

CPC Gathering – Agenda

Background

The IDRC Networked Economies (NE) Cyber Policy Centres (CPC) initiative is currently supporting three centres – Centro Latam Digital in Mexico, RIA in South Africa, and pending Indian Government approval, CIS in India. It is envisaged that three additional Centres will be added in the coming fiscal year.

IDRC/NE also supports the DECI-3 project which is designed to assist the CPCs to strengthen the development of their capacities in evaluation, research communication, and adaptive management.

In order to support this capacity strengthening, IDRC/NE will facilitate the sharing of expertise between the CPCs, to enable them to collaborate by building upon mutual understanding of their shared issues, exchange areas of particular expertise, and explore common opportunities and challenges. This process will be supported by IDRC staff and the DECI-3 team of mentors. To this end, a CPC gathering is being planned for early in January 2019 in Sri Lanka with representatives of the six centres. The following draft agenda has been prepared to support the planning process for this event (and we expect it to undergo further iterations).

Objectives

1. To explore what success looks like for Centres, and how to evaluate this success in a pilot phase, acknowledging the challenges of measuring outcomes versus impact in the short term.
2. To share experiences of what is working, what the challenges are so far and how to strengthen CPC capacities to respond to each regional landscape.
3. To strengthen evaluation and communications practices and work plans for each CPC and for IDRC.
4. To discuss the changing landscape of cyber policy issues with an emphasis upon each CPC sharing its knowledge about one of its top priority research areas/areas of expertise.
5. To explore ways of collaborating across the Centres - to track the changing landscapes, to support evidence building for policy windows, for knowledge networking and for support and for enhancing capacity across disciplines.
6. To leverage CPC knowledge to enhance the next round of proposals from next cohort of Centres, especially with a view to build on existing areas of expertise.
7. To build on the DECI project experiences to review the basics of Utilization Focused Evaluation (UFE) and to review the practice of developmental evaluation.
8. To review Research Communication (ResCom) purposes and audience research experiences in order to strengthen communications and reporting.

PRE-GATHERING PREPARATION

Participants in the CPC gathering will be asked to undertake some pre-meeting preparation in order insure that there is readiness for the discussions.

Strategic content

Each CPC will be asked to prepare a presentation on one content area of their expertise relative to the three CPC focus themes (digital rights, cyber security, and innovation).

Output: an understanding of the organizational subject matter strengths that other CPSs can tap into.

Evaluation & communication dimensions

Each CPC will be asked to prepare a presentation on the current status of their evaluation and communication strategies, and their strategy/Theory of Change.

Output: an understanding of the evaluation and ResCom planning and expectations.

PRE-GATHERING TRAVEL TIMETABLE

Participants are requested to plan their arrival in Sri Lanka no later than the evening of *Thursday, January 10th 2019* (further details on location and logistics to follow separately).

CPC MEETING TIMETABLE

To assist the hotel in planning the meals, the following meeting times have been proposed -

9:00am - 10:30	First session
10:30 - 11:00	Break
11:00 - 12:30	Second session
12:30pm - 1:30	Lunch
1:30 - 3:00	Third session
3:00-3:30	Break
3:30-5:00	Fourth session
6:30	Dinner (if organized; otherwise free)

CPC GATHERING PROPOSED AGENDA

Friday, January 11 – Recovery, planning and informal reception

Participants will be encouraged to recover from their travels, finalize their presentations and will be invited to an informal reception in the late afternoon (at the hotel). That time will be an opportunity to meet new faces and greet friends.

An informal round of introductions.

Saturday, January 12 – Day 1

----- MORNING -----

Introductions & review of agenda, expectations and meeting objectives.

1. **SETTING THE STAGE**

An update on the mandate and expectations of IDRC/NE & CPC Program

2. **THE GLOBAL CONTEXT – The changing cyber policy space** – a discussion

3. **CONTENT PRESENTATION – Managing an Internet of Risk: the examples of rights-respecting cybersecurity and social media levies: by Research ICT Africa/South Africa**

Our intention is to cover two areas in our hour though we may cross reference some of the other to demonstrate the linkages (of which there are many). In some ways, for a set of legacy reasons we are probably more advanced in cybersecurity so will share our experience and challenges on that. Then we would like to spend some time on dealing with the research on social networking taxes as this really highlights the policy issues at the intersection of rights and economic regulation (and associated policy issues of affordable access and regressive taxation). This provides the scope to demonstrate how our more traditional supply and demand side data and indicator work has been integral to making a strong evidence-based intervention on the harmful (and unpro-poor) effects in more formal institutions than advocacy on its own might be able to do – Parliaments, UNCTAD, ITU, African Union, African Development Bank.

PANEL OF DISCUSSANTS – (two knowledgeable CPC participants)

GROUP DISCUSSION about RIA presentation

----- AFTERNOON -----

4. Evaluation & Communication – DECI-3 Relevance and Support

- A briefing on its research, mentoring and support
- Building and/or strengthening evaluation and communications plans
- Support for adaptive management and Theory of Change building
- The RIA and Centro Latam Digital experiences with DECI (progress on evaluation and communications planning)

EXERCISE #1 – Evaluation Experience

EXERCISE #2 – Communication experience

EXERCISE #3 – Capacity/Readiness

5. CONTENT PRESENTATION – The Future of Work in the Global South: by CENTRO LATAM DIGITAL (CLD) /Mexico

A number of technological and social forces are currently reshaping employment, and more generally the nature of work. Artificial intelligence in combination with modern robotics is threatening to automatize jobs that were previously considered too complex for non-human execution. Further, the rise of online labor platforms has upended traditional employment relations, favoring piecemeal outsourcing to independent contractors (“gig” workers) over long-term contracts. Despite growing evidence about the impact of these forces on advanced economies, there is currently little understanding about how these transformations are affecting countries in the Global South. These new technological changes have important economic, political and social impacts, and they are changing the way firms, people and governments interact. At the same time, they are generating the need to rethink education policies, skill formation policies, and social protection networks. With this project, we want to generate evidence for the Global South that helps us find ways to take advantage of new opportunities and to minimize risks associated with what has been called the ‘Fourth Industrial Revolution’.

PANEL OF DISCUSSANTS – (two knowledgeable CPC participants)

GROUP DISCUSSION about CENTRO LATAM presentation

6. Wrap-up of Day 1 – Lessons Learned

- What these experiences mean for the CPC program?
- What these experiences mean for CPCs joining the program?
- Follow-up Steps

Sunday, January 13 - Day 2

----- MORNING -----

7. Review of the Agenda

8. Tracking Success & identification of indicators

- CPC specific approaches, dimensions of 'success', indicators
- Evaluation and Communication issues (RIA and CLD progress)
- CPC Program wide shared/common indicators
- Strengthening evaluation and communications work plans
- DECI support opportunities

9. CONTENT PRESENTATION – (one cyber policy area of their expertise): by CIS/India

PANEL OF DISCUSSANTS – (two knowledgeable CPC participants)

GROUP DISCUSSION about CIS presentation

----- AFTERNOON -----

10. Planning for a future CPC Project – Proposal strengthening

(referencing Readiness article & readiness checklist from exercise 3)

- The issues and challenges faced by the new CPCs (ask RIA and CIDE about their experiences)
- Comments from Derechos Digitales, CIPIT, and LIRNEasia
- Summary Evaluation, research communications and TOC planning with DECI support

11. CONTENT PRESENTATION – Human Rights in the Digital Context: by Derechos Digitales, Santiago de Chile

As the cyber policy areas comprised in the CPC Project are in our view intrinsically intertwined, we will use our experience promoting and defending human rights online as the opening concept to present and explore the work we have developed in advocating for human rights in digital contexts through specific regulatory frameworks:

- Cybersecurity policy building with a human rights approach in Latin America. We will share DD's experience participating and fostering the development of cybersecurity policy, through collaborative efforts across Latin America civil society groups, and direct work with state actors facilitated by the OAS, showing feasibility and need of developing more participatory processes to create cybersecurity strategies in the region.
- State surveillance as business in Latin America. We will provide insights in how the narrative of public safety and efficiency is being used by Latin American state actors to implement surveillance technologies that disproportionately impact the exercise of citizen rights, and foster a lucrative and opaque collaboration with private sector

providers of such technologies. We will show the gaps in regulation that allow for this intrusion by state actors and its harmful consequences.

- Telecommunications and access in Latin America. We will show how net neutrality regulation and its (lack of) enforcement in the region, and the regulation that allows community networks development, are fundamental areas where the conditions can be set for the full enjoyment of human rights in the digital environment, including those of vulnerable groups and underdeveloped economies.
- Data protection. We aim to show how data protection legal frameworks can be and are being used in Latin America to create incentives to develop business models, that may align with greater or lesser respect for human rights, especially in a context of international harmonization for a global digital economy, including through regional agreements and international trade negotiations.

PANEL OF DISCUSSANTS – (two knowledgeable CPC participants)

GROUP DISCUSSION about Derechos Digitales presentation

12. Wrap-up of Day 2

- CPC future collaboration (preparing for day 3)
- Review priorities for Day 3

Monday, January 14 – Day 3

----- MORNING -----

13. Review agenda and findings Day 1 & 2

14. CONTENT PRESENTATION – Data in Africa: Avoiding the New Oil Curse: by Centre for Intellectual Property and Information Technology Law, CIPIT, Nairobi

African history is replete with examples of natural resource exploitation that results in high levels of inequality and other negative effects. When the phrase “data is the new oil” was coined in 2006, scholars of African history should have taken note of the comparison. The recent contract between the government of Zimbabwe and a Chinese company for population identification data is one example showing that African data is valuable on the international market. Still, the comparison is not perfect, and in many ways, Africa is poised to take substantial (indeed, perhaps too much) control over its data. This session will explore the ways in which African governments control, restrict, and sell data, and, potentially, how data can lead to exploitation of various populations.

PANEL OF DISCUSSANTS – (two knowledgeable CPC participants)

GROUP DISCUSSION about CIPIT presentation

15. Discussion on inter-CPC collaboration, networking & sharing of knowledge

- Identification of collaborative opportunities, challenges
- Methods of enhancing sharing/communications
- DECI support opportunities

GROUP DISCUSSION

(reference regional/national coordination and complementarity)

----- AFTERNOON -----

16. CONTENT PRESENTATION – The Bias of Fairness: by LIRNEasia

Description: The Global South is significantly less ‘datafied’ than the Global North with the result that data sets more often than not represent reality incompletely. The push for greater utilization of big data and algorithms in the Global South must be mindful of this context and any unintended consequences (e.g., perpetuating/amplifying marginalization). This requires in the first instance a nuanced understanding of the terms ‘bias’ and ‘fairness,’ not solely from a moral perspective but also from mathematical and statistical perspectives. Based on LIRNEasia’s experience in big data research in parallel with examination of policy implications, primarily for marginalization, competition and privacy, this presentation will outline an approach to the analysis of the implications of artificial intelligence and greater use of algorithms in the Global South.

PANEL OF DISCUSSANTS – (two knowledgeable CPC participants)

GROUP DISCUSSION about LIRNEasia presentation

17. Summary of Presentation Highlights: by the discussants

- Comments and discussion

18. Informal networking

- Individual CPC Meetings and Networking (informally organized)
- Individual sessions with new CPCs re: DECI support (as requested)
- Individual meetings with IDRC staff (as needed)

19. Wrap-up of the CPC Gathering – Self-evaluation and closing comments.

- Follow-up on key points on the presentations and discussions/next steps?

Tuesday, January 15 – Travel Day