Disinformation in the digital world

Objectives:

- To make participants aware about misinformation on the internet, how it spreads and how one can tackle it
- To get participants to evaluate the online platforms they use in terms of vulnerability to misinformation

Pre-workshop tasks:

- Prepare Miro board
  Note: To use Miro in the workshop, the facilitators will have to create a Miro board similar to the board linked above. This video provides a guide to using Miro for workshops.

- Get the slides ready

- Get the following activity sheets ready for reference
  - Energizer on false information
  - Compass points
  - Ranking Social media platforms

Facilitator Notes:

- *If you are using a whiteboard tool such as Miro, make sure that the participants are familiar with it. You can do a brief 20-30 minutes session on Miro at the beginning of the workshop, and then proceed with the workshop's flow.*
- *In case it's not possible for you to use such tools, you can adapt all the uses of Miro in the lesson with the use of Sticky notes and newsprint papers in a physical workshop.*
- *Delivering this workshop requires a certain level of content related knowledge from the facilitator's side. Please refer to the relevant resources under "**theme 3: Communicating and Sharing Digital Contents**" of the toolkit to learn the stuff you find unfamiliar in this guide.*

Tools used:

- Miro

Flow:

Topic	Objectives	Description
Energizer 15/15 mins	Get participants refreshed before jumping into the content Get participants thinking about falsehood in the online world	Introduce the facilitator and provide an overview of the workshop. To start on a fun note, start with an energizer that is linked to false information. This energizer is done individually but the reminder of the workshop involves group activities. Distribute participants into groups of four or five each before or after the energizer. Present screen and display the related slides, one by one, to the participants. *Facilitator note: Refer to this [activity sheet](#) to learn more about the energizer.* Once the energizer is done, ask participants to guess the key idea behind the activity. Get a few responses and share - false information is widespread over the internet and not so easy to identify. Relate it to the workshop's objective. Ask - What do you know about falsehood in the online world? *Facilitator notes: Get their responses before moving on to the next activity. The purpose of asking this question is to get them thinking about the topic and to gauze their familiarity with it.*
Compass points 20/35 mins	Get participants to think about the digital ecosystem that contributes to spread of misinformation Help participants understand how falsehood gets viral in a literal sense	Participants watch a video on disinformation and use the thinking routine **compass points** to analyze it in groups. Share the link to the video. Once participants have watched the video, present screen and show the Miro frame for the activity. Explain the structure of the thinking routine with a brief demo. Share the [Miro link](#) once they have understood the activity. Emphasize the following before they start the group work: ● Take ownership of all the ideas on the board ● Discuss the ideas with group members

		Facilitator notes: Read this [activity sheet](#) to learn about the activity in detail.
		Participants have 15 minutes for this activity.
Propagation of false information 15/55 mins	Get participants to think about how falsehood starts and propagates Participants get a basic understanding of how disinformation is born and circulated	Ask - How does false information travel in the online world? Get responses from participants and ask follow up questions to some interesting responses. Present screen and display the diagram below. Explain this diagram to the participants. Use the next 3 slides to give the example of Starbuck free coffee scam that was hatched in 4chan.
Ranking social media platforms	Get participants to think about social media	Participants analyze the vulnerability of media platforms to the spread of misinformation and rank them accordingly. Use Miro for this activity. Present screen and show the Miro

15/70 mins	platforms and their vulnerability to spreading disinformation

Get participants to reflect on their opinion of social ,media | frame for the activity. Explain the structure of the thinking routine with a brief demo. Share the Miro link once they have understood the activity.

Facilitator notes: Refer to this activity sheet to understand this activity in detail.

Participants have 10 minutes to do this activity.

Once they are done, present screen and display the work done by each. Ask questions to the groups whose work you find intriguing or confusing. |
| **Tackling misinformation**

10/80 mins | Get participants to reflect on ways to fight disinformation | Ask - How have you been tackling false information?

Discuss the ideas presented by participants. After the discussion present screen and talk about the ways below to tackle misinformation.

- Self-check points
- Refer to multiple credible sources
- Follow debunking organizations - factcheck, snopes, mysansar, altnews
- Reverse image search
- Monitor your filter bubbles, biases and echo chambers
- Report against misinformation on social media |
| **Reflection and closure**

10/90 mins | Get participants to recall the session

Get participants to see what they learnt | For reflection, ask participants to **share any two things they learnt** in the workshop.

After reflection, provide a closure to the workshop. Give the platform to any participant who wants to share their experiences. At the end, talk about how misinformation has become no less than an infectious disease in the digital world and understanding how a disease spreads is necessary to control its transmission. Encourage participants to continue educating themselves on digital literacy. |