

Workshop: Public Interest Technology (PIT) for Innovation in Global Development

An initiative of:



Venue

Virtual event, co-located with the IEEE International Symposium on Technology and Society (ISTAS23), Swansea University, Swansea, Wales

<https://attend.ieee.org/istas-2023/>

Date

12th September 2023

Start time

Sydney, Australia (AEST): 20:00

London, UK (BST): 11:00

New York, USA (EDT): 06:00 (*pre-record option available*)

Duration

4 hours

Organisers

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Description

Public Interest Technology (PIT) can be defined as both a philosophy of design and development, and an outcome (e.g., product, process, procedure, policy) that entails exploiting technological potential in the interest of justice and or the public good (Abbas et al. 2021). PIT project and program examples include digital inclusion charters that seek to provide free access to information and the Internet (Basic Internet Foundation 2022), digitalised health education resources for rural communities (Holst et al. 2022; Holst et al. 2021), and the co-design of location services in the dementia context (Abbas and Michael 2022), among many other examples that advance the public interest and are highly sensitive to corresponding dangers (Abbas et al. 2022).

PIT for innovation in global development (Michael 2021) and other settings, must acknowledge the significance of context, the local community, and additional stakeholders, among other considerations. These include lived experience, collective action, accountability, professional expertise, transdisciplinarity as a change agent, the existing and potential technological landscape and the public policy setting to the design and development of democratic and open socio-technical systems (Abbas et al. 2021; Pitt et al. 2021). The corresponding projects and programs specifically require unique and diverse perspectives that endeavour to establish new and nurture existing collaborations, frameworks, models, and approaches that support contemporary challenges. This workshop welcomes empirical, theoretical, and conceptual research that furthers the emergent field of public interest technology for innovation, as it specifically applies to global development and the need for collaboration toward transdisciplinarity in addressing local, regional, national, international, and grand societal challenges.

Themes

- (Co-)creation of knowledge and open information infrastructures / projects / services
- Global development projects with an emphasis on
 - Public interest technology frameworks, models, approaches
 - Innovation ecosystems
 - Technology, innovation, and global development
 - Socio-technical systems and approaches (specific to technology and analytics)
 - Local, regional, national, international, and grand societal challenges in the context of socio-technical systems
 - Multi-stakeholder perspectives in relation to technology design and development
 - Human-centred, participatory, co-design, * by design and values-based approaches and projects
 - Responsible innovation
 - (Electronic) business models
- Case studies of global technology and development deployments
 - Agritech, fintech, medtech, regtech, edtech etc.
- Product innovations for inclusion

- Process interventions for innovation in global development
- Research-teaching nexus in supporting cross-institutional and cross-sectoral partnerships toward open, transdisciplinary models, projects, and programs
- Other emergent themes relevant to public interest technology and transdisciplinarity for global development, to be discussed with organisers prior to submission

Submission Details

- **General:** We invite submissions of original brief (2 pages) and extended (10 pages) conceptual, theoretical, and empirical papers, that will undergo blind peer review post initial screening.
- **Templates and Guidelines:** Papers should be submitted according to the following IEEE Conference Templates: <https://www.ieee.org/conferences/publishing/templates.html>, and further information is available at the IEEE Author Centre: <https://conferences.ieeeauthorcenter.ieee.org/>. Tips for authors new to the IEEE are available on the following web page: <https://conferences.ieeeauthorcenter.ieee.org/become-an-ieee-conference-author>.
- **Proceedings and Special Issues:** The proceedings of this workshop will be published in either one of two special issues, as listed below, or the IEEE ISTAS23 conference proceedings:
 - *IEEE Transactions on Technology and Society (TTS):* <https://technologyandsociety.org/transactions/>
 - *International Journal of Business Science and Applied Management (IJBSAM):* <https://www.business-and-management.org/>
- **Review Process:** During the review process, we will be employing a Journal First-Conference Second (J1C2) approach, which will involve accepted papers being reviewed for eligibility in one of the two special issues first (i.e., J1). Accepted papers that are not eligible for either of the special issues, will appear in the IEEE ISTAS23 conference proceedings (i.e., C2) on IEEE Xplore.
- **EasyChair:** Manuscripts are to be submitted using the IEEE ISTAS23 EasyChair portal: <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=istas23>.
- **Presentation:** All accepted papers are to be presented at the virtual workshop, irrespective of whether they will be published in the special issues or the conference proceedings.

Dates

- **Full Paper Submission:** 30 April 2023
- **Notification of Acceptance:** 31 May 2023
- **Final Camera-Ready Copy*:** 15 August 2023
- **Virtual Presentation:** 12 September 2023

* Papers accepted into a special issue may have different requirements, which will be communicated to authors

References

Abbas, R., & Michael, K. (2022). Co-Designing Location-Based Services for Individuals Living with Dementia: An Overview of Present and Future Modes of Operation. *IEEE Technology and Society Magazine*, 41(2), 42-46.

Abbas, R., Michael, K., Michael, M. G., Perakslis, C., & Pitt, J. (2022). Machine learning, convergence digitalization, and the concentration of power: Enslavement by design using techno-biological behaviors. *IEEE Transactions on Technology and Society*, 3(2), 76-88.

Abbas, R., Pitt, J., & Michael, K. (2021). Socio-technical design for public interest technology. *IEEE Transactions on Technology and Society*, 2(2), 55-61.

Basic Internet Foundation (2022). Projects. *Basic Internet Foundation*. Available at: <https://basicinternet.org/projects/>.

Holst, C., Stelzle, D., Diep, L. M., Sukums, F., Ngowi, B., Noll, J., & Winkler, A. S. (2022). Improving Health Knowledge Through Provision of Free Digital Health Education to Rural Communities in Iringa, Tanzania: Nonrandomized Intervention Study. *Journal of medical Internet research*, 24(7), e37666.

Holst, C., Isabwe, G. M. N., Sukums, F., Ngowi, H., Kajuna, F., Radovanović, D., ... & Winkler, A. S. (2021). Development of digital health messages for rural populations in Tanzania: Multi-And interdisciplinary approach. *JMIR mHealth and uHealth*, 9(9), e25558.

Michael, K. (28 April 2021). Public Interest Technology in Global Development in Mary Jane Parmentier and Faheem Hussain. *A New Frontier: Public Interest Technology for International Development*, Research Technical Assistance Center, Arizona State University, 24-25 March, Zoom. Available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ogxNoyTg1IQ>.

Pitt, J., Michael, K., & Abbas, R. (2021). Public Interest Technology, Citizen Assemblies, and Performative Governance. *IEEE Technology and Society Magazine*, 40(3), 6-9.