

Template to be filled in by each Dynamic Coalition taking part in the main session

Name of Dynamic Coalition	Dynamic Coalition on Innovative Approaches to Connecting the Unconnected (DC-Connecting the Unconnected)
Representative in the main session	Prof. Christopher Yoo
How has the work of the DC during the COVID-19 pandemic helped contribute to the socio-economic renewal of the economy ¹	<p>Internet connectivity has proven critical to ensuring service delivery and business continuity during COVID-19. Connecting the unconnected, the focus of the DC, has helped inform governments and other stakeholders on policy measures and case studies to replicate and tailor to their contexts. This DC provided systematically analysed examples which governments and other stakeholders can draw lessons from to make informed choices on connectivity efforts. Specific contributions were made to the UNESCO Chair for ICT4D, EQUALS and the GIGA initiative.</p> <p>In light of the health crisis, the DC ramped up communications efforts on its case studies that focus on providing telemedicine and digital health interventions. The DC profiled the VITAL network (telemedicine in remote island in Vanuatu) and DoctorGratis (use of mobile phones by public to ask questions to doctors in Indonesia), whose solutions may have widespread relevance in this context.</p> <p>In collaboration with multiple partners, the DC contributed to developing guidelines for governments to restart education activities with a focus on marginalised groups. The DC participated in extensive discussions and consultation on the revival of the education system to guide note aimed at guiding governments towards developing robust</p>

¹ For example: *identifying ways to ensure access and safety for groups at risk; addressing issues of connectivity, sustainability and freedom of speech under the crisis*

	<p>connectivity infrastructure to deliver quality education.</p>
<p>Has the work of the DC during the COVID-19 pandemic identified any activities related to its work that could contribute to the socio-economic renewal of the economy after the pandemic ends</p>	<p>Connectivity is a driver of socio-economic activities and after the pandemic ends, it will play an important role to the socio-economic renewal.</p> <p>The DC has been involved in two major initiatives focusing on the post-pandemic period.</p> <p>The first one is the EMM-Post Covid-19 which, through extensive consultations, developed guidelines on what governments need to do to revive the education system and focus on including marginalized communities. The DC contributed to the initiative mainly providing detailed examples from which governments can draw lessons. A detailed report on this initiative will be publicly available for adoption by governments.</p> <p>The second initiative is the Broadband Commission Working Group on School Connectivity, led by GIGA (ITU + UNICEF). Through the initiative, the DC has identified three priority activities which governments and stakeholders must focus on which are: mapping, finance, and empowerment. These activities are designed to speed up connectivity which in turn can contribute to socio-economic renewal of the economy after the pandemic ends.</p>
<p>How can this DC, in collaboration with other DCs, engage the wider IGF community to develop innovative ways to achieve global, inclusive socio-economic renewal, and get the SDGs back on track?</p>	<p>Systematic analysis of initiatives based on accurate data is important towards understanding initiatives which work towards achieving global, inclusive socio-economic renewal and SDGs. Collaborative efforts by all DCs can help achieve this goal.</p> <p>In addition, the DC, other DCs and the wider IGF can diversify their outreach to relevant communities through innovative communications. Towards this</p>

goal, this DC is developing material in different forms including websites, podcasts, and briefs (policy and regional) accessible to the wider IGF.

The DC aims to continue contributing to efforts to get the SDGs back on track through participation in different collaboration e.g. EQUALS and continuing to gather data on, profile and systematically analyse connectivity initiatives.