

Global Digital Justice Forum's Input for the Virtual Consultation on Rev 2 of the Pact for the Future

IT for Change

July 2024



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Dear Co-facilitators,

The [Global Digital Justice Forum](#) would like to submit the following input on Rev 2 of the Pact for the Future.

We commend the Rev 2 of the Pact for the Future for firming up the commitment on financing for SDGs, particularly the call to fulfil the official development assistance (ODA) commitments.

However, we would like to flag three critical areas where Rev 2 needs to intensify concrete commitments to ensure that the Pact is effective, especially towards a resilient digital future:

- One, the Pact should commit to remove IP barriers that impede the transfer of digital technologies to developing countries on mutually agreed terms. It should also give more thrust on the flexibilities available in the international intellectual property rights regime to ensure access to knowledge and the benefits of science and innovation, and participation of people in co-creation of technological innovation ecosystems to further the right to development for all, particularly citizens of developing countries.
- Two, the Pact must extend the commitment to scale up and fulfil official development assistance for digital infrastructure development. Overreliance on private and blended financing mechanisms for digital innovation has failed to prioritize digital innovation that is inclusive and oriented towards public interest and societal good. Hence, public financing of digital infrastructure development through ODA and innovative mechanisms like the Digital Development Tax proposed by the UN Secretary-General is imperative to bridge the science, technology, and innovation gap within and between developed and developing countries and Least Developed Countries.
- Three, the Pact must call for enacting legislation that enforces a binding duty of care on transnational corporations to protect human rights across the entirety of their value chains, including virtualized business operations.
- Four, the Pact must explicitly recognize the linkages between the ongoing digital transformation and the exacerbation of the climate crisis, to ensure our adaptation and mitigation strategies are adequate to achieve a sustainable digital transition.

Thank you!

