Draft Agenda

Reinforcements & Learning:
Multistakeholder Convening on AI Governance
February 17th, 9:00 am – 6:00 pm IST, followed by dinner
Le Meridien, Windsor Pl, Connaught Place, New Delhi, Delhi 110001, India

Dialogue Overview

The Centre for Communications Governance (CCG) and the Global Network Initiative (GNI) are organizing the Strategic Multistakeholder Dialogue (Dialogue), a two-day programming event in New Delhi on February 16th and 17th, during the week of the India AI Impact Summit. These convenings aim to foster inclusive discourse around global AI governance, especially from academia, civil society, think tanks, researchers, and underrepresented voices from the Global South. Through these events and the activities we are organizing leading up to them, we will enable multistakeholder participation in the India AI Impact Summit, build cross-regional connections among actors engaged in AI governance, and establish infrastructure for sustained multistakeholder engagement in AI governance.

This document is the agenda for the February 17th Multistakeholder Convening on AI Governance.

High-level Agenda

Ground Rules

This event will take place on the record. This means that participants are free to use information

Please do not share.
Last updated January 13, 2026.

learned at the event and attribute it directly to the speaker, including in public event summaries and in publicly available media pieces.

Detailed agenda

Time	Room & capacity	Sessions
8.00 am to 9.00 am	Foyer	**Arrival & Registration** Light breakfast available
9.00 am to 9.15 am	Multi-purpose Hall	**Plenary Welcome Address**
9.15 am to 10.15 am	Multi-purpose Hall	**Opening Panel: Strengthening Multistakeholder AI Governance** AI governance is increasingly shaped through regional and international norm-setting processes such as the series of government-hosted AI Summits (Bletchley, Paris, Seoul, Delhi), the UN Global Dialogue on AI Governance, and the Global AI Summit on Africa. However, many of these processes remain largely multilateral, limiting meaningful multistakeholder inclusion. This risks generating governance outcomes that overlook key harms, lack contextual relevance or durability, and miss opportunities for collaboration. This session will explore how multistakeholder engagement can be operationalised across different governance settings and stages of the AI value chain, and mechanisms or reforms needed to move beyond consultative participation toward genuine participation in agenda-setting, decision-making, and implementation of AI governance. In doing so, the session will also explore how lessons, principles, structures, and processes related to Internet governance can inform the development of AI governance.
10:15 am to 11:15 am	Multi-purpose Hall	**Plenary Panel: Global South Leadership in AI Governance** As AI transforms societies, nations across the Global South stand at a pivotal moment and are actively shaping AI development, governance, and use. This session will examine how Global South leadership is offering critical innovation, informed by diverse cultural, economic, and political contexts. It will explore the structural constraints many countries face, including technical, market, and governance exclusions, as well as emerging strategies to build local AI ecosystems, reduce dependency on concentrated infrastructure, strengthen bargaining power in global decision-making, and shift from peripheral roles in the AI value chain toward greater ownership, agency, and influence. As Global South countries try to ensure that emerging technologies help them meet developmental goals, they also need to evolve mechanisms and institutions to ensure that AI is developed and deployed in a participatory and representative manner.

11:15 am to 11.30 am		**Tea Break and Transitions**
11.30 am to 1.30 pm	**Round 1: Concurrent Multistakeholder Workshops**	
	Set I: 1A	**Theme 1: Global AI Governance** **Session 1A: A Deep Dive on AI Governance Ecosystem and Architecture** This session explores the many dimensions of AI governance frameworks and institutional processes at national, regional, and international levels. Beyond geopolitical and market interests, this session will examine how governance mechanisms can be tailored to local contexts and user needs. It will assess how a range of State efforts, ranging from legislation, policy, investment models, and standards, are being developed around the world – what risks, opportunities, and values are being addressed, and what early outcomes – intended or unintended – are beginning to emerge. It will also explore how evolving priorities in the Global North and Global South are impacting AI governance, including in the context of shared standards, liability regimes, and accountability mechanisms. The session will assess the types of AI standards that have emerged across different regions and international initiatives, as well as the substantial barriers to standard-setting processes.
	Set I: 1B	**Theme 2: Safe & Trusted AI** **Session 1B: Catalyzing Global Leadership on AI Safety and Security** Building on the momentum from the AI Seoul Summit in May 2024, participating governments adopted the Seoul Declaration and signaled a more institutional approach to international cooperation on AI risk management and safety. Since then, a growing set of government-backed AI safety bodies have begun coordinating through the International Network of AI Safety Institutes, launched in November 2024. As AI deployment accelerates, many countries face a practical gap, they are expected to manage frontier and high-impact risks without access to comparable testing capacity, evaluation methods, or shared technical resources. This roundtable convenes leaders from AI safety and security institutes, governments, civil society, and technical governance efforts to explore how AI safety can strengthen national resilience while helping more countries shape emerging norms and standards, rather than inheriting them. The discussion will focus on concrete pathways for coordinated action, including shared approaches to evaluation and risk measurement, interoperable testing practices, and accessible safety tools and guidance that can be adopted across regions. Participants will also identify opportunities for capacity-building partnerships that translate safety science into decision-ready insight for policymakers, regulators, and critical sectors.
	Set I: 1C	**Theme: Safe & Trusted AI**

		Session 1C: Conceptualizing and Contextualizing AI Safety Ensuring that AI systems are safe, trustworthy, and used responsibly is becoming increasingly complex as AI is deployed across diverse contexts. Risks range from deepfakes and child safety concerns to biased datasets, privacy violations, and systemic impacts on labor, democratic institutions, and the environment. At the same time, AI safety debates are often fragmented, spanning a range of issues conceptualized under various frameworks related to existential risk, frontier risks, national security, user harms, misuse, and discrimination, without a shared understanding of how these concerns translate into real-world harms. This session situates AI safety within broader digital rights and public-interest frameworks and aims to move away from abstract notions of "risk" toward clearer taxonomies of harm at the individual, community, and societal levels. It will explore how different regions and countries prioritize AI risks, and how shared risk management frameworks, such as evaluations, red-teaming, and impact assessments, can be adapted to account for contextual realities. The session also situates AI safety within broader digital rights and public-interest frameworks.
	Set I: 1D	**Theme: Building Context-Driven AI Infrastructure** **Session 1D: Rethinking AI Openness: Data Power, Access, and Community Control** As AI systems increasingly shape communities and societies, it is critical that they reflect local context and priorities. In particular, multilingual AI is essential to building local AI ecosystems, bridging linguistic divides, empowering underrepresented communities, and enabling democratic participation in the digital economy. Meaningful empowerment also requires institutional mechanisms that enable communities to access and share resources, and shape data and governance. This session will explore the development of local AI ecosystems, the level of openness that is most rights-respecting, and how community-driven initiatives, data cooperatives, and alternative models of openness emerging across regions can support locally grounded innovation, including through the development of multilingual AI.
1.30 pm to 2.30 pm		**Lunch and transitions**
2.30 pm to 4.30 pm		**Round 2: Concurrent Multistakeholder Workshops**
	Set 2: 2A	**Theme 1: Global AI Governance** **Session 2A: Enabling Accountability of AI Systems** As AI systems are deployed across sensitive domains, standards, risk assessments, and disclosure requirements are emerging as central tools for ensuring accountability of AI development and deployment. Meaningful accountability of AI systems requires robust disclosure practices supported by independent review, audit mechanisms, and effective pathways for redress, while protecting privacy. This session will explore how mechanisms such as transparency reports, assurance frameworks, risk assessments,

		and self-certification can move accountability from principle to practice. It will examine the role of audit rules and independent oversight structures to ensure transparency remains substantive rather than symbolic, drawing lessons from efforts to provide accountability around online platforms and digital marketplaces. Discussions will address gaps in grievance and redress mechanisms around AI harms. At the governance level, the session will examine how regional and national efforts, such as the African Union's Continental AI Strategy and India's 2025 AI Governance Guidelines, emphasize and promote AI accountability.
	Set 2: 2B	**Theme: Safe & Trusted AI** **Session 2B: Designing Rights-Respecting AI: Privacy and AI Systems** AI is reshaping what privacy means and how easily it can be eroded. Traditional privacy frameworks, often centered on concepts like "personal data," "notice and consent," and individual control, are insufficient to address new AI use cases, collective harms, and opaque data flows. This session explores the evolving relationship between privacy and AI across the AI lifecycle, from data collection and model training to deployment and downstream use. It will examine how privacy risks manifest at different stages across the AI lifecycle and intersect with issues such as discrimination, security, and autonomy. It will focus on approaches to technical architectures, regulations, and design principles needed to build privacy-by-design, guided in transparency and user autonomy, into AI systems at the outset. The discussions will assess whether present privacy and data protection frameworks are adequate to protect privacy rights in the context of AI, highlight any emerging tensions, and examine how rights-respecting design can be complemented by legal accountability frameworks across the AI lifecycle.
	Set 2: 2C	**Theme: Safe & Trusted AI** **Session 2C: Safe, Secure & Trusted Agentic AI** The development of agentic AI could represent a new frontier in autonomous, coordinated AI systems. This session will highlight developments in agentic AI technologies and their associated ecosystems, and explore emerging techniques to ensure AI safety and protect rights. The discussion will highlight upcoming efforts by the private and public sectors to shape agentic AI while maintaining safety, such as the Mombasa Declaration on Agentic AI in Africa and India's AI Mission. It will explore what effective cross-sector and multistakeholder engagement and collaboration look like to ensure that the agentic AI ecosystem develops in ways that are open, secure, trusted, and benefit all stakeholders.
	Set 2: 2D	**Theme: Context-Driven Infrastructure** **Session 2D: Lessons for Public Interest AI from Digital Public Infrastructure: Agriculture, Health, and Education** As AI technologies become central to public services and civic life, the design of digital public infrastructure plays a critical role in ensuring that AI is inclusive and equitable.

		There are critical lessons to learn from the development of DPI for public interest AI – particularly in the context of moving from pilots to large-scale adoption at scale across use cases in agriculture, health, and education. This session explores how AI can be integrated into DPI to support public interest outcomes, lessons from the development of DPI for AI, and the role of open standards and community-driven initiatives in strengthening local ecosystems. By linking AI development to robust digital public infrastructure and inclusive approaches, the session will explore ways to broaden participation in AI innovation, enhance public service delivery, and advance equity across linguistic and regional divides.
4.30 pm to 4.45 pm		**Tea Break and Transitions**
4.45 pm to 5.45 pm	Multi-purpose Hall	**Closing Panel: Moving Forward: Global Cooperation and Alignment on AI Governance** AI systems continue to operate across borders, and their effective governance is likely to depend on sustained international cooperation and coordination. This closing panel will examine the prospects for alignment across national and regional AI governance efforts, focusing on managing cross-border harms, enabling interoperability among regulatory approaches, and supporting shared safety objectives without erasing contextual differences. The discussion will explore emerging models of collaboration, including South-South and South-North partnerships, regional coalitions, and issue-specific cooperation across the AI value chain. It will also consider how Global South collaboration can strengthen bargaining power, shape global agendas, and contribute practical governance innovations. The session will reflect on what forms of cooperation are feasible in a fragmented geopolitical environment, and what concrete steps can support more inclusive, durable, and coordinated approaches to AI governance and safety.
5:45 pm to 6:00 pm	Multi-purpose Hall	**Closing Address**
6.30 pm to 8.30 pm		**Gala Dinner**