



COMMUNITY NETWORK XCHANGE [CNX] 2026

**Decentralised Community Digital
Public Infrastructure**

9-10 DECEMBER 2026



Principal Partners



ABOUT COMMUNITY NETWORK XCHANGE (CNX)

Community Network Xchange

Community Network Xchange (CNX) was founded in 2017 to engage community network providers worldwide and share their lessons, experiences, and technological innovations on a single platform.

Over the last nine editions, CNX has addressed various factors related to community networks, including social and economic sustainability; promoting public Wi-Fi access and meaningful access; community networks for public goods; network deployment challenges in rural and remote regions; and the subsequent challenge of exclusion from entitlements. CNX aims to bring community-led and community-centred access solutions to the forefront, so that stakeholders, including philanthropic organisations, government, policymakers, and grassroots organisations, share a common perspective on models and their utility.

About CNX 2026

CNX 2026 will take forward critical engagements on community internet infrastructure, existing challenges, and emerging models that will decentralise digital public infrastructure. CNX 2026 will explore the ways in which community internet infrastructures are not only 'alternative' but can be part of a larger 'DPI' at local scales. The discussions will explore how existing community internet infrastructure ideas and models will enable more meaningful, affordable, and inclusive access to digital public infrastructure.

The summit will explore how the building blocks of DPI, such as identity, payments, and data exchanges, can be more integrated, interoperable, people-friendly, transparent, sustainable, resilient, and inclusive for vulnerable and underserved populations.

BUILDING BLOCKS OF DPI

Identity

Payments

Data exchanges

**Integrated • Interoperable • People-Centric •
Transparent • Sustainable • Trustworthy • Inclusive**



OBJECTIVES

1

To critically examine the gaps in dominant private infrastructures enabling access to digital public spaces and their co-option of the idea of 'public.'

2

To promote community-owned solutions for data safety and security.

3

To deliberate on the challenges of scaling, governance and management of community internet infrastructure.

4

To collectively emphasise on securing the digital rights of the marginalised populations.

5

To advocate for policies at local, regional and national levels for decentralisation of internet governance.

SUB-THEMATIC AREAS

Community Networks, Universal Access to Rights

- Issues related to access to information and how communities navigate the digital ecosystem in a low-resource context.
- Challenges in universal access to rights using centralised digital IDs in unconnected areas.

Community Networks and creation of digital commons

- Interoperable internet for the people.
- Capacity building of communities to use open-source technologies for education, livelihood and entrepreneurship opportunities.
- Building multilingual open-source digital resources for digital inclusion.

Data Sovereignty

- Data Cooperatives to manage and store data for local development and welfare issues.
- Building data safety and safeguard policies at the local levels to fight against data extractivism.

Scaling, Sustainability, Management of Community Networks for Inclusive DPI

- Models built on DPI safeguards at the local level to serve communities.
- Management of low-scale community networks.
- Collaborations and pathways for the sustainability of community networks.



