

Two Sides of Tech (Part I)

Stories from across the Globe

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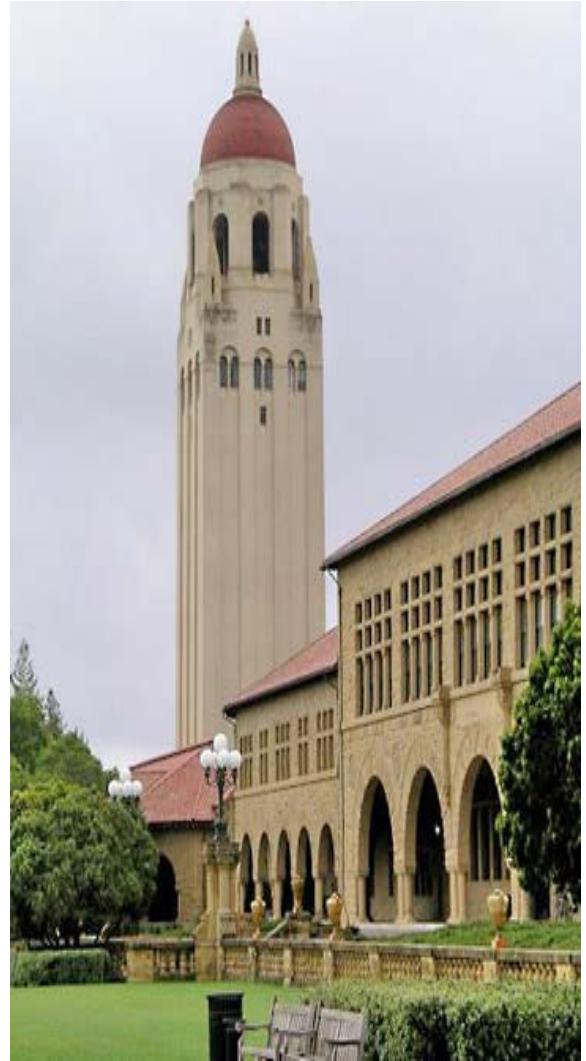
The Potential of Tech to offer non-linear and highly scalable solutions to some of the major challenges of our times

Poverty, Inequality, Public Health, Gender Equity....

Tech's role in achieving Gandhi's vision of The Dignity of All & the SDGs

&

The Ethics of Technology



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The Sustainable Development Goals



They weave together social, economic and environmental challenges and solutions

Cross-Sector Collaboration, Integrative Solutions

- Tech becoming the new electricity/oil of the world
- Increasing tech infrastructure, internet access available even in some refugee camps, mobile phones offer great opportunity
- Impact Investors are funding tech innovations to achieve Global Goals (SDGs)



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Integrative Nature of Tech Solutions in advancing SDGs

Is Technology an Accelerant for the SDGs?

AI and the future of Tech - Innovation, Design, Policy & Intentionality

Tech Innovations offer potential solutions to problems in every field

- Self driving cars to Robots that automate weeding
- Health Care (Radiology -> AI leapfrogs human capabilities?)

Offers Ability to Scale Impact - rapidly and at low cost

- e.g. Education (Coursera) -> Free Online access to best CS education for all

Offers Ability to transform/disrupt markets & business models

- Agri -Blue River Computer Vision -> automated weeding, environment friendly
- Job Mobility, new types of jobs –Samasource digital micro-work

Power of data

- Natural Disaster relief – credit card networks - info on open gas station/stores
- Tackle Inequality (Blendoor, TheBoardlist), help refugees, victims of trafficking

Tech Enables Knowledge sharing, transparency, anticipating/locating trends

- Women sharing tech industry bias experiences following others on social media

Some of the Unintended Side Effects of Technology

Anonymity via Social Media

- Animal poaching increased due to anonymous transactions on social media
- Xenophobia/Disinformation spreading via social media – increased refugees

Equalizer or Increases Inequality Divide

- Internet Access to smartphones / Gender divide
- Intentionality of inclusiveness critical in policy, tech design

Technology advances ahead of Policy create challenges

Credibility of Online News Sources

fake news, robots/trolls, new source distortion, authenticity of user

Jobs Impact

- Radiology: According to Experts AI may be ahead of human already

Privacy

Identify Theft

Other Unintended Side effects

- Human rights workers at risk via social media

Ethics of Technology – Issues being discussed

- Who takes responsibility/accountable for unintended/intended effects
- Who informs Global /National Tech policy
- Tension between freedom of expression and manipulation of social media to amplify negative/propaganda
- Tech a powerful tool / lever - means to an end not vice versa
- Can help leapfrog in solving to major world challenges if we all take responsibility or can shake the basic tenets of democratic values
- More Ethics /Tech Ethics Ed in Universities / Business schools?
- Centers focused on tech/digital policy research / study
- Issues such as Genetic engineering of humans for moral values

It is the moment to think of ourselves as Custodians of Technology and it's side effects, it's proper usage - rather than just a tool to leverage for our individual benefit'

“Lets move from Human Centered Design to Humanity Centered Design” – The Copenhagen letter, 100+ participants in Copenhagen festival (tech, designers, philosophers)



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Two Sides of Tech (Part II)

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Tech Innovations Advancing SDG 3, Integrative approaches

- **Prof SV Maha** – Best Stanford ER Practices to Mongolia, rural India (training the trainers – saving lives)
- **ZMQ, Hilmi Kuraishi** Phone app offers health/social knowledge (SDGs 3,4,5)
 - Health info/social issues – Icons so girls who can't read can also learn
 - Powerful stories around social issues/role-models lead to social change
 - Gamify health info for girls / participative, girls engage
- **YourDost, Richa Singh** - Mental health online service innovation (SDG 3)
 - Power of Tech Anonymity helps solve social taboo around seeking help
- **Akshay Patra** – SDG 2, 3, 4 at Scale – over 1.6m midday meals in 12 states
 - Tech Innovation via Automated Kitchen + Public Private Partnership -> very low cost nutritious meals in schools (\$15/year/child)
- **Healing Fields, Mukti Bosco** – women in rural India provide (SDGs 3,4,5, 8)
 - local community health info, health education, basic health services
 - financing via local community resource pooling
 - employment for local women – community health provider

Tech Innovations bringing Systems Change - to Rural & Tribal Communities To Entire Nations.... And Across Nations

Transformative Solutions bringing System Change

CGNetSwara Audio-based Citizen Journalism voice & agency to tribal regions

ChangeMaker Salons rural girls learn and connect at hair salons in the Sahel

Blue River Technologies – Disrupting Agri via Robotics & Computer Vision, automatic weeding, reducing costs & herbicide use

Impact Experiences: Vulnerable communities, impact investors, other partners in the US build trust, overcome implicit biases, collectively solve community problems

Goonj Parallel Economy, Breaks Donor Donee mindset, Dignity of work for rural communities, Catalyzes community action

UN Kenya - Kenyan Tiger looking to leap-frog on achieving Universal primary health care - via partnerships, cross-sectoral, global collaboration (UN, Govt, Private Sector) power of data and tech – to uplift Kenya via integrated development

Samasource Brings digital micro-work from places like silicon valley to Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, greatly empowering vulnerable women

Tech Innovations for the biggest challenges of our times – from Helping Refugees to Tackling Climate Change

Google Oceans – mapping of oceans, creating connection/empathy and awareness about oceans, life in oceans, speed of destruction

Google Earth Engine - Helps nonprofits identify deforestation and other env issues

Tech Solutions designed by Refugees for Refugees

Sonbola – empowering learners of STEM education to come up with solutions developed by refugees for themselves

University Students at Stanford working on Solutions for Refugees

Busra Stanford student - Modular, Safe, Cost Effective Housing for Refugees

Powerful potential synergies between - UN Together Campaign, Stanford students, Handa Center for Human Rights at Stanford, Norwegian Refugee Council

Call To Action

Lets come together as a global community - collaborate, innovate and leverage technology with great responsibility – to achieve the Global Goals, including goal 3, while being careful and accountable about the negative externalities of tech



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