



## Call for Contributions

The High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation was established by the UN Secretary-General in July 2018 to advance proposals to strengthen cooperation in the digital realm, and contribute to the broader global dialogue on how interdisciplinary and cooperative approaches can help ensure a safe and inclusive digital future.

The Panel is seeking input from individuals, governments, industry, academic/research groups, the technical community, non-governmental and international organizations to inform its deliberations.

Written contributions on one or more of the following aspects of digital cooperation are welcome:

1. What values and principles should underpin cooperation in the digital realm?
2. How can stakeholders cooperate more effectively in the digital realm, and how can marginalized stakeholders be included?
3. How can cooperation among stakeholders be improved in areas such as inclusive development; inclusive participation in the digital economy; data; protection of human rights online; human voice and human agency in the digital age; digital trust and security; and building the capacity of individuals, institutions and governments for the digital transformation

### What does 'digital cooperation' mean?

'Digital cooperation' refers to the ways and means through which individuals, organizations, and countries work together to manage their social, economic, and legal relations in the digital realm. It emphasizes functions and modalities ('how') and not just the form or outcome ('what') of processes whereby relevant stakeholders work to maximize the benefits of digital technologies while safeguarding against potential risks.

### Timeline and guidance:

- The consultation period is open from 8 October 2018 to 31 January 2019.
- Early contributions are encouraged. Submissions received by 30 November will be included in the first synthesis report to Panel members.
- Please answer the questions as directly as possible.
- Provide concrete examples and stories grounded in practice.
- Responses to each question should not be longer than 1,000 words.
- Background reports, references, or documents are welcome. Please number references that support specific statements made in your contribution.

By submitting a contribution, you are authorizing the Secretariat of the High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation to publish your submission on its website and to use part or all of it in the final report. The Secretariat of the High-level Panel reserves the right not to publish submissions that include hate speech or defamatory attacks against individuals, groups, organizations, or countries.

### How to submit

Online submissions are strongly preferred: <https://digitalcooperation.org/call-for-contributions/>

However, email submissions will be accepted in the form of a single attachment, sent to: [contributions@digitalcooperation.org](mailto:contributions@digitalcooperation.org). Please include contact information with your submission.



## Guiding Questions

### 1) Values and Principles:

- a) What are the key values that individuals, organizations, and countries should support, protect, foster, or prioritize when working together to address digital issues?
- b) What principles should guide stakeholders as they cooperate with each other to address issues brought about by digital technology?
- c) How can these values and principles be better embedded into existing private and/or public activities in the digital realm?

### 2) Methods and Mechanisms:

- a) How do the stakeholders you are familiar with currently address their social, economic, and legal issues related to digital technologies? How effective or successful are these methods/mechanisms for digital cooperation? What are their gaps, weaknesses, or constraints? How can these be addressed?
- b) Who are the forgotten stakeholders in these mechanisms? How can we strengthen the voices of women, young people, small enterprises, small island states and others who are often missing?
- c) What new or innovative methods/mechanisms might be devised for multi-stakeholder cooperation in the digital realm?

### 3) Illustrative Action Areas:

The Panel plans to explore the following areas, among others, where greater digital cooperation is required:

- inclusive development and closing the digital gap
- inclusive participation in the digital economy
- data
- protection of human rights online, particularly of children, women and marginalized communities
- human voice and participation in shaping technological choices and architecture
- digital trust and security
- building the capacity of individuals, institutions and governments for the digital transformation.

- a) What are the challenges faced by stakeholders (e.g. individuals, governments, the private sector, civil society, international organizations, technical and academic communities) working together in these areas?
- b) What are successful examples of cooperation among stakeholders in these areas? Where is further cooperation needed?
- c) What form might cooperation among stakeholders in these areas take? What values and principles should underpin it?