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Role of the Internet and ICT during Crises, Conflicts and Disasters

Stockholm Internet Forum (SIF) is a forum for advancing free, open, and secure internet as a driver of global development. This is an arena for exchanging knowledge and ideas, and the place to forge new partnerships for participants, including Sida partners, civil society organisations, policymakers, companies and academia. SIF is hosted by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida).

The forum provides a platform for discussing opportunities and challenges of digitalisation, ICT and the Internet. The conference aims to capture key issues of consideration for international policy makers. It is also an event for collaboration on capacity building and on developing infrastructure and systems for a safe and secure digitalization. SIF is a collaborative space for development partners and other actors, including both established and new/emerging stakeholders.

The overarching theme of SIF23 – crises, conflicts, and man-made and natural disasters – aims at putting the spotlight on people in the most challenging circumstances. The forum will include opening and closing sessions, high-level keynote speakers, around three broader thematic sessions in plenary, and nine parallel sessions as well as side activities.

SIF23 will raise three sub-themes for discussion:

1. Tech infrastructures and systems: Access, agency, security and resilience

This subtheme will look at the Internet and ICT as infrastructure and services that connect people and places in times of crisis and that can build agency and resilience over time.

2. Information, data and media

This subtheme will delve into the domain of the media, information, and data, their potential and risks and how to manage these in a manner that protects the rights of people affected by crisis, conflict and disaster.

3. Normative frameworks: Ensuring rights and upholding responsibilities in difficult times

The third subtheme will explore governance, rights and responsibilities, and the role of normative frameworks in respecting and promoting human rights online and offline.

The first Stockholm Internet Forum (SIF) was held in 2012 following a decision by the Government of Sweden. It has since then been organised on a biennial basis. The forum has become a well-established recurrent international platform for discussing digitalisation and human rights and capturing the development gains and challenges of digitalisation.

Click [here](#) to read more about SIF23 and the themes.

Contact us

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