

DATA FEMINISM AND GENDER-TRANSFORMATIVE APPROACHES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

An Initiative of GIZ Data Lab and Digital Skills to Succeed in Asia project, GIZ



Date	16 th April 2024
Time	16:00 – 17:15 (BST), 15:30 – 16:45 (IST), 17:00 – 18:15 (ICT)
Duration	1.15 hours
Location	Online via Microsoft Teams

Context

In the rapidly evolving landscape of data science and technology, the need for critical examination of power dynamics and inequities within data collection, analysis, and use has become increasingly apparent. While advancements in digital skills are essential for success in the job market, there is a growing recognition of the importance of incorporating feminist perspectives into data science education. Data feminism offers a critical approach to addressing these issues, emphasising the significance of intersectional feminism in understanding and challenging biases within data science.

Given the growing importance of data feminism in shaping inclusive and equitable data practices, the GIZ Data Lab (GDL) and Digital Skills to Succeed in Asia (DS2S) project at GIZ have come together to organise this webinar which delves into the practices and potential of data feminism for universities in the region, with a focus on integrating feminist perspectives into academic curricula and educational programmes.

Objectives

1. Examine the foundational principles of data feminism and its application in fostering a multi-disciplinary approach within university settings.
2. Showcase successful approaches that have effectively applied data feminism principles in university contexts, promoting inclusivity and intersectionality.
3. Discuss the significance and value of offering data feminism education to students, emphasising its relevance in enhancing skills and job prospects.
4. Announcing the potential launch of the Data Feminism micro-credential.

Target Audience

1. University administrators
2. Academicians and researchers in data science, social science, or technology disciplines
3. Students interested in understanding and applying data feminism principles

Impact

This webinar aims to catalyse the adoption of data feminism principles within universities, launching new micro-credentials and programmes focused on this approach. Empowering students with the tools to critically analyse data through a feminist lens will lead to more inclusive and intersectional approaches to data science education.

About the hosts

The [GIZ Data Lab](#) (GDL) is a think-and-do-tank for the responsible use of data for development. Exploring data-related innovations and trends to address issues in our partner countries and working with a multidisciplinary network are part of the Data Lab's mandate. Regarding Data Feminism, the Data Lab is at the forefront of agenda-setting in GIZ and has conducted successful event series, bringing in diverse perspectives for a more feminist approach to data and more inclusive datasets.

The [Digital Skills to Succeed in Asia](#) (DS2S) project at GIZ aims to enhance digital skills among young university students, especially women, in Bangladesh, India, and Viet Nam to position them for success in the job market. It collaborates with universities, private sector partners, and government agencies to: 1) Establish a Digital Skills Network and country hubs for knowledge exchange, 2) Enhance faculty capacities through advanced training, and 3) Collaborate with German universities and private sector to co-design targeted courses called micro-credentials in Artificial Intelligence, Data, and Digital Entrepreneurship for non-tech students. These courses emphasize ethical tech use, ensures global standards and offering industry-relevant skills tailored for the digital job market.

Agenda

TIME	TITLE	SPEAKER
5 min	Opening Remarks	Sabrina Garcia, Project Director, GIZ
	Introduction to the panel discussion and its objectives within the context of Digital Skills to Succeed project	and Catherine Vogel, Head of GIZ Data Lab
5 min	Panellists Introduction	Preyansi Mani, Advisor, GIZ
	Introduction of each panellist, including their background and expertise related to data feminism and data science/social science education/technical education.	
10 min	Understanding Data Feminism	Prof. Catherine D'ignazio , Author - Data Feminism, MIT
	Defining Data Feminism: Exploring its Principles and Objectives	Professor and Director of the Data+Feminism Lab
10 min (3 min each)	Country Perspectives on Data Feminism	Prof. Ashwini Deshpande, Professor and Head, Department of Economics and Founding Director, CEDA, Ashoka University, India
	Panellists share examples from their research/courses/practices to illustrate the application and impact at the intersection of Data and Gender in higher education and university contexts	Prof. Kim Anh Du'o'ng, Vice Chancellor, Vietnam Women's Academy (VWA) and Chief Editor of VWA Journal of Science, Viet Nam
		Dr. Perween Hasan, Vice Chancellor, Central Women's University, Bangladesh
10 min (3 min each)	Potential of Data Feminism in University Curriculum	All Panellists
	Panellists share potential of why young university students should study Data-Feminism	

5 min	Launching a micro-credential and feminist hackathon on Data Feminism in universities A GIZ-GDL Partnership	Vanessa Hochwald, Specialist, GIZ Data Lab
10 min	Q&A Session Audience engagement and discussion with the panellists	Preyansi Mani, Advisor, GIZ
5 min	Closing Remarks Summary of key takeaways from the discussion.	Preyansi Mani, Advisor, GIZ

Speaker Profile

Prof. Catherine D'Ignazio - Author - Data Feminism, MIT Professor and Director of the Data+Feminism Lab

Catherine D'Ignazio is a hacker mama, scholar, and artist/designer who focuses on feminist technology, data activism and civic engagement. She is an Associate Professor of Urban Science and Planning in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at MIT and Director of the Data + Feminism Lab.

Prof. Ashwini Deshpande - Professor and Head, Department of Economics and Founding Director, CEDA, Ashoka University, India

Ashwini Deshpande is Professor and Head, Department of Economics, and Founding Director, Centre for Economic Data and Analysis (CEDA) at Ashoka University, India. Her Ph.D. and early publications have been on the international debt crisis of the 1980s. Subsequently, she has been working on the economics of discrimination and affirmative action, with a focus on caste and gender in India. She is the author of "Grammar of Caste: economic discrimination in contemporary India", Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2011 (Hardcover) and 2017 (Paperback); and "Affirmative Action in India", Oxford University Press, New Delhi, Oxford India Short Introductions series, 2013. She has edited several volumes, the latest of which is "Handbook on Economics of Discrimination and Affirmative Action" (Springer Major Reference Works). She is a Fellow of the International Economic Association. She received the EXIM Bank award for outstanding dissertation (now called the IERA Award) in 1994, the 2007 VKRV Rao Award for Indian economists under 45 and SKOCH Award for Gender Economics in 2022.

Prof. Du'o'ng Kim Anh - Vice Chancellor of Vietnam Women's Academy and Chief Editor of Vietnam Women's Academy Journal of Science

Duong Kim Anh is an Associate Professor, Dr., Vice Chancellor of Vietnam Women's Academy (VWA), Hanoi, Vietnam. She is the Chief Editor of VWA Journal of Science and being the editors for several domestic and international journals, such as Dalat University Journal of Science, Family and Gender Journal; Journal of Research on Gender Studies (USA); GLOCALITY (The Netherlands). Holding MA Degree from International Institute of Social Studies (The Netherlands), and Doctoral Degree from Waikato University (New Zealand), her expertise focuses on human trafficking and gender-based violence; gender, family and social issues; feminism and women-related issues. She has experience in teaching and conducting gender training overseas, in New Zealand and Ethiopia as a senior gender lecturer.

Dr. Perween Hasan - Vice Chancellor, Central Women's University, Bangladesh

Dr. Perween Hasan is Vice-Chancellor of Central Women's University, Dhaka, Bangladesh. She started her career in the University of Dhaka as a Lecturer in the Department of English and then went on pursue Masters and Doctoral degrees in Regional Studies and the History of Art and Architecture at Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA. She was actively involved in the curriculum planning of the Department of Women and Gender Studies in the University of Dhaka and taught courses on women, culture and religion. As a Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence and later as a Shansi Visiting Professor, she taught History of Art and Architecture for a year and a half at Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio, USA. She has published extensively in peer reviewed national and international journals on art and architecture, cross-cultural issues, as well as women.