

Digital Solutions for Sustainable Development (DSSD)

The Challenge

The increasing use of information and communication technologies (ICT) are prerequisites for Rwanda's ambition to move from subsistence to a knowledge and service-oriented society by 2020. On the one hand, there is a need to improve the framework, primarily by strengthening the institutional and human resources capacities of the responsible key institutions (the Ministry of ICT and Innovation and its Implementation Agency RISA), and, on the other hand, digitally through the Center for Digital Transformation in developing solutions and promoting their implementation and dissemination. To support this, the new project 'Digital Solutions for Sustainable Development' (DSSD) will advise Rwandan institutions on the implementation of the Smart Rwanda Master Plan (2016-2020) and its priority projects.

Project name	Digital Solutions for Sustainable Development (DSSD)
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Project region	Rwanda
Lead executing agency	GIZ
Duration	07/2017 - 12/2020

Our Approach

Digital solutions are developed in collaboration with the international private sector, research institutions and civil society and are supported and managed by the Center for Digital Transformation as a project unit of DSSD. Sector ministries are financially supported in the implementation of the developed solutions. In addition, in cooperation with African organizations and networks (e.g. Smart Africa Secretariat, SDG Center for Africa), the scaling of developed

digital solutions in other African countries is taking place. Another core service of the Center for Digital Transformation is the bridge function between German and European companies or research institutions and potential Rwandan partners.

OBJECTIVE: Rwanda's capacities and systems to adopt a leading role in the implementation of SDG relevant smart solutions for Africa are strengthened.

A: INSTITUTIONAL AND HUMAN CAPACITY



✓ **A1:** Improvement of the HR and institutional capacities and RISA

✓ **A2:** Studies and advice in new technologies and gender dimension

✓ **A3:** Support the development of ICI sector strategies to line ministries

B: CENTER FOR DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN AFRICA



✓ **B1:** Development of 14 SDG-relevant digital solutions through the Center, 8 by sectoral ministries, 6 based on a public competition

✓ **B2:** Upscaling of the digital solutions to other African countries

✓ **B3:** Public private partnership with German and European companies

Structures and capacities for the development, implementation and dissemination of digital solutions for Rwanda and Africa related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are established in Rwanda.





Contact person:

Olaf Seidel
Program Director
Digital Solutions for
Sustainable Development
olaf.seidel@giz.de

A: INSTITUTIONAL AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

The institutional and capacity development is supported through:

- Organizational development and business process optimization in MINICT and RISA
- Expert advice to inform policies, i.e. emerging tech
- Building capacity to support development and implementation of line ministries' ICT strategies
- Capacity development: training-on-the-job, mentorship, study visits

B: CENTER FOR DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

The Center for Digital Transformation will be a hybrid model aimed at:

- Developing impact driven digital solutions
- Playing the role of test bed and launch pad for German and European companies
- Applying human centered design method
- Developing local eco-system capacities
- Replicating and scaling-up digital solutions at regional and continental level

A Digital Transformation Fund will be setup involving a Community Challenge & Project Implementation.

Our Impact

The digital technologies developed with the help of the Center for Digital Transformation contribute to the accelerated implementation of the SDGs in Rwanda and Africa: They will focus on Ending Poverty (#1), Gender Equality (#5), Decent Work and Economic Growth (#8), Reduction of Inequality (#10), as well as Peaceful and Inclusive Societies (#16). Developed solutions will have the following impacts:

- Local communities benefit from smart solutions, through inclusion and do-no-harm approach
- Solutions are build with the existing Digital eco-system
- Solutions are sustainable and scalable
- A special emphasis is put on including women and youth

By building on digital skills in the sector ministries as well as developing and implementing ICT sector strategies (for the implementation of the Smart Rwanda Master Plan), the project contributes to the establishment of digital transformation in other sectors.

Main Partners and Steering Structure

DSSD's main partners are the Ministry of ICT and Innovation (MINICT) and RISA. Partnerships with the Smart Africa Secretariat will ease continental upscaling and with the ICT chamber the active involvement of the private sector.



Republic of Rwanda
Ministry of Information Technology
and Communications



DSSD PROGRAM STEERING COMMITTEE

Decision making and strategic orientation body
MINICT, RISA, NIRDA, ICT Chamber, Smart Africa, GIZ

DSSD PROGRAM TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Monitoring, technical Committee
MINICT, RISA, NIRDA, RDB, Smart Africa, ICT Chamber, GIZ

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DSSD Program
41 KN St 17
P.O. Box 59 Kigali Rwanda
T +250 252 573 57
F +250 252 572 439
E giz-ruanda@giz.de
I www.giz.de/rwanda

Author Florent Lasry

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Address	BMZ Bonn Dahlmannstraße 4 53113 Bonn P +49 (0) 228 99 535 - 0 F +49 (0) 228 99 535 - 3500	BMZ Berlin Stresemannstraße 94 10963 Berlin P +49 (0) 30 18 535 - 0 F +49 (0) 30 18 535 - 2501
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poststelle@bmz.bund.de
www.bmz.de