

# ***Digital Policy Making from Below – Ask the Impacted Sectors First***

**Hybrid event organized by Just Net Coalition at the**

**16th United National Internet Governance Forum (IGF)**

**December 06, 09.30-12.00 UTC**

**Ballroom A (onsite) /Online**

The [Just Net Coalition](#) (JNC) invites you to our hybrid event, ‘***Digital Policy Making from Below – Ask the Impacted Sectors First***’, taking place on December 6<sup>th</sup> 2021, from 09.30 to 12.00 UTC.

JNC has been convening regular events at the UN Internet Governance Forum’s (IGF) annual meetings, bringing key contemporary issues in digital justice, as well as JNC’s work and journey, into a public discussion. At the last in-person meeting, at the IGF Berlin in December 2019, we released the [JNC Manifesto for Digital Justice](#). In 2020, our virtual session at the IGF on ‘Digital Justice Conversations’, with a keynote from Saskia Sassen, saw a renewed commitment and dialogue towards a [Digital New Deal](#). This year, the IGF will be held at Katowice, Poland, in a hybrid format and we convene again to push the needle on a progressive agenda for digital justice.

It is crucial to open up avenues and create spaces for organizations and civil society from sectors that are actually impacted by the ‘digital’ – health, education, agriculture, labor, trade, finance, media, etc., that enable them to influence and shape digital policies. They should be able to engage with central digital policy issues such as 'who owns data', 'what are the appropriate rules of platform management', what is 'just and fair AI', etc. Such ‘sectoral actors’ need to be put into a sustained dialogue with actors in the digital arena on digital policy issues. This has to be undertaken in a manner that respects and employs their respective competences to together determine what is public interest in a digital society. This we think must be the future of how digital policy is made.

Just Net Coalition plans to orient itself towards building such possibilities, and appropriate networks and institutions, for cross-sectoral, participatory, digital policy making. The Coalition has embarked on a project in this regard, working with leading progressive organizations in various sectors.

At the event on ***Digital Policy Making from Below – Ask the Impacted Sectors First***, the first panel discussion will bring together some of the ‘sectoral organisations’ collaborating with JNC to present their views, ideas, as well as the current work that they are undertaking in JNC’s project on cross-sectoral engagement for digital policy making.

A second panel will pick up from the first panel’s presentations to build up a more general discussion about the way digital policies should be shaped with equitable and empowering participation of actors from the ‘impacted sectors’, **towards a new paradigm of digital policy making.**

In the end, we will have an open discussion on what role the Just Net Coalition, and other progressive groups, both in the digital arena and the ‘impacted sectors’, could play to develop the needed networks, as well as advocate for development of **the institutional conditions required for the new policy paradigm.** Here we will zoom in to explore some specific directions that JNC may take in the coming years.

We invite you to be a part of this urgent and important conversation.

## How to join:

- If attending in person, please join us at Ballroom A at the IGF venue in Katowice, Poland
- If attending virtually
  - If you are already registered to attend IGF, please add our [session](#) to your IGF schedule and click the register and attend option 24 hours before to receive your meeting link.
  - If you haven't registered for the IGF 2021, you can do so [here](#) to attend our sessions as well as other workshops.

## Agenda

Time Slot (UTC)	Session Details
9.30 to 9.35	Check-in
9.35 to 9.45	Opening remarks  Sean O'Siochru & Parminder Jeet Singh , Just Net Coalition – who will also anchor the event with its three panels
9.45 to 11.00	<b>Session 1 – A view from the sectors impacted by the ‘digital’</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lara Merling, International Trade Union Confederation</li><li>• Jun Ho Jung, People's Health Movement</li><li>• Chee Yoke Ling, Third World Network</li><li>• Cédric Leterme, The Tricontinental Centre</li><li>• Elenita Dãno, ETC Group</li></ul>
11.00-11.30	<b>Session 2 – ‘Impacted sectors first’ – A new paradigm of digital policy making</b>  <b>Speakers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Deborah James, Centre for Economic Policy and Research</li><li>• Nachiket Udupa, Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan</li><li>• Richard Hill, Association for Proper Internet Governance</li><li>• Amber Sinha, Center for Internet and Society</li></ul>
11.30-11.55	<b>Open discussion on the future role and directions of Just Net Coalition, and other progressive actors interested in digital policies</b>
11.55-12.00	<b>Closing remarks</b>