



2nd D4D Multi-Stakeholder Event
Brussels, 20 March 2019

EU DIGITAL4DEVELOPMENT APPROACH STATE OF PLAY

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D4D

Mainstreaming Digitalisation In Development Policy

CHALLENGES

- Limited connectivity/
persistence of digital divide
- Non-affordable broadband
subscriptions
- Protecting free flow of data
- Cybersecurity and privacy
- Lack of adequate regulatory
framework

OPPORTUNITIES

- Sustainable growth and job
creation
- Women empowerment
- Development of digital
governance/ addressing
migration issues
- Sustainable energy and climate
change resilience



DIGITAL FOR DEVELOPMENT (D4D)

The vision

"To maximise the uptake of digitalisation as a strong driver for economic growth in partner countries, contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, reducing the digital divide, providing access for all, with particular emphasis on women, youth and vulnerable groups and on their education"



D4D

Accelerate inclusive sustainable development in EU partner countries around the world,
with an immediate focus on Africa

4-priority Strategic Approach



CONNECTIVITY

- Digital infrastructure
- Regulatory framework
- Cyber resilience and Cybersecurity



DIGITAL SKILLS

- Integration of digital literacy and skills in National Education Systems



DIGITAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

- Women and Youth Empowerment
- Financial Inclusion



DIGITAL AS ENABLER

- e-governance
- Energy-Digital nexus
- e-agriculture
- e-health
- ...and in many other sectors



D4D

Strategic partnerships (1)

- **Multi- Stakeholder Forum**

- **D4D Coalition:** A consultative body for regular sectoral policy dialogues, which includes the private sector, civil society and national development agencies
- **Three Expert Group Workshops:**
 1. “ Digital Solutions for Smart Cities and Communities in Africa”,
 2. “Leave no one behind: Open affordable and secure broadband connectivity
 3. “The future of employment in Africa - opportunities and challenges of Digital technologies and Entrepreneurship” [Feb 2019]



D4D

Strategic partnerships (2)

- **New Africa Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs:** A deeper economic and trade relationship with Africa through investment and job creation. The EU will continue to support strategic developments in critical economic areas, such as digital economy.
- **EU- AU Digital Economy Task Force (DETF),** a partnership among European and African stakeholders, to provide policy recommendations:
 - to contribute to the digital transformation of Africa's economy and society
 - to identify ways to boost public and private investment in the field of digitalization.



Strategic Partnerships (3)

EU-AU Digital Economy Task Force (EU-AU DETF)

- **Sherpa Online Work:** 4 interactive webinars on Connectivity, eSkills, eServices and Entrepreneurship to build the framework of the report [January-March 2019]
- **2nd Sherpa meeting Brussels:** Adoption of Sherpa work on the Report [March 2019]. Open consultation will follow.
- **Smart Africa Meeting in Kigali:** Finalization of the Report [May 2019]
- **Digital Assembly Bucharest:** Presenting the Report to the EU [June 2019]
- **Presentation of the Report to African Members:** [Date and location tbc]



D4D Implementation (1)

EU Financial support for digital projects: a few examples

CONNECTIVITY

- The **Multinational Trans-Saharan Backbone (TSB) Optical Fibre Project**, laying optical fiber cables to interconnect Algeria, Niger, Nigeria and Chad (EU contribution EUR 29 million)
- The **Central Africa Backbone – Central African Republic (CAR) Terrestrial Fibre ICT backbone** to reinstall terrestrial fibre links that interconnect the countries of the Central African region (EU contribution EUR 17.5 million)
- The **Policy and Regulation Initiative for Digital Africa (PRIDA)** project, aiming to foster universally accessible and affordable broadband (EUR 8 million)
- The **Cyber Resilience for Development**, aiming to increase the security and resilience of critical information infrastructure and networks (EUR 11 million)



D4D Implementation (2)

EU Financial support for digital projects: a few examples

DIGITAL AS ENABLER

- **e-Energy:** Action to support investments in the energy-digital nexus for the identification and support of financially sustainable business models for financial inclusion, job creation and growth (EUR 26 million allocated)
- **Digital finance:** “Digifi” support to financial inclusion in ACP through the promotion of inclusive and responsible Digital Financial Services (DFS)" programme (EU contribution EUR 25 million)
- **e-Governance:** 4 projects on civil registration (Mali, Cameroun, Sénégal, Sierra Leone) and projects on electoral assistance (Zimbabwe, Liberia, Zambia, Nigeria), all of them with digital components
- **e-Education:** Africa Connect3, to enhance human capital development in Africa (EU contribution EUR 30 million)



D4D implementation (3)

A growing financial support through innovative financial tools (EIP)

A guarantee scheme of the new European External Investment Plan (EIP) to encourage private investments by lowering the risk of investing with the use of public money. Four programmes already endorsed:

- **Digital European Health Guarantee Platform:** EIB/Gates Foundation - up to EUR 80 million; Focus on strengthening diagnostic services .
- **Digital Transformation Platform:** EIB and EBRD – up to EUR 70 million; Focus on investing in the infrastructure needed to provide affordable high-speed broadband in EU Neighborhood
- **FMO - Ventures Programme:** up to EUR 45 million. Innovative start-ups using digital as enabler
- **SIFA – Social Impact Fund for Africa:** AfDB - up to EUR 25 million. – Focus on MSME growth through social entrepreneurship and digital innovation.



D4D

The Way Forward

- Use the main recommendations of the TF and D4D coalition to give new impetus to the implementation of the D4D.
- Systematic mainstreaming of D4D in EU development cooperation
- Prepare the future guarantee scheme offered by the EFSD+ to de-risk private sector investments, aiming to foster economic growth and generate quality jobs.
- Strengthening the EU dialogue with International Financing Institutions, the European industry and other stakeholders.
- Use of Policy Dialogue and Technical Assistance to support partner countries to address reforms in the regulatory framework and prepare bankable projects.



Thank you
for your attention!