



Global Digital Inclusion
Partnership

Governing Digital Platforms in Asia-Pacific

Initial remarks

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About GDIP

The **Global Digital Inclusion Partnership (GDIP)** is a coalition of public, private, and civil society organizations working to bring internet connectivity to the global majority and bring millions more people into meaningful connectivity by 2030.

GDIP advances digital opportunities to empower and support people's lives and agency, leading to inclusive digital societies.

Workstreams

Policy Advocacy
Research and Insights
Partnerships





Our Partners





The Need for Platform Governance

- Digital platforms are the core public offerings, shaping economies, speech, and civic life.
- Parliamentarians are increasingly at the centre of shaping trusted digital ecosystems.
- Governance remains uneven, reactive, and largely industry-defined.
- AI-driven curation and moderation magnify influence - deciding what we see, believe, or buy.
- The Asia-Pacific's digital economy (> USD 1 trillion by 2030) heightens stakes for trust, safety, and accountability.
- Multi Stakeholder policy-making balances public interest and private innovation.



Key Challenges in Platform Governance

- Fragmented regulations and differing national priorities.
- Limited insight into AI decision-making on content and visibility.
- Data sovereignty vs cross-border flow
- Finding the Right Balance between Regulatory Interventions and Enabling Innovation
- Regulatory capacity and coordination gaps across ministries and jurisdictions.

GOAL: Transparent, rights-based, and innovation-friendly governance.



Illustrative Impact of Platform Governance on Digital Inclusion

On the Positive Side

- Smart regulatory interventions can boost inclusion, competition, and consumer trust.
- Women and vulnerable groups could benefit from a safer and well-governed digital environment leading to better empowerment opportunities.

On the Other Hand

- Costly compliance may have significant impact on startups or smaller digital players.
- AI bias & automated moderation can unintentionally silence marginalized voices or local languages.

Inclusion requires concrete rules, not just rhetoric



Regional Insights & Key References

Some APAC Examples:

- **Australia** – Online Safety Act & AI Safety Policy
- **India** – IT Rules 2021 + draft AI framework
- **Indonesia & Philippines** – AI ethics & data protection drafts

Global References:

- **EU Digital Services Act (DSA)** – Transparency & accountability baseline
- **EU AI Act (2024)** – Risk-based AI governance
- **OECD Principles on Digital Platforms (2023)** – Fairness & explainability
- **ASEAN DEFA** – Regional data trust & interoperability
- **UN ESCAP / GDIP research** – Inclusive platform and AI policy models

Thank you.



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