



## Three Day Online International Conference

### ***Emerging Technologies and Changing Dynamics of Information [ETCDI]***

#### **Organized by**

**India Centre of Excellence in Information Ethics (ICEIE), Centre for Digital Learning, Training and Resources (CDLTR), University of Hyderabad (India)**

**Information Ethics Network for Africa (IEN4A), Future Africa, University of Pretoria (South Africa)**

**Russian National IFAP Committee, Interregional Library Cooperation Centre (Russian Federation)**

**International Centre for Information Ethics (ICIE)**

**UNESCO Chair on Language Policies for Multilingualism, Federal University of Santa Catarina (Brazil)**

#### **Under the Auspices of**

**UNESCO Intergovernmental Information for All Programme (IFAP)**

#### **In association with**

**Confederation of Indian Industry, Telangana**

**September 7-9, 2021**

The surge of new technologies has been changing the face of information in all respects. This compels us to have a relook into different aspects of handling of information. In this context, UNESCO's Intergovernmental Information for All Programme (IFAP) with its focus on the six priority areas (Information for Development, Information Literacy, Information Preservation, Information Ethics, Information Accessibility, and Multilingualism) emphasises on the use of technologies for protecting and promoting information through a multidisciplinary approach. Therefore, there is a need to further fortify IFAP priority areas by reflecting on the present context of fast changing technological developments.

New challenges are posed by new technological paradigms. This requires building digital ecosystems with priority on concerns of the society. Hence there is need to design alternative strategies and policies which will focus on preventing misuse of modern technologies of information involving all stakeholders.

As a sequel to Hyderabad Conferences (2020 and 2021) and the recent Khanty-Mansyisk conference (2021), this conference on "*Emerging Technologies and Changing Dynamics of Information*", 07-09 September 2021, aims at re-examining and analysing information in the ever-changing technological developments in an uneven world.

## **The conference will focus on the following themes:**

### **1. Information for Development**

#### **Themes**

- Flaws in Information development and dissemination and increasing inequalities.
- Adverse effects of “engineering” information by regulators.
- Issues concerning information privacy and security.

### **2. Information Literacy**

#### **Themes**

- Structuring AI and digital approaches to social media
- Building digital ecosystems with priority on human beings and environmental sustainability.
- Alternative strategies to counter disinformation, fake news etc. and to mobilize people especially the most vulnerable.
- Reviewing existing policies on use of digital technologies and AI for data control by the users.

### **3. Information Preservation**

#### **Themes**

- Digitalization of information for preservation and dissemination.
- Selectivity in information preservation and its impact on society.
- Use and misuse of AI in preserving information.

### **4. Information Ethics**

#### **Themes**

- Inclusion of social and cultural ethos of divergent societies in AI ethics.
- Strengthening the mechanism for Digital Wellness (DW).
- Designing AI ethics by involving multi stakeholders.

### **5. Information Accessibility**

#### **Themes**

- Differential access to technologies and information.
- Adverse effects of regulated information sharing in different societies.
- Technology and regulatory constraints in information accessibility.

## **6. Multilingualism**

### **Themes**

- Policies and strategies for protecting multilingualism using modern technologies in the context of International Decade of Indigenous Languages.
- Language change and marginalization in intercultural communication.
- Significance of local knowledge systems (LKS) for building local AIs for sustainable development and inclusion.
- Sensitization of AI and digital technologies developers to be inclusive of knowledge of local communities for sustainable environment and strengthening democratic process.

The above themes may be addressed in relation to the following three SDGs with expected outcomes. These themes are suggestive in nature. However speakers can also select any topic related to the aim of the conference.

### **Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all by 2030 to:**

- Substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship;
- Ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy;
- Ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of cultures contribution to sustainable development.

### **Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels to:**

- Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms in accordance with national legislations and international agreements; and

- Strengthen relevant national institutions, including through international cooperation for capacity building at all levels, in particular, developing countries, to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime.

**Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development by**

- Enhancing North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge sharing on mutually agreed terms, including through improved coordination among existing mechanisms, in particular at the UN level and through a global technology facilitation mechanism.

As a followup to the two day international conference on *Accelerating Actions and Promoting Digital Wellness (DW)* in the context of Artificial Intelligence (AI), March 24-25, 2021, University of Hyderabad has initiated steps to form international consortium called *Global AI Ethics Network for Social Good [GAIN4SG]* and also co-founder of the Platform named as *Global Network on Artificial Intelligence & International Society [GNAI&IS]* with IISR, Morocco. The University for the First Time has launched website on Digital Wellness [<https://dw.uohyd.ac.in/>] to propagate on social implications of digital technologies. All these initiatives together with close relationship with national and international partners, this event will ensure active global participation with useful outcomes.

**Conference Publications:**

*CFP: IRIE Vol 32: Special Edition on Emerging Technologies and Changing Dynamics of Information [ETCDI]*

Presentations delivered during the conference will be prepared as high-quality, peer-reviewed academic papers for publication consideration in the special edition of the *International Review for Information Ethics (IRIE)*, University of Alberta, Canada. This edition is scheduled for publication in June 2022. Should more papers be submitted, a second special edition will also be considered for December 2022.

The paper presenters are requested to check the following link for guidelines of the paper for publication: IRIE Guidelines: <https://informationethics.ca/index.php/irie/about/submissions>

**Important Dates:**

**Abstract:** Not more than 300 words in Times New Roman 12 font: **5<sup>th</sup> August, 2021**

**PPT: 25<sup>th</sup> August, 2021**

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**Please note that registration is compulsory for all.**

**Organising Committee of the Conference:**

- Jandhyala Prabhakar Rao, Director, India Centre of Excellence for Information Ethics, Centre for Applied Linguistics and Translation Studies (CALTS), University of Hyderabad, India - **Chairperson of the Conference**;
- Dorothy Gordon, Chair of the UNESCO IFAP Intergovernmental Council, Ghana;
- Evgeny Kuzmin, Vice-Chair of the IFAP Intergovernmental Council, Chair of the UNESCO IFAP Working Group on Multilingualism in Cyberspace, Chair of the Russian National IFAP Committee, President of the Interregional Library Cooperation Centre, Russian Federation;
- Coetzee Bester, Africa Representative: International Centre for Information Ethics, Coordinator for the Information Ethics Network for Africa (IEN4A), Future Africa | University of Pretoria, South Africa.;
- Gilvan Muller de Oliveira, Professor, Federal University of Santa Catarina & Head, UNESCO Chair on Language Policies for Multilingualism, Brazil;
- Siva Prasad Rambhatla, Formerly Professor of Anthropology, Honorary Professor, Centre for Digital Learning, Training and Resources (CDLTR), University of Hyderabad, India;
- Vasuki Belavadi, Director, Centre for Digital Learning, Training and Resources (CDLTR), University of Hyderabad, India;
- Rachel Fischer, Co-Chair International Centre for Information Ethics, Coordinator for the Information Ethics Network for Africa (IEN4A), Future Africa | University of Pretoria, South Africa.

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