# Global Technology Governance Summit
## Event Summary

The inaugural Global Technology Governance Summit (GTGS), hosted by Japan, took place virtually on 6-7 April 2021, creating a new global space for cooperation on technology adoption and regulation. More than 2,000 leaders gathered to discuss how the world can ensure that technology adoption improves the lives of citizens and responds to global challenges. The World Economic Forum Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Network will take these conversations and commitments forward.

The following key areas and commitments were raised during the summit:

1.  As the world increasingly moves online, particularly amid the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, facilitating personal and non-personal data flow across borders is essential. The Forum will continue to advance public-private dialogue on a **Data Free Flow with Trust** initiative as a follow up to the G20-led **Osaka Track** call for intergovernmental cooperation in this area. The initiative advances data transfer regulatory interoperability by joining up governance discussions at national, regional and international levels, as well as facilitates knowledge exchange between the public and private sectors. The Rebuilding Trust and Governance: Towards Data Free Flow with Trust (DFFT) white paper, released at GTGS, provides a bird's-eye view of global data governance issues including privacy, fair competition, cybersecurity and transparency to strengthen trust-governance mechanisms.

2.  To help promote the safe reopening of borders and resumption of international travel, the Forum will promote the **Common Trust Network**, a cross-sector coalition developing a global, interoperable framework for health status verification, which ensures the accuracy and validity of health data while protecting data privacy.

3.  As part of the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Network's **Data for Common Purpose Initiative (DCPI)**, a coalition of international stakeholders (national governments, multinational corporations and NGOs) will initiate a formal effort to validate, test and align commercial, technology and policy frameworks for data exchanges across jurisdictions to ensure their global interoperability. The common goal is to enable the exchange of data as a strategic asset for common good and stimulate the transition from a traditional to a data-driven economy. This effort will culminate in a cross-border, multistakeholder pilot to test frameworks agreed by the coalition.

4.  The Forum recognizes that mayors from four Japanese cities have highlighted the benefits of convening a national community of cities under the auspices of the **G20 Global Smart Cities Alliance** supported by the **Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Japan.** Based on this model, the Network will launch two regional communities for smart cities in India and Latin America, anchored in the Forum's Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution centres in **India** and **Colombia**, respectively. These communities will promote the adoption and adaptation of policies developed by the Alliance for the safe and responsible deployment of smart city technologies.

5.  The Network will support **Agile Nations**, a global initiative to enable government, business and civil society to share evidence and insights about innovative governance. At the summit it was agreed that the Network will continue to support the **Agile50** initiative, which recognizes public leaders who are driving agility in governments worldwide. Agile50 will help nurture new leaders who have the mindset, skills and attitude required to steer their societies into the future.

6.  To address pressing challenges and opportunities relating to the rise of new forms of digital currency, in particular central bank digital currency and so-called "stablecoins", the **Digital Currency Governance Consortium (DCGC)** is convening more than 80 organizations representing numerous sectors and geographies. It will co-design research and policy frameworks pertaining to:

    –   Investigating the value proposition of digital currencies for the underserved

    –   Regulatory gaps, consumer protection and the role of the public sector

    –   CBDC technology trade-offs, technical interoperability, and privacy and confidentially options.

Technology governance refers to the systems and processes that underlie the creation, deployment and use of technology. How do we move away from siloed thinking to an intersectional approach that considers technology across industry verticals and geographies? And how do we ensure that our regulation and policies simultaneously spur creative and beneficial innovation while ensuring that we don't exacerbate existing societal inequalities, or, even worse, exploit vulnerable populations? Technology governance needs to take into account all of these considerations and more.

Sheila Warren, Head of Blockchain and Data Policy; Member of the Executive Committee, World Economic Forum LLC

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7.  Recognizing that the AI ecosystem has historically failed to address the needs of underserved communities, the Forum committed to accelerate the inclusion of historically marginalized communities into the AI development and governance ecosystems. Through the **Global AI Action Alliance**, the Forum and its partners will foster new collaborative exchanges and impact-driven projects that bring new and diverse voices into the development and governance of AI. This will facilitate more equitable outcomes while driving greater awareness and action throughout the broader AI ecosystem.

8.  Equity and inclusion are vital to how Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies must consider serving all populations while acknowledging the challenges in measuring equity and inclusion. To promote equity and inclusion more broadly, **the Forum will continue to highlight success stories and use cases for inclusive mobility** and advocate for collecting data on inclusivity and equity, developing and highlighting methods, tools and policies to increase measurements for equity.

9.  The pandemic has shown the value of aerial delivery solutions to help connect the disconnected to medical supplies and other essential goods. The Forum's **Medicine from the Sky** community is supporting an enabling ecosystem for drones to secure the delivery of vaccines, personal protective equipment and medicine to underserved areas worldwide. The Medicine from the Sky: Opportunities and Lessons from Drones in Africa report, released at GTGS, provides a framework for evaluating where on the continent these technologies can be best applied to improve healthcare.

10. COVID-19 has accelerated global trends towards remote working, telehealth, distance learning and automation, among other areas. Recognizing the opportunities and challenges presented by the increased use of, and dependency on, internet-enabled devices, the Forum established the **Future of the Connected World** initiative with five priority areas for collective action in 2021-2022. To track progress on this effort, updates on the corresponding Global Action Plan will be shared in 2021.
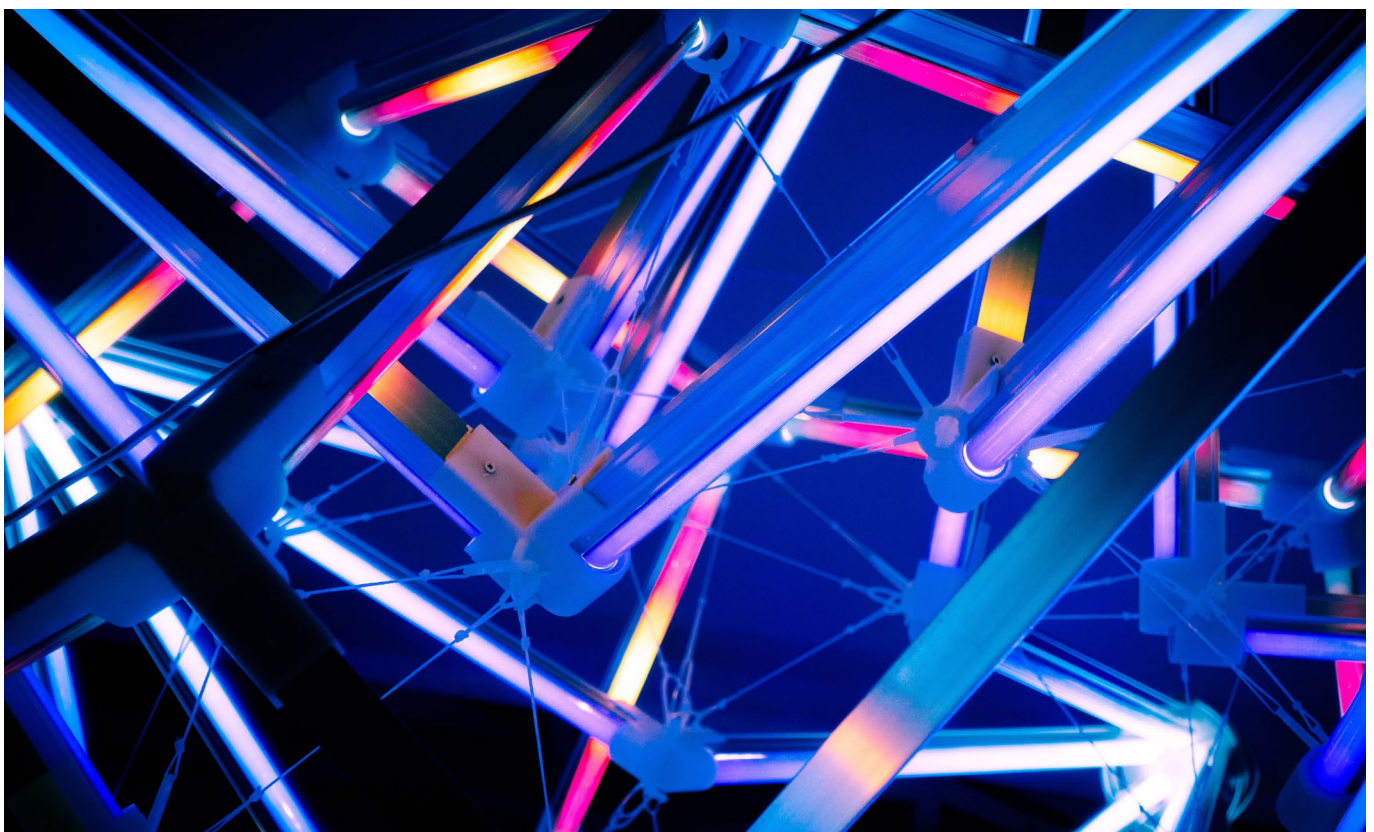
11. The Forum recognizes that small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are critical to global supply chains, employ more than one-half of the global workforce and yet face significant challenges in adopting Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies. Building on the success of the pilot project for **Accelerating the Impact of Industrial IoT for SMEs** in São Paolo, **Brazil**, the Network will expand its global impact by launching additional pilot projects in **Colombia, Kazakhstan, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and Turkey** with the goal of sharing key outcomes of this work in 2021.

12. For **achieving net-zero carbon neutrality** – one of the world's most pressing issues – the Forum and government partners, led by **Japan and the Netherlands**, are convening political and business leaders to put climate and the circular economy on the agenda at COP26 and beyond, building coalitions for bold industry action and collaboration.

13. By using digital technology and personal data to promote disease prevention, care and well-being, **Healthy Ageing** can be achieved so that no one in the world is left behind. **The Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Japan** has developed an approach called Authorized Public Purpose Access (APPA), which seeks ways of using data for the public good while balancing the rights and interests of all stakeholders. The Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Japan will invite relevant countries, companies and organizations, lead discussions on the acceptable use of personal data and processes required to achieve Healthy Ageing, and report on the content in 2022.

14. Working towards a goal of sustainable agriculture with a focus on the environment, financial inclusion and food security, the **Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution India** initiated the project **Artificial intelligence for Agriculture Innovation (AI4AI)** to explore the possible leverage of Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies throughout the food chain, from seed to fork. The project is supported by more than 60 industry, government and start-up partners and has the potential to be adopted in emerging economies in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Latin America. The project is currently being piloted in Telangana, India, and other state leaders in the country are discussing possible roll-outs elsewhere in India.

15. As the world experiences the economic and social effects of multiple waves of COVID, **the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution India** has launched **Fourth Industrial Revolution for Sustainable Transformation of Health (FIRST Health)**. The project seeks to explore the role of Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies in 18 areas of health, including preventive, curative and governance. One of the first areas being considered is the disease, cancer, which is being explored by industries, government, civil society, researchers and practicing experts. Forthcoming themes include tuberculosis (TB), diabetes, child healthcare, health screening and immunization

16. The recent emergence of quantum computing as a technology that can be commercialized will create up to one trillion dollars in new value by 2030. It will also offer the possibility of a step change in progress on the Sustainable Development Goals. But it will also pose risks, not least to the technology currently underpinning digital cryptography. To help business and government understand and respond to these developments, the World Economic Forum is launching the Quantum Economy Initiative in 2021 – a multistakeholder platform dedicated to delivering the promise of quantum computing and managing the transition to a quantum-enabled world..

**The Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Network Affiliate Centres made the following commitments:**

17. Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) kill 41 million people each year (equivalent to 71% of all deaths globally), with a proportional cost burden to health systems everywhere. Most of these deaths and costs can be prevented through early diagnosis of critical conditions. This depends on NCD patients' health data getting to doctors and health professionals, enabling better guidance and treatment. For this reason, **the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Brazil** will launch a data governance prototype for NCD patients, to facilitate remote monitoring and public-private sharing of their data throughout the health system.

18. **The Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Colombia** will launch a white paper in the second half of 2021, in association with the Data for Common Purpose Initiative. The paper will report on moves to create a regulatory framework for data exchange, describing the results of an exercise among multiple international stakeholders from academia, government, private enterprise and civil society to implement a model of a data marketplace for the common good.

19. The Forum recognizes that with reduced emissions and increased efficiencies, autonomous mobility and urban air delivery promise a more sustainable and inclusive society. **The Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Israel** committed to enabling the future of mobility by taking existing pilot programmes and creating a scalable commercial business model that is safe, sustainable and ethical. To achieve this, the Forum will cultivate meaningful dialogue with multiple global stakeholders through roundtable discussions and debates. Based on this, it will:

   – Co-design frameworks to increase testing under safe operations with unpredictable circumstances

   – Build general trust by engaging industry and the public

   – Research and develop policy reviews on mobility projects that benefit all.

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**I believe business is the greatest platform for change... I believe CEOs, using their businesses, really have an opportunity to improve society.**

Marc Benioff, Chief Executive Officer and Founder, Salesforce

20. To support a sustainable ocean economy – where effective protection, sustainable production and equitable prosperity go hand in hand – the **Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Oceans** will lead the **Action Coalition on Ocean Data** together with Microsoft. The Coalition strives to deliver open, transparent and easily accessible universal data to enable a comprehensive understanding of "life below water" for better policies and decision-making. The Coalition will be open and inclusive to all actors seeking to liberate ocean data; the Ocean Data Platform will be at the heart of solutions unlocking ocean data.

21. In recent years, Rwanda has demonstrated its commitment to creating an enabling regulatory environment for technology innovation. With the **Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution now established in Rwanda**, the country is focused on accelerating the responsible adoption of AI in critical sectors such as healthcare, finance and agriculture through agile and inclusive technology governance. The Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Rwanda's most recent work on pending data protection legislation will serve as a foundation in helping to achieve Rwanda's ambitions of becoming a proof of concept hub for technology innovation and regulation.

22. **The Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Saudi Arabia** will hold its official launch event in April-May 2021, along with projects designed to advance multistakeholder collaboration on agile governance frameworks on AI, IoT and blockchain. The Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Saudi Arabia will develop frameworks that usher in advanced autonomous mobility through heavy lift drones and accelerate the advent of autonomous trucks and vessels, thereby expanding mobility opportunities for air, land and sea.

23. The Forum recognizes that small, medium and micro-enterprises (SMMEs) constitute more than 90% of formal business and contribute over 50% employment in South Africa. The **Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution South Africa** will, therefore, address the needs of SMMEs by launching a series of projects aimed at developing policy protocols for accelerating the adoption of emerging technologies by SMMEs and mitigating associated risks.

24. The **Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Turkey** will address the need for human-centric technology using governance models designed by the collective rationality that has emerged from the rapid spread of IoT, AI and Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies. The Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Turkey has already started implementing projects using a multistakeholder approach and through public-private-academia partnerships. The Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution Turkey will demonstrate regional leadership in the digitalization of industry and development of policy frameworks, in addition to disseminating key developments to Turkish industry through knowledge sharing within the Network.

25. To further economic diversification and digital growth in the UAE, **the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution UAE** is leading multiple tokenization pilots to test the use of blockchain technology to modernize the current financial system and open greater access to capital and liquidity. To further the growth of the healthcare industry in the UAE, and the exchange of healthcare data globally, the Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution UAE is launching a report focused on the development of a precision medicine programme locally, highlighting key areas of the process, including the infrastructure and regulatory environment.