**DIGITAL
TRANSFORMATION
CENTER** KIGALI

DIGITAL SOLUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (DSSD) PROGRAM

DSSD PROGRAM

PROGRESS REPORT
OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2019

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Republic of Rwanda
Ministry of ICT
and Innovation

german
cooperation
DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

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INTRODUCTION

The program 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. The project aims at promoting the development of digital solutions in collaboration with sector ministries, local and international private companies, research institutions and civil society.

The DigiCenter is a space dedicated at delivering impact driven digital solutions, developing the capacities of the local innovation ecosystem, and replicating / scaling-up digital solutions at regional and continental level.

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PROGRESS PER OUTPUT DURING THE PERIOD

2.1:
HUMAN RESOURCE AND INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2.1.A:
INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT TO RISA

MIDTERM REVIEW OF THE ICT STRATEGY IN EDUCATION

The mid-term review of ICT in Education strategy seeks to assess the progress of implementation, efficiency and effectiveness of the different interventions as well as performance of the policy against the set objectives in order to keep the same framework or change the strategy if need be.
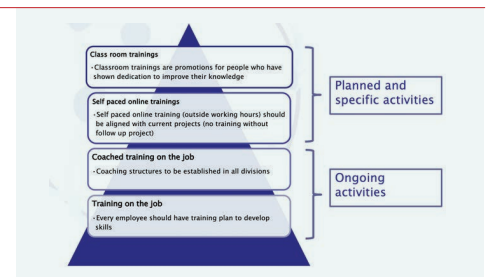

This quarter a review of draft report by key stakeholders was conducted.

COACHING PROGRAM FOR RISA

The project aims at transferring skills through providing comprehensive technical expertise in different IT domains. Experts are providing hands-on skills by working on assigned projects and mentor the relevant technical professionals from RISA. Currently we are running 5 coaching programs in;

• Enterprise Architecture: 10 trainees are being coached from November 2019 to May 2020.
• Project Management: 10 trainees are being coached from September 2019 to March 2020.
• TYPO3: 10 trainees are being coached from October 2019 to March 2020.
• Software integration 7 trainees are being coached from November 2019 to April 2020.
• Networking: 7 trainees are being coached from November 2019 to April 2020.

2.1.A1:
CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

CODE + DESIGN BOOTCAMP

Code+Design Camp is an educational methodology that aims at getting participants with little or no prior programming experience interested in coding. A Camp is a 3.5-day event in which participants develop ideas for mobile applications and implement them in teams of 3-5 persons. At the end of the event

each team has a working application that they can test on a smartphone. The second Code+Design Camp in Kigali was conducted at the DigiCenter in November. In total we had 126 Participants from 5 universities across the country and they have already started follow-up meetups in which they continue to learn programming.

2.1.A2
TECHNICAL ADVISES AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT

ICT 4 GOVERNANCE CLUSTER STRATEGY 2020-2024

The ICT for Governance Cluster Strategy 2020-2024 complements and reinforces the implementation of national priorities set out in the National Strategy for Transformation (NST1) 2017 – 2024, in the Smart Rwanda 2020 Master Plan, ICT Sector Strategic Plan 2018-2024, in the National Digital Talent

Policy and future oriented Rwanda's Vision 2035 and 2050.
Jointly with the PS MINALOC, RISA and Governance Cluster Technical Committee, the ICT4GOV Strategy 2020-2024 was validated. The Strategy is now undergoing inter-ministerial/ institutional consultations with MINICT and MINECOFIN.
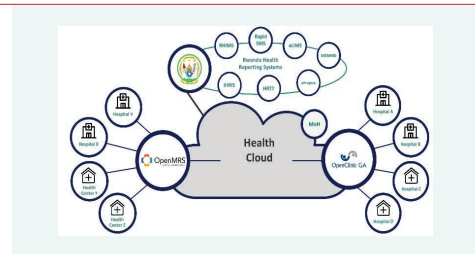
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2.2:
DIGITAL SOLUTIONS DEVELOPMENT

2.2.B:
DEVELOPMENT OF 14 DIGITAL SOLUTIONS

BLOOD MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

The project is intended to design a solution to digitize the blood management value chain under Ministry of Health to track, label and improve blood management and sourcing in the value chain.

A consultant 1000 Hill Solutions LTD was contracted to map all business process and thereby design a technical specification document on how the system is going to function.

VIRTUAL LABS IN EDUCATION

Winning teams teamed up to design and implement visual software for lab simulations that can be utilized across a variety of science courses, in secondary schools.

DIGITAL ECOSYSTEM MAPPING (DEM) TOOL (INNOVATE RWANDA)

The need for a digital platform that allows and fosters collaboration among tech start-ups in Rwanda and innovators as well as tech enablers led to the creation of Innovate Rwanda.

This platform is the cornerstone of working together, a directory of tech start-ups, ESOs, funders, investors, and mentors. To learn more Visit: www.innovaterwanda.rw

INNOVATE FOR WOMEN COMPETITION

Innovate for women competition closed on 3rd October 2019 after a week-long bootcamp for the contestants to polish their solutions. Participants were required to design innovative solutions for empowering women.

The 3 solutions that were awarded are:
• Blind Stick for the visually impaired.
• NUTRI: Access to nutrition content by students.
• A platform to promote financial inclusion by providing access to information to camp-based women refugees.
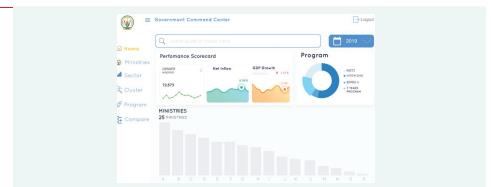

SMART IRRIGATION

Smart Irrigation consists of an IoT system to gather and analyse real-time data of soil parameters like soil moisture and soil temperature from the farm. It also enables efficient irrigation and provides a viable option for resilience and sustainable Agriculture.
The contract was signed with the consultant and implementation Phase started in December 2019.

GOVERNMENT COMMAND CENTRE

The Government Command Centre that monitors SDG indicators went live this quarter. Currently the team is working on data migration and training of RISA staff.

2.2.B1:

PRESENTATION OF DIGITAL SOLUTIONS AT CONTINENTAL LEVEL

WEB SUMMIT

In order to promote Rwandan based start-ups, DSSD program sponsored three local start-ups to showcase and exhibit their products on a global scale at the web summit in Portugal from the 3rd to 8th Nov 2019.

The three local start-ups are;
• Awesomity ltd
• Uplus Mutual Partners
• Olado Business group ltd

VISIT TO CODE UNIVERSITY IN GERMANY

DSSD sponsored a study trip to Berlin for 3 staff of Rwanda Coding Academy with the main aim being to visit the Code university of applied sciences in Berlin where they spent about a week. During their trip, the 3 participants were exposed to how students are being taught how to code in three of the coding institutions in Berlin; Code University, Kiron university and Le Wagon (an IT bootcamp with a specialized program).

STUDY TOUR ISRAEL

Together with MINICT and the embassy of Israel in Rwanda, DSSD organised a study trip for the Rwandan delegation working on innovation and ICT to visit Israel from 16th to 24th November 2019.
The 23 participants included a mix of the private sector, government, and start-ups.

The institutions visited include:
• Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Mashav
• Israel Innovation Authority
• Made in JLM (Jerusalem's Start-up & Tech Community)
• Hebrew University of Entrepreneurship
• Start-up Nation Central
• E-Health Ventures Incubator
• Volcani Agricultural Centre
• Start-up Mingle Rise
• Adelson School for Entrepreneurship
• Kinneret Innovation Centre

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COMMUNITY AND EVENTS

Innovate4Women Award ceremony
Awarding the winners of the Innovate4Women Design challenge. The minister was present and awarded three of our winners; Digital Blind Stick, Nutri, My health.

Panel event with Moringa on 'Buying vs. Building tech solutions in Rwanda' which brought together 25 people in the ICT Community for a fruitful discussion on homegrown solutions.

Panel discussion on 'Commons in the Digital Economy
event was open to the public and brought together 30 people from the ICT Community. The panel included one of our teams' CEO; Audace Niyonkuru of Digital Umuganda.

FAIR FORWARD – Artificial Intelligence for All planning workshop
Lea Gimpel, Senior Advisor on Digital Transformation, GIZ Germany was here and with our help was able to meet with a couple of partner institutions of ours to discuss AI.

AR/VR meet-up – 2nd meet-up of the year with a growing community that is learning and teaching each other about AR/VR. 20 in attendance.

Blockchain meet-up
The community is growing and committed. This meet-up brought together 45 people.

YouthConnekt UNDP Side event HP Life Program Training of Trainers
YouthConnekt side event which we were happy to host in the space.

IoT Meet-up
First IoT meet-up to be hosted in the space which brought together 26 people from the community of practice.

AR/VR Meet-up
3rd AR/VR meet-up 3 brought even more people than the last one. The community is growing and getting more committed to meeting up.

Google launchpad event
Google's Launchpad Accelerator Africa was in Kigali for a one-week bootcamp and utilized our space for an ecosystem mixer event which brought together over 80 people in the tech community.

Future of the internet 'Global Citizens' Debate'
In partnership with Impact Hub Kigali, we supported with the Global Citizens' Debate which gathered 100 Rwandans from different walks of life discussing the future of the internet and their access to the internet.

PSF Ecosystem workshop
SHAKA AI Launch
Shaka AI, a new IT company with a focus on Artificial Intelligence had their launch here bringing together people from the ICT ecosystem including both private and public sector.

Borderless Trade' panel event PSF Panel event hosted in collaboration with PSF.
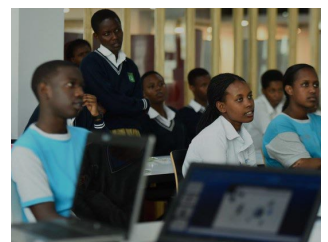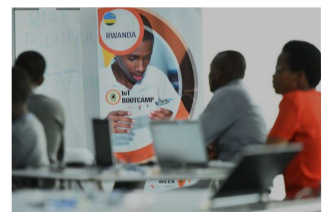
Science & Cocktails event
To mark the end of NEF Science week, The Digicenter hosted over 80 people for a science and cocktails evening mixer to bring together scientists and other people in STEM to network.

BAG Innovation Pitching event
BAG Innovation organized an event for 10 graduates to pitch and later network to/with employers.

KIC & ICT Chamber joint launch ceremony
Launch of innovate.rw & certificate IT made in RW. The event was a success and attended by over 80 people.

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