



IGF Dynamic Coalition on Community Connectivity (DC3)

2026 Report – Call for Resources

Digital Public Infrastructures for Community Networks

Background:

The Dynamic Coalition on Community Connectivity (DC3) is a multistakeholder group part of the [United Nations Internet Governance Forum \(IGF\)](#), dedicated to promoting the discussion on community networks (CNs). DC3 furthers analysis of how CNs may help create sustainable Internet connectivity while empowering Internet users.

Further information regarding DC3 and its outcomes (including previous books and reports) can be found on the [IGF website](#) as well as on www.comconnectivity.org. All DC3 reports are freely available under Creative Commons License.

Call:

DC3 invites all interested individuals to submit papers and essays, exploring how Digital Public Infrastructures (DPIs) can support the development of Community Networks (CNs) and, vice versa, how CNs can maximise the adoption and development of DPIs.

Community Networks (CNs) are connectivity initiatives managed through governance models established democratically by their community members. They may be operated by self-organized groups of individuals or entities, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), local businesses, or public administrations. The emerging debate on Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) is defined as a set of shared digital systems, such as foundational IDs, payment platforms, and data exchanges, that underpin inclusive public and private services, thus connecting directly to the community connectivity debates promoted by DC3.

While DPI is frequently framed as a state-driven endeavour, CNs demonstrate that experiments with DPIs are already being pioneered at the grassroots level by communities themselves. DC3 invites all interested individuals to submit papers and essays on Digital Public Infrastructures for Community Networks. Accepted contributions will be compiled in



the DC3 2026 report, to be launched at the annual DC3 meeting, during the IGF 2026. Papers and essays must be submitted by **31 July 2026** and explore relevant issues such as (but not limited to):

1. Community-Centric Identity & Privacy

- Decentralized Identifiers (DIDs): Empowering individuals to own their credentials without central database risks.
- Sovereign Enrolment: How community networks act as trusted registrars for foundational ID.

2. Interoperable Local Economies

- Community Currencies: Creating liquidity within micro-economies to build local resilience.
- Circular Economies: Digital tools that track and reward local resource sharing and trade.

3. Territorial Sovereignty & Environmental Mapping

- Participatory Mapping: Community-led land registries to document traditional territories.
- Deforestation & Mining Monitoring: Using low-cost sensors and community data to provide real-time environmental alerts.
- Open Environmental Data: Turning grassroots observations into Digital Public Goods for global climate action.

4. Governance of the Digital Commons

- Data Stewardship: Defining who owns, manages, and benefits from the data generated by community networks.
- Collaborative Regulation: Creating "sandboxes" where community networks can test new DPI (like local payment rails or decentralized IDs) without needing a full-scale national carrier license.

5. Resilient Infrastructure as a Public Good

- Hardware Commons: Open-source routers and towers that can be repaired and maintained locally.
- Spectrum as a Commons: Policy advocacy for unlicensed or community-managed frequency bands.
- Disaster Resilience: Why decentralized, community-owned infrastructure stays online when centralized grids fail.



Submission Guidelines:

Papers and essays will be selected based on their pertinence to the suggested topic of interest, even if they have been previously published.

The length of the paper submissions should be between 2000 and 8000 words. Essays should be between 1200 and 2500 words. All submissions shall be in **English**. Authors shall use footnotes rather than endnotes and submission should be in **Microsoft Word or OpenDocument Text format**.

Submissions of papers and essays are due on **31 July 2026**. They should include the following elements:

- Title
- Short **abstract** highlighting key points of the paper or essay (maximum 200 words)
- First draft of the submitted paper or essay
- Use **footnotes** rather than endnotes
- References should be in **APA Style**
- Author's name, affiliation and short bibliographical note (in the body of the email)

Submissions must be sent to luca.belli@fgv.br and senka.hadzic@gmail.com using "**DC3 2026 Submission**" as email subject.

All submitted papers will be subject to peer review. Authors will be given the opportunity to improve their contributions based on the review.

Selected papers will be published into the DC3 Report, which will be published in open access, under Creative Commons licenses.

Authors will also be invited to present their work at the annual DC3 meeting to be held at the United Nations Internet Governance Forum, in Q4 2026, in a hybrid format.

This call was elaborated through an open process via the DC3 mailing list, which is open to all interested individuals.