

DigiTrans 2022

Data Governance

Evolving platform cooperatives.

Panel Discussion

Jason Bygate

Capacitate Social Solutions





Setting the stage

Youth Challenge

- Youth Unemployment – supply, demand & access issues.
- Past policies ineffectual or poorly implemented
- Vast persistent Inequality

PSET Cloud Objectives

- Supporting youth transition through **Integration, Access and inclusion**

Key Considerations when exploring a governance model:



Consideration of both institutional & system/data governance

- The entities that are involved in the operation and oversight of the platform, and how the system manages data and interaction with other systems.

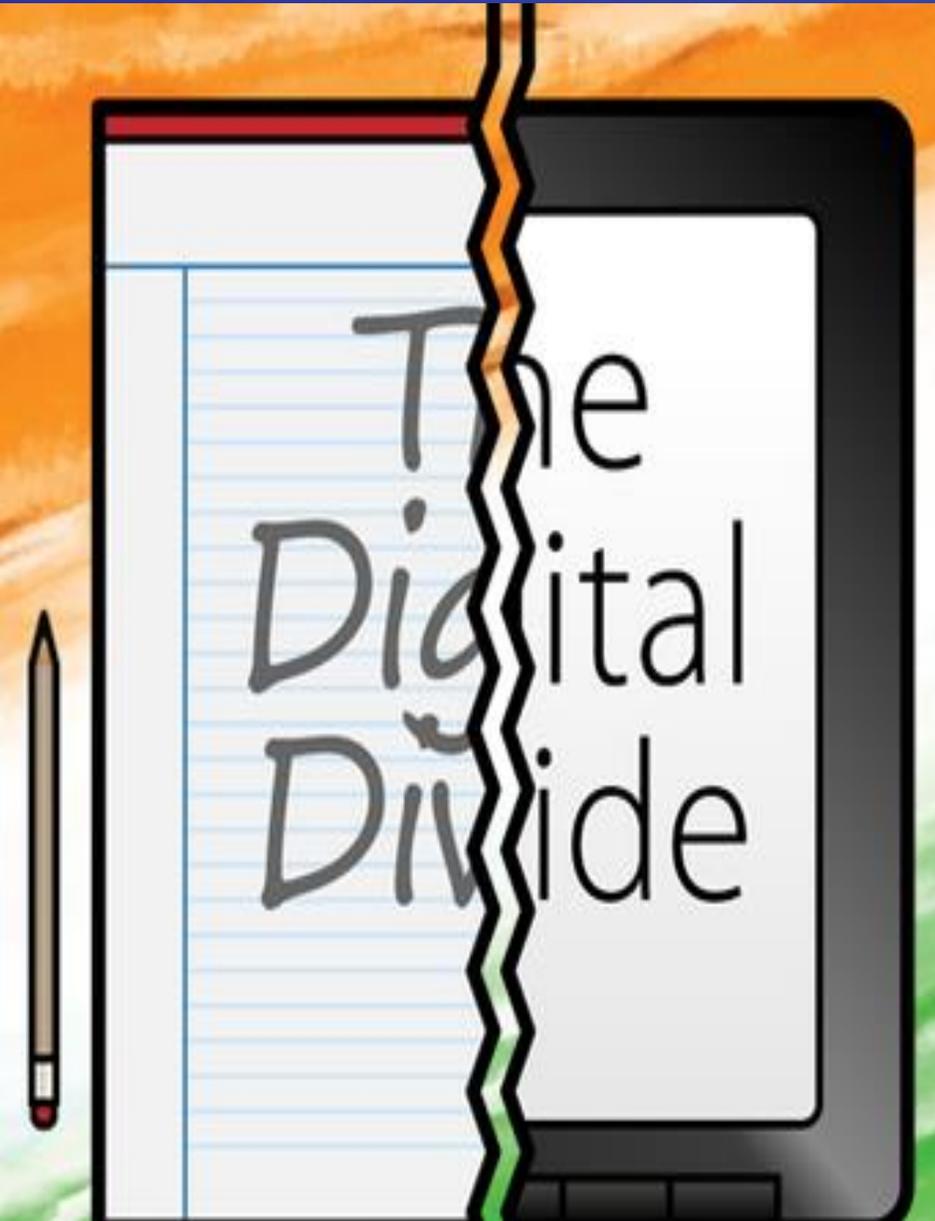
Fragmentation

- Interventions by government and civil society remain fragmented

Avoiding Collaborative lip service

- Multitude of other initiatives and systems
- Sector is good at talking about collaboration but egos and individual agendas are a barrier

Key Considerations when exploring a governance model:



Unbiased, Informed Insights and opinion

Need to ensuring that decisions are driven by collective interest rather than a single agenda or political objective.

Action

Structures required to facilitate action and to avoid being trapped by continual consultation.

Realities of the Digital Divide

Youth and organisations that serve them often do not have access to the technology they need.

Evolving technologies

Emerging technology capabilities to facilitate greater trust and decentralisation

Is consensus enough?

Consultation and consensus essential to build trust, but are all stakeholders able to provide informed unbiased input?

Ideal is informed consensus but not always possible.

Blended model

Professional Advisory – specialist input

Cooperative Consensus – input from stakeholders

Participatory – operators of platform with active insights

**SOMETIMES A
MAJORITY SIMPLY
MEANS THAT ALL THE
FOOLS ARE ON THE
SAME SIDE.**

Claude McDonald

A New Era of Platform Cooperatives

The most recent evolution of the cooperative, made for a digital and connected world, is the **platform coop, an alternative to centralised platforms, that puts stakeholders before shareholders.** The term was first coined by New School professor, Trebor Scholz, in 2014.

“is about cloning the technological heart of online platforms and puts it to work with a cooperative model, one that puts workers, owners, communities, and cities—in a kind of solidarity that leads to political power”
(Matias, 2015).

A New Era of Platform Cooperatives

Democratic ownership and governance are the pillars of what ***cooperativism*** refers to.

Platform cooperativism will require a different kind of ecosystem to support the development of democratic online enterprises.

‘people-centred enterprises owned, controlled and run by and for their members to realise their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations’.

The International Co-operative Alliance (ICA)

The fundamentals of this are basic common sense: shared ownership and governance among people who depend on an enterprise, and coordination among enterprises rather than competition.

The Evolution of Distributed Autonomous Organisations

A DAO is a way of allowing a group — people, corporations, even machines — to come together for a common purpose without the need for a central administrator (but with full trust in the code). The operations, day to day decisions and rules can be easily handled and enforced by pre-defined code, called smart contracts, running on a blockchain.



Closing thoughts

- Establishing and Maintaining Trust
- Co-determined Objectives and Shared Principals
- Shared Value and Transparency
- Democratised Ownership and Governance
- Data Legitimacy, Protection and Portability
- Inclusion, Integration and Collaboration
- Leveraging Emerging Technologies



Thank you!

DigiTrans 2022

Jason Bygate
Capacitate Social Solutions
jason@capacitate.co.za

