Updates on cybersecurity and ICTs for Peacebuilding

ICT4Peace and UN CTED are hosting US Launch of Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism (GIFCT) in San Francisco

The ICT4Peace Foundation and the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (UN CTED) through their TechagainstTerrorism.org Initiative hosted the U.S. launch of the Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism (GIFCT) in San Francisco, CA.

ICT4Peace and UN CTED are collaborating with Facebook, Microsoft, Twitter, and YouTube to support the recently-announced industry-led Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism. Tech Against Terrorism is a joint initiative between ICT4Peace and UN CTED, pursuant to UN Security Council resolution 2354 (2017) and the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee.

Cybersecurity and humanitarianism: Opportunities and challenges

Sanjana Hattotuwa, Special Advisor at the ICT4Peace Foundation was invited to attend Crisis Code: Humanitarian Protection in the Digital Age, a two-day conference exploring how crisis-affected populations can be safeguarded from emerging threats in cyberspace. The conference was organised by Swissnex San Francisco.

Sanjana was invited to speak on a panel on Humanitarian Threats in the Age of Cyberwar and to kickoff a workshop on Taking Stock and Making Plans with Peter Maurer, President of ICRC. The panel was broadcast live over Facebook, and a recorded video stream can be seen here. In this first panel, humanitarian thinkers and cybersecurity leaders sat together to synthesize and reframe the day's learnings, and to explore emerging threats to civilian populations. The panel was moderated by Joseph Guay, The Policy Lab and also featured Eva Galperin, Electronic Frontier Foundation, Jeff Moss, DEF CON, Paul Nicholas, Microsoft and Nathaniel A. Raymond, Harvard University.

Read more here.
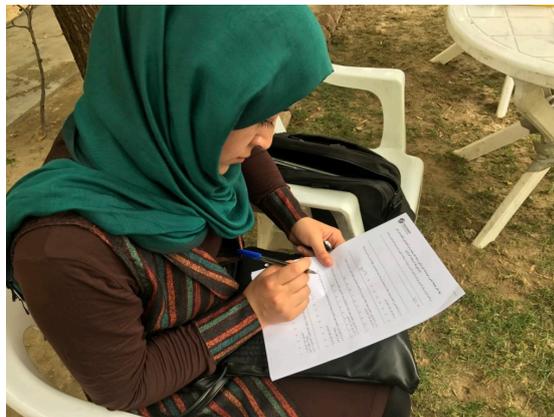
Strengthening media and civil society capacity in Afghanistan

Sanjana Hattotuwa, Special Advisor at the Foundation, has travelled to Kabul at least once a year since 2015 at the invitation of Internews to conduct workshops on strategic communications, social media and digital security with a range of leading mainstream media organizations, journalists and civil society activists from around the country. The underlying rationale for these visits is to develop local capacities to use new and social media to bear witness to Afghanistan's contemporary politics, society and governance. The work also strengthens resilience of key actors within the country to keep doing what they do even in the most austere of contexts, and is anchored to developing business continuity in the media sector, so that critical operations can continue even in the face of debilitating violence.

Read more here.

Digital Investigative Journalism in Nepal

Sanjana Hattotuwa, Special Advisor at the ICT4Peace Foundation, was invited by the Centre for Investigative Journalism Nepal to support a workshop for leading journalists from around the country in the use of online, social and digital media in investigative journalism. Sanjana taught two days of a four day workshop, and focussed on social media strategies for bearing witness to, and communicating inconvenient truths, the use of film, audio and photography in media campaigns including in cross-platform investigative stories, and the importance of social media engagement in a country that now has eight million monthly Facebook users alone, leave aside those on Twitter, Instagram and using instant messaging apps.

Sanjana's lectures dealt with theory, regional and international examples of best practices as well as a lot of hands

ICT4Peace invited by Thai Foreign Ministry to chair panel on Fintech and ensuring secure and peaceful cyberspace

ICT4Peace's Daniel Stauffacher was invited by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Royal Thai Government to chair a panel discussion of the "ISU Lecture on Cybersecurity: 'Disruptive Technology – FinTech and its implications on security' on 28 August 2017.

With advances in digital technology, the landscape of financial services is rapidly transforming and opens up a window of opportunities for both service providers and consumers. Today, Financial Technology or FinTech is one of the fastest growing industries with investment over USD 17 billion in 2016. A number of online payment companies, stock investment platforms, and online foreign currency such as Bitcoin have

on, practical exercises around key apps, platforms, services and tools.

Read more here.

Social Media Fellowship: Review of CVE & strategic communications in Myanmar

In April 2017, Sanjana Hattotuwa, Special Advisor at the ICT4Peace Foundation, was tasked with the design and leading the delivery of a bootcamp workshop for seventeen individuals, comprising of six different teams, from across Myanmar, as part of a social media fellowship programme supported by Phandeeyar, an award winning innovation lab that is spearheading the development of Myanmar's tech ecosystem. Read details here.

In August, Sanjana was invited back to Yangon to work with Phandeeyar to assess the progress of the team at the end of their projects. The two day lessons learnt workshop went through the different stages the projects had gone through, various iterations, the reasons for iterating, the general socio-political context within which the projects were located in and the challenges faced by the team in operationalizing work plans.

flourished and become more prominent than ever.

Read more here.

ICT4Peace at JCI International Summit on Peace 2017 in Kuching, Malaysia

Sanjana Hattotuwa, Special Advisor at the ICT4Peace Foundation, was invited by Junior Chamber International (JCI) for their inaugural International Summit on Peace, held in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia from 6-8 September 2017. Participants at the conference came from over one hundred countries.

Sanjana was asked to facilitate a workshop titled "Lead by Example: Good Governance for Peaceful Societies", which ended up having over one hundred participants. Advance planning for feedback from this number of participants in a very short span of time paid off - the session was the only one in the conference to be anchored to audience feedback via custom Google Forms, anchored to key issues.

Read the full post here.

Read more [here](#).

ICT4Peace addressing Global Public Prosecutors Meeting on Peace and Security in Cyberspace

ICT4Peace's Daniel Stauffacher was invited on 12 September 2107 by the [International Association of Public Prosecutors 22nd Annual Meeting in Beijing](#) to address senior most public prosecutors of over 170 countries on Peace and Security in Cyberspace.

[In his presentation](#) Daniel Stauffacher first highlighted the positive effects that the internet and information and communication technologies including social media have brought to humanity including economic and human development. In particular he described the role that Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) can play for peaceful purposes and highlighted the work that the ICT4Peace has done in this field since 2004.

Read more [here](#).

ICT4Peace teaching at ETH Zurich Swiss School of Public Governance

ICT4Peace's Sanjana Hattotuwa and Daniel Stauffacher were invited in September 2017 to lecture at the ETH Certificate of Advanced Studies in Public Governance and Administration Course, of the [Swiss School of Public Governance at ETH](#). Daniel Stauffacher was a guest speaker and gave an introduction to the emerging Governance of Peace and Security in Cyberspace (his presentation can be found [here](#)).

Sanjana Hattotuwa gave a full day lecture on the following topics:

- Social media: What is the digital media landscape today and why does it matter for governance
- Big Data, Open Data & Open Source Intelligence (OS-INT): How can it all aid policymaking?
- New and neo-cartography: The world of web based mapping & implications for citizen participation in Early Warning, Disaster Risk Reduction, Humanitarian and Complex Political Emergencies
- Navigating a post-factual world: 'Fake news' phenomenon and vectors, and introduction to social media verification

Read more [here](#).

ICT4Peace on jury of Resonant Voices hackathon

Sanjana Hattotuwa, Special Advisor at the ICT4Peace Foundation, was invited to be of the panel of jurists at the Resonant Voices Hackathon, held in Durrës, Albania from 14-17 September 2017.

The Resonant Voices initiative aims to challenge extremist narratives in public discourse throughout the Western Balkans – in particular those disseminated online – and to equip critical voices in the target countries with the skills, know-how and resources to counter radicalisation, the recruitment of foreign terrorist fighters and violent extremists and other dangerous trends. It will also empower a diverse group of civil society actors – activists, journalists, bloggers, educators and other online (and offline) influencers – to become resonant voices, able to counter violent extremism, to push back against extremist propaganda and to increase and amplify alternative, positive messages.

A detailed note of Sanjana's interaction with the initial phase of the Resonant Voices initiative, which included workshops in five countries in the Balkans, can be read here.

A full list of the ideas and projects the

Global Internet Forum to Counter Terrorism

Startup Workshop at Facebook NYC
18 August 2017

Wifi: fbguess / m0vefast

tech against terrorism

techagainstterrorism.org *@techvsterrorism*

ICT for peace foundation   UN CTED

ICT4Peace and tech companies working with UN during General Assembly High Level Week in New York

Tech Against Terrorism (a joint project between ICT4Peace and UN CTED and the Global Internet Forum on Counter Terrorism (GIFCT) organised on 18 September 2017 an outreach workshop with and for small and medium size tech companies at the Facebook offices in Manhattan, New York to discuss experiences and best practises on how to prevent the use of ICTs and social media platform for terrorist purposes.

The US launch of GIFCT, created by Facebook, Microsoft, Twitter Youtube and Google to counter the threat of terrorist content online, was hosted by techagainstterrorism.org of ICT4Peace and UN CTED on 1 August 2017 at Swissnex in San Francisco. UK Home Secretary Amber Rudd and US Home Land Secretary Duke, Switzerland, Spain, Australia, Republic of Korea, the EU as well as small and medium size Tech Companies, Think Tanks and academia participated in the US launch in San Francisco.

Read more here.

jury had to sift through can be
accessed here.

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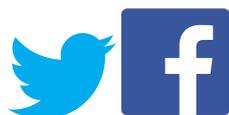
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Download **a report on the use of Information and Communications Technologies for peacebuilding (ICT4Peace),** with a Preface by Kofi A. Annan, former Secretary General of the United Nations here. An updated version of this report, with critical analysis on current policies and practices of ICTs in peacebuilding and crises was published in early 2011. Published in collaboration with the Berkman Center for Internet and Society at Harvard University and

ICT4Peace took root with pioneering research on the role of ICTs in preventing, responding to and recovering from conflict in 2003 and lead to the adoption of Paragraph 36 by the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in Tunis in 2005 which recognises *"…the potential of ICTs to promote peace and to prevent conflict which, inter alia, negatively affects achieving development goals. ICTs can be used for identifying conflict situations through early-warning systems preventing conflicts, promoting their peaceful resolution, supporting*

GeorgiaTech, *Peacebuilding in the Information Age: Sifting Hype from Reality* can be read here.

humanitarian action, including protection of civilians in armed conflicts, facilitating peacekeeping missions, and assisting post conflict peace-building and reconstruction".

The **ICT4Peace Foundation** works to promote the practical realisation of Paragraph 36 and looks at the role of ICT in crisis management, covering aspects of early warning and conflict prevention, peace mediation, peacekeeping, peace-building as well as natural disaster management and humanitarian operations.

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