



**Brasil 2024**  
Let's rethink the world



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# T20 Brasil

# Task Force 05

# Statement



## **TF05**

Inclusive digital  
transformation



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:



# 1

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## Introduction to the Task Force's mission and priorities

The Inclusive Digital Transformation Task Force aimed to balance the challenges of digitalization and datafication with economic development and the protection of rights and vulnerable individuals. To accomplish its goals, the Task Force fostered collaboration between other T20 Task Forces and different engagement groups, while continuing the work started by previous G20 presidencies. This means centering some key elements, such as the need for a rights and citizen-based approach when dealing with digital transformation and the pivotal role of a data justice perspective. Under Brazil's presidency, G20 should establish a common position on data governance, recognizing power asymmetries brought about or enhanced by digital technologies and the data that underpin them, and develop tools to deal with them, considering Global Southern epistemologies in particular.

Six priorities were defined to deal with pressing issues of an increasingly digitized and datafied world:

1. Digital inclusion and meaningful universal connectivity;
2. Digital transformation and platformization of public services;
3. Digital Integrity, Data Protection, and cybersecurity;
4. New digital technologies for SDGs and decent work;
5. Challenges, opportunities, and governance of Artificial Intelligence;
6. Global digital governance and regulation of digital platforms.

This statement is a product of the collective work of the Task Force members through their own expertise, the evaluation of policy briefs and dialogue with other stakeholders, especially via G20 side events. Drawing upon diverse perspectives and evidence-based research, we offer a roadmap for policy action that is pragmatic and inclusive.

# 2

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## Diagnosis of main problems

The Inclusive Digital Transformation Task Force acknowledges both the promising aspects of digital technology as drivers of economic growth, higher living standards, and increased sustainability, and the fact that digital transformation has often fallen short of promoting safety, inclusivity, representativeness, and equity - and in many cases has fueled or facilitated discrimination, exclusion and violence, especially in the Global South. Considering these complex issues and the transversality of the digital across different areas of concern for the G20, one of the main preoccupations of the Task Force was **to create synergies with other stakeholders to advance an inclusive digital transformation.**

The work of the Task Force was oriented by a broad notion of inclusiveness that encompasses challenges such as the lack of adaptation for individuals with disabilities when using government applications; the complex relationship between the digital economy and decent work; and continued barriers to accessing and meaningfully engaging with these technologies for traditionally disadvantaged or vulnerable groups, such as low-income populations, refugees, women, black people, indigenous people, individuals with disabilities, and LGBTQIA+ populations.

We also recognize the several efforts on the regulation of new technologies, including the development of principles and standards, and the push for user-centric design and human rights by design, while being aware that there is still much to be done, especially when examining these processes through a social-justice-oriented and asymmetry-reducing lens.

Our work considers that **the digital should not simply replace the analog without a holistic assessment of realities and needs, but rather complement it.** The digital transformation should consider analog preconditions such as fundamental rights, education and legitimacy, to be inclusive and self-determined. To conduct such an assessment, and to call for purposeful and holistic public policies and experimentation spaces for both technology and norm-making, one needs to understand **who is and is not benefiting and who should also benefit from digital transformation, and for what purposes.**

Through the extensive work of our Task Force on these issues, we hope the following recommendations will be adopted by the G20 members, so that, together, we can harness the power of the digital economy to build a better future for all.

# 3

## Key recommendations

- 1. The G20 should invest in telecommunications infrastructure, energy supply, and research, as well as subsidize access to affordable broadband and provide compatible devices to low-income and remote populations, alongside supporting digital literacy initiatives.**

A meaningful and universal connectivity must be guaranteed for every citizen, while respecting human rights, preserving individuals' and communities' autonomy and self-determination. To leverage digital inclusion, the G20 countries should foster international cooperation to overcome the digital divide across complementing layers: investments in science and technology focused on the telecommunications infrastructure, on energy supply and on research and data on indexes about meaningful connectivity, especially in Global South countries; supporting public policies geared towards overcoming markets concentration; fostering economic development and the strengthening of national production capacities. This should be accompanied by subsidy policies to guarantee access to broadband internet and to Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) compatible devices for the low-income population and residents of remote areas. The G20 countries should also support digital literacy strategies and community-based approaches for digital inclusion in order to provide a secure and inclusive environment for hyper-vulnerable and marginalized populations.

**2. For Digital Public Infrastructures (DPIs), G20 countries must develop a non-binding common set of principles, especially for data justice, interoperability, and openness, backed by a permanent research fund to assess the implementations of G20's policy recommendations for effective participatory governance, ensuring accountability, sustainability, and inclusive digital development.**

DPIs have the potential to accelerate SDGs and increase social welfare by prioritizing financial inclusion, environmental protection, citizenship, and the inclusion of marginalized populations. To achieve a truly inclusive digital transformation, G20 should provide a common framework, based on distributive and communal ownership of information and technology, and financial resources for the participatory governance and co-design of such infrastructures, which must be transparent, accountable, interoperable, and open-access. Therefore, we request a G20 Fund to be established by the Financial and Sherpa tracks, to develop collaboration with technical and academic communities for research, that will enable better DPIs effectively and fairly to populations. Also, there must be a common understanding and transborder cooperation between Global North and South for effective data governance maturity. Strong multi-stakeholder collaboration throughout the entire information lifecycle, through open data policies and a citizen-centered approach, is essential to ensure that public interest drives data (data justice), rather than the contrary.

**3. The G20 should create a new two-fold group , the Data20 (D20), composed of members of engagement groups at G20 Social and representatives of all working groups in the Sherpa Track, to establish a common, multi-stakeholder approach of data governance among G20 countries, boosted by a permanent multi-stakeholder high-level panel.**


D20 can serve as a node for collaboration across the G20 and its existing formal engagement and working groups in G20 Social and in the Sherpa track. Also, a permanent multi-stakeholder high-level panel on data governance should be established in order to strike coherence and continuity in the policy-making conversations. Both spaces may



foster a convergent position towards a set of interoperable policy instruments to promote transnational data solidarity, including methods for evaluating and leveraging the public value of data as a common good, aimed at reducing information and power asymmetry. Debating cross-cutting issues on data governance can influence more transparent and fair AI systems and also be diverse in terms of language. Besides, it could enhance collaboration regarding Digital Public Infrastructure and reduce harms emanating from the use of data. Additionally, the D20 could enable the development of regulatory parity based on human rights and data justice.

**4. The G20 should establish a global AI accountability framework that integrates technical, public policy, and regulatory efforts at an international level, especially on human-centered AI applications that address climate change, health issues and poverty, and foster public scrutiny of high-risk AI.**

This framework should ensure risk monitoring and public scrutiny, enhance international cooperation for human-centered AI, support resource access and capacity building in Global South countries, and promote decent data work, sustainable labor supply chains, and continuous reskilling programs. Alongside the development of national strategies on AI, grounded in a balance between the protection of rights of vulnerable communities and the incentive of innovation that fosters the development of national industries, the G20 should prioritize AI models oriented towards accelerating the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, while ensuring a fair distribution of its benefits. This requires addressing the imbalance in technological capabilities by investing in publicly accessible computational resources to advance public interests globally, research funding on data work dignity, and reskilling programs for women and minorities. Lastly, impact assessments for high-risk AI applications and providing data access to qualified researchers, along with external audits, are best practices that should be mandatory.



**5. The G20 should promote information integrity for the protection of all human rights, developing regulatory initiatives that protect citizens from harms of disinformation, misinformation and the targeting of hyper-vulnerable and marginalized individuals.**

Transparency in the origin and transmission of information is crucial to tackle dis- and misinformation and to reinforce users' trust through a diverse and secure digital environment to promote informational integrity. Platform regulation should foster comprehensive regulatory oversight that focuses not only on content moderation, but also on the design practices of the development of such technologies and the algorithmic amplification of harmful content. These initiatives should provide transparency mechanisms to empower different stakeholder's participation to make platforms accountable for enabling or facilitating harm, such as online race and gender-based violence, hate speech, child abuse and exploitation. G20 countries must take steps to prevent any systematic harm, by promoting information integrity especially in the context of health, climate and election information; and to improve work quality in content moderation and support cultural and language diversity in AI, by forming local teams with deep contextual knowledge.

# 4

## Task Force members

### LEAD CO-CHAIRS

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### DEPUTY LEAD CO-CHAIR

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**Stephanie Ifayemi**, Partnership on AI (United States)

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*5.6 - Global digital governance and regulation of digital platforms*

**Anita Gurumurthy**, IT for Change (India)

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**Fernanda Martins**, InternetLab (Brazil)

**Maria Paz Canales**, Global Partners  
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## **T20 Brasil Organizing Committee**

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