



Hello and welcome to Digital for the Planet, bringing to you *inspirations on how Digital is enabling impact across the Nature, Climate and Energy practice.*

The October issue includes our latest news on the [Green Recovery Library](#), featuring exciting uses of data in [Viet Nam](#), [Guinea](#) and [Paris Agreement LULUCF Assessment & Nationally Determined Contribution Tool \(PLANT\)](#) ; news on **Digital Public Goods** featuring the [high level event during UN General Assembly](#), accreditation of [Digital in Climate Resilience Agriculture \(DiCRA\)](#) and [UN Biodiversity Lab](#) and the use of Digital Public Goods to enable transparency and carbon market; updates on corporate digital strategies and activities; our 'Editor's Pick' long read which this month is an inspiring report called '[Digital Reset](#)'.

Enjoy!

Green Recovery Data Library – Working across the Nature Climate and Energy practice to nurture a data culture.

Green Recovery Hub - What's new?

Through the Stockholm +50 national consultation process, UNDP has been building up the Data Futures Platform [Green Recovery Library](#) showcasing country, regional or global data inspirations on nature, climate and energy practices. Here are some recently published interactive data products!

[Provincial Governance and Public Administration Performance Index \(PAPI\) Study](#): Understanding that better data can help us make better-informed decisions since 2009 PAPI has been capturing the voices of

Vietnamese citizens on the performance and quality of policy implementation. With over 14000 participants (2020 and 2021) the dashboard mainly focuses on understanding the changes that have occurred during the pandemic related to the government response and the environmental dimension. Capturing the opinion on environmental governance dimension reflecting citizens' assessment of two environmental aspects critical to their health: air and water quality.

Biogas resources dashboard (Guinea): The primary energy supply of Guinea consists of 89% biomass, 10% oil, and 1% hydro, despite the huge potential of hydro in the country. Most of the energy production and use is concentrated in the household sub-sector, with heavy usage of biomass. The study was conducted with the objective of creating a viable and efficient market for the production, marketing, and widespread use of biogas technologies in Guinea. The dashboard offers inspiration on the possibilities of data manipulation, tracking, and measurement.

PLANT - Paris Agreement LULUCF Assessment & Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC)

Tool: The [2022 Sustainable Development Goals report](#) reveals that 10 million hectares of forest are destroyed every year with almost 90% of global deforestation due to agricultural expansion. UNDP's [PLANT](#) can change this, serving as a 'living' tool and a constantly updated database advisory system that supports countries to implement policies for sustainability in the forest sector to advance the [Paris Agreement](#). Learn more about some country projects using PLANT [here](#).

Nature Climate and Energy Project Data Portfolio Desk Review -- *'It is a capital mistake to theorize before one has the data'* -- Sherlock Holmes

All new best practice case studies are now available on the [Data Futures Platform](#)! This is the result of a desk review based on two rounds of data inventory, first with the Ecosystem and Biodiversity portfolio in 2021, and this year with 56 country offices as part of Stockholm +50 national consultation process to identify best practices and roadblocks for reaching a data culture across the Nature, Climate and Energy (NCE) practice. Out of 137 submissions, 7 inspiring studies were turned into interactive data products and published on the [Data Futures Platform](#). Over 100 NCE colleagues joined the report presentation and country office experience sharing session (thank you Comoros and Rwanda Country Offices!). We discussed next steps to mainstream quality data collection, storage, publication and secondary use opportunities. Practical guidance notes and trainings will follow, but for now... if you missed out on the session no problem, here are some links!

Link to session recording ([HERE](#))

Link to presentation ([HERE](#))

Digital Public Goods for the Planet

High level event debrief: What is the Future of Digital Public Good/Infrastructure?

UNDP's corporate high level event on '[The Future of Digital Cooperation: Building resilience through safe, trusted, and inclusive digital public infrastructure](#)' took place on the side-lines of the 77th UN General Assembly, chaired by the Administrator with a rich line-up of speakers.

Countries and partners are increasingly moving from building one-off 'solutions' 'applications' to the concept of Digital Public Goods, and further, Digital Public Infrastructure.

'Digital Public Goods (DPG)' are open source, open data, open algorithm codebases that can be used or replicated by many. We are also pushing this thinking to an 'Infrastructure' angle—digital infrastructure is protocol level, non-solution building blocks that can unleash innovation from other actors, including local digital providers, Small and Medium Enterprises, and entrepreneurs well known example is the India Stack, which provided protocols for individual payments and ID to unlock access to finance to millions of people in India who previously had no access to finance. Similar protocols that UNDP can convene with other partners may exist-- to unlock more access and benefit sharing to various green finance, including carbon market, biodiversity finance, and other mechanisms by local communities, farmers, and other groups of people we put at the front.

If you missed the event, here is [the link](#) to the recording!

Congratulations Data in Climate and Resilient Agriculture (DiCRA) and UN Biodiversity Lab

Our sincere congratulation to [UN Biodiversity Lab](#) which was recently [recognized](#) as a Digital Public Good (DPG). The UN Biodiversity Lab, an innovative spatial data analytics platform, is now a digital public good, facilitating open access to spatial data that can inform environmental evidence-based decisions. Designed to aid policymakers in identifying and addressing pressing issues related to conservation and sustainable

development, UN Biodiversity Lab is a key resource available in the digital public goods registry – a globally recognized list of DPGs.

We would also like to congratulate India Country Office / Accelerator Lab on Data in Climate Resilient Agriculture ([DiCRA](#)) which was successfully [certified](#) as a DPG. DiCRA is an open data, open software and innovation platform that provides high-resolution and high-frequency evidence on climate-resilient agriculture. DiCRA applies Artificial Intelligence/ Machine Learning to provide unique intelligence on which farms are resilient in their microclimate and which are extremely vulnerable. Such data insights help improve public programs' efficiency and investments in climate action.

Exploration... Measurement, Reporting and Verification system and carbon registries as Digital Public Goods/Infrastructure

UNDP is piloting the Digital Public Goods/ Infrastructure (DPG/I) approach to support countries build national Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) systems for Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) tracking, accompanied by a carbon registry. Given that many countries will be embarking on journeys for similar digital system development, UNDP with partners have a unique opportunity to approach with a DPG/I lens-- cooperatively create a reusable, open-source, digital systems that can be reused by various countries. By creating open source, interoperable and modular options for core elements of the necessary digital ecosystem based on past and ongoing support to countries, and continuing to build on the central code base, and by cross-pollination between countries, the overall technological infrastructure will develop faster in a more cost-effective way, using the most updated technological options. The project is moving forward as a cross-unit, cross-bureau task team between Nature, Climate and Energy (NCE) Practice technical teams; Climate Strategy and Policies (Climate Promise), Sustainable Energy Hub and NCE Digital, supported by the Executive Office / Chief Digital Office with seed funding from Norway.

Please reach out to Reina Otsuka (reina.otsuka@undp.org) to learn more about this initiative and to join forces

Foresight, Strategies and Guides

Many future-oriented work is happening in collaboration with the Chief Digital Office to push our limits on the opportunities of digital technologies.

- **Digital X #Climate Catalog is ready!**

With thanks to the technical experts who contributed to the review process, 28 scalable digital solutions for #Climate made it into the first round of [Digital X Solution Catalog](#). Country Offices are now in the process of applying for Chief Digital Office funding to leverage on these solutions. Please reach out to Michael Rios (michael.rios@undp.org) and Valeriya Zaytseva (valeriya.zaytseva@undp.org) if you would like to use these solutions through a project you are overseeing or managing.

- **Digital Guides for Signature Solutions ENERGY and ENVIRONMENT**

A process was launched by the Chief Digital Office to prepare digital guides for each of the signature solutions. Colleagues across the Global Policy Network will be invited for consultation for the ENERGY and ENVIRONMENT workstreams. Stay tuned for engagement in the next 3-4 months!

- **Tech Futures Workshop Report**

In the meantime, with a few Bureau for Policy and Programme Support technical experts who could join over the summer vacation period, two workshops took place to expand our imagination on how future digital technology would impact ENVIRONMENT and ENERGY. Have you heard of a two dimensional solar cell, digital twin, or a new 'mining' town? Check out these reports for inspirations on some early 'signals' a future / foresight expert see coming up in the horizon.

[Future Tech on ENVIRONMENT](#) | [Future Tech on ENERGY](#)

Brown bags, Sharing Lessons Learnt

Nature Climate and Energy Digital Team will continue to organize ad hoc informal sessions to learn about existing solutions, share lessons learned, and to find out 'how did they do it?!' If you have a guest or technology provider that you would like us to invite, please reach out to Freshia Wairimu (freshia.wairimu@undp.org)

- **Brownbag with International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) on phone surveys:** We had a mini brownbag session with IFAD and VIAMO, on their experience using mobile phone calls for survey data collection with farmers. [VIAMO](#) is a part of the [Digital X Solution Catalog](#) as a pre-vetted vendor in case of interest.

Recording: [HERE](#) (1 hour light watch)

- **Green Shark Tank Winners' Mid-term Sharing Session:** An informal session took place, where the three Green Shark Tank winners presented their results and plans. Recording: [HERE](#) (first 45 minutes is the presentation)

Editors Pick!

Check out the inspiring new report '[Digital Reset](#)' that shows how digital technologies can support the quest for a deep sustainability transformation.

The report focuses on how digital technologies could be redirected for 'deep' green, inclusive transition.

It touches and reminds us on interesting points, such as...

- Current situation of monopolization of digital technologies.
- Efficiency and optimization are where digital technologies have largely been expected to contribute to a green economy. However, these might not be the solution.
- How can digitalization unlock deep transition? The report paints some inspirational directions on: Argo-ecological farming systems (not only smart agriculture); equitable mobility (not only optimization); information-based circular economy; and distributed energy / energy justice.

Happy reading!

This newsletter is brought to you by Bureau for Policy and Programme Support / Nature, Climate and Energy- Digital Team. For inquiries on any of the initiatives listed, or if you have a project that you would like to work with us, please email: Reina Otsuka, Lead, Digital Innovation for Nature Climate and Energy (reina.otsuka@undp.org)

Do you know someone who might like to receive this newsletter too?

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