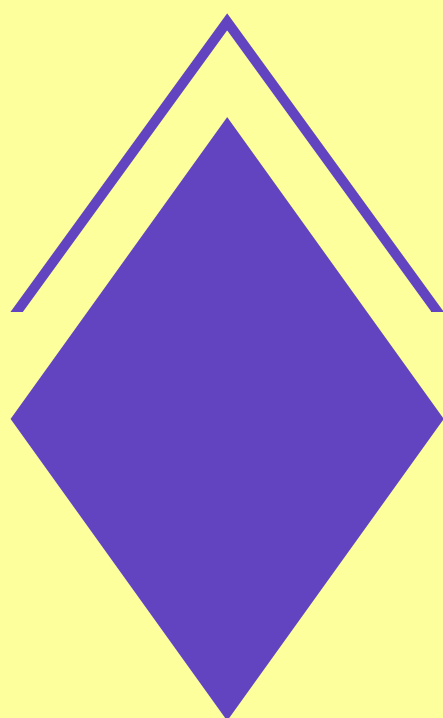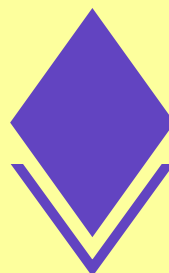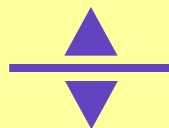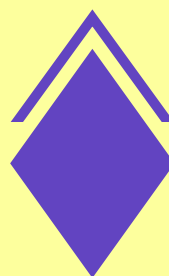# IGF 2024

Input:
IGF Day 3 Event

Open Forum #33
Open Consultation
Process Meeting for
WSIS Forum 2025

Input: Fit for Future – Open Forum #33 Open Consultation Process Meeting for WSIS Forum 2025

Given the adoption of the Global Digital Compact, the following issues must be centred in the WSIS+20 review processes.

We need to underscore the foundational principle of governing the Internet as a global public good as the basis for future global digital cooperation, and not the idea of Internet as a global utility.

Secondly, digital divides have continued to yawn wide -- there are new divides in data capabilities in addition to the divides in connectivity - and the missed opportunity in the Global Digital Compact to commit to dedicated public financing targets for digital and data infrastructure development in the majority world must be addressed in the WSIS review. We need to set concrete targets for digital infrastructure financing in financing for development mechanisms.

The action line on ethics in the information society needs to be reinvigorated to further the effective promotion and protection of human rights in the digital context, particularly Big Tech impunity. The relationship between economic monopolies and market concentration and the vitiation of human rights in digital value chains needs to be underscored.

We need a data and AI constitutionalism at the global level urgently. The issue of digital biopiracy in digital gene sequences is now being discussed at the WHO, CBD processes, and FAO and is a good illustration of how the arc of data governance is outpaced by the arc of tech advancements. We need rules on cross-border data flows from a development justice basis. Political quest for digital sovereignty as infrastructural autonomy must be accounted for in data and AI standards development processes.

Finally, the role of the IGF in the current context where the field of Internet-related public policy issues has expanded beyond what the WGIG imagined needs to be re-thought -- how can the IGF fulfil the mandate in Para 72 on digital governance in the post GDC context keeping in line with the WSIS principle ?