

Submission to the Global Digital Compact

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Rapid digital transformation is changing the context of development, representing an opportunity to accelerate progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

UNDP has focused on effectively harnessing the power of digital technologies to address multidimensional poverty, supporting 500 million to gain access to clean energy and 800 million to participate in elections, while promoting over \$1 trillion of public and private investments in the SDGs. We do this through our programmes to partner with countries in creating thriving and well-governed digital and data economies supporting inclusive digital societies focused on widespread adoption of responsible technology practices and standards: inclusion, privacy, security, transparency, and good governance. Our inclusive approach is guided by our commitment to leave no one behind, and promote gender equality. Demand for UNDP services has increased significantly in the last three years, UNDP has supported more than 250 digital solutions and platforms across 100 countries.

The Global Digital Compact is an opportunity to put forward a series of underlying principles that should guide everyone – member states, the UN system, tech companies, civil society and stakeholders, about the future direction of digital technology in relation to people and planet.

Drawing on our local presence in over 170 countries, including in crisis and fragile settings, and in the least connected parts of the world; our deep relationships with local digital ecosystems; and our built-up global and local capacity for digital transformation, including through our Digital Advocates Network across all programming countries and Accelerator Labs in 91 locations supporting 115 countries; UNDP has the honour to propose the following elements for inclusion in the Global Digital Compact.

- x This is a moment of global inflection. Although countries around the world urgently want to

- x We must invest in a massive upscaling of digital capacity building, from basic skills to policy and governance of digitalization. We must accelerate support to significantly strengthen public sector capabilities to make sense of and steer the direction of digital transformation, whilst also developing stronger public-private partnerships to drive inclusive digital transformation.
- x At the national level, the onus lies with the highest leadership levels, to empower digital ministries and other accountable institutions (e.g. national digital agencies) to strengthen and innovate on governance arrangements, in the face of new technologies that require a whole-of-society approach.
- x A multi-stakeholder approach is essential, and we must strengthen partnerships and coordination mechanisms between government agencies, civil society organizations and private sector entities to ensure progress towards digitalization efforts, bringing together all capabilities and resources as needed. This will also ensure that efforts are not being duplicated.
- x It is critical to engage with and have open and constructive dialogue with the private sector – particularly with big tech firms and Telcos

- x UNDP Governance Strategy
<https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/2022-07/GGP%20brochure%2016May.pdf>
- x DigitalX Innovation Solutions catalogue [Digital X innovation solutions catalogue](#)
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- x UNDP Rising Up for SIDS data platform The data and metadata from more than 20 publicly available statistical databases and research studies have been compiled and standardized into a comprehensive data product. We have strived to curate the data in order to feature reliable, accurate and comprehensive information across the many sectors of development most relevant to SIDS. The data can be sorted by dataset, category, and subcategory, and then visualized as a choropleth map, a global view, bar chart, and time series.
<https://data.undp.org/sids/portfolio>

- x Digital Inclusion Navigator The Navigator is a one-stop shop of curated, high-quality information, realworld case studies, leading best practices, and other evidence-based content from trusted sources developed together with UNDP, WEF and BCG
<https://www.edisonalliance.org/navigator>