

Breaking barriers: Innovative financing for community-centred digital inclusion

A T20 dialogue convened by APC, UNESCO and the UK FCDO with the T20 Task Force on Digital Transformation

Opening and welcoming remarks

13:00-13:20

Mr. Antony Phillipson, British High Commissioner to South Africa

Ms. Doreen Bogdan-Martin, ITU Secretary-General – video (*virtual*)

Dr. Tawfik Jelassi, UNESCO Assistant Secretary-General, Communication and Information

Dr. Alison Gillwald, T20 Digital Transformation Task Force Co-chair/Research ICT Africa

Moderator: Ms. Anriette Esterhuysen, Senior Advisor on Internet Governance, APC

Part 1: Community-centred connectivity initiatives (CCCI): Rationale, context and experience

13:20-14:10 **Panel 1: Unpacking the context**

Key questions:

1. Why do we need to look at diversifying models for providing meaningful connectivity? Is there really an “access” gap? If the answer is yes, why and where does this gap persist, and who is affected by it?
2. What are community-centred connectivity models? Do they have added value when it comes to providing meaningful connectivity?
3. Do they work? Should we be taking them more seriously? How?

Mr. Fola Odufuwa, consultant/researcher, Research ICT Africa After Access Survey Data, Nigeria (*virtual*)

Ms. Graziela Castello, Coordinator of Sectoral Studies and Qualitative Methods, CETIC.br

Mr. Simon Ellis, UNESCO (*virtual*)

Mr. Sandile Nzima, sector specialist, Development Bank of South Africa

Dr. Carlos Rey-Moreno, Local Access Programme co-manager, APC

Ms. Kim Hoffman, Digital Access Programme, South Africa Country Lead, FCDO and Ms. Alessandra Lustrati, Head of Digital Development, FCDO

Moderator: Ms. Anriette Esterhuysen, Senior Advisor on Internet Governance, APC

14:10-15:10 **Panel 2: Perspectives from community-centred connectivity initiatives**

Key questions (in three rounds):

1. Tell us about the community/ies your initiative works for/with. Who are they, where are they and why is a CCCI relevant to them?
2. What is your business model, and what products and services do you offer as part of it?
3. What, for your CCCI, does sustainability mean? How close are you to achieving it and what is the ONE thing you/CCCI need most to get there?

Mr. Kgwarishi Malatji, Network Manager, Vnet, South Africa

Ms. Chris Conder, B4RN, United Kingdom (*virtual*)

Ms. Shireen Powell, CEO, Project Isizwe, South Africa

Mr. Nathi Mbele, CEO, Ad Notes, South Africa

Ms. Yumna Panday, Managing Director, Zenzeleni Networks, South Africa

Mr. Gustaff Iskandar, Director, Common Room, Indonesia (*virtual*)

Moderator: Dr. Kathleen Diga, Local Access Programme co-manager, APC

15:10-15:30 Coffee/tea and networking break

Part 2: Growing CCCIs: Policy, regulation, financing and capacity development – leveraging the T20/G20

15:30-16:20 **Panel 3: Enabling policy and regulation for sustainable digital inclusion**

Key questions (in four rounds):

1. What, from your perspective and in your context, does an enabling policy and regulatory environment for CCCIs look like?
2. What is needed from policy makers (governments, regulators, parliamentarians, development agencies, regulators, etc.) to create this environment? What, in your experience, achieved good results?
3. What is needed from CCCIs themselves?
4. What is the one change you believe will make the most positive difference?

Mr. Rob Floyd, T20 Digital Transformation Task Force and Director, Innovation and Digital Policy at the African Centre for Economic Transformation

Ms. Renata Santoyo, Anatel International Affairs Office, Brazil – virtual

Mr. Dick Sono, Deputy Director General, Department of Communications and Digital Technologies, South Africa

Mr. Dominic Cull, Ellipsis Regulatory Solutions, South Africa

Ms. Nompucuko Nontombana, Councillor, ICASA, South Africa

Moderator: Ms. Josephine Miliza, APC LocNet Policy and Regulation Lead

16:20-17:10 **Panel 4: Financing CCCIs - From public finance to investment and community partnerships to philanthropy: What is needed to ensure dynamic, creative, diverse and responsive financing solutions?**

Key questions

1. Why are there still – relatively – so few financial resources going into digital inclusion in general, and CCCIs specifically?
2. Based on your own experience and context, what is the type of financing would you like to see get more attention? Can you share specific examples of solutions that exist or that we need to build?
3. What is the one thing you believe will make the biggest difference to achieve sustainable financing for CCCIs?

Ms. Alessandra Lustrati, Head of Digital Development, FCDO

Mr. Claude Dorion, Director General, MCE Conseils (*virtual*)

Mr. Brian Vo, Chief Investment Officer, Connect Humanity (*virtual*)

Ms. Laura Seánán, Director of Strategic Partnerships at Fundación Avina/WINGS (*virtual*)

Mr. Saliem Fakir, Executive Director, African Climate Foundation

Moderator: Dr. Carlos Rey-Moreno, Local Access Programme co-manager, APC

17:10-17:30 **Closing: T20 perspectives and call to action**

Key questions

What in your view are the key points for follow-up that emerged from today’s event? – in particular, with regard to the main themes of the South African G20 Presidency: “Solidarity, Equality and Sustainability”

Prof. Daniel Bradlow, Co-chair, Task Force on Sustainable Financing for Development

Dr. Carlos Rey-Moreno, Local Access Programme co-manager, APC

Ms. Alessandra Lustrati, Head of Digital Development, FCDO

Moderator: Ms. Anriette Esterhuysen, Senior Advisor on Internet Governance, APC

Cocktail event until 19:30