



YOUNG LEADERS IN TECH POLICY

Young Leaders in Tech Policy Fellowship INNOVATION PROPOSAL PROMPTS

The Innovation Proposal is a chance for you to put yourself in the shoes of tech policy think tanks and demonstrate your critical thinking skills on seemingly over-arching problems. We encourage applicants to be innovative, creative and solution-oriented in sharing ideas.

In your proposal, please address the following:

- 1. Identify the problem:** Briefly summarize the problem, including its ramifications across multiple sectors.
- 2. Identify a solution:** Present a thoughtful, implementable solution that would address the problem as you see it. Explain why you chose this solution, and pay particular attention to how you would implement and scale it.
- 3. Define outcomes:** Describe the intended outcomes and how to measure them.

The proposal should be no longer than 2 pages and must be drafted in font size 12. The 2 pages should also include references and citations. Should you choose to create a PowerPoint presentation or an infographic, please ensure that your submission meets all the requirements listed above. PowerPoint presentations should contain no more than 6 slides. Feel free to use any available resources/information in creating your innovation proposal. Ensure that you cite all the information to its appropriate source.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

- We encourage you to be creative and solution oriented.
- Please limit it to 2 pages (size 12 font) including the references.
- If you choose a non-written format (PowerPoint, graphic, etc.), please ensure that it still meets this page requirement.
- PowerPoints should have no more than 6 slides.
- Feel free to use any available resources in answering these questions.

SOLUTION ATTRIBUTES

Each prompt solution should ideally achieve the following things:

- Indicate comprehension of 'grey' issues, and give a sense of your value system.
- Show some sort of entrepreneurial or leadership thinking
- Demonstrate logical, data-backed thinking and structured thought processes
- Show good writing skills



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Large scale deployment of education technology solutions

During the COVID-19 pandemic, access to schools and in-person classes was severely affected. To address this gap, many schools, implemented technology-based solutions including online classes, app-based learning, automated online modules etc.. What are the risks and challenges that large-scale implementation of ed-tech solutions poses, and what are the infrastructural and policy solutions that need to be instituted to ensure the protection of children as well as equal access across income and social spectrums?



Central Bank-backed Digital Currency

Reserve Bank of India called [digital currency a mixed blessing](#) while considering broad guidelines for [issuing central bank digital currencies](#). Various other [central banks have examined this idea](#) in view of the rise of cryptocurrencies. Examine the potential benefits and risks of a central bank-backed digital currency from an economic, regulatory, and privacy perspective and suggest a possible roadmap for a roll-out of a Central Bank Digital Currency.



Banning of Chinese Apps by the Indian Government

India's banning of multiple Chinese apps came on the heels of mounting tension between India and China, revealing the inherently political nature of technology. While this move was seen as retaliatory and justified by many, there was also growing concern about the ramifications this move will have on the larger geopolitical peace in the region.

From an Indian context, what are the technological, economic and security concerns that are relevant in this scenario, and what are methods to ensure that core principles of the internet, such as [openness, inclusivity, transparency, accountability](#), among others, remain intact, during the formulation of policy solutions.



Facial Recognition Technology

Facial Recognition Technology (FRT) is being deployed by various government bodies for a variety of purposes such as authentication of identity, surveillance, and crime prevention. However, operation of this system is opaque in terms of algorithmic techniques, data governance, and institutional processes. There are also concerns about the inherent bias of these systems against certain communities. Information requested through the RTI has been denied on grounds such as privacy concerns and IP protection, making it difficult to assess the efficacy of these systems. Identify the implementation challenges in creating accountability in FRT systems and suggest policy, regulatory, and technological means of addressing them to achieve this goal.

Reference: <https://panoptic.in/>



Democratization of Geospatial Data

With the recent Mapping Policy guidelines released by the Dept. of Science & Technology, mapping has been liberalized to a large extent. Democratizing access to geospatial data will help in leveraging geographic intelligence for decision-making.

This can accelerate the impact of social initiatives and improve their reach to a larger population. However, to fully realize this social impact, participation of citizens is crucial. Map out some of the challenges in the collection and usage of geospatial data and suggest ways forward so that these policy changes can be effectively capitalized by civil society.

Reference: [DST guidelines](#)