

Call for Partners

Unboxing Internet Infrastructures: The environmental costs of the internet and what you can do about it

Around 45% of the world's internet users are below the age of 25. Young people are increasingly living their lives in the digital domain, a trend which was exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic. Due to education, entertainment, social life and commerce moving to the digital domain, youth are now spending more than 6 hours online. Digital adoption and internet penetration also increased rapidly during the Covid-19 pandemic in the Asia-Pacific region. According to UNICEF, an estimated 73% of individuals aged between 15-24 years in the Asia-Pacific region used the internet in 2022.

As young individuals are becoming the biggest group in the infosphere, it becomes imperative to empower them with the knowledge and skills to understand how internet infrastructures work and the environmental costs of the internet. This will inspire the next generation of volunteers to engage in internet governance mechanisms and work towards sustainable digital futures. This <u>project</u>, focused on the Asia-Pacific region, aims to unbox the complexity of the knowledge around internet infrastructures and energy consumption and make it accessible to young, non-technical audiences with the aim to build knowledge and capacity.

This project is supported by the <u>APNIC ISIF Asia grant</u> and the <u>Ian Peter grant for the Internet and the Environment.</u>

The Unboxing Tech Toolkit Project

This is the third module in the <u>Unboxing Tech toolkit series</u>. Built by The Pranava Institute, the Unboxing Tech toolkit is a guide for young people to develop a healthy relationship with technology and safely navigate the hyper-digitalised world they inhabit. In our work with young students aged between 13-18 in India, we found that the average time spent on devices was nearly eight hours a day. All of this has resulted in increased device addiction and other effects on physical, emotional and psychological health of young people. It is therefore crucial to empower young adults with the knowledge and skills to manage their relationship with technology. The Unboxing Tech Toolkit series, comprising <u>two modules</u> currently, interactively combine information, graphics, activities, and tools in order to create engaging experiences for young people which can be enjoyed personally, administered in classrooms or in communities outside, and adapted across various social contexts easily. The toolkits come with a facilitator's guide and resource list to support teachers to best administer them in their school and classrooms.



What will the Partner Organisations do?

We are seeking partnerships with organisations (youth-led organisations, youth leaders, non-profits, educators, and learning networks) based in **India**, **Australia**, **Malaysia**, **the Philippines**, **and Singapore** to support the regional adoption and dissemination of the toolkit.

Scope of Work

- The partner organisation is expected to organise and conduct at least one
 workshop and public exhibit using the toolkit in their country of operation,
 engaging a minimum of 150 youth participants. (3 Workshops with 50 students each)
- Facilitate **at least one** online workshop built around the toolkit to onboard educators and community leaders.
- Translate the toolkit and accompanying facilitator guide into one of the regional APAC languages.
- Active participation in conferences on internet governance, sustainability, and education to network with governments, the technical community, and other key stakeholders to promote the project and share findings with other practitioners or researchers working on similar areas of inquiry.
- Collaboration with schools, non-profits, educator networks, and youth organisations in your region to push the adoption of the toolkit.
- Engage with innovation networks, youth-led and community-driven initiatives to extend the reach of the toolkit.

What do you get?

- An opportunity to empower the youth community around you and empower them with the knowledge needed to better navigate their digital world.
- Become part of a network of organisations working with youth and digital literacy in the APAC region.
- A chance to shape the toolkit through your inputs to better suit the needs of your community.

Timeline

October 2025-November 2025

Interested? Apply now:

If you are interested in this opportunity, please fill out this form to express your interest: https://forms.gle/sMfW5Hfcr4Rfi5aP7