Perspectives from Tania Echaporia, The Red Dot Foundation

November 27th and 28th – was a two day Digital Technologies for Resilience workshop that I attended in Bangkok, Thailand. This unique workshop was organized by FHI 360 and sponsored by The Rockefeller Foundation and USAID Regional Development Mission - Asia. The Red Dot Foundation- being a strong advocate of technology (Safecity - uses digital technology to end Gender based violence), I found several factors unique at the Tech4Resilience workshop compared to other workshops. Most workshops have presentations - very little time for networking / discussions or they give an opportunity for only a few to present their work.

However, the Tech4Resilience workshop was truly a workshop with a difference. During the two days, we had unlimited opportunities and networking breaks to share our work, learn from each other, seek collaborations and partnerships or initiate a discussion with other participants.

The highlight of the workshop was the "Designing and Deploying for Sustainability" and common challenges associated with sustainably deploying digital technologies for resilience at scale. The design thinking session exposed us to new ways of looking at problems and seek solutions. It was exciting to work together, (especially since our focus areas were varied) to develop a comprehensive plan using some tools like the Beyond Scale guide and the Digital Technologies for Resilience Planning and Due Diligence templates. Jumping into the Shark Tank – was an opportunity to present our plans to other participants who then decided to choose how much to fund us. A real learning as selling our idea and convincing funders was just not that easy! Another aspect of the workshop which was useful was when some teams explained how they use different business/funding models to achieving sustainable scale.

We definitely plan to follow-up on potential collaborators and organisations to assist Safecity to end gender based violence and use technology to create a sustainable scalable impact.

I would like to thank the organizers for inviting me to this truly unique workshop and connecting me with other organisations who are working in advocating Tech4Resilience and giving us a platform to connect and share our work at Safecity – The Red Dot Foundation.