

Part 1 - Lead Organizer

Salutation Mr.

Contact Person Siddhant Chatterjee

Email siddhant.chatterjee@gmail.com

Mobile Number for Messaging +919004481435

Organization / Affiliation (Please state "Individual" if appropriate) Independent

Designation Researcher and Policy Consultant

Gender Male

Economy of Residence India

Primary Stakeholder Group Youth / Students

Part 2 - Session Proposal

Primary Theme Fostering Digital Innovation towards economic progress

Secondary Theme (if any) Digital Governance

Session Title Central Bank Digital Currencies and Financial Inclusion: A Systematic Review

Session Format Birds of a Feather (BoF)

Description of Session Formats **Birds of a Feather (BoF)** – An informal discussion session designed to connect the participants of shared topic of interests without a pre-planned agenda. **Panel** - Presentation and/or sharing of viewpoints by speakers on a particular topic. The number of speakers on the panel shall not be more than 4 to allow sufficient time for interaction with the attendees. **Roundtable** - Interactive dialogue involving all participants with designated moderators and not more than 2 speakers.

Specific Issues of Discussion

Interest on Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) has increased in recent years. While the reasons given for its adoption are multifold, one key rationale advocated by proponents is its ability to facilitate financial inclusion. This session unpacks this claim by discussing my recent paper (a systematic literature review) on the subject.

I aim to investigate the following question: What role can Central Bank Digital Currencies (CBDCs) play in enabling financial inclusion?

This is further broken down into three research sub-questions to be covered in the session:

- a. What are the benefits of using CBDCs as tools for financial inclusion?
- b. How may CBDCs be operationalised to achieve financial inclusion? In particular, what are the technological and capacity-related imperatives to operationalise fit-for-purpose CBDCs?
- c. What are the primary issues, challenges and risks in adopting CBDCs for financial inclusion?

Describe the Relevance of Your Session to Theme

As India begins to experiment with the Digital Rupee, the promise and potential CBDCs hold in catalysing financial inclusion – thereby accelerating the country's leapfrog towards inclusive development is significant. There is benefit in comprehensively reviewing existing literature on the benefits of adopting such technologies for financial inclusion, the technological, design and capacity considerations involved to operationalise such interventions, the potential risks that may arise, and finally, how they might be mitigated.

By first identifying the benefits of CBDCs in achieving financial inclusion, we will critically look at technical and capacity considerations in its operationalisation. We will then identify CBDC design variants that would be most conducive to financial inclusion, and will also explore some of the various capacity and infrastructural challenges country-contexts face in deploying such technologies. The session will then discuss various risks associated with deploying CBDCs and provides pathways to help address them. Finally, we'll look at various best-practices on CBDC development and attempts to pave the way forward in the development of fit-for-purpose CBDCs for financial inclusion.

Methodology / Agenda

Format: Presentation, sole moderator

Time: 45 Minutes

The following questions will be examined and then discussed:

- a. What are the benefits of using CBDCs as tools for financial inclusion?
- b. How may CBDCs be operationalised to achieve financial inclusion? In particular, what are the technological and capacity-related imperatives to operationalise fit-for-purpose CBDCs?
- c. What are the primary issues, challenges and risks in adopting CBDCs for financial inclusion?

Please provide 3 subject matter tags that best describe your session. #FinancialInclusion #DigitalRupee #Blockchain

*Please specify gender e.g. agender, cis woman, cis man, female, gender-fluid, gender-neutral, male, trans woman, trans man, etc.

Moderators & Speakers Info (Please complete where possible)

	Moderator (Primary)	Moderator (Backup)	Speaker 1	Speaker 2	Speaker 3	Speaker 4
Name	Siddhant Chatterjee					
Email	siddhant.chatterjee@gmail.com					
Organization	Independent					
Designation	Policy Consultant					
Gender	M					
Economy of Residence / Country	India					
Stakeholder Group	Youth / Students					
Status of Confirmation	Confirmed					

Please explain the rationale for choosing each of the above contributors to the session.

Contributor is the sole author of the paper being discussed. Has previously been a policy consultant focusing on emerging technologies with the British and Australian Governments.