

Introduction to the Dimensions of Digitalisation

Module 2.1: Digitalisation & Development Cooperation

Agenda

Module 2.1: Digitalisation & Development Cooperation

- Initiatives & Strategies in DevCo
- Frameworks & Principles
- Tech4Good projects
- The private sector as "developer"

Digital Transformation affects all parts of our lives

- *It is also referred to as „**Revolution**”*
- *affecting all areas of life and businesses*
- *This also changes work and stakeholders of Development Cooperation*



CONSUMPTION



LIFE



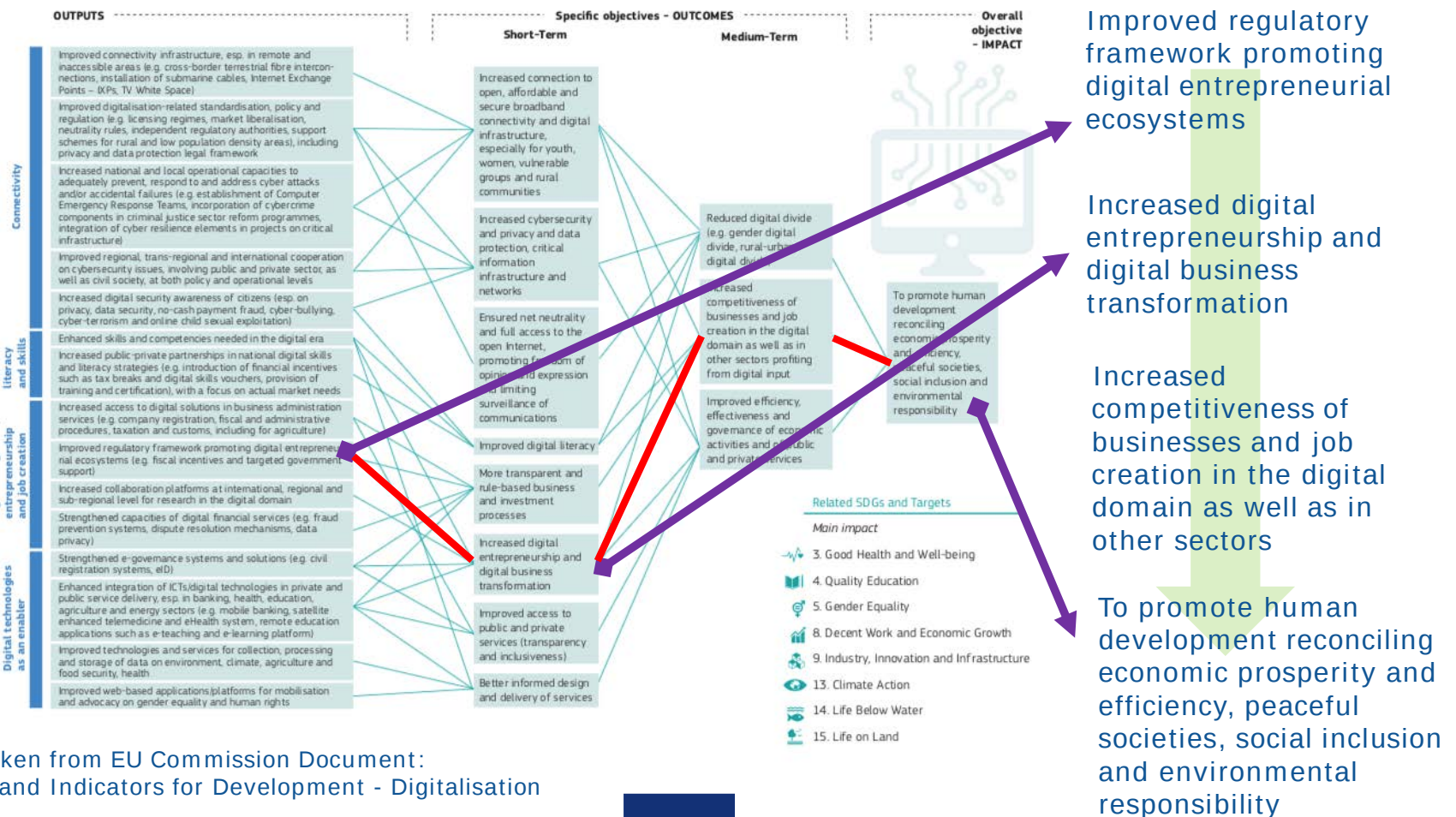
WORK

PRODUCTION



Digitalisation & DG DEVCO

EU Results and Indicators for Development guidance for actions design



Initiatives & Strategies

DG DEVCO is getting structured on digital topics as we speak

- Most Development Cooperation actors have developed specific digital strategies
- Common vision: Promotion of inclusive and sustainable economic growth through digital development
- Wide variety of instruments to achieve aims in the field of digital for development
- Cooperations through donor alliances including private sector-based actors and multi-stakeholder approaches are quite common



Frameworks & Principles

ICT plays a role in the achievement of all of the
SDGs

ICT is only named in the SDGs 4x explicitly

4.A.1 Proportion of schools with access to the Internet for pedagogical purposes



5.B.1 Proportion of individuals who own a mobile telephone, by sex

9.C Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020.



8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors.

...but play a significant role for all goals



Frameworks & Principles

The Principles for Digital Development can help to ask the right questions

- The **Principles for Digital Development** provide straightforward, intuitive guidance on how to choose and use appropriate technology to promote development objectives



Example: Failed Tech

OLPC: One Laptop Per Child



Actual production costs were more than 200\$



No connection ports for local classrooms



Limited assistance with software issues



Lack of existing infrastructure including power supply and broadband connection



Ignored local contexts and broke the **cardinal rule** of program design by **not focusing first on the end users** of the laptops.



Example: Tech4Good

Life Saving Delivery by Drone (Zipline+Government of Rwanda)



Example: DG DEVCO

Digital approaches are already part of the
DG DEVCO portfolio

Africa Connect: Support of the creation, development and use of regional education and research communication networks.



Policy and Regulation Initiative for Digital Africa (PRIDA): Aims to foster universally accessible and affordable broadband across the continent by facilitating efficient and harmonised spectrum utilisation.



Cyber Resilience for Development: Aims to increase the security and resilience of critical information infrastructure and networks supporting the adoption and implementation of a comprehensive set of policy, organisational, and technical measures that will increase their cybersecurity and preparedness.



The Multinational Trans-Saharan Backbone (TSB) Optical Fiber Project will lay optical fiber cables to interconnect Algeria, Niger, Nigeria and Chad



The private sector as developer

New players from the private sector are engaging in developmental issues



Facebook

- Diverse initiatives to connect the unconnected with projects like
- Freebasics: Facebook App + slimmed-down versions of other services (BBC)
- Aquila solar-powered drone, which will be able to beam bandwidth down to users in remote areas

Google

- Supports the growth of start-up communities around the globe by providing them with technical training, mentoring, business tools and financial sponsorship
- Products and projects include Google Earth Engine, Google AI Impact Challenge, Google SOS Alerts



10 min

Discussion

Will digital businesses spur development globally?

Numerous new players from the private sector such as large IT companies are engaging in developmental issues.

What are the chances and risks of their engagement?

Discuss considering the following aspects:

Privacy vs. Use of data

Market distortion vs. Innovation

Business expansion vs. Social impact

