

Annual Report

Introduction

The DCE is a multi-stakeholder cooperation hub for everyone interested in matters related to intersections of environment and digitalization. Its work builds on the achievements made through the IGF's Policy Network on Environment and its report.

Its particular work focus relates to:

- Further dissemination of the PNE Report to relevant stakeholders;
- Further exploring the areas unwrapped in the PNE Report;
- Bringing focus on cross-cutting issues of environment, sustainability and Internet governance;
- Creating a multi-stakeholder hub to bring together stakeholders interested in the topic;
- Exploring the area of ecological data and handling of that data; cooperation to further FAIR and CARE data management of ecological data;
- Implementing Academia, Communities, Technology Experts Alliance (ACT Alliance) for Environment;
- Policy briefs on issues related to intersection of environment and digitalization.

Stakeholders

DCE multistakeholder organizing group

The group is open to everyone to join and participate in its discussions as equals. Initially, the coalition was formed by several stakeholders, listed below:

- Rainer M Krug, Department of Evolutionary Biology and Environmental Studies, University of Zürich
- Dr. Rajendra Pratap Gupta, DC-Jobs
- Abhayraj Naik, Initiative for Climate Action / Azim Premji University
- Avri Doria, Technicalities
- Andrew Zolli, The Planet
- Cheryl Langdon-Orr, Internet Australia; NetThing (Australian IGF)
- Daniel Kalemi, University of California, Berkeley
- Elif Kiesow, THUAS
- Florian Cortez, Wageningen University
- Gideon Hayford Chonia, Chonia Informatica

- Leandro Navarro, Technical University of Catalonia (UPC)
- Michael Oghia, Independent
- Michelle Thorne, Mozilla
- Minda Moreira, Internet Rights and Principles Coalition
- Patience Luyeye, APC
- Shawna Finnegan, Association for Progressive Communications (APC)

Co-chair

Dr. Rajendra Pratap Gupta, Academy of Digital Health Sciences

Action Points

1. **Webinar on Urbanization, Biodiversity & Mental Health:** The Dynamic Coalition on Environment organized a webinar on the World Environment Day discussing the impact of urbanization on biodiversity loss and its adverse effects on mental health. Additionally, the session explored the potential of technology and the internet to mitigate these challenges. Dr. Shalini Dhyani, Senior Scientist at CSIR-NEERI, was the keynote speaker for the webinar.
2. **Report on Urbanization, Biodiversity & Mental Health:** The increasing population, declining profitability of agriculture, concentration on a few urban hubs, rising real estate prices, and rapid modernization and profit-driven development have fostered the perception that urban areas serve as economic and prosperity centers, drawing populations away from rural and semi-urban regions. This urban migration is transforming metropolitan areas, leading to the erosion of green spaces and the emergence of concrete landscapes, prioritizing economic gains over ecosystem preservation and sustainability. Despite the global shift towards sustainable practices, the rapid decline of green cover persists. While urbanization indeed contributes to biodiversity loss, its most significant repercussion lies in its adverse impact on human health, especially mental health. As a starting point for broader discourse, we drafted a preliminary report exploring the intersection of urbanization, biodiversity, and mental health, along with the potential role of technology in addressing these interconnected challenges.
3. **Internet Governance Forum Annual Meeting 2023 (Kyoto, Japan):** During the IGF Annual Meeting 2023, the report on Urbanization, Biodiversity & Mental Health was unveiled in the DC-Main Session by our co-chair, Dr. Rajendra Pratap Gupta.

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