Call for Papers
Global Conference on Cyber Capacity Building (GC3B)
Research Workshop
"Cyber Resilience for Development"
28 November 2023
Accra, Ghana

Background

As global technological interdependence intensifies, societies are becoming increasingly reliant on digital connectivity. However, to fully leverage the potential of this expanding global connectivity, it's crucial to safeguard the digital environment, and protect our political and economic structures, along with society at large, from emerging online threats. Consequently, enhancing cybersecurity capabilities has emerged as a pivotal global priority to establish a comprehensive, inclusive, and coordinated international effort to protect cyberspace, nationally and beyond national borders. Numerous initiatives have emerged to bolster cybersecurity capabilities globally, supporting countries in crafting their cybersecurity strategies from technical, policy, and diplomatic angles.

In this context, the inaugural GC3B, co-organized by the Global Forum on Cyber Expertise (GFCE), the World Bank (WB), the CyberPeace Institute, and the World Economic Forum (WEF), will take place on **29 - 30 November 2023** in **Accra, Ghana** with the theme "Cyber Resilience for Development".

The conference will bring together leaders, decision-makers, experts, and practitioners across sectors to catalyze global partnerships and actions aimed at elevating and mainstreaming capacity building in the international development agenda as a key enabler of sustainable development, inclusive economic growth, and social prosperity for all. More information available here: https://gc3b.org/.

About the Research Workshop

With the goal of fostering scholarly research on cybersecurity capacity building and enhancing dialogue between the research community and policymakers, the GFCE Research Committee is inviting extended abstract submissions for a Research Workshop in the margins of the GC3B. The abstracts should clearly identify the research area and explain the thesis/purpose as well as the research methodology. Abstracts will be selected based on their relevance to the GC3B objectives and themes, the potential policy enhancement value of the objectives of the paper, as well as the quality and clarity of writing in the abstract.

Selected papers will be presented at a dedicated research workshop on the day before the GC3B conference in Accra, on 28 November in the morning. The Research Workshop provides a unique platform for deepening the study of the intersection between cybersecurity and development agendas. More importantly, it is a space where scholars and researchers will have the opportunity to present their work and reflect on the topics alongside practitioners.

Papers that explore Cybersecurity Capacity Building from multiple perspectives are welcome. We will prioritize paper proposals that address cutting-edge research in the field. We especially encourage submissions that adopt an interdisciplinary approach and/or multi-method approaches, facilitate a comparative perspective and connect specific realities with broader CCB topics. Insightful empirical research drawn from specific case studies will also be highly valued. Topics of particular relevance to this call include, but are not limited to:

- ✓ Methods for Integrating Cyber Capacity Building into Development Programs

- ✓ Novel Methodologies for Assessing Cybersecurity Capacity and Threats

- ✓ Cybersecurity Capacity Building and International Cooperation

- ✓ Multistakeholder Dialogues in Cybersecurity

- ✓ Cybersecurity and Digital Transformation in the Global South

- ✓ North-South, South-South and Triangular Cooperation approaches for Cyber Capacity Building and Digital Development

- ✓ Cybersecurity and the UN SDGs/ Sustainable development agendas and their relationship with cybersecurity

- ✓ Regional/Local/Sectoral approaches to Cyber Capacity Building

- ✓ Designing for inclusivity in CCB Intersectionality in Cybersecurity Development

- ✓ Threats to, and Protection of, Critical Infrastructure

Authors of accepted papers will receive sponsorship to travel to Accra, Ghana (accommodation and return flights) for the event (1 author per paper) and a personal invitation to attend the Global Conference on 29-30 November 2023. Accepted papers will be considered for publication in a special journal issue.

Key dates

5 August	Submission of extended abstracts (800 – 1000 words)
30 August	Notification of Acceptance with initial feedback
5 November	Submission of full draft papers (4000 – 5000 words)
28 November	Presentation of research during GFCE Research Workshop
29–30 November	Global Conference on Cyber Capacity Building

Additional Guidance
- ✓ Send your abstract proposal to: contact@thegfce.org, with the subject: "Extended Abstract Submission – GC3B". Please indicate your name and affiliation in the email body.

- ✓ Submission Length of 800 – 1000 words (max – Excluding Bibliography)

- ✓ Only document format (.doc or .docx)

- ✓ Do not include personal details in the body of the document, to facilitate an anonymous review process

- ✓ Please note that incomplete submissions will not be considered

About the GC3B

Built upon four pillars – (1) Cyber Resilience for Development; (2) Collaboration to Secure the Digital Ecosystem; (3) Cyber Capacity Building for the Stability and Security of the Digital Environment; and (4) Operationalizing Solutions – the conference will bring together leaders, decision-makers, experts, and practitioners from around the world to catalyze global partnerships and actions to elevate and mainstream capacity building for cyber resilience across the international development agenda as a key enabler of sustainable development, inclusive economic growth, and social prosperity for all. It also aims to identify and strengthen global resilient development mechanisms and structures, and facilitate the expansion of resources to support resilient development efforts. The GC3B will raise awareness on how cybersecurity and resilience are an integral part of digital, social, and economic development as well as critical to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (#SDGs).