

Internet Governance Forum Dynamic Coalition on Digital Financial Inclusion (DC-DFI) Annual Report - 2024

The Dynamic Coalition on Digital Financial Inclusion (DC-DFI) was established in April 2024 to explore the intersection of digital financial services and Internet governance, with a strong commitment to promoting free, open, and interoperable protocols that enable equitable access to economic opportunity while respecting human rights.

In line with the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) principles for multistakeholder collaboration, the DC-DFI serves as a deliberative space for evidence-informed dialogue on how digital financial inclusion can evolve in tandem with the Internet.

The mandate of the DC-DFI is to represent the needs of underserved and financially excluded populations in the broader Internet governance agenda. In its inaugural year, the DC-DFI has been active in convening stakeholders, shaping initial policy positions, and contributing to key fora across the Internet governance ecosystem.



Members of the DC-DFI convene in Cape Town at the Interledger Summit

DC-DFI Activities in 2024



The DC-DFI convened seven times in 2024:

- Virtual meeting of August 29, 2024 - [Slides](#) | [Transcript](#)
- Virtual meeting of September 30, 2024 - [Slides](#) | [Transcript](#)
- Virtual meeting of October 16, 2024 - [Slides](#) | [Transcript](#)
- In-person meeting of October 26, 2024 (held at the Interledger Summit, Cape Town, South Africa) - [Recording](#)
- Virtual meeting of November 6, 2024 - [Slides](#) | [Transcript](#)
- Virtual meeting of December 4, 2024 - [Transcript](#)
- In-person meeting of December 15, 2024 (held at the IGF in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia) - no recording available due to a technical glitch.

In addition to these virtual and in-person meetings, we held one-on-one consultations with key subject matter experts to accelerate consensus-building on key issues, particularly around digital identity, interoperability, and ethical regulatory frameworks. These interviews took place on the sidelines of NetMundial+10 in São Paulo, Brazil and virtually, and complemented our regular dialogues by surfacing areas of both alignment and divergence within the coalition and across sectors. The anonymized summary notes from these expert interviews can be found [here](#).

Our meetings and activities were open to all interested stakeholders and we actively facilitated new participation from a diverse range of voices, particularly those from the fintech and development finance sectors. We also had a discussion with the leadership of the Dynamic Coalition on Accessibility and Disability to gather cross-IGF insights and to grow awareness of our efforts. Special appreciation is extended to members of the IGF community who consistently engaged and supported our work throughout the year.

Key Outputs and Publications

In 2024, the DC-DFI released a [draft working paper](#) titled “Unlocking Inclusion: A Policy Blueprint for Interoperable Payment Protocols.” This document lays the groundwork for a more unified policy approach to digital financial inclusion within the Internet governance ecosystem. It outlines the DC-DFI’s proposed recommendations to stakeholders on:

- The urgency of financial inclusion in digital development;
- The role of interoperable payment protocols in reducing transaction costs and enhancing access to financial services;
- The necessity of inclusive, privacy-respecting digital identity systems; and
- The role of financial infrastructure in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, especially Goals #8 and #9.

This working paper was socialised at the IGF in Riyadh, and is currently under review by DC-DFI members. The final version containing policy recommendations grounded in both technological feasibility and lived experience is expected to be published in 2025. It serves as the foundation for the DC-DFI’s broader research and advocacy initiatives.

Looking Ahead to 2025

The DC-DFI is currently organizing a symposium on digital financial inclusion and Internet governance to take place in Mexico City alongside the Interledger Summit in November. We also seek to engage in the WSIS+20 process in Geneva and, of course, at the IGF in Lillestrøm. At the IGF, we will launch our finalised Policy Blueprint for Interoperable Payment Protocols.

Invitation to Collaborate

The DC-DFI welcomes new participants from across the Internet governance, development finance, financial services, and technology communities. We believe that multistakeholder collaboration is essential to designing inclusive digital financial ecosystems that serve everyone. We invite all interested stakeholders to [join our mailing list](#), participate in upcoming meetings, and contribute to our collective mission.

Our work is made possible by the generous support of the [Interledger Foundation](#) and the dedication of our volunteer members.

This report has been prepared by the Chair of the DC-DFI, Ayden Férdeline.