

Event Report

The AI Climate Divide: Are Generations Learning at the Same Speed?

Rethinking Climate Literacy in an Algorithm-Driven World



Webinar on
The AI Climate Divide: Are Generations Learning at the Same Speed?
Rethinking Climate Literacy in an Algorithm-Driven World

📅 March 16, 2026
🕒 11:30–1:00 PM (PKT)



Scan the QR code to join online



🌐 SDPI PAKISTAN 🌐 OFFICIALSDPI 🌐 SDTVPakistan

Islamabad, Pakistan | 16 March 2026

Table of Contents

Executive Summary	3
Background and Objective.....	3
Welcome Remarks	5
Panel Discussion	6
Mr. Asim Javid –CEO, AI Geo Navigators	6
Mr. Syed Ammar Hussain Jaffri – Chair and Founder, SDGs Academy	7
Ms. Kashoon Leeza – Founder, Tess Cybersecurity.....	8
Mr. Muhammad Shayan Azmat – Campus France Assistant, Campus France Pakistan .	9
Mr. Sher Shah Bangash – Founder, Skillistan	10
Chief Guest Remarks.....	11
Conclusion	12
Key Takeaways.....	13

Executive Summary

The Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) organized a webinar titled “**The AI Climate Divide: Are Generations Learning at the Same Speed?** Rethinking Climate Literacy in an Algorithm-Driven World” on 16 March 2026 to explore the growing intersection between artificial intelligence, climate awareness, and generational learning patterns. The discussion brought together experts from technology, cybersecurity, education, and sustainable development sectors to examine how AI-driven digital ecosystems are reshaping the way climate knowledge is produced, disseminated, and consumed. Speakers highlighted that younger generations increasingly rely on algorithm-driven social media platforms for information, while older generations often depend on traditional media and institutional channels, creating potential disparities in climate literacy and risk perception.

The panel emphasized that while artificial intelligence offers significant opportunities for climate action such as predictive climate modelling, geospatial monitoring, disaster risk forecasting, and environmental data analysis, it also raises concerns about misinformation, algorithmic bias, and unequal access to reliable climate knowledge. Participants stressed the importance of strengthening digital literacy, integrating AI into education systems, improving data accessibility, and promoting responsible use of technology for climate communication. The discussion concluded that bridging the emerging AI climate divide requires collaborative efforts among policymakers, academia, technology experts, and youth to ensure that technological advancements contribute to inclusive climate governance, improved resilience, and sustainable development.

Background and Objective

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasingly transforming the way climate knowledge is generated, distributed, and consumed across the world. Digital platforms, algorithm-curated information feeds, and generative AI tools are rapidly shaping how individuals access and interpret environmental information. At the same time, patterns of information consumption vary significantly across generations. Younger generations tend to rely heavily on digital platforms and social media for news and learning, while older generations often depend on traditional media sources and institutional channels. These evolving dynamics raise important questions about whether climate literacy is advancing at the same pace across age groups in an AI-driven information ecosystem.

In many societies, particularly in developing countries such as Pakistan, these generational differences are further influenced by disparities in digital access, technological literacy, and trust in media sources. While younger populations may engage more actively with climate discourse online and demonstrate higher levels of climate awareness and activism, older generations often rely on policy institutions and formal knowledge systems to understand environmental challenges. This divergence may create a growing “AI climate divide,” where the speed, depth, and quality of



climate learning differ across generations, potentially affecting public engagement and policy support for climate action.

In this context, the webinar aimed to examine how artificial intelligence and digital platforms influence climate literacy across generational groups and whether algorithm-driven information ecosystems are contributing to knowledge gaps or misinformation. The discussion sought to facilitate dialogue among policymakers, digital experts, educators, and youth representatives to better understand these emerging challenges. By bringing together diverse perspectives, the event aimed to identify strategies for strengthening inclusive climate communication, enhancing digital and environmental literacy, and promoting collaborative approaches to bridging generational gaps in climate knowledge.

Welcome Remarks

The webinar commenced with welcome remarks by Ms. Zainab Naeem, Associate Research Fellow – Ecological Sustainability and Circular Economy, SDPI, who highlighted the growing intersection between artificial intelligence and global climate challenges. She noted that generative AI tools are increasingly being used across sectors and by individuals worldwide, demonstrating how digital transformation is reshaping knowledge systems, governance, and communication. At the same time, the world is facing two transformative challenges: the accelerating climate crisis and the rapid expansion of digital technologies such as artificial intelligence. She emphasized that AI has begun to play an important role in climate diplomacy, climate analysis, and environmental policymaking, offering new opportunities to better understand and address environmental risks.

Ms. Zainab also stressed that countries of the Global South, including Pakistan, must carefully navigate the opportunities and challenges presented by AI-driven transformation. Pakistan's large youth population presents a unique opportunity for innovation and climate leadership, as young people are increasingly learning about climate change through digital platforms and AI-assisted tools. However, she cautioned that technological transformation is also reshaping labour markets, with some traditional jobs disappearing while new opportunities emerge in areas such as data analysis, climate modelling, and digital innovation. She encouraged participants to view artificial intelligence not merely as a technological tool but as a powerful analytical resource that can support climate research, evidence-based policymaking, and sustainable development if used responsibly.



Panel Discussion

The panel discussion featured experts from technology, education, cybersecurity, and digital innovation sectors. The discussion explored how AI and digital platforms influence climate learning, public engagement, and policy discourse across generations.

Mr. Asim Javid –CEO, AI Geo Navigators

Mr. Asim Javid, CEO, AI Geo Navigators, discussed the growing convergence of artificial intelligence and geospatial data in addressing climate-related challenges. He highlighted that two powerful technological forces like AI and location-based data are transforming how environmental risks are identified and managed. According to him, the challenge today is not only climate change itself but also how algorithms shape the way information is interpreted and disseminated. He pointed out that the intersection of AI and digital platforms has created a divide between generations in how climate information is accessed and understood. Younger generations, particularly Generation Z, rely heavily on social media platforms where information is often fragmented and shaped by algorithmic recommendations. This can lead to knowledge gaps and misinformation if not managed properly. He emphasized that AI systems themselves do not verify the truth of information but rather detect and distribute content based on patterns and user engagement. However, he also highlighted the positive potential of AI in climate action, particularly in areas such as agricultural planning, flood prediction, and early warning systems for

farmers. Mr. Javid stressed the importance of integrating education, climate awareness, and digital literacy to bridge generational divides and ensure that technological advancements are used responsibly for climate resilience and adaptation.



Mr. Syed Ammar Hussain Jaffri – Chair and Founder, SDGs Academy

Mr. Syed Ammar Hussain Jaffri, Chair and Founder, SDGs Academy, emphasized the critical role of data governance in sustainable development. He noted that effective governance today is increasingly shaped by data, and ensuring access to accurate and reliable data is essential for informed decision-making. He highlighted that one of the major challenges in climate management is the lack of accessible and credible data available to the general public and policymakers. According to him, artificial intelligence can help address this gap by enabling better analysis of environmental data and improving early warning systems for events such as heavy rainfall and cloudbursts. However, he stressed that responses to climate disasters are often reactive rather than proactive. By leveraging AI-driven data analysis, governments and experts can develop more predictive and preventive approaches to climate risk management. Mr. Jaffri also highlighted the importance of global collaboration in addressing climate challenges and mentioned his involvement in international initiatives that advocate for inclusive development and sustainability. He encouraged experts and institutions to work collectively toward a sustainable Pakistan and emphasized that with over 60 percent of the country's population comprising youth, empowering young people to become problem-solvers and innovators is crucial for achieving sustainable development goals.



Ms. Kashoon Leeza – Founder, Tess Cybersecurity

Ms. Kashoon Leeza, Founder, Tess Cybersecurity, focused on the intersection of artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and climate change. She described climate change as a “threat multiplier” that intensifies environmental, economic, and social vulnerabilities. According to her, AI can act as a powerful enabler in addressing climate challenges through applications such as energy management, environmental monitoring, and climate adaptation strategies. She highlighted examples of AI-based initiatives, including projects that use advanced monitoring systems to prevent deforestation in regions such as the Amazon rainforest by providing early warnings about illegal logging and mining activities. At the same time, she warned about the risks associated with misinformation and disinformation in digital environments, particularly when algorithm-driven platforms amplify misleading narratives about climate change. She stressed the importance of understanding where data originates and ensuring that AI-generated insights are verified using reliable tools such as satellite imagery and advanced data analytics. Ms. Leeza emphasized that strong governance frameworks and AI literacy are essential to combat misinformation and ensure that digital technologies support accurate climate communication and informed policymaking.



Mr. Muhammad Shayan Azmat – Campus France Assistant, Campus France Pakistan

Mr. Muhammad Shayan Azmat, Campus France Assistant, Campus France Pakistan, discussed how digital technologies and artificial intelligence are reshaping learning behaviours, particularly among younger generations. He noted that people increasingly spend more time interacting with screens than engaging with traditional learning materials such as books. Social media platforms driven by AI algorithms curate content based on user interests and engagement patterns, which significantly influences how individuals receive information about global issues such as climate change. While this transformation creates opportunities for wider information dissemination, it also raises concerns about emotional responses and biased narratives shaped by algorithmic systems. He highlighted that artificial intelligence has already become deeply integrated into everyday life and cannot be separated from modern education systems. Therefore, it is important to integrate AI tools into educational frameworks in a constructive way. He emphasized the potential of digital learning resources, including digital books and AI-supported learning platforms, to enhance climate education and encourage responsible use of social media for awareness and knowledge sharing.



Mr. Sher Shah Bangash – Founder, Skillistan

Mr. Sher Shah Bangash, Founder, Skillistan, highlighted the significant knowledge gap that exists in Pakistan regarding both artificial intelligence and climate change. He noted that awareness of these issues remains limited among large segments of the population, even though they are increasingly important for economic and environmental sustainability. He explained that climate research and monitoring involve the analysis of massive volumes of data, including geospatial and satellite-based information. Artificial intelligence can play a critical role in processing such large datasets and supporting climate analysis. He also pointed out that monitoring progress on the Sustainable Development Goals requires tracking 169 indicators, many of which currently suffer from insufficient data availability. According to him, satellite data and AI-based analysis could help address up to 60–70 percent of these data gaps. Mr. Bangash also highlighted the role of digital entrepreneurship in addressing climate challenges, encouraging the development of climate-focused startups and data-driven solutions. He emphasized that technological innovation, including efficient coding practices and improved data management systems, can reduce energy consumption and emissions associated with digital infrastructure. Ultimately, he stressed the importance of developing digital competence and ethical, inclusive approaches to technology in order to ensure that AI contributes positively to climate management and sustainable development.



Chief Guest Remarks

The webinar concluded with remarks by Dr. Musadik Masood Malik, Federal Minister for Climate Change, Government of Pakistan, who reflected on the rapid transformation occurring at the intersection of artificial intelligence, technology, and global environmental challenges. He noted that governments and institutions around the world are still trying to keep pace with the speed at which AI technologies are evolving. According to him, the global technological landscape is changing rapidly, with continuous innovation and the emergence of multiple AI platforms competing in what he described as an “AI race of applications.” While technological advancements are accelerating, academic institutions and policy frameworks often struggle to keep up with these changes, whereas younger generations are adapting more quickly and actively engaging with new technologies.

Dr. Malik emphasized that addressing climate change requires shifting from reactive approaches toward preventive strategies. Drawing an analogy from healthcare, he explained that prevention is always more effective than treatment after damage has occurred. Similarly, climate policy must prioritize preventive actions, including changes in lifestyles, sustainable resource management, and early intervention strategies. He highlighted that emerging technologies such as drones, the Internet of Things (IoT), and advanced data analytics can significantly enhance early detection of environmental risks and support proactive climate management.

The Minister further stressed the importance of strengthening data systems, modelling capabilities, and predictive analysis to better understand and manage climate risks. He noted that climate patterns, particularly monsoon cycles and temperature trends, are becoming increasingly unpredictable. Artificial intelligence can help analyse large datasets and model potential scenarios, enabling policymakers to anticipate floods, rising temperatures, glacier melting, and other climate-related hazards. By training AI models with reliable data, governments can develop digital planning tools that support more effective disaster preparedness and climate adaptation strategies.

Dr. Malik also highlighted the importance of investing in human capital, data infrastructure, and technological innovation to harness the full potential of AI for climate resilience. He noted that emerging technologies in areas such as banking technology, biotechnology, and digital systems are revolutionizing access to information and decision-making processes. These advancements, combined with improvements in cognitive science and digital tools, are reshaping how societies respond to environmental and economic challenges. He concluded by emphasizing that leveraging AI responsibly can not only help reduce carbon footprints and environmental damage but also create new economic opportunities while supporting Pakistan's transition toward a more sustainable and resilient future.



Conclusion

The webinar highlighted the growing importance of understanding how artificial intelligence is shaping climate knowledge, communication, and policymaking across different generations. Discussions underscored that while AI offers powerful tools for climate data analysis, predictive modelling, and early warning systems, disparities in digital access, data literacy, and information

consumption patterns may create gaps in climate awareness between generations. Speakers emphasized the need for stronger integration of technology, education, and policy frameworks to ensure that AI-driven information ecosystems support accurate climate communication and inclusive decision-making. The dialogue concluded that bridging the AI climate divide requires collaborative efforts among governments, academia, technology experts, and youth to strengthen digital literacy, promote responsible use of AI, and harness technological innovation for effective climate action and sustainable development.



Key Takeaways

- Governments and research institutions should invest in AI-supported data infrastructure to improve climate monitoring, geospatial analysis, and environmental risk assessment.
- Climate education and digital literacy programs should be expanded to reach all generations, reducing knowledge gaps created by differences in technological access and media consumption patterns.
- Artificial intelligence should be integrated into climate governance frameworks to support predictive modelling, disaster risk management, and climate adaptation planning, particularly in areas such as flood forecasting, agricultural planning, and weather monitoring.
- Regulatory mechanisms and digital governance frameworks are needed to address misinformation, disinformation, and algorithmic bias related to climate information circulating on AI-driven platforms and social media.
- Governments should improve access to reliable and verified climate data while promoting the use of satellite and geospatial technologies to address existing data gaps related to environmental monitoring and SDG indicators.

- Investment in AI-enabled early warning systems can help communities, particularly farmers and vulnerable populations, receive timely information regarding floods, extreme weather events, and environmental risks.
- Policymakers should encourage climate-focused digital entrepreneurship and innovation to develop AI-driven solutions for climate mitigation, environmental monitoring, and sustainable resource management.
- Educational institutions and professional training programs should strengthen human capital by equipping youth with skills in artificial intelligence, data analytics, and climate science to address emerging environmental challenges.
- Stronger collaboration among governments, academia, technology companies, and civil society organizations is necessary to ensure that technological advancements support inclusive and effective climate action.
- Climate policies should prioritize preventive strategies and resilience-building by utilizing predictive analytics and modelling tools to anticipate environmental risks rather than responding only after disasters occur.