

Thematic Group on Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for cities

Update on the work of the U4SSC Thematic Groups

Presented by:

Ramy Ahmed Fathy, U4SSC Vice Chair and Leader of the Thematic Group on Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for cities

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Thematic Group on Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for cities



Thematic Group Leader

Ramy Ahmed Fathy (NTRA, Egypt)



Thematic Group Scope

The main objectives of the Thematic Group would be to act as a platform to bring city stakeholders, DPI implementers, digital public good DPI components, and other related stakeholders to discuss the technical requirements of DPI for cities to enable digital transformation at scale in an inclusive, and safe environment.



Thematic Group Topic Areas

This Thematic Group touches on governance and regulatory frameworks, technological infrastructure and technical specifications, security and privacy aspects and socio-economic impacts and inclusivity of DPI for cities.



Completed Deliverable



Building digital public
infrastructure for
cities and
communities

Leader:
Ramy Ahmed Fathy



This framework document provides a strategic roadmap for city leaders, ministers and policymakers to understand, design, and implement DPI that delivers real impact for people and communities.

Grounded in global experiences and aligned with key international frameworks – the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Pact for the Future, and the Global Digital Compact (GDC) – the document positions DPI for Cities as a critical tool for shaping the cities of tomorrow.

Building digital public infrastructure for cities and communities

Use Cases



Gender equality, social inclusion and human rights in urbanization

Decidim (Barcelona): Open-source platform for participatory governance.



Smart digital governance and data-driven urban management

Lisbon/Bristol: Cloud Operation Centre unifying city operations.



Multilateral cooperation and regional urban strategies

Brazil: Interoperable national registries linking welfare, land & ID.

Enabling policies and institutional foundations

Governance models for sustainable DPI

Stakeholders' engagement and public trust

Whole-of-government approach

Legal and regulatory frameworks



Ongoing Working Groups and Deliverables

Working Group 1

1

Governance and
regulatory
framework

Leader: Ronaldo
Moura (ANATEL)

Ongoing

Scope

This working group aims to develop governance and regulation around DPI. This includes legal/ regulatory frameworks, policies, oversight, rules for how DPI is governed and regulated, how different actors are held accountable. Also ensuring DPI operates under appropriate regulatory regimes that enable safe, interoperable, inclusive infrastructure.

Expected deliverable

“Governance and Regulatory Frameworks of DPI for Cities”

Upcoming Meetings in 2025 and 2026

- 2nd Week November 2025, 12:30 – 13:30 hours, Geneva time
- 1st Week December 2025, 12:30 – 13:30 hours, Geneva time
- 2nd Week February 2026, 3rd 12:30 – 13:30 hours, Geneva time

Ongoing Working Groups and Deliverables

Working Group 2

2

Technological
infrastructure and
technical
specifications

Leader: Jan Redlich
(Bonn Consulting
Group)

Ongoing

Scope

This working group is responsible of responsible for the technical side: what infrastructure is needed, what technical standards (interoperability, interfaces, data standards, protocols etc.), the physical/digital infrastructure components that cities need. Also technical design considerations, performance, scalability. Mapping standards and digital public goods that support infrastructure.

Expected deliverable

“Architectural Approaches and Implementation Strategies for Digital Public Infrastructure for Cities”

Upcoming Meetings in 2025 and 2026

- 1st Week November 2025, 12:30 – 13:30 hours, Geneva time
- 3rd Week November 2025, 12:30 – 13:30 hours, Geneva time
- 1st Week December 2025, 12:30 – 13:30 hours, Geneva time
- 2nd Week February 2026, 12:30 – 13:30 hours, Geneva time

Ongoing Working Groups and Deliverables

Working Group 3

3

Security and
privacy aspects

Leader: Leyi Zhang
(ZTE China)

Ongoing

Scope

This working group focuses on safeguarding privacy, data protection, cybersecurity and related risk mitigation. Includes exploring how security and privacy are embedded in design, what legal frameworks or technical controls are needed, ensuring user trust and safety in DPI.

Expected deliverable

“High Level Framework of Digital Public Infrastructure Security”

Upcoming Meetings in 2025 and 2026

- 2nd Week November 2025, 12:30 – 13:30 hours, Geneva time
- 1st Week December 2025, 12:30 – 13:30 hours, Geneva time
- 2nd Week February 2026, 3rd 12:30 – 13:30 hours, Geneva time

Ongoing Working Groups and Deliverables

Working Group 4

4

DPI Toolkits

Leaders: James Amatey and Houssam AlMasri

Ongoing

Scope

This working group develops tools, templates, practical guides, toolkits that cities/stakeholders can use: e.g. for implementing DPI components, for evaluation, for design, maybe for measuring maturity or readiness. These could include reference architectures, technical checklists, templates for contracts/regulation etc.

Expected deliverable

“Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) Toolkits for Smart Sustainable Cities”

Upcoming Meetings in 2025 and 2026

- 2nd Week November 2025, 12:30 – 13:30 hours, Geneva time
- 1st Week December 2025, 12:30 – 13:30 hours, Geneva time
- 2nd Week February 2026, 3rd 12:30 – 13:30 hours, Geneva time

Ongoing Working Groups and Deliverables

Working Group 5

5

Socio economic
impacts and
inclusivity

Leader: Katharine
Willis

Ongoing

Scope

This working group aims to ensure that DPI is inclusive, equitable, that socio-economic impacts (positive and negative) are considered. Issues like ensuring different social groups are not excluded, understanding how DPI can widen or reduce inequalities, ensuring access, affordability, relevance to local contexts. Studying inclusion, digital divides, capacity building etc.

Expected deliverable

“Socio-Economic Impact and Inclusivity of DPI for Cities”

Upcoming Meetings in 2025 and 2026

- 2nd Week November 2025, 12:30 – 13:30 hours, Geneva time
- 1st Week December 2025, 12:30 – 13:30 hours, Geneva time
- 2nd Week February 2026, 12:30 – 13:30 hours, Geneva time

For more information, please contact:

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Thank you!

