

The Cybil Portal

The launch of **Cybil** – the cyber capacity building knowledge portal – in 2019 significantly enhanced the Global Forum on Cyber Expertise (GFCE) Community’s knowledge-sharing efforts by contributing a practical, global, and public knowledge tool for and by the international cyber capacity building (CCB) community. Cybil is a **central resource** which acts as a one-stop-shop for sharing CCB project information, best practices, tools and publications, and related events, whilst enabling stakeholders beyond the GFCE community to analyse, map, and coordinate CCB more effectively. It is a unique online **repository for international cyber capacity building** projects with information on over 800 actors, 850 cyber capacity projects, and 400 tools and resources.



By providing a centralized platform for knowledge-sharing and cooperation, Cybil has played a pivotal role in propelling the GFCE’s overarching ambition to further engage a global and multi-stakeholder network towards collaboration within capacity building. To that end, Cybil plays a key role in connecting the cyber capacity building community through knowledge exchange and mutual insight, and thus increases accessibility of information, contributing to a more transparent, peaceful and stable cyberspace.

We encourage Member States and stakeholders to consider Cybil Portal as an asset to be leveraged as one of the many pieces of the puzzle needed to strengthen global cyber resilience and expertise. We look forward to unlocking potential avenues for concrete and action-oriented collaboration that support the implementation of the Framework for responsible State behaviour.

Cybil Portal’s Added Value

Cybil is a **neutral, open platform** where governments, funders, researchers, potential beneficiaries of projects, and implementing agencies can find and share best practices and practical information to support the design and delivery of capacity building projects and activities. The Portal maps and fosters transparency on existing CCB activities, thereby facilitating research and coordination, enhancing project design, increasing best practice exchange, unlocking potential synergies, and identifying gaps. Content is categorized along themes prioritised and endorsed by the Community through the Delhi Communique in 2017. Supporting this global CCB community is the main target group of Cybil, with the goal of contributing to stronger and more effective capacity building. The portal provides easy access to practical knowledge and best practices in CCB, as depicted in the table below.

CYBIL PORTAL CATEGORY	What can you find?	What can you do?
Cyber capacity projects from around the world	Who is doing what and where, and who is funding it? A repository of over 850 past and present international cyber capacity building projects. This extends from national	- apply one or more filters such as geography, beneficiary group, actor type (beneficiary, funder, implementer or funder), status, GFCE themes and topics, date of update, and title (A-Z);

	<p>projects funded by external governments or organisations and implemented by one organisation, to multi-donor projects which cover a region or set of beneficiary countries.</p> <p>Project information is provided by the project owners and/or the beneficiaries or funders of activities, and/or is publicly available.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - export the repository in a single spreadsheet for project planning or research purposes; and - submit projects online with a single spreadsheet.
Resources to help develop your cyber capacity	<p>How is it done and what is best practice? A collection of resources to help design and deliver international CCB projects. These are submitted by members of the GFCE community and curated by the GFCE Working Groups and include resources such as toolkits, best practice guides, and online resources – all of which can help in the design and delivery of international CCB projects. Outputs of the GFCE Working Groups can also be found here.</p> <p>What was the outcome and what are lessons learnt? A library of papers, articles, and reports analysing cyber capacity building activities and providing lessons learnt, outcomes and research for and about international CCB. Also, outputs of the GFCE Working Groups can be found here.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - apply one or more filters such as GFCE themes and topics, actors, date of update and title (A- Z); - export the library in a single spreadsheet.
Actors and stakeholders to collaborate with	<p>Who is doing what in cyber capacity building? Profiles of governments, companies, regional and international organisations, and other actors involved in international CCB as beneficiaries, funders, implementers or analysts of CCB activity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - apply one or more filters such as GFCE themes and topics, geography, group membership, actors, date of update, and title (A- Z); - export the database in a single spreadsheet
Past and upcoming events around the world	<p>What has taken place and what is happening soon, and where? Conferences, meetings, workshops and other events organised by actors. Additionally, an events archive informs users on past</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - apply one or more filters such as GFCE themes and topics, geography, and date. - export the calendar in a single spreadsheet for planning your engagements.

Practical Examples of Use

▪ Stakeholder mapping for the Digital Access Programme – Trust & Resilience pillar

When a KPMG-led consortium began implementing the Digital Access Programme (Trust & Resilience Pillar) they started with stakeholder and project mapping in the five countries they were working with, using the Cybil Portal to assist them. They used Cybil for a first pass mapping and to help them produce the first draft of country information notes for internal briefing and planning. This mapping helps them identify other implementers with whom they went on to closely coordinate their work in ways that made their activities more efficient and avoided duplication.

▪ Case study: Information research for the Global Trends and Scenarios report

When the EU commissioned a report from EUISS on [Global Trends and Scenarios](#) in cyber capacity

building, the authors were able to use the information from the Portal to inform their analysis. The Portal contains the only database of project information that dates back to the start of field in the late 2000s. The Portal's export function has been designed to allow information to be downloaded in a format that assists data analysis and visualisation.

- **Case study: Cybil data used as an indicator for measuring 'National Cyber Power'**

In 2022, Harvard University's Belfer Centre for Science and International Affairs published the [National Cyber Power Index \(NCPI\)](#) based on several capacity objectives and measures. The Cybil Portal was used as a source to inform the scoring method with regards to a State's CCB and foreign projects.

Outreach & External Engagement

The GFCE values **neutral and open, publicly available information**. To ensure a consistent flow of data and content, the portal team engages stakeholders through targeted and proactive outreach, and seeks out information beyond what is publicly available via desk research. Once contact is established, tailored support is offered by the Cybil team to make quality information on CCB activities publicly available to the global community. Content is presented by consistent use of a uniform template that provides complete data about projects' aims, context, outcomes, outputs and activities, as well as additional photos and information if available.

Feedback to Improve User Experience

Cybil promotes a close connection with the capacity building community, dedicated to connecting the design and content of the Portal with the needs of said community. The Cybil Team has amended and developed features based on feedback from the network to ensure that **Cybil continues to best serve the needs of actors within CCB**. As such, current Cybil features were borne out of multi-stakeholder considerations and feedback over the years: an interactive world map to navigate by region and country, events archive with past events, a webinars section for video-format resources, bar chart of project data by year, addition of tags to quickly find data on trending topics (e.g. gender inclusivity), improved search filter functionality and advanced search functions, and making it easier to export data.

Cooperation and Partnerships

Cybil was developed in 2019 in close cooperation with GFCE Knowledge Partners such as the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI), DiploFoundation, the Forum of Incident Response and Security Teams (FIRST), Oxford's Global Cyber Security Capacity Centre (GCSCC), and the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI). Since then, support has been received from the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the World Bank Digital Development Program, and Germany's Federal Foreign Office towards the sustainment and enhancement of the Portal.

The Cybil team currently engages with, and is exploring opportunities to strengthen collaboration with other capacity building knowledge platforms, such as UNIDIR's Cyber Policy Portal, and EU Cybernet's CCB Projects Mapping table. Such collaboration ensures **coordination** and cross-checking information, avoiding duplication of efforts and enhancing accuracy of information.

Regional Engagement

Workings of the GFCE contribute to unique insight into projects conducted beyond the national level. Annual regional meetings and the activities of the regional hubs enable the Team to collect real-time information on activities conducted among regional partners. The GFCE is positioned within an extensive network of CCB actors and thus, is able to **pool knowledge from the community at local, regional, and global levels**. Consequently, regional and international coordination are enhanced as the Cybil repository and the CCB community continues to grow. During regional meetings, Cybil data is consistently used to present snapshots of capacity building activities, active donors and implementers, and to identify capacity building gaps.

Avenues for Future Collaboration

Leveraging Cybil within the OEWG would entail making use of existing resources and efforts to share information on CCB activities. It would mean leveraging existing resources and an extensive network of actors upon which further initiatives can be built upon. Cybil is uniquely positioned, as a neutral stakeholder, to **provide context on existing CCB activities** and therefore, support the implementation of norms on responsible State behaviour. Cybil is conducive, to that end, as it **increases transparency, stability, and trust between actors** to conduct confidence-building measures in good faith and based on complete information. Between developing national strategies to increasing public and private partnership, full and complete information on existing projects is an asset. The Portal therefore **fosters collaboration among diverse actors** and promotes the true value of multi-stakeholder engagement based on global, open and free access to knowledge.

Additional Statistics and Information

+4000
Visitors

Over 2022, the Cybil Portal received more than 4,000 unique visitors on average every month.

+100,000
Page Views

Cybil had a total of over 100,000 site unique visits from more than 180 countries worldwide.

135
Tools & Publications

Around 135 tools & publications were uploaded to the Portal over the last year, including guides, academic papers, reports and studies amongst other CCB related content.

40
New Projects

The Cybil Portal Team added more than 40 project pages with the new template, enhancing content quality and ensuring user-friendly information.


80+
Events

Over 80 CCB related events were uploaded to Cybil over the past year, such as international cyber conferences, webinars and regional events.