The outcome of these two meetings supports the UN's aim for an inclusive and participatory process, managing to attract experts from a variety of countries, to voice a variety of issues in the digital realm

The consultation was attended by experts from 25 countries:
Australia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Ecuador, Eritrea, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Peru, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, South

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excited and want to be included in the digital world, but they face a variety of issues, from lack of internet in rural areas to purely physical issues in interaction with touchscreen phones. *An issue of age barriers throughout Europe was raised.*

UK Richard Foster-Fletcher, MKAI, UK **(Economy)** Noted that recent experiences in digital literacy seminars conducted across the globe with a variety of governmental bodies(Philippines, Bermuda, Myanmar) and targeting SMEs, and organizations in the startup sphere, which ought to produce innovative outputs(patents, jobs, economic viability in sustainability) also struggle with digital literacy in the frame of AI, which moves through these 3 stages – 1st stage "Awareness of these technologies and inspiration"(high level of interest), 2nd stage "Use cases and design thinking"(medium level of interest), 3rd stage "Prototyping"(low level of interest). *Digital literacy in SMEs should be a focus of more interest in the 3rd stage of innovation.*

Nigeria, Daniel Opanubi, Omdena **(Education and literacy)** - There are people so far removed from digital culture that they are unaware and uninterested in getting digital culture. *Contribution needs to be made for people like that.* To get them aware of what people are doing. Then there are people who lack access to the basic minimum. Some people do not even have access to a mobile phone. *A sort of awareness needs to be made, because there are people unaware of the opportunities which digital skills bring.*

Nigeria, Oluwaseun Wey, Nigeria Inter-

Summary of Issue1 recommendations:
While digital literacy seems to be regionally oriented, geography alone is not the cause of digital disparity and illiteracy. It is important to recognize digital literacy as a social and resource inequality to support populations who are underserved. Regardless of their regions. Further investment in usable hardware needs to be implemented to prevent a significant barrier for children with disabilities in the UK, access to basic services such as transport are also faced with barriers in the digital context within Europe(Brussels, Portugal) that affect vulnerable groups and the elderly. The upskilling in SMEs in a variety of global territories(Philippines, Bermuda, Myanmar) should target additional value creation in the innovation stages to support local economies and bridge the gaps.
Additional support and awareness are needed within the farthest removed areas in Africa where people are unaware of the opportunities, which digital skills provide, but such unawareness exists in small communities within countries like Bulgaria, requiring a "human interface" to the digital divide. Access to the internet needs to be made a basic need covered by human rights.

Issue 2: Digital Literacy and AI - the Dawning of a New Age of Digital Societies /target: Supporting global cooperation on Artificial Intelligence/

Background: The ability to understand, use, monitor, and critically reflect on AI applications without necessarily being able to develop AI models themselves is commonly referred to as being "AI literate" (Long et al., 2021; Ng et al., 2021a).
Some nations which are speeding up their AI strategies and developments will permanently increase the gap between nations – making some regions AI developing; others AI developed. The world map is being reshaped by these processes which is why a global collaboration on AI should be implemented and supported.
https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2022/03/without-universal-ai-literacy-ai-will-fail-us/
Jaisal
and how are various sectors going to be affected by the investment, should we consider that the UN needs to consider changes in the SDGs. The unifications in definitions and standards happening in the background might be valuable but there ought to be a consideration for long-

RECOMMENDATIONS/DISCUSSION

Peru, Andres Leon-Geyer, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Peru – PUCP **(Digitalization)** Outlined that there are groups which have access to the internet but have no literacy and there are areas with lack of access to the internet.   Exclusion has a strong effect on the economies – such as the purchase power compared to Geneva. Digital literacy needs to be clearly defined for everyone and as   *need to be cognizant that access to the goods and services of the internet is an ethical issue.*
Italy, Oleg Missikoff, Earth 3.0 Foundation(**Education and literacy**) as an expert in digitalization for Africa

India, Vibhav Mithal, IPR lawyer, Anand and Anand to achieve global collaboration on AI, it is critical to first appreciate that AI, as on date, is a pattern recognition tool, which when combined with existing processes, helps humans achieve certain pre-determined and pre-defined objectives. AI which functions as a tool (known as Artificial Narrow Intelligence) has to be clearly distinguished from the aspirational goal of AI becoming as 'intelligent' as a human (a concept known as Artificial General Intelligence). Understanding this distinction would be an important step in promoting Digital Literacy and AI. A facet of AI ethics, on the other hand, concerns the ethical choices which humans make while developing AI systems. If one is looking to achieve global collaboration on AI, then we must be on the same page as to the meaning of AI as well as the impact AI systems may have. For example, the draft EU AI Act seeks to regulate the impact of an AI system by focusing only on the use of AI Systems and by introducing a risk categorization framework for such systems. However, *The EU AI Act is only one approach to look at the impact of AI systems, and countries should be free to choose a mechanism that suits them the best.* Only from this basic agreement of the meaning of AI and the impact that AI systems may create, can we then have subsequent discussions of how the path to achieve global collaboration will unfold.

Summary of Issue2 recommendations
The unconnected in some areas in the world are a majority and

Netherlands, George Beers, Wageningen University **(Economy)** the speed of digitalization is higher than the traditional approaches to bringing innovations to society. Within the field of agriculture trust is a fundamental

UAE, Dr. Jane Thomason, Founder WMC **(Digitalization**) First we need to address universal access to the internet. Gen Z and Gen Alpha will grow up with digital skills which. Older generations may miss out on. All education should teach kids from beginning to code therefore, we need to give access to the digital tools and how to use them. Digital literacy in the Age of AI means transformation of economic segments as well. AI will directly impact the income streams of accountants, doctors, lawyers, journalists, artists, professors, teachers and more. *These professionals will need to evolve.*

Australia, Dr. Stephanie Camarena, Founder of S

recognize and implement AI literacy to preserve jobs and upskill (e.g., Mexico), others view the access to the goods and services of the internet as a digital ethics issue.

Further investment in user-friendly hardware needs to be implemented to prevent a significant barrier

5. Daniel Opanubi, Omdena, Nigeria
6. Jasen Tanev, Digital National Alliance/CyberClub, Bulgaria
7. Andres Leon-Geyer, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Peru – PUCP
8. Oleg Missikoff, Earth 3.0 Foundation, Italy
9. Jessica Gardner, Worth Marketing Solutions, South Africa
10. Maria Mac Andrew, Executive Director My Zalu/AIEthics.World, Ecuador
11. Victor M. Larios, Universidad de Guadalajara, CUCEA Smart Cities Innovation Center, Mexico
12. George Beers, Wageningen University, Netherlands
13. Dr. Ingrid Vasiliu Feltes, Author and Thought Leader on Healthcare and Life Sciences, USA
14. Ana Prica Cruceanu, Association of Women in Engineering, Science and Technology (AFIST), Romania
15. Dr. Mulugheta T. Solomon,PhD, Omdena-Milan Chapter; The Information Lab , Italy (Country of Origin - Eritrea)
16. Edward Darling, LifeMap, UK
17. Kristina Eskenazi, Chairwoman of the Management Board of Health & Life Sciences Bulgaria, and Member of Management Board of AI Cluster Bulgaria
18. Dimitar Dimitrov, Chairman of Management Board of Health & Life Sciences Cluster Bulgaria, and Member of Management Board of AI Cluster Bulgaria
19. Olivia Murungi, PEDAL Consulting, Slovakia
20. Shaun Topham, DataVaults and PISTIS(Horizon project), Ireland
21. Assoc. prof. Kosyo Stoychev, Sofia University Bulgaria
22. Prof. Mohamed Essaaidi, IEEE Global Cities Alliance, Moroccan School of Engineering Sciences (EMSI), Morocco
23. Gergana Passy, President, Digital National Alliance Bulgaria
24. Gerry Copitch, MKAI UK
25. Aleksandra Hadzic, MKAI UK
26. Dr. Miloš Dimitrijevi , Research Associate at Faculty of Economics, University of Kragujevac, Serbia
27. Massimo Rocchitta, LAORE Sardegna – Regional Agency for Agriculture Development, Italy