



# Global Digital Compact

## Contribute to the Global Digital Compact: A How-To Guide

(version 9 March 2023)

Following the [political declaration adopted at the occasion of the United Nations' 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary](#), the Secretary-General of the United Nations Antonio Guterres in September 2021 released his report [Our Common Agenda](#). Among its broad proposals for the future of multilateralism, and building on [the Secretary-General's Roadmap for Digital Cooperation](#), the Common Agenda proposes a Global Digital Compact to be agreed at the Summit of the Future which will be held in September 2023. The Secretary-General has proposed that the Compact would be the main outcome of a multistakeholder technology track (involving all stakeholders: governments, the United Nations system, the private sector, civil society, and individuals, including youth) at the 2023 Summit.

The UN Secretariat is now supporting the Co-facilitators, Rwanda and Sweden, who are leading the intergovernmental process on the Global Digital Compact. More information on the Global Digital Compact is available in this [Background Note](#).

You too can be involved in this preparatory phase for the Global Digital Compact – contributing your ideas, opinions and inputs on what you think the digital future should look like. The Secretary-General has proposed that the Global Digital Compact “outline shared principles for an open, free and secure digital future for all” and we want to hear from everyone interested. This is why the United Nations has opened an online space where anyone anywhere can contribute their views.


### How can you contribute?


#### *Hold a Consultation*

We encourage anyone or any entity/organization to consider convening a dialogue or session to discuss inputs to the Global Digital Compact with others and your network. The format of these sessions is flexible and the end goal of your consultations is to generate inputs to be submitted to the United Nations.

#### *Submit Inputs*

The Office of the Envoy on Technology has opened a dedicated space with background information and updates on the Global Digital Compact at [www.un.org/techenvoy/global-digital-compact](http://www.un.org/techenvoy/global-digital-compact). The site contains the [link to the survey form](#) where inputs can be submitted through April 2023, and a public display of submissions.





All inputs will be consolidated by the Secretariat before presentation to the United Nations Member States and the public in preparation for the Global Digital Compact. At this point, we anticipate the public platform to be open till 30 April 2023.

### **Holding a Consultation/Dialogue**

All individuals, organizations and entities are welcome to hold sessions and meetings, in whatever format (in-person, virtual, hybrid) that they feel comfortable with, to prepare for their inputs. It is up to you who to include in your dialogue/consultation, how many sessions you wish to do, and how you organize and structure it. This can be a stand-alone meeting, dedicating a block of time during regular or existing meetings, or a side-event alongside another ongoing conference.

The goal of your consultation is to generate good discussion and input that will then form the basis of your submission with inputs to the Global Digital Compact. Accordingly, you can decide if you wish to take up all the issues mentioned in the Common Agenda, or if you'd like to focus only on a few, or one area, depending on your group's interest. The time and format is up to you!


We recommend that ahead of your consultation/dialogue, you provide some background material on the Global Digital Compact (feel free to use this [Background Note](#)) and what you are aiming to achieving from the consultation/dialogue. You are welcome to use the [Compact visuals](#) (available in all 6 official UN languages) for your communications, publications or social media coverage (#GlobalDigitalCompact), as well as this [introductory video](#) produced by the World Wide Web Foundation with other stakeholder partners.

Good practices to keep in mind when holding a consultation:

1. Be open and inclusive
2. Make the consultation participatory
3. Be respectful of other people's rights and opinions
4. Consider collaborating with like-minded organisations and individuals; based on your research of similar stakeholder groups and relevant processes
5. Take notes and or photos and share on social media with #DigitalCooperation or #globaldigitalcompact
6. Make it enjoyable for all participants

### **Submitting your views to the United Nations**

You can submit your inputs and contributions on behalf of yourself or your entity/organization via this [survey form](#). *(Note: If you are submitting your inputs to the United Nations as an individual, you can do so without holding any prior consultations or meetings.)*



Please note that all inputs and submissions will be considered public and sharable to anyone<sup>1</sup>, upon request. We apologize that at this time, due to resource and time limitations, the survey form is in English and responses displayed on the data dashboard will be in English only.

When submitting your inputs, you will be asked to self-identify as either an individual or submitting this on behalf of an organization/entity. Further details will also be asked e.g. your geographical scope of your activity, as well as any process that you may have undertaken to prepare your inputs. See snapshots of the survey pages in annex to this note.

#### *Thematic Areas on which to submit contributions*

In the survey, you will be asked which of the key digital issues that the Common Agenda report suggests for the Global Digital Compact that you would like to cover:

- Connect all people to the internet, including all schools
- Avoid internet fragmentation
- Protect data
- Apply human rights online
- Introduce accountability criteria for discrimination and misleading content
- Promote regulation of artificial intelligence
- Digital commons as a global public good

The survey will give you opportunity to suggest content for these areas, and to suggest additional issues not mentioned in the Our Common Agenda that you think should be included in the Global Digital Compact.

We are conscious of the need for succinct and concrete inputs, so that these can best inform the content of and subsequent negotiations on the Global Digital Compact. As such, for each area; we request that the submissions be focused on the following two specific aspects:

- **First: core principles that all governments, companies, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders should adhere to; and**
- **Second: key commitments to bring about these specific principles. These can take the form of what you think “should” be done, and/or based on what you/your organization has already committed to do.**

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<sup>1</sup> If you would like to make a submission that you prefer the UN Secretariat not make public but only keep for its own internal records, please contact us at [digitalcompact@un.org](mailto:digitalcompact@un.org).



## After Submission of Inputs

Inputs submitted via the survey form will be part of an interactive dashboard display, which is publicly available for all to examine and search through inputs, in greater detail. Additional supplementary information that is emailed may be posted separately<sup>2</sup>.

Following your submission, the Office of the Envoy on Technology may follow-up with respondents to seek further information.

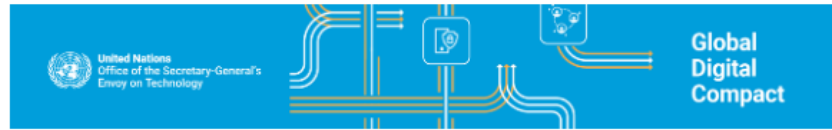
Based on the inputs received as well as other consultations and research conducted by the United Nations, the Secretariat will compile the material and present this to United Nations Member States.

For any questions or clarification, please contact [digitalcompact@un.org](mailto:digitalcompact@un.org). We look forward to hearing from you!

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<sup>2</sup> We reserve the right not to make available on our website any material or submission that is deemed not substantively relevant to the Global Digital Compact, offensive, inappropriate or in violation of the United Nations Charter and values. In addition, any submission that is not verifiable as being attributed to a legitimate individual or entity will not be accepted or published.

Annex: Snapshot of survey pages (accessible [here](#))



**Submission of Inputs for the Global Digital Compact**

*Responses submitted through this survey, including the submitter's name and title (but not specific contact details) will be made public. Please keep this in mind when making your submission.*

**I. Details**

Please select whether you are answering this survey for yourself or on behalf of an entity or organization.

*Note: If you are providing information on behalf of an entity or organization, it will be understood to represent a submission from the entire entity or organization and will be reflected on the public site accordingly.*

- Individual
- Entity/Organization

**Geographic Scope of Activity**

- Global
- Regional
- Country

**Contact information for submission**

Name

Title

Email Address

Email address (confirm)

## II. Process of consultation/preparation

Describe the process you followed to collect, consult, and prepare your input.

What is the approximate number of entities that were engaged through process of consultation/preparation of input?

- 0-25
- 26-50
- 51-100
- More than 100 (please specify)

What is the approximate number of people engaged through process of consultation/preparation of input?

- 1-4
- 5-25
- 26-50
- 51-100
- 101-500
- 501-1000
- More than 1000 (please specify)

## III. Inputs to the Global Digital Compact

*There are seven areas of the Global Digital Compact mentioned in the Secretary-General's Common Agenda on which you are invited to submit inputs. In addition, if there are any additional areas that you feel should also be included in the Global Compact, please submit them under the category of "Other Areas" below.*

*For each area, we ask that you submit your views and inputs, organized along the following two aspects:*

- a) Core principles that all governments, companies, civil society organisations and other stakeholders should adhere to
- b) Key commitments, pledges, or actions that in your view should be taken by different stakeholders – governments, private sector, civil society, etc. - in order to realize the above-mentioned principles (please be as specific and action-oriented as possible.)

*While submissions in this form are limited to 2500 characters per text box, you may also submit any additional inputs or elaboration (submission to be made in PDF format) via email to [digitalcompact@un.org](mailto:digitalcompact@un.org). Please note, however, that while your submission will be made available online subsequently, it will not be part of automated data visualization results which is based on this form.*

Please select the areas on which you would like to submit inputs

- 1. Connect all people to the internet, including all schools
- 2. Avoid internet fragmentation
- 3. Protect data
- 4. Apply human rights online
- 5. Accountability for discrimination and misleading content
- 6. Regulation of artificial intelligence
- 7. Digital commons as a global public good
- 8. Other areas



For each area that you selected previously, we ask that you submit your views and inputs, organized along the following two aspects:

- i) Core principles that all governments, companies, civil society organisations and other stakeholders should adhere to; and
- ii) Key commitments, pledges, or actions that in your view should be taken by different stakeholders – governments, private sector, civil society, etc.

**1. Connect all people to the internet, including all schools**

a) *Core Principles*

2500 characters left.

b) *Key Commitment/ Pledges/ Actions*

2500 characters left.

**Any other comments on the Global Digital Compact?**

**Would you like to be included on the email list for updates on future developments on the Global Digital Compact? If so, please include the specific emails to be added.**

- No  Yes (please provide email)

**Would you like to submit additional documentation in support of the information you have provided in this survey?**

- Yes  No

