

DiGIT4SD Toolkit FACTSHEET

PURPOSE

DIGIT4SD (Digital Government Implementation Toolkit) is an implementation toolkit designed to help countries, especially those in special situations, including the least development countries (LDCs), small island developing states (SIDS), and landlocked developing countries (LLDCs), to develop and implement digital government initiatives/strategies in supporting implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets.



BACKGROUND

The current digital revolution, with its pervasive scale, spread and speed of change, could be considered as the greatest single enabler, accelerator and multiplier of sustainable development. The [2030 Agenda](#) for Sustainable Development has embraced the spread of information communication technologies (ICTs) for their potential to accelerate human progress, to bridge divides and to develop knowledge societies.

However, countries in special situations like LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs face geopolitical realities and socio-economic dependencies, along with prevalent development challenges such as the scarcity of resources, spatial segregation, capacity gaps and barriers to major markets.

Given their characteristics, it is critical that LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs have the technical know-how to take advantage of the opportunity to leverage digital government to support the implementation of the SDGs and its Targets. In addition to the need for knowledge transfer through development assistance and smart investments in ICT infrastructure, there is also a need to build capacities for the effective use of digital government to bring about substantial returns on investment supporting the sustainable development agenda. Under the right conditions, such efforts will in turn deliver multiple benefits such as better access to essential services, including for the poorest and most disadvantaged groups. It can create savings by streamlining and simplifying government processes as well as enhance accountability and transparency.

ABOUT THE TOOLKIT

DIGIT4SD is a toolkit designed to build and strengthen institutional capacity for planning, implementing and evaluating digital government initiatives in SDG implementation, through data-informed evidence-based approaches. It draws on project experience gained through the implementation of DA1617B. It also offers a spectrum of best practices of digital government initiatives globally by including case studies.

The toolkit includes various modules that will help targeted countries to develop digital government initiatives in supporting selected SDGs or targets. It also builds on the findings, policy options and recommendations in past editions of the UN E-Government Survey. Due to the all-encompassing character of the toolkit, it may be used by individuals as a self-learning tool and in classroom settings. It is possible for the user to take all modules and courses but also to only go through those that are selected by the personal preferences of the user.

- **Module 1** provides a general background on why and how the implementation toolkit is developed, why digital governance is important and how it can help to reach SDGs and its targets.
- **Module 2** offers a general overview of the sustainable development agenda and how digital governance is linked to the SDGs. Apart from general digital government concepts, the e-government survey is also explained. Furthermore, the module includes information on the relevance of data and how we can strive towards e-participation and digital inclusion.
- **Module 3** focuses on methods to identify target and priority areas and how they can be aligned to the sustainable development agenda. It also covers data, policy and implementation gaps and why it is necessary to identify them.
- **Module 4** is concerned with the implementation phase of ICTs. It includes the explanation and best practices on the use of the implementation canvas. The canvas serves, among others, as a snapshot on the current state of play and provides a proper overview on what aspects still need further attention.
- **Module 5** includes measures for monitoring and reviewing both in the planning as well as the implementation phase. It covers tracking methods for measuring the implementation of the policies or activities and evaluation and audit methods for SDG implementation.
- **Module 6** includes various case studies on best practices of countries, both on LDCs as well as more developed countries, that have used ICTs in order to enhance the SDG targets.

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

The Workshop aims to bring together mid-level to senior government officials and practitioners from country groups (LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs) to build individual and institutional capacities learned through the DIGIT4SD toolkit and share and discuss contextual perspectives on how digital government practices can fully capitalize on the promises of digital technologies in supporting sustainable development.



The goal of strengthening the capacity of an institution is to improve administrative and management functions, to increase the effectiveness of service provision, to enhance the organization's structure and culture, and to further its sustainability and performance. Institutional strengthening in digital government will lead to results, such as specific digital government implementation in supporting specific SDGs and/or sectors.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Build individual capacity and improve institutional capacity in countries to
 - Collect, analyse and use digital government data and related sectoral data;
 - Implement evidence-based government policies and strategies, in support of selected SDGs and Targets;
- Offer knowledge exchange and best practices to both improve existing projects as well as trigger new initiatives.