 'OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises,' pointing out its neglect in factoring data's financial alue, invisible violations in downstream value chains, and missed opportunities to connect technology's impacts with labor, competition, and taxation issues.

What's on the Horizon?

Continuing our collaborative and collective advocacy work on Big Tech accountability and alternative digital economies through participation in global networks such as Break Open Big Tech and Digital Merger Watch. Organizing a residential institute, 'Frames and Frontiers Institute 2025,' to build digital justice champions across the Global South.

Recommendations from the Vault

- Check out this DataSyn issue that carries two critical pieces analyzing the infrastructural investments of Big Tech in Africa and the wave of antitrust litigation against tech giants.

- Explore this paper, 'The Histories, Practices and Policies of Community Data Governance in the Global South,' which highlights collective rights within a community-based model of data governance.

The Political Economy of Data and AI

Building a just and equitable AI paradigm requires a radical restructuring of the global systems governing knowledge, innovation, and development. This year, we focused on challenging Big Tech's knowledge monopolies and continued our efforts to reshape the global political economy of data and AI to advance our vision of structural justice and global equality.

Key Milestones

- **Centering the political economy critique in mainstream AI governance discourse:** To explore new institutional arrangements to advance AI as a catalyst for generative and accountable economies and societies, we hosted an international roundtable in Amsterdam on 'Reframing AI Governance through a Political Economy Lens'. The roundtable brought together researchers and practitioners invested in critical theoretical analysis of the AI paradigm. Drawing on insights from this roundtable, we responded to a call for papers on 'Global AI Governance' by the UN Tech Envoy's offic

- **Furthering gender equality and diversity in the AI lifecycle:** We actively engaged in global efforts to promote responsible AI practices. We contributed to a project undertaken by the Global Partnership on Artificial I telligence (GPAI) working group on Responsible AI, where we provided actionable recommendations for OECD member states to incorporate substantive equality approaches throughout the AI lifecycle, grounded in gender equality and meaningful diversity.

- **Advocating against knowledge monopolies:** We engaged in global biodiversity policy discussions, particularly in relation to the Convention on Biological Diversity

(CBD), on the new threats of biopiracy posed by AI innovations in synthetic biology. We highlighted the need to uphold sovereign rights to benefit-sha ing under the Nagoya Protocol of the CBD, in global open-access databases of digital sequence information, which are treated as 'free-for-all' resources by Big Agri and Big Pharma.

- **Building capacities with research organizations:** We engaged in a training workshop on 'Gender and Digitality' with the Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST), Delhi. The workshop provided an overview of common terms used in the data and AI economy. It shed light on various issues at the intersection of gender and digitality, ranging from human rights in the digital epoch to the changing role of the state in the digital age. During the workshop, participants were also introduced to our Declaration on Feminist Digital Justice.

What's on the Horizon?

- Introducing AI concerns into critical development policy through the Regenerative AI Network Initiative, with a focus on three specific dimensions: su tainable infrastructures, regulation and standards, and a worker and planet-centric AI transition.

- Developing a resource toolkit to inform policy debates that will include an atlas with annotated visualizations of AI harms across the Global South and a community model for risk assessment that features DIY social audits.

- Publishing a compendium, 'Spaces and Places of AI,' exploring the material foundations of the AI economy and analyzing the value chain to identify opportunities for disrupting entrenched power asymmetries.

- Launching a report under the GPAI project that will include recommendations for a transformative AI policy, along with actionable steps to integrate diversity and substantive gender equality considerations into AI systems.

Recommendations from the Vault

- Check out our paper on 'Reframing AI Governance through a Political Economy Lens' that we submitted to the UN Tech Envoy's office or the fir t meeting of the Multistakeholder Advisory Body on AI.

- Read our comprehensive input discussing issues of the neocolonial dynamics of data economy, data ethics, and legal frameworks that fed into UNCTAD's Issue Paper on Data for Development.

Digital Public Infrastructures

The development of digital public infrastructures (DPIs) offers a vital opportunity to enhance welfare delivery and promote inclusive citizenship while fostering public digital innovation, e-commerce, and financial ervices in emerging digital economies. As policymakers worldwide explore diverse models for building and governing these infrastructures with multistakeholder participation, we undertook an in-depth exploration of DPIs in India to gather insights on their effective governance.

Key Milestones

- **Assessing India's DPI strategies in healthcare:** Our critical evaluation of India's approach to digitalization included an analysis of historical trends in India's digital journey, the role of private players, and the shifting role of the state. We studied this digital transformation through the lens of an ethical framework in an attempt to analyze trade-offs made y the state.

- **Advocating against the commodification of essential services:** Our advocacy with the T20 engagement group of Brazil G20, 2024, discussed the implications of platformized welfare service delivery. We highlighted the increasing commodific tion of healthcare services, the shrinking space for civic action, and the dilution of rights. We also advocated for a community approach to data governance, paving the way for equitable distribution of the benefits accruing f om data.

- **Contributing to the discourse on public-oriented data governance:** A burgeoning health data market requires trustworthy and ethical data governance mechanisms at the global stage. We participated in a panel discussion that explored the role of the World Health Organization in safeguarding individual and collective data rights, particularly in the Global South.

What's on the Horizon?

- Conducting an event on 'Inclusive Innovation and Digital Economies' to discuss the concerns around the design and deployment of DPIs in the Global South.

- Carrying out various case studies in India on DPIs in healthcare, agriculture, and urban mobility.

Recommendations from the Vault

Check out this policy brief analyzing the pitfalls of platformization of public health services and the subsequent commodific tion of healthcare.

Public Sphere and Content Governance

In a communicative sphere increasingly dominated by private digital platforms, our research and advocacy efforts have focused on intersectional feminist approaches to content governance and information integrity. This year, we made significa t progress through a range of strategic engagements.

Key Milestones

- **Engaging with UNESCO's Model Law on Platform Accountability:** A major facet of our research focused on safeguarding freedom of expression and access to information online. We engaged with UNESCO, providing detailed feedback on Draft 2.0 of its 'Guidelines for Regulating Digital Platforms,' calling for stronger application of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, particularly for platform accountability in the Global South.

- **Impacting national platform accountability legislation:** We reached a significa t milestone in our work on platform accountability this year with the release of our research report and judicial resource guide on online gender-based violence (OGBV). The report sparked nationwide discussions on legal reforms, analyzing how Indian courts handle OGBV cases and offering actionable recommendations. Key areas of focus include recognizing the seriousness of OGBV, protecting victims' privacy, and enforcing stronger accountability measures for online platforms. This work has laid a foundation for future advocacy.

- **Promoting intersectional development research:** We contributed to an analysis of intersectional approaches in development research for a project undertaken by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). While the project did not focus on the findings of our Twitter study, it highlighted the methodology we employed. Specifically, e emphasized our sampling strategies, which considered factors such as caste, religion, education, and other parameters to understand gender locations through an intersectional lens.

- **Broadening the discourse on freedom of speech:** We presented a paper in a workshop organized by the European Society of International Law (ESIL), delving into the evolving role of social media platforms as speech regulators. The paper critically examines the privatization of public values — such as fairness — without public institutional oversight, particularly in different socio-political and cultural contexts.

What's on the Horizon?

- Thinking about information integrity from a techno-political standpoint through a project focusing on developing a bottom-up vision of what it means to create a democratic digital communication space.

- Continuing our involvement with international forums on global regulatory discussions, such as the Information for Trust Knowledge Community and the Forum on Information and Democracy.

Recommendations from the Vault

- Explore this case study, 'Intersectional Frames in Digitalisation Research: Revisiting a Study by IT for Change About Misogynistic Trolling Online' for a reflexive analysis of our previous study on misogynistic trolling online.

- Check out our submission to the Forum on Information and Democracy's AI Working Group on, 'AI and its Implications on the Information and Communication Space.'

- Read this book chapter, 'Justice in the Post-public Sphere: The New Challenge for Global Communication Governance,' which examines how the economy of algorithmic surveillance has overshadowed social interaction in the age of digital capitalism, and proposes a new roadmap for communicative constitutionalism.

Prakriye Field Center for Community Informatics and Development

Through our Mysuru-based field ce ter, Prakriye, we implement innovative techno-social strategies to address the gender digital divide impacting rural women and girls. This year, we worked in 60 villages, focusing on digital media literacy, enhancing community learning spaces, and fostering women's participation and leadership in local governance.

Key Milestones

- **Strengthening our grassroots knowledge ecosystem:** Our network of seven women-owned information centers, known as *Namma Mahiti Kendras*, spans 60 villages across two blocks in Mysuru district. We reached over 15,000 people, providing vital information that helped individuals access welfare schemes like pensions, subsidies, scholarships, jobs, housing, and cattle sheds. The *Sakhis* (infomediaries) who run the centers, along with women's collectives, organized eight public meetings for grievance redressal with government officials, enefiting ver 240 women.

- **Collectivizing women through the *Namma Maathu* Forums:** We brought together 850 women from 24 villages for our *Namma Maathu* Forums, facilitating discussions on gender issues and women's rights. These Forums provided a platform for women to find their oice, help assert their identity within their families, and negotiate for greater freedoms and autonomy. As a result of our efforts, many women accessed their local Panchayat for the fir t time to claim services. Further, women from one of the villages negotiated with their families to take a holiday, and traveled to Mysusru city for a day!

- **Addressing gender-based violence:** We trained 31 Anganwadi workers in gender-sensitive counseling methods to assist survivors of gender-based violence.

- **Enhancing community outreach through audio-visual resources:** We reached over 2,800 rural women, men, and adolescents through our community film creenings and Interactive Voice Response (IVR) messages. The screenings proved vital in promoting gender-sensitive values and sparking discussions on critical topics like girls' education and women's leadership.

What's on the horizon?

- Conducting a strategic review to reflect on our journey and realign our priorities, focusing on strengthening intergenerational support systems.

- Building solidarity among women and adolescent girls by enhancing our *Namma Maathu* Forums of women's collectives.

- Strengthening the management committee of the *Namma Mahiti Kendras* and transforming these centers to also double up as *Kishori* hubs. We will also launch DreamDesks: a new initiative to support *Kishoris* (adolescent girls).

- Expanding our media literacy and life skills training to include a comprehensive suite of resources and activities to support adolescent girls' academic pursuits and career aspirations.

Impact at a Glance

- **110+** Screenings held in operational villages
- **1,700+** Women, men, adolescent boys, and girls reached through screenings
- **15,000+** Individuals benefi ed from *Namma Mahithi Kendras*
- **1,500+** Welfare claims processed through *Namma Mahithi Kendras*
- **110+** Men participated in awareness sessions on gender issues and women's rights
- **1,100+** Subscribers reached through IVR messages on public services and entitlements
- **170+** Audio messages produced on important themes
- **25+** Kishori Media Champions mentored

Education and Technology

This year, our work with schools continued to emphasize the potential of public educational technologies to strengthen the public school system. We engaged with various stakeholders — including students, teachers, and government officials — a oss several key areas: building teacher capacity, field-l vel engagement, conducting action research, developing Open Educational Resources (OERs), and contributing to educational discourse.

Key Milestones

- **Promoting tech integration by empowering educators:** We transitioned from a facilitator-led approach to a teacher-centric model in our 'Technology Integration for Equitable Education' (TIEE) program. This has led to teachers incorporating our OERs into their syllabi. Further, we expanded the project's scope in Bengaluru South 3 block, by offering subject-focused Teacher Professional Development (TPD) workshops, digital literacy training for headmasters and Cluster Resource Persons, and hands-on support to school staff o activate underutilized technology in schools.

- **Empowering government school Urdu teachers through FOSS and OERs:** In collaboration with Bengaluru North District Institute for Education and Training (DIET), we conducted workshops on creating OERs in Urdu for government school teachers. Approximately 75 teachers participated, learning to type in Urdu and translate stories into the language. Notably, over 25 teachers brought their personal laptops to have the Ubuntu Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) custom distribution installed. This workshop was a milestone for us, as it involved working with a cohort of teachers from an often underserved minority community.

- **Partnering with Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE):** We forged a successful collaboration with KITE, undertaking unique and innovative initiatives together. We conducted studies on two of KITE's pioneering programs — E-Language Lab and Little KITEs — that demonstrate effective technology integration in education at a systemic level.

- **Upscaling avenues for adolescent girls' empowerment:** Beginning with a pilot in three government schools in Bengaluru, we scaled up the Kishori Club program to 146 residential and non-residential government schools in Mysuru and Kalaburagi districts. On the digital front, we designed an open online course, 'Career Guidance Course for Adolescent Girl Empowerment,' and a video series on cyber safety, 'Girls Adda.'

What's on the horizon

- Conducting techno-pedagogy workshops to help teachers comprehend and experience digital story-based pedagogy.

- Piloting an audio story-based program in Anganwadi centers in Jharkhand.

- Expanding the TIIE project, specifically argeting two rural and socio-economically disadvantaged blocks in Mysuru district.

- Collaborating with English teachers in Urdu-medium schools in Bengaluru North district as part of our project, 'Studying the Scaling of TPD for English Language Learning.'

- Implementing an AI-driven, smartphone-based FOSS for assisting English language teachers in assessing students' listening and speaking skills.

- Expanding Kishori Clubs to two more districts this year, with the aim of eventually covering all districts across the state of Karnataka.

Recommendations from the Vault

- Read UNICEF's report, 'Empowering Adolescents with Future-Ready Skills Study on the Little KITEs Programme,' based on a study we conducted on Kerala's Little KITEs program.

- Explore our study exploring the use of Open Educational Practices at Open Universities.

Impact at a Glance

- **6,000+** Adolescent girls reached
- **2,900+** Teacher capacities built
- **1,000+** Open Educational Resources created
- **145+** Schools partnered with to establish Kishori Clubs
- **45+** Workshops organized
- **20+** Academic institutional collaborations fostered
- **8** Courses conducted
- **7** States covered

Feminist Perspectives on the Digital Economy

While the digital economy is widely hailed as a transforming force in the labor participation of informal economy workers, its actual form and practices are chequered. This year offered us the opportunity to expand the scope of our contributions to emerging debates and practices on alternative digital imaginations and futures for workers in the current context of a techno-capitalist marketplace. We adopted feminist perspectives to unpack gendered participation in the gig economy, particularly focusing on women's exclusion from digital marketplaces, as well as the role they play in undergirding men's participation in gig work.

Key Milestones

Research on women MSMEs in the Global South: We continued our research on understanding the implications of digitalization of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) on women, by making connections between MSME digitalization, the political economy of the digital marketplace and global value chains. Our investigation reveals how Big Tech's control over digital infrastructure traps MSMEs in a cycle of dependence, creates persistent barriers to their digital inclusion, and reinforces existing social power structures within the digital economy.

Strengthening feminist perspectives on labor: We worked to promote feminist approaches to labor issues in the digital economy. We participated in an ILO stakeholder consultation workshop on 'Understanding and Improving Women's Work on Digital Labor Platforms,' and in the 2023 UN Trade Forum to examine e-commerce from a gender and development perspective. We also participated in the 64th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Labour Economics, with a presentation titled 'Beyond the Gig: Reimagining Economies for Feminist Possibilities.'

Contributing to feminist scholarship: We presented a paper titled, 'The Unbearable Lightness of Being a Gig Worker' at an international conference in Amsterdam. The paper analyzes India's burgeoning on-demand platform economy through the prism of feminist social reproduction theory.

What's on the Horizon?

- Publishing the final cou try reports and synthesis report from our research on the digitalization of MSMEs and its impact on women's economic participation.
- Releasing our report on algorithmic management of workers in the platform economy, along with our proposal for horizontal regulation of algorithms across all workplaces, in collaboration with the Center for Labour Studies at NLSIU.
- Furthering our engagement in the Beijing+30 Consultation Process, focusing on economic justice, social protection, decent work, and gender equality.

- Launching the second edition of the National Gender Fellowships on Gender and the Digital Economy to support early-career women researchers across India in conducting original research on digital inclusion.

- Initiating a series of international think pieces to promote cutting-edge scholarship on feminist perspectives related to digital inclusion and infrastructure.

Recommendations from the Vault

- Explore our compendium, 'Gender Perspectives on the Digital Economy,' developed from the contributions of fellows from the inaugural edition of the National Gender Fellowship.

- Read this essay, 'Fixing Platform Power,' that explores the impact of digital technologies on women workers in India.

Digitalization in Agriculture

This year, our work on digital infrastructures was shaped by a productive engagement with the concept of the digital commons and alternative platform models in agriculture. We collaborated with scholars, cooperative members, tech designers, practitioners, and policymakers to envision an alternative digital future for agricultural digitalization. This initiative focused on agenda setting and blueprint design, with the principle of cooperativism at its core.

Key Milestones

- **Broadening the discourse on alternative platform models:** In the run-up to the Roots of Resilience conference, we co-hosted a roundtable to bring together diverse stakeholders, including traditional cooperatives, start-ups, youth cooperatives, women's collectives, progressive tech community members, and officials om the Kerala government to build an active community around and foster future-looking discussions on alternative platform models. The roundtable helped define th contours of digital platform models that privilege data commons, shared ownership, and democratic governance.

- **Building out the field through research:** We are developing a theoretical blueprint for a federated data cooperative model for SEWA's farmer collectives. Building on this effort, we co-authored a paper with SEWA titled, 'Re-imagining the Platform Firm: Lessons and Design Blueprints from SEWA's Data Cooperative Experiment,' which was presented at the 8th ILO Conference on Regulating Decent Work in Geneva.

- **Expanding our engagement in agricultural innovation:** We participated in a roundtable on 'Digital Innovations to Support Sustainable Agriculture Value Chains in India,' where we contributed insights on alternative imaginations of women farmers' role in digitalization initiatives — as designers and data stewards.

What's on the Horizon?

- Developing techno-design blueprints that outline considerations for platform design for our partners working on digitalization of agriculture.

- Building a new 'Coop Tech' community that brings together designers, engineers, practitioners, and scholars working in the cooperative technology space through a periodic newsletter.

Recommendations from the Vault

- Read our case study on SEWA's digitalization pilot, 'Creating Sustainable Data Cooperatives in the Global South: Frameworks for Institutional Support.'

- Explore the transformative potential of platform cooperatives in our piece, 'Towards Fairer Horizons: Cooperativist Solutions to Tackle Platform Capitalism.'

The IT for Change Social Report

Programming, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

Over the course of the year, we scaled our team to more than 50 members, underscoring our commitment to broadening our impact and reach. To manage this growth, we focused on bolstering organizational capacity, refining p ogrammatic priorities, and optimizing strategic approaches.

Our efforts to enhance internal processes significa tly strengthened our ability to execute large-scale projects, build global networks, and host international events. These advancements position us to address emerging challenges more effectively and contribute meaningfully to critical policy discussions.

Cultivating a collaborative and supportive workplace

- We introduced new initiatives, including a differential provident fund (PF) contribution and support for critical expenses, aimed at recognizing and rewarding long-term employees, as well as assisting those facing financial challen es.

- We enhanced our performance review framework to include clear performance ratings, compensation adjustments, promotions, and an annual learning plan to align employee aspirations with organizational goals.

- We established forums to foster idea exchange and enhance collaboration among employees through:

  1. The Leadership Group, which focuses on key organizational aspects such as strategic direction, funding, operations, people practices, and technology;

  2. The Wellness Committee, which organizes activities and programs to promote overall employee well-being; and

  3. The Food Committee, which ensures the quality and hygiene of office als, incorporating employee preferences.

- We encouraged employees to attend seminars and conferences for professional growth and organized regular knowledge-sharing sessions with various speakers.

- We hosted an annual open house where senior management addressed employee questions on workplace culture and processes. We also conducted an orientation workshop on emotional well-being, covering mental health awareness, stigma reduction, and self-care strategies.

- We organized planning and team-building workshops to strengthen team bonds and align on shared goals. Additionally, our Annual Day celebration, which included employees' families, fostered personal connections and enhanced relationships beyond the workplace.

Strengthening communication and accountability in key functions

- We refin d our internal policies and processes for key functions, such as human resources, administration, finance, echnology, and communications, to improve operational efficie y.
- We strengthened communication regarding policy and process updates to ensure that employees are informed and understand these changes.
- We established monthly and quarterly reporting and review mechanisms for our human resource, finance, and admini trative functions to promote transparency and accountability.
- We institutionalized an internal audit process, further refining our finance olicies and processes. Additionally, we initiated an annual budgeting process to enhance financial planning and mana ement.
- We successfully defin d and implemented a structured internship process to enhance our talent acquisition and management.

Upholding diversity, equity and inclusion

- Throughout the year, we successfully fostered an inclusive workplace that championed diversity, and ensured gender equity in senior leadership, middle-level roles, and in our participatory forums. As of 31 March 2024, women made up over 60% of our 53-member staff and held 66% (8 out of 12) of enior leadership positions, demonstrating our commitment to gender representation.
- We prioritized creating a safe environment for individuals from minority and vulnerable communities, guided by principles of equity and intersectional gender justice.

Impact Footprint

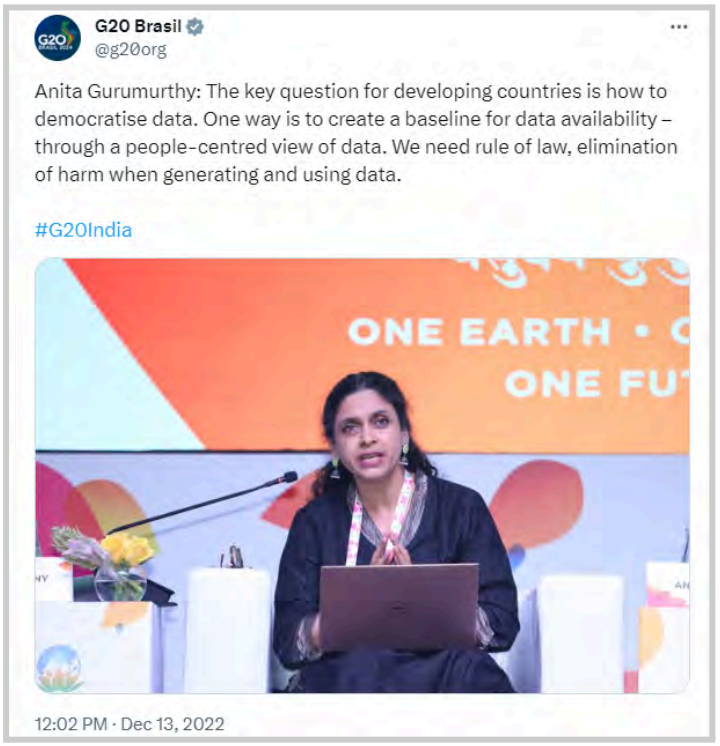
Research and advocacy footprint

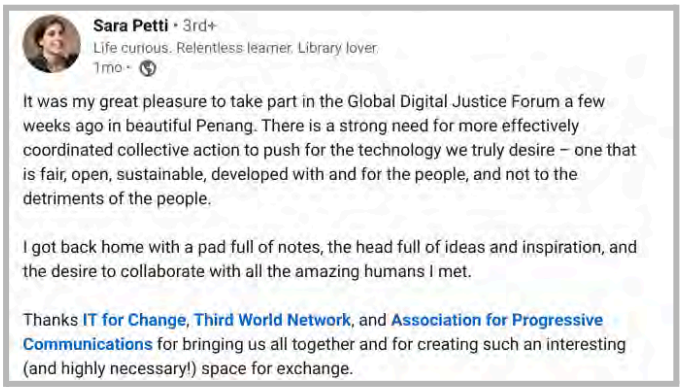
Research Outputs Produced	Policy Briefs Submitted	Media Articles Written	Events Organized	Events Participated In
24	29	40	14	60

Visibility and social media footprint

X Impressions	Instagram Impressions	LinkedIn Impressions	Bot Populi Readership
1,91,860+	42,150+	48,760+	25,270+

Our Work Out in the World





You reposted
British Asian Trust @britishasiantst · Jul 24
With @BTGroup we aim to help youth transition successfully from education to employment. For #WorldYouthSkillsDay, BT volunteers, @ITforChange & @ETASHAsociety & @TransformEdu_ provided youth with tech & life skills & left a lasting impact on their lives! #BTGroupDigitalSkills
10
17
2.4K

Stefano Tortorici @StefanoTortoric · Dec 3, 2023
The most incredible last conference of the year! It was amazing to learn more about cooperative digital economy, meet new friends, listen the @oorali, and share the stage with such bright people from all over the world in Kerala. Thanks #RootsofResilience @PCC_Global @ITforChange
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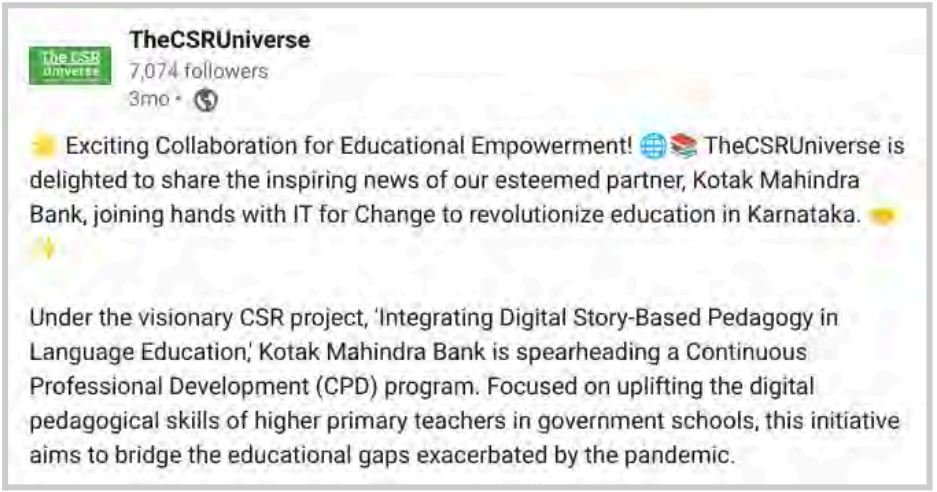
TheCSRUniverse
7,074 followers
3mo
Exciting Collaboration for Educational Empowerment! TheCSRUniverse is delighted to share the inspiring news of our esteemed partner, Kotak Mahindra Bank, joining hands with IT for Change to revolutionize education in Karnataka.
Under the visionary CSR project, 'Integrating Digital Story-Based Pedagogy in Language Education,' Kotak Mahindra Bank is spearheading a Continuous Professional Development (CPD) program. Focused on uplifting the digital pedagogical skills of higher primary teachers in government schools, this initiative aims to bridge the educational gaps exacerbated by the pandemic.

Testimonials

I would like to express deep appreciation to IT for Change for co-convening the Roots of Resilience conference with the Platform Cooperativism Consortium. The event thoughtfully explored the crucial role of platform cooperatives in promoting feminist futures, climate justice, and sustainable agriculture.

The International Cooperative Alliance Asia and Pacific (ICA-AP) had the privilege of participating in the conference, and we were highly impressed by the seamless organization — from the selection of venue and speakers to the engaging discussions. Much credit goes to IT for Change for ensuring the conference embodied values of collaboration, cooperation, and solidarity, making it a truly impactful and meaningful gathering.

-Balu Iyer, Regional Director, ICA-AP

Collaborating with IT for Change on the 'Towards Substantive Equality in Artificial Intelligence: Transformative AI Policy for Gender Equality and Diversity' report for the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI) has been an exceptional experience. They are rigorous, thoughtful, and deeply committed to strengthening the digital rights ecosystem from a feminist and anti-colonial perspective. In every project, they leave a distinct mark, demonstrating a deep understanding of digital and social justice landscapes. Their work embodies a genuine dedication to advancing transformative policies for a just digital society. Their impact and legacy in shaping a digital world for the social good, with a profound sensitivity to planetary justice are truly remarkable. It has been an honor to collaborate with them and witness their positive impact on the ecosystem, as they continue to challenge dominant narratives and advocate for meaningful change.

-Paola Ricaurte, Expert, GPAI; Co-Founder, Tierra Común Network

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In an increasingly digitized global order, at a time when overlapping crises unfold on an unprecedented scale with profound consequences for humanity, democratic systems, collective well-being, and the planet, the committed work and rigorous, incisive research of IT for Change is more necessary than ever.
Their analytical and advocacy contributions in the field of governance of the internet and other digital technologies are situated at the intersection of democratic governance frameworks and social justice, grounded in a gender perspective. To that extent, their work is a beacon for efforts to challenge the status quo, reverse extreme structural inequality, strengthen the enjoyment of human rights online and offline, mitigate environmental harms, and address the growing political and economic interests that undermine the common good.

-Valeria Betancourt, Advocacy Engagement Manager, Association for Progressive Communications

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As digital infrastructures permeate our world, giving rise to new forms of inequality and deepening existing ones, it is crucial to retain a critical perspective that guides research and advocacy. IT for Change has, for long, trained a keen eye on how internet governance needs to be imagined so as to harness the potential of the digital for the greater common good. Informed by a commitment to feminist values, their continuing leadership in the area of platform cooperativism through the Roots of Resilience conference has helped us at FemLab think through some ways in which we can creatively resist and organize against the totalizing forces of a commercial internet.

-Usha Raman, Professor, Department of Communication, University of Hyderabad; Founder, FemLab

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IT for Change is a great partner for the Transnational Institute, and for the Fair Green and Global Alliance, to which we both belong. Their monthly newsletter, DataSyn, is a gem. It is our 'go to' place to really understand what is going on in the area of Big Tech, including in key policymaking spaces. Their critical analysis, combined with a very collaborative approach, as well as their key proposals for a people's tech are invaluable to us. Our cooperation with them helps us to build our own capacity to understand the implications of digitalization for many social movements with which we work. And last but not least, they are also great people to work with.

-Pietje Vervest, Programs Coordinator, Transnational Institute

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In collaboration with Prakriye (IT for Change's field team), we expanded our Girl Icon Project, which previously focused solely on North Karnataka. Prakriye's strategic approach allowed us to successfully recruit 49 adolescent girls from vulnerable communities in Mysuru.

Their innovative technology-mediated gender training has empowered these adolescent girls to better understand gender concepts, identify the challenges they face, and develop potential solutions.

-Priya Digvijay, Program Coordinator, Milan Foundation-Hubli

Prakriye's (IT for Change's field team) gender training programs, which were delivered to both adolescent boys and girls, resulted in significant positive changes among the participants. We found that boys began taking responsibility for household chores, while girls gained the confidence to participate actively in co-curricular activities at school. We observed a notable shift in our students' attitudes towards equality, as the training fostered gender-sensitive actions at an early age.

-Madesh, Language Teacher, Government High School, Hebbalaguppe, Karnataka, India

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In partnership with information centers run by Prakriye (IT for Change's field team), we successfully raised awareness among vulnerable communities about essential banking services, including opening bank accounts, seeding Aadhaar and phone numbers, processing e-KYC, and other functions necessary to access scheme benefits, pensions, and subsidies. While Common Service Centers are also present in the area, Prakriye's centers offer timely and detailed information to the appropriate beneficiaries and effectively motivate them to take advantage of these benefits.

-Prajwal, Bank Mithra, Mullur Cluster, Mysuru, Karnataka, India

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The staff at information centers run by Prakriye (IT for Change's field team) regularly visit us to source new information. We have observed that they share timely updates with eligible beneficiaries, resulting in an increasing number of farmers approaching us for services based on referrals from them. Our collaboration with Prakriye has significantly enhanced our outreach, allowing us to connect with a larger number of farmers in a short period of time.

-Kavyashree, Assistant Technology Manager, Raitha Samparka Kendra, Gavadagere, Karnataka, India

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For over a decade, we have collaborated with IT for Change to implement the 'Technology Integrated Learning Program' for our student teachers, as part of our B.Ed course. IT for Change's work has equipped student teachers to access Open Educational Resources from the internet and create resources for their subject teaching, using Free and Open Source Software. The program not only equips them to meaningfully integrate technology into their teaching practice but also fosters critical reflection on the broader societal impact of digital technologies, which is the need of the hour.

-Dr. P T Meena, Principal, Vijaya Teachers College, Bengaluru, India

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The writing workshop conducted by IT for Change enabled our teachers to write about their classroom experiences in academic papers, which we have published in a volume titled, 'Enabling English Language Acquisition: Tales from Thrissur.' The professional expertise of their team was evident in their guidance and consistent support, which not only helped our teachers improve their writing and technology skills but also deepened their understanding of effective teaching strategies, greatly contributing to their professional growth. I am proud of this collaboration and look forward to continuing this productive partnership.

-Dr. Vinija N S, Chief Tutor, District Centre for English, Thrissur, Kerala, India

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Video/Audio Testimonials

Anita Das, Head Teacher, Gangamma Hombegowda Girls High School, Bengaluru, India (Video URL here)

Deepika C. R., Kishori Club Facilitator, Mysuru, Karnataka, India (Video URL here)

Event Highlights

Throughout the year, we were involved in key global policy events, convened critical roundtables and conferences, and participated in international forums to contribute key messages on digital justice in its many forms. Here are some highlights:

Roots of Resilience - Building Platform Cooperatives for Sustainable and Feminist Local Economies

30 November - 2 December 2023

To explore the potential of platform co-ops in promoting feminist futures, climate justice, and sustainable agriculture, we co-organized an international conference in Thiruvananthapuram, India. Platform co-ops are democratically owned and governed digital platforms that provide a means for individuals and communities to cooperatively own and manage digital services. The conference examined how these models can be leveraged to empower local collectives, self-help groups, producer organizations, worker collectives, etc. The conference was an astounding success, which witnessed the participation of 150+ practitioners, activists, academics, engineers, and designers from 13 countries! A highlight of the conference was the unveiling of the Thiruvananthapuram Declaration - A New Innovation Ecosystem for our Collective Digital Future.

Read and endorse the Thiruvananthapuram Declaration here.

Roundtable on Reframing AI Governance through a Political Economy Lens

28 June 2023

In collaboration with the Transnational Institute, we co-organized a one-day hybrid roundtable in Amsterdam to examine the building blocks of a transformative approach to AI governance. The event brought together an interdisciplinary community spanning academia, civil society, policymakers, and development theorists to unpack the political economy considerations in AI governance and discuss new institutional arrangements to advance AI as a catalyst of generative and accountable economies and societies.

Read a paper based on the discussions during the roundtable here.

Internet Governance Forum 2023

8-12 October 2023

Our proactive engagement at UN Internet Governance Forum (IGF) 2023 became a cornerstone of impactful policy influence. By strategically co-organizing two high-impact sessions and actively participating in key events in Kyoto, we worked alongside influential stakeholders to promote in-depth discussions on essential policy issues, including digital justice, governance frameworks, and transnational activism. The highlight of our engagement was the Day '0' pre-event we co-organized, titled 'A Global Compact for Digital Justice: Southern Perspectives.' The event aimed to craft a Global Digital Compact (GDC) championing digital justice, particularly in the majority world. The event was well received and attracted co-chairs of the GDC process, government officials om Rwanda and Germany, as well as international organizations such as UNCTAD, UNESCO, and veterans from the IGF community.

Watch the recording of the event here.

Forging a Survivor-centric Approach to Online Gender-based Violence

4 November 2023

Showcasing our impactful work on online gender-based violence (OGBV), we hosted a launch event in Delhi, to release two key outputs: a research report and a judicial resource guide. The guide aims to transform institutional perspectives on OGBV by providing frameworks for judges and lawyers to adopt gender-sensitive approaches, offering training modules for the legal community, and contributing to judicial training curricula.
Meanwhile, the report presents our findings f om a study analyzing OGBV cases adjudicated in Indian courts, highlighting the need to address the trivialization of OGBV in courtrooms.

Engage with the guide here and view the report here.

From WSIS to Now: What Next for Digital Justice?

3-5 March 2024

Recognizing the imperative for civil society to critically assess its interventions and recalibrate strategies to effectively counter the trajectories of digital injustice, we co-convened a civil society strategy meeting in Penang, Malaysia. The meeting aimed to forge alliances among different civil society networks to have a broader canopy – a meta alliance of alliances – in preparation for the Global Digital Compact process and WSIS+20 Review. This effort successfully culminated in the establishment of the Global Digital Justice Forum, an international advocacy network that amplifies civil ociety voices from the margins and fosters dialogue and coordination among diverse stakeholders.

Freedom Fest 2023

12-15 August 2023

We partnered with Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE) to participate in Freedom Fest 2023, a four-day celebration of free and open-source digital technologies. As part of the event, we co-organized the 'Digital Education Enclave', where pioneering EdTech programs developed in Kerala were showcased. Representatives from as many as 10 state-level education departments participated in the event. Building on our work in this theme, we plan to create awareness of these EdTech programs and their underlying principles across the country.

Projects List

Ongoing Projects

1.ICT Integrated Learning for Pre-service Teacher Education (2024-current)

2. Hosa Hejje Hosa Dishe - Phase II (2023-2026)

3. Studying the Scaling of Teacher Professional Development for English Language Learning (2023-2025)

4. Technology Integration for Equitable Education (202-2025)

5. Integrating Digital Story-based Pedagogy in Language Education (2023-2024)

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

7. Fair, Green and Global Alliance (2021-2025):

- School of Feminist Economics on Feminist Digital Justice (2022-current)
- State of Big Tech (2021-current)
- Digital Economic Integration of MSMEs in the Global South (2022-current)
- DataSyn Newsletter (2021-current)
- Big Tech & Society Media Fellowships (2022-current)

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

9. Re-wiring India's Digitalising Economy for Women's Rights and Well-being (2020-2024)

10. Reform the Gig: Research and Advocacy on Platform Workers' Rights in India (2020-current)

11. The Feminist Observatory of the Internet (2020-current)

12. Data Governance Network (2019-current)

13. Feminist Digital Justice (2019-current)

Completed Projects

1. Future of Rights and Citizenship in the Digital Age (2020-2023)
2. Namma Maatu Namma Jaaga, Phase II (2018-2023)

Financial Statements

BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31 MARCH 2024

All amounts are in INR (rounded)

2022-23	Liabilities	2023-24	% of total	2022-23	Assets	2023-24	% of total
3,94,47,696	Organisation Stabilisation Fund	5,03,42,308	30%	26,61,069	Fixed Assets	21,18,207	1%
2,70,000	Corpus Donation	5,79,203	0%	17,54,61,357	Current Assets, Loans and Advances	16,57,29,804	98%
2,64,91,576	General Fund	3,19,85,424	19%	7,95,428	Receivables	11,66,256	1%
26,61,069	Asset Fund	24,06,320	1%				
10,37,19,163	Advance Account	7,71,66,159	46%				
63,28,350	Sundry Payables	65,34,851	4%				
17,89,17,854	**Total**	**16,90,14,266**	**100%**	**17,89,17,854**	**Total**	**16,90,14,266**	**100**

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

All amounts are in INR (rounded)

2022-23	Expenditure	2023-24	% of total	2022-23	Income	2023-24	% of total
4,41,52,997	Personnel Costs	4,89,90,734	61%	6,46,47,410	Funds Received	6,74,28,185	84%
1,55,01,548	Operating Costs	1,42,07,475	18%	53,85,875	Interest on Term Deposit & Savings Bank Account	1,02,53,208	13%
43,97,514	Administration Costs	50,46,625	6%	11,67,378	Income to the extent of Depreciation transferred from Asset fund	9,71,095	1%
11,67,378	Depreciation	9,71,095	1%	0	Withdrawal from Asset Fund	10,600	0%
48,11,231	Excess of Income over Expenditure	55,03,841	7%	15,975	Donation	1,53,026	0%
48,11,231	Appropriation towards Organizational Expenses	55,03,841	7%	35,59,509	Professional Fee and Other Income	14,07,498	2%
				65,752	Interest on IT Refund	0	0%
7,48,41,899	**Total**	**8,02,23,612**	**100**	**7,48,41,899**	**Total**	**8,02,23,612**	**100**

Full List of Events

Events we organized:

April 18, 2023 | New Delhi | Scoping a New Law for India's Digital Economy - A Joint Roundtable on the Proposed Digital India Act | IT for Change, IPCIDE and NASSCOM

June 28, 2023 | Online | Roundtable on Reframing AI Governance through a Political Economy Lens: Event Report | IT for Change and Transnational Institute

September 5-7, 2023 | Online | School of Feminist Economics on Feminist Digital Justice | DAWN & IT for Change

September 09, 2023 | Thiruvananthapuram, India | The Digital Opportunity for Collective Futures | IT for Change and the Kerala Development and Innovation Strategic Council (K-DISC)

September 18, 2023 | Brussels, Belgium | Worker Data Rights in the Digital Economy | IT for Change and FES

October 08, 2023 | Kyoto, Japan/ Online | IGF 2023: A Global Compact for Digital Justice: Southern Perspectives | IT for Change, Global Digital Justice Forum, Dynamic Coalition on Platform Responsibility, and Dynamic Coalition on Internet Rights and Principles

October 09, 2023 | Kyoto, Japan/ Online | IGF 2023: Radical Imaginings-Fellowships for NextGen Digital Activists | IT for Change, Transnational Intitute and the Digital Constitutionalism Network

November 04, 2023 | New Delhi | Forging a Survivor-Centric Approach to Online Gender-Based Violence | IT for Change

November 17, 2023 | Online | Ensuring Algorithmic Accountability in the Platform Workplace | IT for Change and National Law University of India

November 30- December 02, 2023 | Thiruvananthapuram, India | Roots of Resilience - Building Platform Cooperatives for Sustainable and Feminist Local Economies | IT for Change, PCC, K-DISC

January 06, 2023 | Bengaluru, India | Reflections on a Language Enrichment Program for Bengaluru North Government Higher Primary School teachers | District Institute of Education and Training (Bengaluru North DIET) and IT for Change

February 16, 2024 | New Delhi | Training Session on Gender and Digitality | Institute of Social Studies Trust and IT for Change

March 3-5, 2024 | Penang, Malaysia | 'From WSIS to Now: What Next for Digital Justice?' | Global Digital Justice Forum, IT for Change, Third World Network, and Association for Progressive Communications

Events we participated in:

April 13, 2023| GDC Deep Dive Consultation on Internet Governance | United Nations

April 23, 2023 | Digital Health: Addressing the Interface of Development, Human Rights and Data Governance | South Centre and the Brazilian Institute for Consumer Rights

May 02, 2023 | Data on Purpose 2023: "Making Tech Work for Workers" | Stanford Social Innovation Review and Ford Foundation

May 03, 2023 | UN STI Forum | UN-DESA and UNCTAD

May 08, 2023 | Consultation on the Global Digital Compact | United Nations

May 08, 2023 | UN Trade Forum | UNCTAD

May 10, 2023| Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy: Sixth Session | UNCTAD

May 31, 2023 | Building Trust in Digital Identities | EPFL and Geneva Internet Platform

June 01, 2023 | IT for Change's Inputs to betterplace lab's Consultation on 'Towards a Feminist Digital Development Cooperation' | betterplace lab

June 06, 2023 | Claiming the Cyborgian Dream in the

AI Paradigm: Co-constructing an Agenda for Feminist Digital Justice | RightsCon Costa Rica

June 14, 2023 | Consultation on the Global Digital Compact | United Nations

June 27, 2023 | Cybercrime and the Existing Regulatory Landscape in India | CCAOI & AADYA Society Institute For Management and Legal Studies

June 27-28, 2023 | Global Perspectives on Platforms, Labor and Social Reproduction | Platform Labor project & Global Digital Cultures initiative

July 11, 2023 | 8th Regulating Decent Work Conference | ILO

July 11, 2023 | From Data to Action: Empowering Change and Addressing Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence | UN Women & Global Partnership

July 12, 2023 | Technology Integration in the Public Education System | School of Educational Studies, TISS Hyderabad

July 17-18, 2023 | Tech Crimes Summit | Tech and Policy Lab, University of Western Australia

July 19, 2023 | International Conference on New Technologies and the Future of Work in the Global South | Institute for Human Development, International Labour Organization, and Wits University

July 23, 2023 | Young Researchers for Social Impact Program | Young Leaders for Active Citizenship (YLAC)

July 25, 2023 | Digital Inclusion and Empowerment in India | Policy and Development Advisory Group

July 26, 2023 | Promoting Intersectional Development Research Roundtable | Southern Centre for Inequality Studies & Canada's International Development Research Centre

July 26, 2023 | Addressing the Challenge of Online Gender-based Violence | The Dialogue

August 01-03, 2023 | Communication Rights: Towards a Digital Justice Agenda | WACC

August 08, 2023 | Building a Human-AI Future | Asia Society India Centre

August 15, 2023 | Digital Education Conclave 2023 | Freedom fest 2023

August 24, 2023 | Whose Digital Future: Writing the Digital Rules in the Pacific | Pacific Network on Globalisation

September 06, 2023 | Understanding Online Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in India | Equality Now

September 07, 2023 | Multistakeholderism and the UN 2.0 | South Center & TNI

September 21, 2023 | Human Sciences and Social Transformations | UNESCO & Le Grand Continent

September 27, 2023 | Conscientization in Times of Cognitive Injustice | Loughborough University, London

September 28, 2023 | FGD on Technology-facilitated Gender-based Violence in Asia | University of Melbourne and UNFPA

October 02-03, 2023 | Feminist Contributions in Artificial Intelligence: Epistemological and Ethical Justice of Equality,' | Special Representation for Feminist Foreign Policy of the Argentine Foreign Ministry and UNESCO

October 10, 2023 | IGF 2023: WSIS at 20: Successes, Failures and Future Expectations | The United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)

October 10, 2023 | Status and Rights of Platform and Gig Workers: Evidence from India | LEAD, Krea University and the Centre for Research on the Economics of Climate, Food, Energy and Environment, Indian Statistical Institute

October 11, 2023 | IGF 2023: Main Session on Future of Digital Governance | Internet Governance Forum

October 11, 2024|IGF 2023: What is the nature of the

internet? Different Approaches|IGF

October 16, 2024 | Effects of Digitalization on Workers, Public Services and the Economy | PSI

October 19, 2023 | Re-Imaginations of the Future: Feminist Practices for the Defense of Human Rights in the AI Era| Metadecidim, Algorights, DigitalFems & Lafede.cat

November 02, 2023 | Social Forum 2023 | United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner

November 03, 2024 | Harnessing Data for Development to Accelerate Progress on Sustainable Development Goals | Niti Aayog

November 16, 2023 | Right to Information (RTI) & Privacy: Congruent or Contradictory? | Impact and Policy Research Institute

November 16, 2024 | UNCSTD Inter-sessional Panel on Data for Development | UNCTAD

November 20, 2023 | Technomoral Conversations: The Geopolitics of AI | University of Edinburgh

December 1-3, 2023 | 13th Annual International CESI Conference, 2023 | Comparative Education Society of India (CESI)

December 05, 2023 | A Digital Public Infrastructure Strategy for Sustainable Development - Exploring Effective Possibilities for Regional Cooperation | UNCTAD

December 05, 2023 | Combating Online Gender-based Violence | UN Women and IIT Delhi

December 05, 2024 | India Internet Governance Forum | India Internet Governance Forum

December 06, 2023 | Digital Health at the Crossroads of Human Rights, AI Governance, and E-trade | UNCTAD

December 07, 2023 | Addressing the Gender Divide in the E-commerce Marketplace – A Policy Playbook for the Global South | UNCTAD

December 08, 2023 | A Fintech Future for All? | UNCTAD

December 11-15, 2023 | Training on Global Digital Compact and Digital Governance | Diplo Foundation

December 13, 2023 | Summit of the Future | United Nations

December 14, 2023 | Introducing the UNESCO Global NGO Repository on AI Ethics: Strengthening the Role of Civil Society | UNESCO

December 14, 2023 | The Only Way is Ethics |14th International Forum of NGOs & UNESCO

January 23, 2024 | Virtual Global Consultation to Develop a UN Code of Conduct for Information Integrity | Department of Global Communications, United Nations

February 04, 2024 | Asia Pacific Regional CSO Forum & Regional CSW68 Consultation | Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development and UN Women

February 06, 2024 | All Hands on Deck: Shaping an Inclusive Future of AI | UNESCO

February 20, 2024 | Digital Dialogues: Thinking Together about the G20 Digital Agenda | Datasphere Initiative, FGV Direito Rio and Nic.br

February 26-27, 2024 | Future Pathways Workshop | Design Beku

March 03, 2024 | Information Integrity in the G20: Social Media, Human Rights and Democracy | FGV Direito Rio

March 29-30, 2024 | 64th Annual Conference of the Indian Society of Labour Economics | The Indian Society of Labour Economics and School of Economics, University of Hyderabad

Tech and Society Network Event

Full List of Publications

Research Papers

Rajkumar, M. & Sen, S. (2023) The Judiciary's Tryst with Online Gender-Based Violence: An Empirical Analysis of Indian Cases and Prevalent Judicial Attitudes. IT for Change

Gurumurthy, A., & Chami, N. (2023). Justice in the Post-public Sphere: The New Challenge for Global Communication Governance. In: Padovani, C., Wavre, V., Hintz, A., Goggin, G., Iosifidis, P. (eds) Global Communication Governance at the Crossroads. Global Transformations in Media and Communication Research - A Palgrave and IAMCR Series. Palgrave Macmillan

IT for Change. Breaking Barriers: A closer look at the Technology Integration for Inclusive Education (TIIE) Program

IT for Change, REISI, & KITE, Department of General Education, Government of Kerala. Impact Study of KITE E-Cube English Language Lab

Gurumurthy, A., & Chami, N. (2023). Global Digital Compact – linchpin for a future multilateralism?. Global Policy Forum.

Rajkumar, M., & Ashraf, M. M. (2023). Helping End Online Gender-Based Violence. Tech Policy Design Lab.

Gurumurthy, A., Chami, N., & Bharthur, D. (2023) Towards Democratic Governance of Digital Society. WACC Media Development, January 2024.

Gurumurthy, A., Khawla, Z., & Sadhana, S. (June 1, 2021). The Macro Frames of Microwork: A Study of Indian Women Workers on AMT in the Post-Pandemic Moment. SSRN.

IT for Change. (2023). Exploring the Use of Open Educational Practices (OEPs) in Open Universities. CEMCA-COL

Gurumurthy, A., & Ganapathy, A. (2023, May). Fixing Platform Power: A Framework for Substantive Inclusion in the Platform Economy. In Dewan, S., & Sanyal, K. (Eds.). (2023, May). Empowerment or Exploitation: Global Perspectives on Women's Work in the Platform Economy. JustJobs Network.

Ganapathy, A., & Mahindru, T. (2023) Gender by Design: Principles for Gender-responsive Public Digital Infrastructure. IT for Change.

Kumar, R. (2023). Conundrums of Capturing Informality: The Realities and Aspirations of Women Gig Workers in India. IT for Change.

Shah, S., Zainab, K., Kumar, R., Wani, S., & Basheer, I.P. (Eds). (2023).Gender Perspectives on the Digital Economy: Essays from ITfC's National Gender Fellowship Program, 2022. IT for Change

Gurumurthy, A., & Chami, N. (2023). Towards Transformation: Unpacking Power, Dismantling Unequal Structures.In Towards Transformation: Unpacking Power, Dismantling Unequal Structures. Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

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

IT for Change (2023). Hosa Hejje Hosa Dishe (H2HD): Phase II - 2022-23. IT for Change

Rajkumar, M. & Sen, S. (2023). Judicial Resource Guide on Forging a Survivor-Centric Approach to Online Gender-Based Violence. IT for Change

Singh, A., & Joshi, J. (2023). The Histories, Practices and Policies of Community Data Governance in the Global South. IT for Change.

Basu, A., & Sinha, A. (2023). Metaphors for Data and the Unshackling of Digital Power Asymmetries. IT for Change

Avila, R., & Weres, G. (2023). Citynetics in the South: A Blueprint for a City Data Commons. IT for Change

Media Articles:

Achieng'. R. (2024, March) . Reassessing Big Tech's

Impact and Disruptive Force in Africa's Fintech Landscape . Bot Populi

Desai, V. (2024, March) . Towards Fairer Horizons: Cooperativist Solutions to Tackle Platform Capitalism . Bot Populi

Vipra, J. (2024, February) . What Does Trade Have to Do with AI Regulation? . Bot Populi

Bailey, R., & Foley, M. (2024, February) . Uncle Sam and Big Tech: The End of a Love Affair? . Bot Populi

Scasserra, S. (2024, February) . A New Colonialist Wave through Digital Trade Agreements. Bot Populi

Barbosa, A., Boava, A., Grohmann, R., Os, A., & Santini, D. (2024, January) . Owning Platform Cooperativism(s): With More Voices, Sans Tech Solutionism . Bot Populi

Montenegro, M., & Canfield, M. (2023, Spetember) . Feeding the World with More Data? . Bot Populi

Hassan, Y. (2023, Spetember) . AI is Africa's New Growth Mantra, but Can it Fix Development? . Bot Populi

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