

Advancing an inclusive digital economy: opportunities for the Global Digital Compact?

Informal interactive discussion

Thursday 7 March 2024, 11:00 -12:30

Conference Room 7, UN HQ

Rapid digitalization is affecting all aspects of life – including the way we interact, work, shop and receive services – as well as how value is created and exchanged. As the global economy rapidly digitalizes, some estimate that approximately 70% of new value created over the next ten years will be based on digitally-enabled platform business models.

Yet as UNCTAD’s Digital Economy Report (2021) observes “as the role of data as an economic resource has become more relevant, new dimensions of the digital divide have emerged”. While monthly global data traffic is forecast to grow more than 400 per cent by 2026, activity is concentrated among a few global players.

A new path for digital and data governance is required. Countries, businesses, and people need to be empowered through skills, capabilities, and policies to meaningfully participate and generate value in the digital economy.

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Office of the United Nations Secretary-General’s Envoy on Technology invite delegations, observers and stakeholders to an informal interactive discussion on digital economy opportunities and challenges and the scope for the Global Digital Compact to advance an inclusive global digital economy.

UNCTAD Secretary-General Rebeca Grynszpan and UN Secretary-General’s Envoy on Technology Amandeep Gill will introduce the discussion and outline their perspectives on some of the key challenges and opportunities to advance the digital economy. Following the remarks, participants will have the opportunity to engage in informal discussion and exchange ideas.

We look forward to your participation.

UNCTAD and the Office of the Secretary-General’s Envoy on Technology