

SHARING CITIES ACTION 2019



OUTCOMES OF THE SHARING CITIES STAND LAB

TOWARDS A FEMINIST DIGITAL ECONOMY: INITIATIVES, DEBATES AND POLICIES

SHARING
CITIES ACTION

CITIES ACTION ON CHALLENGES AND
OPPORTUNITIES OF PLATFORM ECONOMY



Ajuntament de
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Executive Summary

Towards a Feminist Digital Economy: Stage of initiatives, debates & policies

About Sharing Cities Action 2019

In 2018, 50 cities got together to celebrate the third Sharing Cities Summit in Barcelona. During this Summit, a [Declaration of Common Principles and Commitments for Sharing Cities](#) was launched in order to face the challenges and take up the opportunities derived from the exponential growing importance of digital platforms. In order to foster collaborations among cities and to support the implementation of the Declaration, a **Task Force** was established. The task force has been coordinated by the city of Barcelona with the support of the 70 cities engaging in the actions developed during 2018-2019. **Sharing Cities Action** is the result of the Task Force work.

One year later, the Summit has its revival with the **Sharing Cities Action Encounter 2019** at the Smart Cities Expo World Congress (SCWEC). This comes from the willingness of the cities' network to continue addressing the issues of platform economy and define together an **Action Plan for 2020**. The aim is to take a step forward in facing the challenges and the opportunities of digital platforms and strengthen their sharing potential.



Institutional moments: (Left) Mayor of Barcelona Ada Colau accompanied by Spanish and Catalan governments representatives and international cities representatives part of the Sharing Cities Encounter. (Right) Deputy Mayor of Barcelona Laia Bonet, Mayor of Barcelona Ada Colau, Commissioner of Social Economy, Local Development and Food Policies Álvaro Porro and Chairman of the Smart City Committee of Seoul Metropolitan Government Mr. Lee Jung-hoon.



The Sharing Cities Encounter 2019 congregated **30 cities representatives from around the world and 150 actors from the international sharing ecosystem**: business platforms, civil society, networks, experts, activists and research centers. The Encounter 2019, located in the Sharing Cities Stand Lab, created an innovative three-day laboratory for policy co-creation in the middle of the Smart City Expo World Congress (SCEWC). The key topics were: the Future of Work, Inclusion and Gender Equality, Data Policies and Commons, and Environmental Sustainability. For further information, [follow this link](#) and read about the **main outcomes achieved in the Encounter 2019 and Forward action for 2020**.

The Task Force aims at catalyzing courageous moving forward actions in the following areas: supporting city sovereignty, data commons, sharing regulatory efforts and empowering cities in front of disruptive platforms; the promotion of sustainable and inclusive platforms to achieve cities' and global goals, and the preservation of citizen and human rights; to incorporate sharing dynamics in urban planning and foster citizen engagement among others. To support these follow-up actions, the Barcelona City Hall, along with the Open University of Catalunya agreed on extending the **Sharing Cities Action Task Force programme**.

The city of Seoul will take over from Barcelona, New York City and Amsterdam, and will support the programme of collaborations between cities, as well as, to organize the next Sharing Cities Summit 2020.

A Feminist Perspective of the Digital Economy

This year 2019, the Sharing Cities Action Encounter had a determined *feminist approach*. The lack of inclusion and equality between women and men in the **new Digital Era** was placed at the foreground of the analysis and debate. Gender inequalities were made visible in a way nobody can have a doubt about it, with data. During three days we learnt about different initiatives that can be understood within a feminist digital frame; we debated on the consequences of gender inequalities on the life of women; and we discussed on public policies' measures that can lead to gender equality and close the gap.

We gave voice to researchers, practitioners, public administration representatives, third sector initiatives and private entrepreneurs around two main goals: help us to define a feminist framework on this digital transformation era; and have a broad understanding of what a gender approach in the digital and technological sector involves.

The aim of this document is to gather the **key ideas from all the sessions about gender and equality held in the Encounter 2019**. This collection of data wants to make visible the issues which the participants dealt with, so that in the future we keep working towards a more egalitarian society. All the contributions about feminist economy made during the 3-day encounter can be divided into three categories: Feminist Economics, Gender Data and Women in Tech. Following this classification, we delve into the key ideas brought up by the participants during their talks, as part of the Encounter 2019 programme.



Outlook of the Sharing Cities Stand Lab in the SCEWC, which hosted the Encounter 2019 programme.

Main Outcomes on Gender Equality and Inclusive Platforms

The Sharing Cities Encounter 2019 has been highly committed to the gender equality global goal. Thus, at the Sharing Cities Stand Lab several sessions developed gender analysis of the current state of the platform economy. The analysis was mainly focused on three axes; the position of women valued through their participation: data representation and working conditions; the care economy in the frame of the platform economy; and the role of public administration in promoting equalitarian and inclusive platform economy models.

The sessions supposed a first phase in the creation of a new theoretical and practical framework for a **feminist digital economy**. As a result of the gender analysis developed, we would like to highlight **four main outcomes** of diverse sessions:

- Taking into account the **knowledge developed from feminist economics on how to create a more sustainable and inclusive economic model** in research and practices. Feminist economics is proposing a new epistemology of what the economy is. Thus, Feminist Economics understands the economy as a method of “social provisioning”, as the way in which human beings collectively organize themselves in order to guarantee their survival. In that sense, the sharing economy is supporting this understanding with good practices. However, patriarchal and capitalist ideologies are interrelated forms of dominance that go through all economic activities impacting gender inequity, as well as racial and class inequities, and they may persist within the platform economy.
- The increasing importance that **care-based service work** (care of human bodies and maintenance of physical spaces; i.e. reproductive work) will have in the platform economy- There is a sheer quantity of home-based service work that forecasts to exist in the future due to the demographic challenges, basically because of the aging population, i.e. inverted pyramid. The platform economy can offer: i) proposals for care work to be recognized as a relevant societal economic activity relevant to social well-being; 2) effective and adapted solutions to different care needed users; 3) favorable working conditions to promote a quality service.
- The relevance of doing **gender impact evaluations and gender-sensitive budgeting to urban sharing practices/initiatives**. For democratic cities to offer sharing initiatives for all, participatory processes to amplify conversation among all citizens are required. For such purpose, **digital tools as data and political tools as gender-sensitive budgeting are fundamental**.
- A general agreement that the sharing economy is presenting as a revolutionary new model of production and consumption with endless and unimaginable solutions to offer. However, we recognised that **the great challenge is to frame these solutions in a democratic framework able to redistribute equally and recognise all individuals. In**

this regard, androcentric visions of economic matters need to be reviewed and start a dialogue with those who have been traditionally excluded. We agreed that we need to **develop methodological frameworks to understand economics from a justice and equality basis**. We agreed that it is not about to “add women and stir” but to do structural changes to really offer solutions to the cities’ and global great challenges.

Data with Gender Perspective

The Sharing Cities Action gave a large space to work on how **data could include a gender perspective to contribute to the transformation towards more sustainable, inclusive and diverse cities**. The Sharing Cities Stand Lab 2019 has been compiling a series of discussions and debates that reflect the state of the art in the data fields related to gender issues. In concrete, the three sessions hosted in the Stand Lab have shown that **in the FLOSS environments there is a clear gender gap that we need to face. Only 2% of the Free/Libre/Open Source Software developers are women**.

Moreover, we only have a partial snapshot of women's lives because of the existing gaps in gender data. It becomes crucial to **devote resources on understanding why this gap is produced and how we can overcome it**. For instance, **The GenderDataLab hacking session has been working on the creation of a database with a gender perspective and on its visualization**. The database was focused on the representation of women in Barcelona’s cultural sphere on the specific case of theatre to analyze if there is a gender gap between the programmed directors of the 2019-2020 season in Barcelona.

Code of Conduct and Good Practices

This edition’s commitment to equality has also been materialised through the creation of a **Gender Policy Code of Conduct and Good Practices** ([see section in this report](#)) to promote the following:

1. **Defending the event as an area of equality and free of gender violence.**
2. **Generating knowledge with a gender perspective.**
3. **Adopting affirmative action measures in the configuration of the panels and activities that took place.**
4. **Using an inclusive and non-sexist language.**
5. **Creating an inclusive space.**

DEBATES & POLICIES

I. FEMINIST ECONOMICS AND DIGITAL ECONOMY

The first block of discussion included researchers and politicians at the level of the City of Barcelona and the European Parliament. The pursuit to achieve more sustainable and inclusive models for our cities requires a **change of perspective and a transformation of our economic system**. In this matter, the feminist economics questions the **individualist competitiveness of the current neoliberalist economical system, and proposes a more collaborative and sustainable way of life**. Feminist economics can initiate a fruitful dialogue with the digital economy to explore potentialities and denounce risks for gender inequalities. From feminist economics we wonder questions as:

- Can we develop economic initiatives that go beyond competition among stakeholders?
- Can economic initiatives be based on business models that promote collaboration and still ensuring their business sustainability?
- Can we talk about Democracy when some people, especially women, are not represented in data on which are based Public Policies?
- Can a system that allows the increasing income distribution inequalities and low women participation be considered as democratic?

The interplay of feminist economics with the digital economy is a new research project developed in Dimmons Research Group. Currently, Dimmons is developing a conceptual framework for a feminist digital economy. Soon, they expect to start fieldwork in the city of Barcelona to carry out an ethnographic analysis of feminist initiatives based on the Digital Age. This report is part of this research project.

Feminist Economics by Mónica Grau Sarabia

Feminist Economics Researcher from Dimmons



Monica Grau, Senior Researcher at Dimmons, participating in the session Feminist Digital Economy: Towards A Feminist Platform, Enterprise Or/And Policy.

Mónica Grau Sarabia presented in the session **Feminist Digital Economy: Towards A Feminist Platform, Enterprise Or/And Policy** ([Youtube](#)) Feminist Economics as a critical discipline that has widely criticized the epistemology of classical economics in which are based mostly the economic activities. Under the hegemonic economy, economic activities search for monetary enrichment, pursues accumulation of capital and works from an individualistic, autonomy and competitive approach. **Feminist economics proposes another way of understanding economics as the method to reach social provisioning of needs in order to ensure the sustainability of life.** A life that is admitted as vulnerable, fragile and interdependent because no person is able to lead a life without the interaction with other people and nature. Thus any human activity, also economic activities are social activities. The proposal

of feminist economics introduces different concepts, methods, and frameworks of analysis that imply a transformation of economic institutions and practices. **A feminist economy translates the economy into an egalitarian economy which is based on social justice and participatory democracy that guarantees the well-being of all people.**

Monica Grau also introduced Feminist Economics as a critical approach to the study of economic inequalities between men and women, beyond the hegemonic androcentric prejudices that have remained unaltered and have even been reinforced through the inclusion of women. The inclusion of women in the digital economy should go beyond “*just slotting women in, without changing the rules of the game*” because this is indeed a mere reification of existing social conditions of inequality.” Thus, a feminist perspective in the digital economy means to redefine the uses and ways to do the economy. This nuance not only appeared in the mentioned talk: the feminist initiatives which participated in the Sharing Cities Action Encounter also explored the potential of the Digital Era to achieve a more egalitarian society.

It’s been 25 years since the Beijing Platform for Action (1995) set up the global agenda for women’s empowerment and gender equality. **Despite the digital revolution that can bring great societal and economic transformations it seems that it doesn’t suppose a gender revolution, because it maintains the male monopoly and the hegemony of its androcentric vision.** Some scholars ask: to what extent the digital revolution has helped to achieve gender equality? or to what extent the digital revolution has developed new gender inequalities? The answers to these questions are unclear and research shows no conclusive answers. Dimmons’ aim is to approach the interplay between gender equality and Feminist Economics differently. **Instead of asking what the digital economy is doing for gender equality, Dimmons wants to study what are the feminist dissensions of a digital economy practice to be aligned with feminist and gender equality goals.**

Gender Mainstreaming Policy by Sonia Ruiz García

Gender Mainstreaming Director Department at Barcelona City Council



Sonia Ruiz (right) from Barcelona City Council participating in the session Feminist Digital Economy: Towards A Feminist Platform, Enterprise Or/And Policy.

Sonia Ruiz contributed to the **Feminist Digital Economy: Towards A Feminist Platform, Enterprise Or/And Policy** session ([Youtube](#)) by explaining **how a public institution can support feminist economic initiatives**. Gender mainstreaming is the reorganisation improvement development and evaluation of policy processes, so gender equality perspective is incorporated. It is a technical tool and it requires political will at the highest level.

There are two big challenges for implementation: the machinery of gender mainstreaming itself and the institutional change which is very difficult to approach. But one strong message to use a case is that feminism means democracy and this has an impact on a good government.

There are some examples of feminist and intersectional approaches of inclusion of other invisible minority groups as for instance the **open collaborative digital platform** - a tool for women's council in the districts of the cities' -space for action and exchange- public authorities responsible for redistributing wealth.

Barcelona City Council is analysing the gender impact of their **budget and also taxation system public procurement** -as a tool for transformation- what the administration is asking for is a mandatory "gender clause" in all the contracts with enterprises. But still some more feminist digital economy policies are needed because **Barcelona is a leading city in the technological ecosystem and currently only 34% of the people working in the sector are women. There is still more work that needs to be done from the administration to bridge this gap.**

Digital Platform Economy and Feminist Requirements, by Mayo Fuster Morell

Research Director of Dimmons



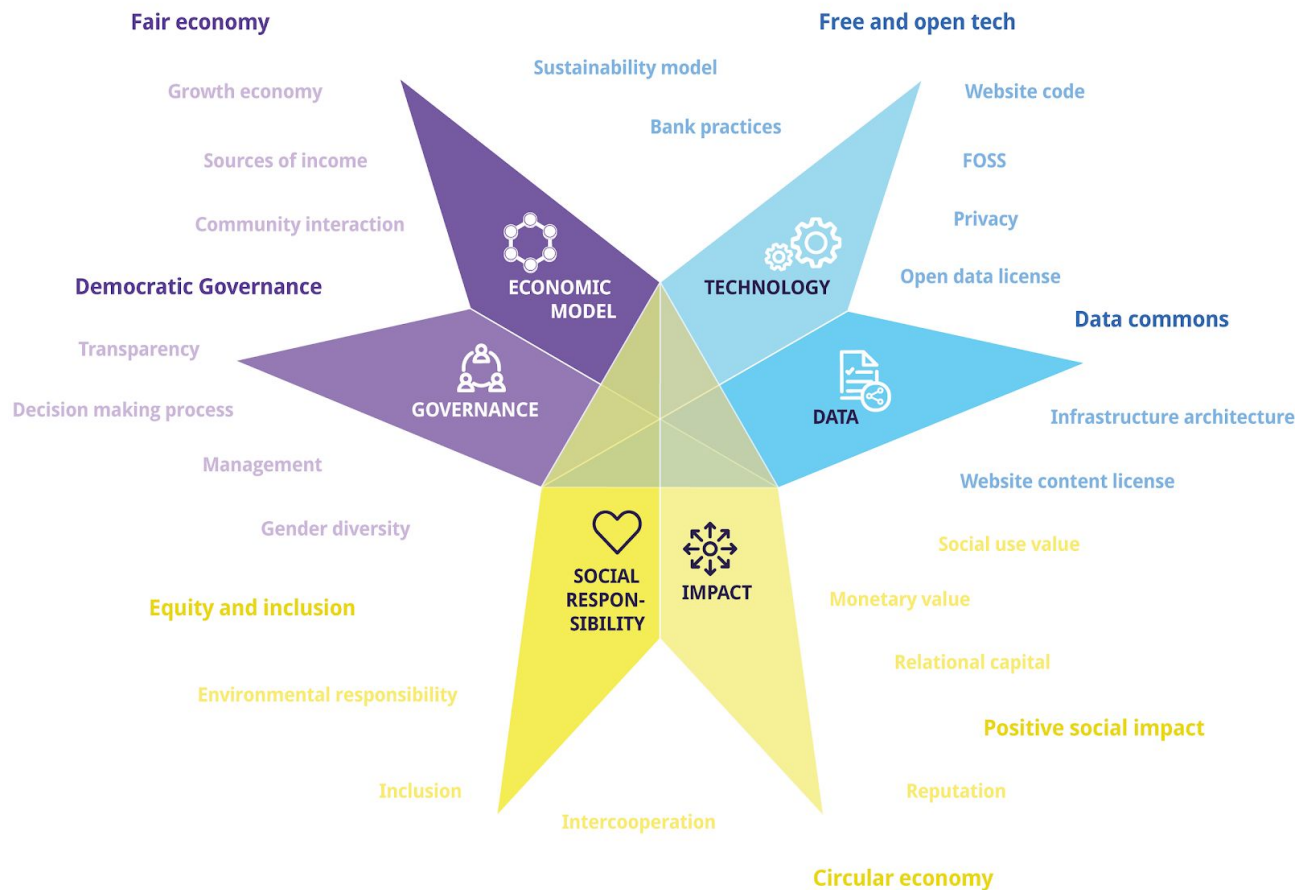
Mayo Fuster, Dimmons Research Director, participating in the session Feminist Digital Economy: Towards A Feminist Platform, Enterprise Or/And Policy.

Mayo Fuster presented her research from the common theory and democratization of politics theory of what the feminist economics has to say. According to her, there is a **lack of integration of the analysis from the feminist economics**.

Mayo Fuster presented her work on Platform Economy. It refers to the consumption, exchange and production of goods and services between distributed groups of people supported by a digital platform. There was a disruptive expansion especially in the fields of Software industry; Cinema industry; Music industry; scientific production; Tourism and vacation rentals; and Taxi

services and mobility. Fuster has worked on the classification of diverse platforms models based on the Star of Democratic Qualities of Digital Platforms.




STAR OF DEMOCRATIC QUALITIES OF DIGITAL PLATFORMS



Authors: Mayo Fuster, Ricard Espelt

As result of the research, Mayo Fuster has set up the following classification:

Models of platform economy

	Open Commons	Platform coops	Unicorn
			
GOVERNANCE, DEMOCRATIC ECONOMY, ECONOMICAL SUSTAINABILITY AND PURPOSE EMBEDDED IN THE ECONOMIC MODEL	Foundations, with systems of community participation Economic models adapted to keep community governance	SMEs & cooperatives	International company Economic models driving governance
POWER DISTRIBUTION; FREEDOM ALLOCATIONS AND OWNERSHIP EMBEDDED IN THE TECN AND KNOWLEDGE POLICY	Collective and public ownership Open software (replicable) Open data Open licenses (eg Creative Commons)	Open software (replicable) Data policy depend	Private ownership Proprietary software Closed data Restricted Copyright
IMPACT ON VALUE CREATION AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY TOWARDS EXTERNALITIES	Social value Circular economy - environmental impact Gender active policies	Social and economic value Circular economy - environmental impact Gender active policies	Economic value Gender discrimination complaints Environmental discrepancies

This work is accessible from the publications developed in the frame of Sharing Cities Action. Two of them are the book [Sharing Cities: A worldwide cities overview on platform economy policies with a focus on Barcelona](#) (Ed. Fuster Morell, 2018) and the article [A framework to assess the sustainability of Platform Economy: The case of Barcelona ecosystem](#) by Mayo Fuster and Ricard Espelt.

Based on this classification, she raised some questions in order to start the analysis of the digital economy from a feminist approach. Some of the relevant questions are: does it offer an alternative for the division of productive and reproductive economy of classical economics?; Does it go beyond the exclusive and majority monetary value of the current economy by including other added values?; Does it tackle class inequalities? Does it include and allow more women participation? **The result of an initial literature review shows that the Digital Economy doesn't meet some of the feminist requirements. Thus, much research is necessary in order to identify feminist dimensions that would allow us to assess the digital practices from a feminist approach.**

Inclusive Digital Economy by Lina Gálvez Muñoz

Member of the European Parliament



Lina Galvez and Mayo Fuster in the session The Impact Of The Digital Transformation On Achieving An Egalitarian Society.

Lina Gálvez Muñoz is Member of European Parliament and recognized as an international academic in feminist economics. She is also part of the Science and Technology Options Assessments (STOA), a committee of members of the European Parliament devoted to all issues related to science and technology assessment. She was the key speaker in the session **The Impact Of The Digital Transformation On Achieving An Egalitarian Society** ([Youtube](#)), which developed the following question: **How can we achieve an egalitarian and inclusive society giving the outstanding impact of the digital transformation? The rapid evolution of the digital sphere requires a high level of reflection from the political institutions.**

Lina Galvez pointed out that the digital transformation arrives with many possibilities for us to achieve an egalitarian society. Some of the possibilities that it brings are:

- the zero or almost zero **marginal cost of production**;
- the **environmental sustainability**;
- the possibilities of **political participation**;
- and the new options regarding **caring activities**. Technology allows us to take care regardless of physical distance. Of course, it doesn't replace caring with physical

presence but enlarges ways of caring and make that the care doesn't mean any more to be physically present.

So, it seems that there are many possibilities open in many spaces to think about digital transformation as an opportunity. But on the other hand, what is really occurring is that the inequalities are increasing. The reality is that inequalities have increased in many aspects such as:

- **Income distribution** - the economy looks like a monopoly game, the winner takes all and this is not compatible with our democracies.
- **Inequalities among workers** - there are some very skilled workers with good working conditions, in terms of salary and autonomy over their time but there are more and more poor workers. There are people who are in the labour market but don't earn enough as a 'living wage'. And then, we have the platform workers who are even more precarious. Because precarity is not only a question of how much money they are making but also a question of autonomy regarding their time management, the power to make decisions regarding our own time. This lack of autonomy is especially important in gender terms, especially if you have care responsibilities.
- **New territorial inequalities are rising.** Global cities are attracting talent, investment but other places are losing capabilities. This concentration trend is creating huge inequalities among territories.
- There are also **worldwide inequalities** because if we take all the society as a whole we could say that inequality has shortened just because many people in China and India have improved the living standards but inequality within these countries are huge.

Regarding gender inequalities, some of them seem to be eventually disappearing / bridging while others might be reinforced because of technology. For example, if you look at the jobs that are threatened by the digital revolution. Many feminized jobs as care jobs are not in danger because "*robots can take care of us but robots don't care about us*". The human dimension of care work, even the market care paid work, is not going to be replaced with technological devices. So, there is not such a risk for these 'feminized jobs'.

However, this seems to be a slippery slope argument: **although women may keep their labour participation, they still suffer from some great gender inequalities as gender pay gap and gender segregation in the labour market.** The first phenomenon is the difference of income between men and women up to 20% depending on the country. And the second phenomenon refers to the concentration of women in some sectors different to the male dominated sectors, which are the ones with better working conditions, better salaries and more social recognition. **The technological sectors are the most demanded in this digital revolution so we can expect an increase of the gender pay gap and this may have consequences on women participation in the labour market.** In addition, it is also very important to consider that these men are the ones who designed all **the algorithms on which**

are based on the technologies and platforms so that they will be characterized by male bias. This is terrible because stereotypes are the basis of gender inequalities.

So as we can see, digital revolution brings many possibilities but what we can see now is that inequalities are increasing. This could be due to **not giving the right answer to certain problems**. There are many things that are not well regulated regarding the digital transformation, the fast-paced evolution of technology doesn't let us keep track of every innovation.

The Public Administration has a double role: **as a provider and as promoter of alternative experience in pro-commons or better distribution of time in a family with equal and non-transferable paternity and maternity leave or taxes designed in a different way.**

These are some considerations we need to take into account when exploring the digital revolution, the opportunities and the risks that brings. In the center of the European Parliament agenda for this digital transformation, there is the goal of not leaving anyone and any territory behind. Some dangerous effects of the digital revolution on inequalities force Europe to launch measures to fight against inequality.

II. DATA WITH GENDER PERSPECTIVE

Feminist theory has largely studied the different mechanisms through which patriarchy maintains the submission of women. One of the most common phenomena studied is the ‘invisibility’ toward women and women’s experiences. This phenomenon persists in the Digital Era in the form of data. **The lack of gender data is a way to subordinate women or to render them invisible, by taking males as the norm and unique reality.** This lack has a double negative consequence. Firstly, it **denies the differences among people**, especially between men and women’s life and experiences of living. The data without a gender perspective gives a distorted image of the society, an homogeneous and male-dominated image. Secondly, it **precludes the possibility to set up good public policies** designed to fight against gender inequalities. Since there is no information about differences between women and men, public administration may not provide enough resources for women’s needs.

The absence of gender data is a political problem because it shows the structural injustice women suffer. A gender injustice that turns into an unequal redistribution of resources (before the impossibility of making public policies with gender perspectives); an unequal participation of women in the public sphere because they are invisible; and a lack of recognition of the specific problems that women suffer for the fact of being so (from sexist violence to inequalities in the labor market).

The various projects presented in the Sharing Cities Action Encounter 2019 showed the incredible absence of information and knowledge that women suffer due to their data invisibility.

It is important to differentiate between:

- 1) **Sex-disaggregated data:** data is that collected and tabulated separately for men and women. For example, primary school attendance rates for boys vs. girls.
- 2) **Gender statistics or with gender approach.** This is the sum of the following:
 - a) data collected and presented by sex as a primary and overall classification;
 - b) data that reflect gender issues;
 - c) data are based on concepts and definitions that adequately reflect the diversity of women and men and capture all aspects of their lives;
 - d) data collection methods take into account stereotypes and social and cultural factors that may induce gender bias in the data.

Gender statistics is more complete and can provide more quality data, however what may seem as a contradiction at first sight: the first step to actually visibilise women in big data is to sex-disaggregate data.

Data And Gender: The Importance Of Data With Gender Perspective In Public Policies

With Lidia Arroyo, Karma Perió, Eli Vivas, Nuria Espuny, Catherine D'Ignazio, Valentina Bazzarin and Thais Ruiz de Alda



Moment in the session Data And Gender: The Importance Of Data With Gender Perspective In Public Policies, when Catherine d'Ignazio makes her contribution.

We only have a partial snapshot of women's lives because there are gaps in gender data. How can we achieve gender equality if we do not have enough data to generate clear policies or enough data to track actions? In the session **Data And Gender: The Importance Of Data With**

Gender Perspective In Public Policies ([Youtube](#)) actors with great knowledge gave their opinion in this field and talked about various examples of good use of gender data cases.

Digital Data Journalist; Eli Vivas from StoryDataBcn

Data journalism informs through data processing. Data journalism intends to tell stories through data processed in an easy and understandable way for people. From StoryData they realized the gender differences in the treatment of the data because either the data is not disaggregated by sex or the stories and experiences mostly of women are not treated with the data. In this way from StoryData they saw that **adopting a gender perspective in the data could help to:**

- **Visualize data on gender inequality - for example the wage difference between women and men.** These visualizations help to combat the skepticism that still exists about the discrimination that women suffer.
- **Demonstrate the low representation of women in various spaces** such as the names of women in the streets of the city of Barcelona or scientists in science books.
- **Review and avoid the use of sexist language in favour of an inclusive** use of language that represents women.

StoryData's work can fit into the category of feminist data cyber activism that provides concrete evidence of the state of gender inequality. After the data analysis with a gender perspective, Eli Vivas comes to the conclusion that, given the current state of data, "women always lose".

In order to change this situation, after his talk StoryDataBcn runned a special session: the **Gender Data Lab: Hacking Session**. The activity focused on the following questions: which is the situation of women in terms of gender representation in the Barcelona's cultural sphere, as well as if we can overcome the gender gap through software?



Gender Data Lab: Hacking Session with Eli Vivas from Story Data.

In this session the working group prepared a data visualization of the state of the art. After this, they focused on the specific case of theatre to analyze if there is a gender gap between the programmed directors of the 2019-2020 season. By the end of the session, they had created a database on Barcelona's cultural sphere with gender perspective.

Feminist Hackatons; Catherine d'Ignazio Researcher at MIT

Catherine d'Ignazio was Professor in Boston University, Emerson College in a Journalism Department- teaching data journalism, currently moving to MIT, to the department of urban planning and urban studies. She has recently written a book titled Data Feminist with Lauren Klein. In the book, the researchers have looked across 40 years of feminist activism and feminist theory in order to use them in the debates of AI bias, discrimination and power, because these are actually issues largely studied by feminist theory. **Feminist theory can bring conceptual orientation to data science.** The purpose of the book is to start a conversation between feminism and gender studies and Data and AI (Data and Technical scientists).

D'Ignazio is the director of MIT Media Lab where **Feminist Hackatons** are held. Women are at the center of the activity which has a very participatory methodology. In these sessions, there is a transversal feminism approach where women of different classes, races, religions, etc. are represented.



Catherine d'Ignazio's talk in the session Data And Gender: The Importance Of Data With Gender Perspective In Public Policies.

There are so many women's topics that still require research and innovation. In fact, almost all the issues related to the women's bodies remain taboo, such as menstruation, miscarriage, abortion, breastfeeding, even pregnancy. And they are issues for innovation as it is still necessary to improve practices, services and products. Its objective is to move these issues forward so that they stop being taboos and push research and innovation and also push companies to develop better products. Catherine presented an example of Feminist Hackaton on 'Breastfeeding' with the title ['Make the Breast Pump Not Suck'](#).

So, there are many issues related to women's life and experiences that lack innovation. However, she highlighted that there is not enough with the identification of women as the

subjects of the innovation processes instead **they must be placed at the center of participatory processes of innovation.**

GenTIC-UOC; Lidia Arroyo Researcher



Lidia Arroyo presented the work of this group of research that focuses on identifying and analysing the gender relations involved in the design, development and use of scientific and technological innovations, with a particular focus on ICT (Information and Communication Technology) and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). She presented several EU and competitive projects and there is one of the main insights coming out as a conclusion.

There is a lack of disaggregated data by sex in research, and this absence of data on women or women's participation has an incredible impact on accuracy of the research, because many results do not apply to women. If women do not benefit from scientific results, it has again a huge social impact and cause of gender inequalities.

Digital Data Journalism; Karma Perió

Karma Perió is a recognised data journalist that presented a project titled *Unprotected* ([*Desprotegidas*](#)). This is a research project on gender violence in Catalonia in which they gather data, maps, interviews and all different types of sources of information.

The report tries to bring a new perspective on the gender violence problem. There are many reports reporting the drama that women live but **not so many reports written from an accountability point of view** (kind of more objective approach, quantitative). They wanted to know what the public administration is doing to solve this social problem.

One of the main problems is the **lack of data to analyse the problem**, for example how many women are suffering from violence, because gender violence has many different forms, as psychological violence. There is not enough data to account for the problem.



Karma Peiró's talk in the session Data And Gender: The Importance Of Data With Gender Perspective In Public Policies.

The visualization of data is done in a way that arouses interest and transmits the message twice with information but also with emotion:

- **Number of denounces**
- **Number of restraining orders**
- **Number of protection order demands**
- **Number of centers that serve women who have suffered sexist violence**
- **Estimated budget, budget granted and budget spent**

There is no uniform criteria during the entire data collection process, so there is no consistency in the data. Also data over the years to understand patterns of change. An interesting consequence of this type of data journalism is that many of the deficiencies of the process deploy from the Administration to deal with the gender violence arise.

GD Transparency & OpenData. Government of Catalonia; Nuria Espuny

Nuria Espuny is the General Director of Transparency and Open Data - Government of Catalonia. **She explained that the Government of Catalonia has recently approved a policy to open as much data as possible.** There is a huge requirement first, to list this data set that may contain private information. Of course, there are some restrictions for example to protect security of the minors

One of the requirements of the Public Administration is the use of open data to maintain sex-disaggregated data when the data base is disaggregated by sex. The administration can promote and even demand disaggregated data by sex. It can also make it compulsory for initiatives to adopt gender perspectives in the data collection so that the creation of databases can be promoted.

Associazione Orlando; Valentina Bazzarin



Centro
delle Donne
di Bologna

Associazione Orlando is a non-profit organisation based in Bologna that creates advocacy campaigns for women based on data. They try to push public institutions to open their data with a gender filter that is not so common.

Valentina Bazzarin explained that **our cities are operated by algorithms and it is more frequent that these algorithms are the main decision-makers in our cities.** If the data on which these algorithms are operating are not filtered by gender, we have a problem: **those represented by data are mostly men.** In the cities, the big differences and inequalities between women and men are not relevant for the algorithms.

She also described the **impact of the lack of disaggregated data on public policies decisions.** She showed the [Bologna Open Data](#) city project. There is also relevant information but none of it is disaggregated by sex. This lack of information will affect significantly decisions, for example to open kindergartens or where to open them or move public services from one place to another and so on. Associazione Orlando **has requested to Bologna City Council for sex-disaggregated data, and some data has been disaggregated. However, the way data was disaggregated did not help either to evidence gender differences. So, this experience shows the need for experts in gender analysis to advise on how to disaggregate data in order to be valuable.**

The Associazione Orlando develops its activity regarding the **lack of gender data not from a conflict approach but from an awareness approach.** They organise these dissemination

events where policy makers are invited to participate in their panel discussions. Also, they are invited to see the city with a woman's eye and try to read the city through the data that is available. So, Associazione Orlando doesn't just want to put the lenses on the data but the feminist lenses on the men who are deciding our future.

They want to highlight their role of being a proactive agent to change the solution and not just to create conflict about it.

III. DESIGN JUSTICE LAB

Design Justice Lab by Sasha Costanza-Chock, Researcher at MIT and Member of Design Justice Network

Bridging the gaps in the digital sphere must be a top priority. From a Design Justice perspective, the session **Design Justice Lab** ([Youtube](#)) analyzed the design of the Sharing Cities Action to check if the project is challenging or reproducing the domination matrix. The objective was clear: to show how we can ensure that no collective is left behind.



Sasha Costanza-Chock, senior researcher at MIT, in the Sharing Cities Action Encounter 2019.

Design Justice concept

The current context of the future of urban cities and smart cities works from a top-down neoliberal semi fascist vision of what it means to gather people's data and use it to feed automated decision-making systems that we already know. **A system that replicates what the black feminist scholar Patricia Hill called “the matrix of domination”, which is the intersection of white supremacy hetero patriarchy cisnormativity capitalism ableism and settler colonialism.** These interlocking systems of structural and historical oppression that show up in our lives in different ways depending on our advantage point within the matrix of domination but many of the automated systems that we see around us are designed to unthinkingly reproduce it in many cases.

Design Justice is a Theoretical Framework for thinking on how to design and by design we mean “people planning and then executing things”. So we are not only talking about the visual language of design although that might be included, but we are also interested thinking about the design of objects, images, the built environment, systems and processes. So there are people in the Design Justice Network who come from graphic design, industrial design, architecture, landscape, city planning, and many different backgrounds because Design Justice is about how we design, build and make things and make the world together.

Design Justice is particularly interested in how design can either reproduce or challenge the matrix of domination. The matrix of domination was developed by black feminist scholars, in particular Patricia Collins who wrote about race class and gender as interlocking systems of repression but we can expand that and we would talk about race class gender ability location within the global system of settler colonialism and indigenous resistance and you can add additional vectors of structural and historical inequality to that. And the way they've operated together and positioned us within as particular subjects and particular bodies.

Principles of Design Justice

Principle 1- We use design to sustain, heal, and empower our communities, as well as to seek liberation from exploitative and oppressive systems.

Principle 2- We center the voices of those who are directly impacted by the outcomes of the design process.

Principle 3- We prioritize design's impact on the community over the intentions of the designer.

Principle 4- We view change as emergent from an accountable, accessible, and collaborative process, rather than as a point at the end of a process.*

Principle 5- We see the role of the designer as a facilitator rather than an expert.

Principle 6- We believe that everyone is an expert based on their own lived experience, and that we all have unique and brilliant contributions to bring to a design process.

Principle 7- We share design knowledge and tools with our communities.



Participants in the Design Justice Lab session, analysing the design of the Sharing Cities Action to check if the project is challenging or reproducing the domination matrix.

Principle 8- We work towards sustainable, community-led and -controlled outcomes.

Principle 9- We work towards non-exploitative solutions that reconnect us to the earth and to each other.

Principle 10- Before seeking new design solutions, we look for what is already working at the community level. We honor and uplift traditional, indigenous, and local knowledge and practices.

Design Justices is particularly concerned with how benefits and harms of designed objects, systems, interfaces, how do these benefits and harms get distributed along the lines of the

matrix of domination. The harms of algorithmic decision-making systems are being distributed unequally in this case according to race, gender, etc. It is a lens for analysis that we could use to think about all automated decision-making systems. So now that many digital initiatives are promising to use large data sets to make predictions which should be useful in helping to govern a city we need to think through the lens of design justice about how the benefits and burdens, the risks and harms of automatic decision-making systems (ABS) are unequally distributed according to the logics of race class, gender, ability, and so on.

The Design Justice Network

The Design Justice is also a community of practices. The [Design Justice Network](#) is an international group of people and organizations committed to rethinking design processes so they center people who are often marginalized by design. We work according to a set of principles that were generated and collaboratively edited by our network.

During the lab session, the participants developed a fieldwork study. Firstly they walked around the space of the Smart Cities Congress and gathered some cases. And then, they analysed and criticized these cases with the lens of Design Justice



Sasha Costanza-Chock with the other speakers in the Design Justice Lab session: Marta Delatte (Liquen Data Lab), Mayo Fuster (Dimmons-UOC), Elena Silvestrini (Platoniq and Design Justice Mediterranea) and Thais Ruiz de Alda (Digital Fems).

INITIATIVES

IV. WOMEN IN TECH

The messages that were continuously repeated through the different discussions and debates are the following:

- **IT and Technology sector has a male dominated culture though women have been part of the development of IT technology from the very beginning;**
- **the number of women in ICT and Tech is very low** compared to the number of men;
- and there is a **lack of female role models** to act as references to girls and women.

Many of the initiatives presented tried to reverse the low participation of women in the ICT and Tech sector by developing **affirmative actions**. These actions involve the creation of resources in terms of knowledge, network development, training, etc. specific to women to try to balance the deficit of women in the sector.

Gender Meet Up - Organisations led by female owners

With Montserrat Perez, Ester Bonet, Lourdes Muñoz, Jessica Sena, Raquel Alvear, Laura Rosillo, Malikia Johnson, Luca Carrubba, Yessica Gonzalez, Thais Ruiz.

The **Gender MeetUp** session ([Youtube](#)) was an open meeting where different organizations and initiatives led by women explain their objectives, scope and views about their experiences. A gender perspective elevator pitch that covers different projects and fields: from cinema to tech, also from social economy to data, and even from collective democracy initiatives to research.

SiNesTeSia-El Venadito; Montserrat Perez

SiNesTeSia is a platform for feminist and pro-animals activism. The platform launches annual calls for graphic and painters artists who want to work on the visibility of the animal abuse topic. The project involves also some training activities to promote among children humanist and feminist values that are closely linked according to Montserrat Perez.



ViquidonesUPF; Ester Bonet

ViquidonesUPF is a space of training for digital editors for Wikipedia. The space focuses especially in women's editors training to target three main gender inequalities of the web: to rewrite the biography of women who are not described with their own agency but as the 'wife of', 'muse of', etc. or to who their personal life has even more relevance than their work; to rescue the biographies of female Scientists, what is known as 'Matilda Effect'; and finally, to train on how to dialogue in an on-line space that is clearly masculine.



Viquidones is located at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra and many international students participate in it. This experience serves as a fieldwork analysis of how female editors have similar problems regardless of their home countries. The gender inequalities that biographies of women suffer in Wikipedia are cross-national.

IOPB; Lourdes Muñoz

Initiative Open Data Barcelona is a digital project focused on the development of knowledge through the use of open data. IOPB pursues the use of open data with a social and innovative goal. In this regard, gender approach of data has a special mention:

- 1) There is not enough data with a gender perspective, this is data about issues that concern women such as gender inequality in the workplace, gender violence, care, etc. In public data catalogues women topics are lower represented than others.
- 2) In addition, women topics and some other topics that may be of interest to women since data is not gender-disaggregated cannot be used for gender equality purposes.

IOPB tries to deploy different initiatives to make visible the importance of data with a gender approach to use as valuable resource for public policies especially for gender equality policies.



GeoChicas; Jessica Sena

GeoChicas is an international initiative of feminist that want to map the world, the cities and the streets with a gender perspective. Only 3% OSM mappers are women and this denotes a big gender data gap. Mapping as any other human activity is not completely objective, on the contrary, it is subjective and it does influence decisions. If only 3% of mappers are women it is quite likely that women issues will be underrepresented.

GeoChicas has three main goals: to raise the 3% of women OSM mappers; to fight against the gender data gap; and finally to facilitate resources and individual and collective agency to empower women.

Codebar; Raquel Alvear

Codebar is a non-profit initiative that facilitates the growth of a diverse tech community by running regular programming workshops. Our goal is to enable underrepresented people to learn programming in a safe and collaborative environment and expand their career opportunities. To achieve this we run free regular workshops, regular one-off events and try to create opportunities for our students making technology and coding more accessible. Codebar

is working in 27 cities around the world where they run free workshops for coding that are hosted in different companies.

Calala; Laura Rosillo Calala

Calala is a state-based foundation, based in Barcelona, that promotes the rights, empowerment and leadership of women in Latin America and the Caribbean and the Spanish State, by mobilizing resources to strengthen their organizations, networks and movements. Calalas is based on the idea that the feminist movement is the main actor to pursue the required goals to achieve gender equality. For such reason, Calala works to mobilize economic resources to women and feminist grassroots groups with special attention to migrant women groups.



Another focus of its work is gender based violence online. Calala in collaboration with Laia Serra, a lawyer expert in gender violence and Pikara magazine, run a research on the gender violence that suffer active feminists online. The results of the research were presented at the Spanish Parliament together with a list of guidelines for policy makers. For example, the need to develop a comprehensive understanding of gender based violence online. The research is still going on as they are trying to develop a community respond to protect feminist activism.

Take Care of each Other, Grassroot Economic Organizing; Malikia Johnson

Grassroots Economic Organizing (GEO) is a decentralized collective of educators, researchers and grassroots activists working to promote an economy based on democratic participation, worker and community ownership, social and economic justice, and ecological sustainability--a "solidarity economy"--through grassroots journalism, organizing support, cross-sector networking and movement-building, and the publication of educational and organizational resources.



ARS Games; Luca Carrubba

ARSGames is a cultural association that promotes and manages cultural projects related to videogames from cross-cutting areas of action: pedagogy and training, scientific research, digital inclusion and citizen participation. Traditionally, video games are a very male oriented product. ARS Games' work tries to introduce a feminist perspective to this product, to this media space that can transform it from the male-dominant culture to a feminist culture.



CodeOP; Yessica Gonzalez

CodeOp is a women-led coding school that supports the advancement of women, trans, and gender nonconforming individuals in tech. With campuses in Barcelona and Kuala Lumpur, we offer bootcamp-style courses in Full Stack Development and Data Analytics.

CodeOp equips its students to become adaptive problem-solvers, ready to meet the challenges of an ever-shifting technical landscape. Via rigorous training in leading technologies, CodeOp students learn the foundations of computer science and iterative approaches to team-based coding.



DigitalFems; Thais Ruiz

DigitalFems creates platforms and research projects with data analysis and treatment. Their concern and focus is framed in the definition and development of Big Data and Data Gender environments, in order to demonstrate and measure data inequalities in gender.

They create collaborative workspaces to find solutions to challenges or problems of companies, institutions or public administrations: hackathons, networking sessions, structure release sessions. They also develop studies and reports related to women and the digital and technological industries: gender policies, wage gap analysis and proposals to improve, mentoring. And finally they design and carry out innovative work sessions through agile and lean methodologies to identify new products, services, or processes.



V. GENDER POLICY CODE OF CONDUCT AND GOOD PRACTICES

Follow [this link](#) to download the **Gender Policy Code of Conduct and Good Practices**.

Statement 1: Sharing Cities Action advocates an intersectional and situated feminist approach.

Sharing Cities Action supports feminism because of the clear political position it assumes in relation to championing social justice and equality and not because it addresses "women's issues". Instead, it aims to consider issues related to sustaining life or the production and reproduction of life in all its complexity which have differentiated repercussions according to the socio-economic construction of gender. It also recognizes that women do not constitute a single homogeneous group but are culturally and ethnically diverse, have different functional abilities, diverse academic backgrounds, etc. This wide spectrum encompasses a world of very different women, who we must situate accordingly in order to avoid the feminism of the 1%.

Statement 2: Sharing Cities Action supports the definition of gender equality agreed on by the United Nations.

Gender equality means that all human beings, men and women alike, are free to make choices and develop their personal abilities without limitations set by stereotypical views, rigid gender roles or prejudices. Gender equality means that the different needs, aspirations and behaviour of women and men are considered, valued, and favoured equally. It does not mean that women and men have to become the same but that their rights, responsibilities, and opportunities will not depend on whether they are born male or female. (UN)

The **Gender Perspective Code of Conduct and Good Practice** should be understood as a tool that aims to:

- Ensure the event is a safe space, free from gender violence, both physical and symbolic.
- Ensure transversal gender equality across all activities carried out in relation to the event.

- Enable people participating in the event to become agents of social change on this issue, affecting changes in relation to professional, civic, family and personal conduct in order to attain gender equality within their environment.

All attendees, speakers, partners and volunteers at our event are required to adhere to the following Code of Conduct.

The principles promoted are as follows:

1. Endorsement of the event as a space that promotes equality and is free from gender violence

- Ensure respectful and egalitarian behaviour among attendees and speakers without any form of differentiation being made on the basis of gender, gender identity or sexual orientation.
- Promote a policy of *zero tolerance* with regard to violence. Any act that could make another person feel threatened or insecure is prohibited. These include: harassment, verbal abuse, threats or any expression of hostility, intimidation or aggression.
- We define sexual harassment as any form of verbal, visual or physical conduct of a sexual nature that either aims to or has the effect of violating someone's dignity, particularly that which relates to the creation of an intimidating, degrading or offensive environment, towards any individual who forms part of the event.

2. Knowledge generation with a gender perspective

- Raise the visibility of women as knowledge generators in the different academic, civil society and political spheres.
- Ensure parity, or at least balance, in the different activities carried out.
- Include traditionally feminized themes in the event programme.
- Include the gender perspective on a cross-disciplinary basis in any of the topics discussed, ie assess the potential impact it may have on the goal of achieving gender equality.

3. Adoption of affirmative action measures with regard to the configuration of the panels and activities being organized.

Until gender equality is an established reality in all areas of society, we advocate the use of these equality tools in order to combat the difficulties faced by women in relation to gaining

access to the spaces of civil and political representation, knowledge generation and debate, such as Sharing Cities Action.

4. Use of inclusive and non-sexist language

- Ensure the use of inclusive visual language that is non-discriminatory and non-sexist.
- The use of discriminatory or exclusive language that may implicate the unequal treatment of men and/or women or be offensive to anyone will not be permitted.



5. Creation of an inclusive space

- Provide rest areas.
- Provide areas for breastfeeding and supply baby changing tables.

Gender equality is a collaborative and continuous process in which we all are involved. If you see, overhear or experience a violation of the Code of Conduct during the event, please seek out the nearest Sharing Cities Action team member to escalate your complaint. If you would like to report a violation or a suggestion to improve future editions, you may email info@sharingcitiesaction.net

ANNEX

List of videos on gender and feminist economy at Sharing Stand Lab

Feminist digital economy: towards a feminist platform, enterprise or/and policy	
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayo Fuster (Dimmons/IN3-UOC) • Sonia Ruiz (Barcelona City Council - Feminist Council) • Moderator: Monica Grau (Dimmons/IN3-UOC) 	<p>The pursuit to achieve more sustainable and inclusive models for our cities requires a change of perspective and a transformation of our economic system. In this matter, the feminist economics questions the individualist competitiveness of the current neoliberalist economical system, and proposes a more collaborative and sustainable way of life. At this point, it seems that feminist economics can initiate a fruitful dialogue with the collaborative digital economy. In this session we discuss how collaborative economy and feminist economics can achieve synergies and start a dialogue.</p> <p>Mayo Fuster's Slides</p> <p>Monica Grau's Slides</p>
Gender Meet up	
 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Montserrat Perez (Sinestesia, El Venadito) • Ester Bonet (ViquidonesUPF) • Lourdes Muñoz (IOPB) 	<p>The Gender MeetUp is an open meeting where different organizations and initiatives led by women explain their objectives, scope and views about their experiences. A gender perspective elevator pitch that covers different projects and fields: from cinema to tech, also from social economy to data, and even from collective democracy initiatives to research.</p> <p>Wikidones UPF Slides</p> <p>Viquesfera Slides</p> <p>Ars Games Slides</p>

- Jessica Sena by video (GeoChicas)
- Raquel Alvear (Codebar)
- Laura Rosillo (Calala)
- Malikia Johnson (Take Care of each Other, Grassroot Economic Organizing)
- Luca Carrubba (ARS Games)
- Yessica Gonzalez (CodeOP)
- Digital Fems (Thais Ruiz)

Codebar Slides

CodeOp Slides

Digital Fems Slides

Gender Violence BCN App Slides

Data and Gender: the importance of Data with gender perspective in Public Policies



We only have partial snapshot of women's lives because there are gaps in gender data. How can we achieve gender equality if we do not have enough data to generate clear policies or enough data to track actions? Session focused on hearing the opinion of actors with great knowledge in this field and giving various examples of good use of Gender Data cases.

Lidia Arroyo's Slides

- Lidia Arroyo (GenTIC - UOC)
- Karma Perió (Digital/Data Journalist)
- Eli Vivas (StoryDataBcn)
- Nuria Espuny (DG Transparency & OpenData, Government of Catalonia)
- Catherine D'Ignazio (MIT and Emerson College), Valentina Bazzarin (Associazione Orlando)
- Moderator: Thais Ruiz de Alda (UOC-IN3/Dimmons & DigitalFems)

Design Justice Lab



Bridging the gaps in the digital sphere must be a top priority. From a Design Justice perspective, this session will analyze the design of the Sharing Cities Action to check if the project is challenging or reproducing the domination matrix. The objective is clear: to show how we can ensure that no collective is left behind.

Liquen Data Slides

- Sasha Constanza (MIT, Design Justice Network)
- Elena Silvestrini (Design Justice Mediterranea, Platoniq)
- Mayo Fuster (Dimmons IN3),
- Marta Delatte (Liquen Data Lab)
- Moderation: Thais Ruiz de Alda (Dimmons & Digital Fems)

Design Justice Mediterranea Slides

The impact of the digital transformation on achieving an egalitarian society. The European Parliament agenda



- Lina Gálvez Muñoz (European Parliament)
- Pastora Martínez Samper (UOC)
- Mayo Fuster (Dimmons-IN3/UOC)
- Michael Donaldson (Digital Innovation Commissioned in the Barcelona City Council).

How can we achieve an egalitarian and inclusive society giving the outstanding impact of the digital transformation? The rapid evolution of the digital sphere requires a high level of reflection from the political institutions. Lina Galvez is part of the Science and Technology Options Assessments (STOA), a committee of members of the European Parliament devoted to all issues related to science and technology assessment. Galvez will introduce which is the European Parliament agenda in terms of promoting a better education and an active inclusion of all citizens.

Bridging the Gender Gap: Ensuring Digital, Social and Gender Inclusion



- Chair: James Thurston (G3itc)

In today's cities, social inclusion is not only the right thing to do but also the smart framework to foster. More inclusive societies are more likely to attract talent and tourists, while making the most of their human capital. Yet creating more inclusive cities comes with increasing challenges as the digital, gender and social gaps need to be addressed holistically. What are the best strategies to ensure future cities are inclusive cities?

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keynote speakers: Catherine d'Ignazio (MIT, Emerson College), Federico Battista Poitier (World Enabled, Cities For All)• Panel 'Lowering social and digital gaps for more inclusive cities': Eunice Rendón (Agenda Migrante, Viral), Jesús Hernández (Fundación Once), Suparno Barnejee (Nokia), Shalini Rajneesh (Government of Karnataka)• Moderator: Ines Sánchez de Madariaga (UNESCO-UPM) | |
|--|--|