

Policy Network on Artificial Intelligence (PNAI)

Work Plan Proposal for 2025

2. Description

This 2025 Policy Network on AI (PNAI) proposal builds on the Network's work completed in 2024 and 2023. The genesis of the PNAI arises from the discussions held at the UN IGF 2022 main session on Addressing Advanced Technologies, including Artificial Intelligence. The draft Addis Messages concluded that the "IGF could be used as a platform for developing cooperation mechanisms on artificial intelligence (AI). A policy network on artificial intelligence could be considered for the upcoming work streams in order to review the implementation of different principles with appropriate tools and metrics."

The IGF Messages further described important aspects that should be addressed at the global level and in a multistakeholder format, including:

- The development of representative and inclusive global standards will require the participation of the Global South and inputs from regional initiatives, as a means to tackle regional inequalities in how AI is conceived, developed and deployed.
- AI should be genuinely human-centred and environmentally protective by design, embodying all voices and used responsibly, with a commitment to fairness, accountability, transparency, trustworthiness, equity and respect for all forms of being.
- Upholding the rights of historically marginalised groups and individuals is fundamental to hinder the deepening of inequalities, now through automated means. Stakeholder collaboration is necessary as societies grapple with managing AI deployment and the rapid evolution of machine learning.

With that in mind, the Policy Network on Artificial Intelligence (PNAI) was formed with stakeholders from different fields and regions of the world. From the very beginning, its goal has been, to become the institutional home for global policy research, debates and recommendation-making to address AI governance, policy responses and related aspects of data governance. Its main objective has been to do so in a way that is inclusive of voices that are usually marginalized from AI policy debates.

The PNAI has also built on the IGF's global reach and its leadership in convening a multistakeholder platform for open and inclusive policy discussions on Internet governance and digital policy matters. Further, it is also an effort to respond to the call of the UN Secretary-General in his "Our Common Agenda" report for a Global Digital Compact (GDC) to address, among other things, "Advanced Technologies, including AI".

The results of PNAI's work during 2024 was presented in the report "**The AI Governance We Want, Call to action: Liability, Interoperability, Sustainability & Labour**", which includes four thematic topics: (i) Liability as a mechanism for supporting AI accountability (ii) Environmental sustainability within the

Generative AI value chain, (iii) AI governance, interoperability, and good practices, and (iv) Labour issues throughout AI's life cycle.

The Report results were presented and discussed during one of the main sessions at the IGF 2024 in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, which was called "AI Governance We Want - Call to action: Liability, Interoperability, Sustainability & Labour". The Policy Network's work and the results of the report were reflected positively during the session by the speakers, who stressed the importance of PNAI as a multistakeholder platform in global AI governance. Participants also praised its capacity to respond to the needs and voices of diverse stakeholders, especially from the Global South, as well as to facilitate sustainable AI development and capacity building.

Besides PNAI's work towards the IGF, the Network **also contributed to external international processes related to Artificial Intelligence. PNAI made submissions to the UN Secretary General's High-Level Advisory Body on AI (HLAB) and several members spoke in the GDC open consultations.**

The first report of the PNAI in 2023, titled "**Strengthening multistakeholder approach to global AI governance, protecting the environment and human rights in the era of generative AI**", included three thematic topics: (i) interoperability of AI governance; (ii) race and gender inclusion; and (iii) governing AI for a just twin transition. The report explicitly focused on AI and related aspects of data governance issues concerning the Global South, in continuation of the recommendations brought forth during the IGFs 2022 and 2023.

PNAI's working spirit and commitment to a multi-stakeholder approach were also highly appreciated during the session. There was a consensus that the PNAI's work should continue, and participants provided recommendations on what topics it should focus on during 2025.

After the IGF, members from the PNAI expressed their support and commitment to continue PNAI's work in 2025. Being a crucial year for the IGF's renewal discussions and with the annual event in June, members plan to focus on a few key areas.

These include to:

- Continue engaging in AI discussion Forums: This includes making submissions, as well as articulating the work done by the PNAI.
- Provide concrete ideas and plan on how the IGF can integrate GDC implementation in its work going forward from 2026 pertaining to AI.

3. Connection to the IGF and other IG processes

Over the past years, the IGF has explored various aspects of AI.

At IGF 2024, discussions on AI and its governance took centre stage. These include, discussions related to interoperability, ethics, sustainability, AI deployment, Generative AI etc. There was a call for the need to encourage responsible, fair, safe, accountable, inclusive and sustainable development and use of AI, AI

applications to uphold human rights, democratic values and the rule of law; adopting a responsible AI lifecycle, Ensuring accountability and transparency of Generative AI; minimizing the risks of AI while balancing AI innovation and regulation; and the role of Multistakeholder collaboration on AI governance.

Additionally, the plethora of AI governance frameworks and regulation proposals around the globe, and many organisations, governmental or not, continue to strive to make sense of them and develop interventions. These works have also been under the spotlight in many of the IGF’s discussions and of other internet governance fora around the world.

The PNAI aims to continue building on previous discussions, policy discourses, and the breadth of knowledge on this topic that has been accumulated by the IGF community, and thus develop a systematic approach and framework as a base for focused conversations. This work also aims to facilitate more inclusive multilateral AI governance through a bottom-up approach.

The PNAI community also acknowledges to provide input to the open consultations for the Independent International Scientific Panel on AI and Global Dialogue on AI and the implementation of GDC.

4. Planned deliverables

For its third year (2025), the PNAI will build upon its first two years of work while adding new dimensions to the discussions, as agreed by its members. The community thus proposes to:

1. Prepare a report that summarizes the ideas and plan on how the IGF can integrate GDC implementation in its work going forward from 2026. This may include
2. Engage in AI Discussion Processes and Forums: Continue engaging in forums discussing AI. This includes, tracking the developments, making submissions and articulate the work of the PNAI in various forums.

5. Proposed Timeline

Month	Day	Milestone
Feb	4	PNAI meeting (discussion on 2025 work plan proposal)
Feb	5-7	First Open Consultation and MAG Meeting - Discussion and approval of IGF Policy Networks
Feb	1-14	PNAI Input submission to the Independent International Scientific Panel on AI and Global Dialogue on AI
Feb	10-11	(For information) AI Action Summit, Paris, and launch of the Network for Civil Society and Academia together with UNESCO
Feb	18	Informal Consultation on Independent International Scientific Panel on AI and Global Dialogue on AI
Feb	end	PNAI - Meeting to discuss the sub committees and work distribution based on PNAI’s final plan
Mar		PNAI Meeting
Mar	19	(For information) Issuance of Zero Draft of the Independent International Scientific Panel on AI and Global Dialogue on AI

Apr		PNAI Meeting
Apr	1	(For information) First Reading of the Independent International Scientific Panel on AI and Global Dialogue on AI
Apr	11	(For information) Second Reading of the Independent International Scientific Panel on AI and Global Dialogue on AI
Apr	24	(For information), Third Reading of the Independent International Scientific Panel on AI and Global Dialogue on AI
May		Engage in EURO DIG 2025 PNAI Meeting
May		Engage in AfIGF 2025
Jun	4-5	(For information) UNESCO Global Forum on AI and Digital Transformation in the Public Sector , Paris & online
Jun		Annual Meeting of the Internet Governance Forum -PNAI Session @IGF2025 and interim report
Jul	7, 8-11	WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event and AI for Good, Geneva and online
Sep	tbc	Engage in LACIGF 2025
Oct	tbc	Engage in AprIGF Nepal
Nov	tbc	Finalise the report of PNAI 2025
Dec		

***It is suggested that PNAI selects a list of key AI-related events, in which the Network could actively contribute or participate in 2025.**

List of Key AI related events:

1. [Informal Consultation on Independent International Scientific Panel on AI and Global Dialogue on AI](#) (input 1-14 February, consultation on 18 February)
2. GDC implementation roadmap (April)
3. [Global Forum on AI and Digital Transformation in the Public Sector](#) (4-5 June 2025, Paris and online)
4. [WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event and AI for Good](#) (7, 8-11 July, Geneva and online)

6. Engagement and outreach plan:

Based on the above, the PNAI community proposes to carry out its work in the following ways:

- Encourage widespread participation from all stakeholder groups through focused invitations at the outset of the process. Special attention will be given to promoting the participation of representatives from the Global South, including through specific open calls and invitations made to organisations from the region and non-English speaking communities. This will focus on:
 - Creating a multi-stakeholder steering group including representatives of the proposing organisations and other relevant institutions, especially from the Global South, to form a balanced group based on stakeholder sector, geography, gender, and ethnicity.

- Creating a broad network of contributors, including from the supporting organisations, their communities, and partners; organisations from the IGF community who have previously worked/presented on these topics; academics, researchers, and think tanks who have published on these topics, as well as representatives from governments, industry and academia. This broader network would act as the primary community for input to the PN's work, but also as multipliers to the PN's outputs.
- Cooperate with other actors and groups interested in the same area with special focus on UN agencies and collaborating organisations.
- Leverage the extensive network of NRIs and DCs to increase participation from experts, especially in LDCs and SIDS.
- Present progress of the work at key junctions of the IGF 2025 cycle and at the 2025 IGF annual meeting;
- Share learnings and progress at relevant conferences and other thematic events outside of the IGF.

The United Nations Internet Governance Forum's Policy Network on Artificial Intelligence represents a pivotal space to gather the voices of experts from the most diverse backgrounds with the common mission to contribute to the multidimensional AI policy debate in a manner that is inclusive, multistakeholder and sensitive to the challenges faced by historically marginalised groups.

Continuing the work initiated by the PNAI in 2024 is key to pushing this objective forward, and the fact that the capacity of the PNAI to accomplish such a goal with excellence has been recognised within the IGF 2024 is representative of how the Network's contribution to the global AI policy debate is crucial to promote representativity.

In this sense, the PNAI Community cordially presents this proposal to the consideration of the IGF's Multistakeholder Advisory Group, from which the Network also welcomes potential suggestions for its work.

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