Concept Note

DPI4ACE

Institutionalization of Digital Public Infrastructure for Action for Climate Empowerment within the UN and beyond

Prepared as a Proposal for a COP30 Legacy Initiative (Implementation Acceleration Plan)

in the Context of the Global Climate Action Agenda of the

UN Climate Conference COP30

August 2025

1. The Challenge:

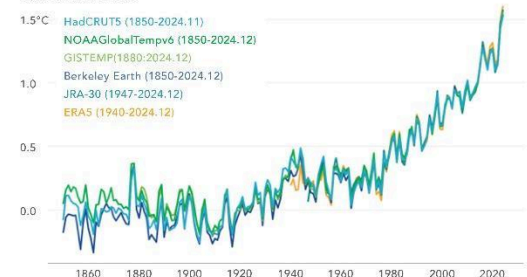The Global Community is not responding effectively to the climate crisis.

Implementation of the UNFCCC Paris Agreement is lagging behind expectations.

The existing global climate governance mechanisms, organized under the umbrella of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC),

focus on nation states and provide **limited entry points for non-state actors**, like subnational governments, cities, business sector, civil society and citizens/youth to engage meaningfully and rewardingly in global climate goals implementation efforts.

A Challenge for the COP30 presidency is to identify and to champion a **"Story to be told" for COP30**, a narrative of positive change and empowerment for the people around the world to feel inspired and connected by the COP30 presidency and supporting bold commitments of their national political leaders at COP30.

2. The Answer: Integration of Non-State Actors in Global Climate Action Governance

2.1. Recognition and Integration of Non-State Actors within the UNFCCC Process

Within the UNFCCC framework, Article 6 of the Rio convention as well as Article 12 of the Paris Agreement recognize the importance of all of society engagement in global climate goals implementation. Since June 2015 this governance area is called "**Action for Climate Empowerment**" (https://unfccc.int/topics/education-and-youth/big-picture/ACE)
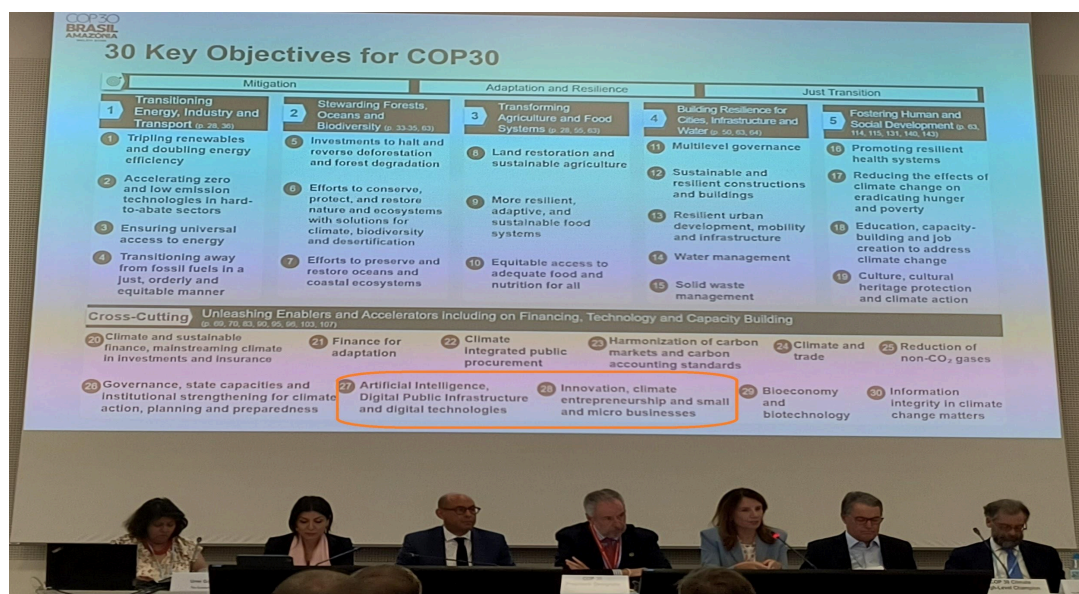

At the COP 22 in Marrakech, the **Global Climate Action** Agenda was launched, aimed to reinforce cooperation between national governments, cities, businesses, investors, and

citizens to achieve climate goals. It built on the Lima-Paris Action Agenda (LPAA), supporting existing initiatives and providing a platform for stakeholder actions and commitments.

Recognizing the importance of all of society engagement in global and local climate action implementation, the **COP30 presidency** has launched in its "Second Letter from the Presidency" a **global Mutirão** around four fronts of action with a view to COP30 and beyond, including (i) a **process of global mobilization**; (ii) the **Action Agenda**; (iii) formal UNFCCC negotiations and (iv) the Leaders' Summit.

2.2. Digital Public Infrastructure Unlocking the Climate Action Potentials of Non-State Actors

The COP30 presidency has identified Digital Public Infrastructure as a key enabler of multistakeholder global climate action in its Action Agenda (see photo from a Action Agenda presentation of the COP30 Presidency at the Bonn Climate Conference SB62, 20th June 2025)

The thematic leadership on DPI of COP30 presidency has been further exemplified with the Digital Public Infrastructure for People and Planet Innovation Challenge:

What is DPI and why is it important in the DPI4PP challenge?

Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) refers to a set of foundational digital systems like identity, payments, and data exchanges that enable secure, interoperable, and inclusive interactions between people, businesses, and governments. In the context of people and planet challenges, DPI is crucial because it helps deliver real-time data, ensure transparent resource allocation, and empower vulnerable communities to participate in and benefit from climate actions at scale.

https://dpi4pp.org/#faq

COP30 presidency is also strongly engaged with the leading expert network in the field of DPI for climate / environment in the context of the UN system, the **Coalition for Digital Environmental Sustainability CODES** https://www.codes.global/

3. The DPI4ACE Initiative – A Global Climate Action Agenda Implementation Acceleration Plan for the Institutionalization of Digital Public Infrastructure for Action for Climate Empowerment within the UN and beyond

> **DPI4ACE Working hypotheses**:
>
> Global climate goals implementation requires multistakeholder action.
>
> DPI can enable multistakeholder action empowerment and multilevel governance innovation ecosystems.
>
> DPI4ACE needs to be connected through data interfaces to UN system information systems, but its governance and ownership needs to include decentral elements and multistakeholder participation in order to deliver engagement, resources, action and impact on scale.

DPI4ACE Phase I Action Plan :

1. A series of DPI4ACE **consultations** (potentially with formation of a **High Level Advisory Panel**) within
   - CODES
   - UNFCCC (inviting TEC members, Climate Chain Coalition, et al)
   - UN system (linking up with member States interested in the Global Digital Compact, involving the UN Office for Digital and Emerging Technologies)
   - Youth: IAAI's International Youth day celebration event can be regarded as a DPI4ACE youth consultation (https://www.glocha.org/international-youth-day-2025/), link to video in demand of DPI for climate intervention of COP30 representative Pedro Ivo on UN WebTV (link)
2. **Presentation of the DPI4ACE initiative** at the GloCha pre-UNGA conference at the UN HQ NY, September 18th and the corresponding exhibit (8-19th September, UN HQ NY, Curved Wall Space)
3. Compilation of a **DPI4ACE Policy Brief** (co-branded with CODES and with COP30 presidency (as "COP30 Action Agenda Implementation Acceleration Plan"), tbc), which will be presented at COP30
   a. At a **COP30 press conference** with high level COP30 presidency representatives (example of IAAI led digital innovation press conference at COP25: link)
   b. DPI4ACE **Events and exhibit** at the **COP30 Digital Innovation Pavilion** https://dip.earth/
   c. Event at **COP30 presidency/Brazil pavilion**
4. DPI4ACE **Call for Support from Stakeholders** (in line with the COP30 GCA strategy)
   a. launched at COP30 with presentation of **first mover commitments** *(to be confirmed)* of Rotary@COP30 Committee and Rotary clubs pioneering DPI4ACE solutions

deployment, GIZ, GCF, NVIDIA, ESRI, SAP, Gates Foundation, IEEE, EU (e.g. Global Gateway and EBSI – European Blockchain Services Infrastructure, ..),

5. DPI4ACE partners (IAAI, CODES, COP30 presidency) co-initiating and supporting a **UN General Assembly High Level Thematic Debate on DPI for Global Challenges Action Empowerment** under the patronage of the President of the 80th session of the UN General Assembly, Annalena Baerbock

6. **DPI4ACE Institution Building conference at UN Office in Geneva**, July 2026, in the context of the ITU AI for Good Summit 2026

4.   About IAAI:

The International Association for the Advancement of Innovative Approaches to Global Challenges IAAI GloCha www.glocha.info is a UNFCCC and UN ECOSOC and GCF accredited civil society organization, registered in Austria.

The main goal of IAAI is to set up the Global Challenges Action Empowerment Partnership GloCha (link to presentation).

IAAI is co-founder and leadership council member of the Climate **Education, Communication and Outreach Stakeholder Community** ECOS, co-founder and carrier organization (through our US based sister organization GloCha Global Challenges Foundation New York) of the Climate Chain Coalition (which has been co-founded with the UN Climate Change secretariat in 2017 to facilitate multi-stakeholder cooperation and coordination in the field of blockchain/emerging tech for climate).

IAAI has been an associated partner of the **Action for Climate Empowerment Innovation project ACE_AT of the Austrian government**, in cooperation with the UN Climate Change secretariat (article on UNFCCC homepage: link, project homepage, slides).

Based on its technical expertise from the engagement in the Climate Chain Coalition and based on practical interactions with Action for Climate Empowerment stakeholders in the UNFCCC, IAAI is a **thematic leader on DPI4ACE** and has contributed to relevant UNFCCC consultations as early as in February 2020 with proposals on "**Data and Digital Innovation Infrastructure (D2I2) for ACE**" (link to submission) and engaged global youth on related conversations with its annual pre-UNGA conference and exhibit at UN HQ NY (2023, 2024) and other events, like e.g. the IYD2025 celebration (link)

IAAI is actively promoting the Global Mutirao at its VeniceXCOP30 event at Venice Climate Week 2025 and at its GloChaXMutirao press conference at the UNFCCC SB62 Bonn Climate Conference in June 2025
https://unfccc.int/event/iaai-glocha-x-global-mutirao-engaging-everyone-in-building-a-climate-safe-future

5.   When:

Duration of the initial phase of DPI4ACE: 1st of September 2025 – August 2026

6.   Contribution/Responsibility of IAAI

Implementation of DPI4ACE Phase I Action Plan as specified under point 3 and securing the necessary resources:

- A series of DPI4ACE **consultations** (potentially with formation of a **High Level Advisory Panel**)
- **Presentation of the DPI4ACE initiative** at the UN HQ NY, September 18th and the exhibit
- Compilation of a **DPI4ACE Policy Brief** (co-branded with CODES and with COP30 presidency (as **"COP30 Action Agenda Implementation Acceleration Plan"**), tbc)
- Presentation of the **DPI4ACE Policy Brief** at COP30 with a **COP30 press conference** and **Events and exhibit** at the **COP30 Digital Innovation Pavilion**
- Organization of a DPI4ACE **Call for Support from Stakeholders** and identification and onboarding of **first movers**
- Co-initiating and supporting a **UN General Assembly High Level Thematic Debate on DPI for Global Challenges Action Empowerment** under the patronage of the President of the 80th session of the UN General Assembly, Annalena Baerbock
- **DPI4ACE Institution Building conference at UN Office in Geneva**, July 2026, in the context of the ITU AI for Good Summit 2026

7.   Requested Contribution from COP30 Presidency

- **Endorsement** of the initiative (**DPI4ACE Phase I Action Plan**)
    - As **COP30 GCA Implementation Acceleration Plan** or/and
    - As **COP30 Legacy Initiative**
- **Partnership** (COP30 Presidency and/or Permanent Mission of Brazil to the UN in NY listed as partners of the event) regarding the GloCha UN HQ NY Conference & Exhibit, which have a strong DPI dimension: Link to conference concept note , draft exhibit portfolio, work in progress); option: COP30 presidency sponsoring reception on Sept 18th
- **Nominating COP30 presidency representative** to participate (or co-chair) the DPI4ACE advisory board
- **Permission to use COP30 logo** for policy brief and DPI4ACE focused events (some kind of COP30 presidency project label, like we had it for our #GiveYouthAChance COP22 initiative, link)

- **Endorsement** of the suggestion to the President of the 80th session of the UN General Assembly, Mrs. Annalena Baerbock, to organize a **UN General Assembly High Level Thematic Debate on DPI for Global Challenges Action Empowerment**, at which the DPI4ACE initiative will be presented and discussed in the context of broader UN system reform (#UN80)
- Facilitation of a DPI4ACE report presentation **event at the COP30 Presidency/Brazil pavilion**
- **Co-signing of the DPI4ACE call for support and invitation to first movers** (GIZ, NVIDIA, EU, ..)
- **Facilitation of participation of Brazilian DPI experts in the initiative**

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