

Submission #99

Personal information

Name Claudia Padovani

Organisation University of Padova

Email address claudia.padovani@unipd.it

Country/region Italy/Europe

Gender Female

How would you define the stakeholder community or communities to which you belong? Academic

Questions

1. What are your priorities for issues that should be addressed through the Internet Universality framework in each of these five categories?

Rights

Openness

Accessibility

Multistakeholder
participation

Cross-cutting
indicators

Most analyses tend to acknowledge - and assume in view of practical interventions - the different dimension of gender inequality that relate to digital technologies and the Internet. Yet it is hard to find any attempt to theoretically elaborate on the interplay amongst such dimensions; nor analytical frameworks have been developed. In exploring the path towards designing, adapting and implementing gender-aware / gender-sensitive indicators for Internet Universality we should therefore start from acknowledging the gaps and shortcomings in framing the issues and in developing consistent and multidimensional normative frameworks.

2. Are there any existing indicators with which you are familiar that you think it would be useful to include in the ROAM indicators framework?

Rights

Openness

Accessibility

Multistakeholder participation

Cross-cutting indicators % of female/male Internet users % of female/male access to Internet infrastructures/resources % of women/men in paid jobs related to ICT gender pay gaps in ICTs % of women/men in managerial/technical jobs % of women/men in decision-making and boards % of women/men as owners of ICT companies % female/male enrolment rates in STEM existing gender equality policies/support measures (organizational level) gender equality legal and normative frameworks (country level)

3. What do you think are the most important gaps in data/evidence required for monitoring Internet Universality and the ROAM principles? What approaches do you think could help to address these in your country, region or area of work?

Rights

Openness

Accessibility

Multistakeholder participation

Cross-cutting indicators I think we need to understand and address the different dimensions of gender inequality in their implications and their interplay as interlocking patterns of inequality reproduction. There is a need to better conceptualize gender equality and inequalities in the media and ICT. Indeed, seldom we find theoretically sound elaborations on which to ground both recommendations and indicators. As per gaps in approaches, it is not enough to mainstream gender issues, rather: it is necessary to recognize the intersection of various forms of inequality (in Rights, Openness, Access and multi-actor participation) and, to articulate an understanding of the main (power) structures that contribute to maintain and reproduce gender inequality - including interconnected norms, values, institutions, and organizations that reproduce gender inequality in the digital context. Finally, dealing with Internet Universality touches upon every aspects of traditional and digital media operations and content.

4. What experience or views do you have of indicators relating to the Internet which are concerned with gender and with children and young people?

More than referring to indicators I am concerned with how issues that concern gender equality and children are framed, and thus 'explored' or 'measured' through indicators. In this sense, based on a study of 58 Charters and documents concerned with Internet and fundamental rights, I would like to highlight the following:

- Issues are still mostly framed in terms of discrimination and under-representation
- Diagnosis is given much less space than prognosis (where the problem starts? Who is responsible)
- Some aspects are often mentioned: principles, access (address divides), (relevant online) content, decision-making, education (skills, literacy)
- BUT others are not: work, money (power), violence and cultural norms almost absent
- Language mostly reflects a conceptualization of GE as inclusion = under-representation, discrimination
- MUCH LESS a conceptualization of GE as transformation (though generic formulas of 'empowerment' and 'transforming norms' are used by Unesco)

5. How do you think you might use the indicator framework for Internet Universality once it has been developed?

I could use this with students in class, as an educational tool to explore communication rights and freedoms related to the digital context;

I could also use it in my research activities concerning the adoption/dissemination of gender-aware media and ICT policies, across countries and regions (a research agenda that needs to be elaborated, refined, carried on).

6. How do you think that other stakeholders might use the framework?

7. Please add any other comments that you think will be helpful to UNESCO in developing the indicators framework.

I am uploading here a short document I prepared for a presentation I made at the IAMCR 2017 conference in a Unesco panel titled UNESCO global consultation on Internet indicators. These were just notes for the panel, not a fully elaborated paper; but they may contain/include some interesting insights.

8. Please upload any documents that you think will be helpful here. [claudia_panel_unesco_in_cartagena.docx](https://en.unesco.org/sites/default/files/webform/claudia_panel_unesco_in_cartagena.docx)
(https://en.unesco.org/sites/default/files/webform/claudia_panel_unesco_in_cartagena.docx)