

GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE 2025

October 28–30, 2025
Clermont-Ferrand, France

VISIT THE CONFERENCE
WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO

[CONF2025.GDN.INT](https://conf2025.gdn.int)



INCLUSIVE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

SOCIAL IMPACTS AND
TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS

WORKING AGENDA

Organiser:



Co-organisers:



Main Supporters:



DAY 1: Tuesday, October 28			DAY 2: Wednesday, October 29		DAY 3: Thursday, October 30	
MORNING	PLENARY SESSION 1 BEYOND CONNECTIVITY: BUILDING INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE DIGITAL ECONOMIES HOSTED BY ADB		PLENARY SESSION 3 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND THE STATE: SHAPING GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT IN LMICS		PLENARY SESSION 5 DIGITAL SOVEREIGNTY OR DIGITAL IMPERIALISM? POWER AND CONTROL IN OUR DIGITAL FUTURE	
	PLENARY SESSION 2 THE TWIN TRANSITIONS: ALIGNING DIGITALISATION WITH GREEN AGENDAS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT		PLENARY SESSION 4 DIGITAL FINANCE FOR ALL? INNOVATIONS, RISKS, AND REGULATION IN LMICS		PLENARY SESSION 6 BEYOND ACCESS: ACHIEVING TRUE DIGITAL EQUITY AND INCLUSION FOR ALL	
AFTERNOON	WORKSHOP 1 FORESIGHT THINKING ON THE USE OF AI IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (PART 1) - IHEDD_FERDI/IMF	GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT AWARDS COMPETITION (GDAC) ORD 2025 FINALS	WORKSHOP 7 CRYPTO CURRENCY	GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT AWARDS COMPETITION (GDAC) MIDP 2025 FINALS	WORKSHOP 13 FORESIGHT THINKING ON THE USE OF AI IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (PART 2) - IHEDD_FERDI/IMF	CFP SESSION 2 (Supported by ADB) DIGITAL GOVERNANCE FOR INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT
	WORKSHOP 2 BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE: SYSTEMS THINKING FOR EQUITY & GOVERNANCE - IMPACT DRAGONFLY	STORYTELLING WORKSHOP GLOBALDEV BLOG	WORKSHOP 8 USING OFFLINE DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY IN SOME OF THE MOST ISOLATED AND HARD TO REACH COMMUNITIES IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH - 60 MILLION GIRLS FOUNDATION	HOW TO WRITE AN ARTICLE GLOBALDEV BLOG	PARALLEL SESSION 3 RESEARCH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING & DIGITALISATION - GDN	CREATING INFOGRAPHICS AND DATA VISUALISATION GLOBALDEV BLOG
	WORKSHOP 3 DIGITAL PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE AND STATE CAPACITY: TAX AS A USE CASE - IDS	NOTE: Workshops (1,2 and 3), GDAC ORD Finals and the GlobalDev Workshop will run in parallel	WORKSHOP 9 USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN THE RECRUITMENT AND PREPARATION OF MIGRANT WORKERS: CASE STUDY - UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCE LUDWIGSBURG	NOTE: Workshops (7,8 and 9), GDAC MIDP Finals and the GlobalDev Workshop will run in parallel	PARALLEL SESSION 4 ALTERNATIVE DATA FOR CREDIT SCORING: UNLOCKING SME FINANCING IN THE DIGITAL AGE - ESMT BERLIN GMBH	NOTE: Workshop 13, Parallel Sessions (3 and 4), CFP Session 2, and the GlobalDev Workshop will run in parallel
	WORKSHOP 4 GENERATIVE AI FOR DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS: CRITICAL LITERACY & PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS - IMPACT DRAGONFLY	PARALLEL SESSION 1 FISCAL POLICY FOR THE DIGITAL & TELECOM SECTOR IN DEVELOPING NATIONS: DRIVING INNOVATION AND REVENUE - FERDI/CERDI	WORKSHOP 10 MISSION-ORIENTED INNOVATION TO CLOSE DIGITAL DIVIDES - OECD	PARALLEL SESSION 2 DPI FOR THE POOR: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES - FERDI	PARALLEL SESSION 5 SCALING INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS - 5D INNOVATION FRAMEWORK - UNICEF	PARALLEL SESSION 8 RETHINKING RESEARCH FOR DEVELOPMENT IN MENA: TOWARD OPEN, NETWORKED, AND EQUITABLE INNOVATION - ERF/GDN
	WORKSHOP 5 CENTERING COMMUNITY POWER IN DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT: A FEMINIST PHILANTHROPY APPROACH - ANB & ASSOCIÉS	COMMUNIQUER PLUS EFFICACEMENT SA RECHERCHE - ÉCRIRE POUR LES DÉCIDEURS GLOBALDEV BLOG	WORKSHOP 11 SKILLS AND MINDSETS DRIVING YOUTH ACCESS TO GLOBAL DIGITAL LEADERSHIP - YULIYA MORENETS	CFP SESSION 1 (Supported by ADB) THE DIGITAL ECONOMY: TRANSFORMING FIRMS, TRADE, AND LABOR	PARALLEL SESSION 6 STAYING HUMAN IN A DIGITAL AGE: TECHNOLOGY, ETHICS, AND THE FUTURE OF LEARNING - DRUK GYALPO'S INSTITUTE	CFP SESSION 3 (Supported by ADB) TECHNOLOGY, FINANCE, AND RESILIENCE IN KEY SECTORS
	WORKSHOP 6 BUILDING DIGITAL BRIDGES THROUGH INCLUSIVE CO-CREATION - AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY	NOTE: Workshops (4, 5 and 6), Parallel Session 1 and the GlobalDev Workshop will run in parallel	WORKSHOP 12 IMPACT OF DIGITALISATION FOR TRANSFORMING RESEARCH SYSTEM - GDN	NOTE: Workshops (10,11 and 12), Parallel Session 2 and CFP Session 1 will run in parallel	PARALLEL SESSION 7 DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND FINANCIAL INCLUSION IN THE DEVELOPING SOUTH - GDN AND SANEM	NOTE: Parallel Sessions (5,6,7 and 8), and CFP Session 3 will run in parallel
	EVENING	KEYNOTE SESSION 1 SPEAKER: TBC		KEYNOTE SESSION 2 SPEAKER: TBC		KEYNOTE SESSION 3 NANDAN NILEKANI
CULTURAL ACTIVITY THEATRE PERFORMANCE		CULTURAL ACTIVITY SHORT FILM SCREENING		GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT AWARDS COMPETITION (GDAC) & CONFERENCE CONTESTS AWARD CEREMONY + CLOSING CEREMONY		

PLENARY SESSIONS

PLENARY SESSION 1

BEYOND CONNECTIVITY: BUILDING INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE DIGITAL ECONOMIES

This opening plenary sets the stage for the conference by moving the conversation beyond connectivity to focus on the quality and equity of economic participation in the digital age. The session will critically assess whether the new digital economy is fostering sustainable local entrepreneurship and decent work, or creating new forms of dependency, precarious labor, and market concentration, while also considering the ethical implications and dangers of data exploitation.

PLENARY SESSION 2

THE TWIN TRANSITIONS: ALIGNING DIGITALISATION WITH GREEN AGENDAS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

This session explores the critical nexus between digital transformation and environmental sustainability. It will move beyond a simple "tech for good" narrative to confront the trade-offs and policy coherence required to ensure that digitalization accelerates, rather than undermines, environmental goals, particularly in the context of achieving a just transition.

PLENARY SESSION 3

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND THE STATE: SHAPING GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT IN LMICS

This session moves beyond a basic overview of risks and opportunities to ask a more fundamental question: how is the rapid adoption of AI altering the very nature of state capacity, public administration, and development models in low- and middle-income countries? We will critically examine how governments are deploying AI as a tool for national governance—from public service delivery to cybersecurity—and the inherent tensions this creates for equity and human rights.

PLENARY SESSION 4

DIGITAL FINANCE FOR ALL? INNOVATIONS, RISKS, AND REGULATION IN LMICS

This panel discusses the rapid evolution of digital financial services (DFS) in developing countries. It will explore how DFS can drive financial inclusion while navigating regulatory challenges, consumer protection issues, and cybersecurity risks, aiming to chart a course for a financial future that is both technologically advanced and fundamentally inclusive.

PLENARY SESSION 5

DIGITAL SOVEREIGNTY OR DIGITAL IMPERIALISM? POWER AND CONTROL IN OUR DIGITAL FUTURE

Building on the discussion of economic opportunities, this session delves into the underlying power structures that govern the digital age. It confronts the core political economy questions of who owns, controls, and benefits from global digital infrastructure and data. This plenary will critically examine whether current trends are leading to true sovereignty or creating new, more subtle forms of dependency for developing nations.

PLENARY SESSION 6

BEYOND ACCESS: ACHIEVING TRUE DIGITAL EQUITY AND INCLUSION FOR ALL

This closing plenary synthesises the conference's discussions by focusing on the ultimate goal: achieving genuine digital equity at the human level. Moving beyond technical and infrastructure debates, this session will address the deeper dimensions of inclusion, including meaningful use, digital literacy, affordability, accessibility for persons with disabilities, and the specific challenges faced by women and other marginalised groups.