Accelerating Action through Digital Technologies: Strengthening Digital Skills and Capacities for Human Wellbeing

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July 8, 2020
OUTLINE

- Overview of Ghana Digital Economy
- Digital capacities and skills critical to development
- Assessment of national digital skills needs to better target policies
- Outlook of future job market and how to equip young people with the required digital skills demanded by the industry
GHANA’S DIGITAL ECONOMY

✓ Ghana’s Digital economy has reached a relatively advanced level of development in Sub-Saharan Africa

✓ On going Digitization in all sectors of the National Economy – Health Service Delivery, Passport Services, Birth and Death Registry, Digital Property Addressing System, National Information Contact Centre, Emergency Call Centre etc

✓ Notwithstanding these developments – Huge Digital Skills Gap driven by both the latent economic growth and ongoing digitization still exist.
Why are Digital Capacities and Skills Critical to Development?

• To fully achieve the Digital Transformation/Digitization in Ghana and across Sub-Saharan Africa – Government institutions and local economic development

• To bridge the digital gap between the served and un-served communities – Universal Access and Service
How can Countries Assess National Digital Skills Needs to Better Target Policies?

- Conduct of National Survey/Assessment

Example

- A study has been commissioned into **ICT Use among Small and Medium-Sized Business (SMEs)** by GIFEC

**Objective**

- Examine the extent of use of ICTs and identify the digital skills set gap among SME operators
What are Successful Examples of Policies, Programmes and Platforms to Strengthen Digital Skills at National Level?

- Ghana’s ICT policy
  - ICT for Accelerated development
- GIFEC’s 5-Year strategic plan
  - ICT Skills for Entrepreneurial and Women Empowerment Programme
  - Coding for Kids
  - Community ICT Centre expansion
  - Schools connectivity and provision of access devices
  - Train the Trainer
Women Empowerment Training
What Does the Future Job Market Look Like and How Can We Ensure Young People Have the Required Digital Skills Demanded by the Industry?

• Tomorrow’s job market would be highly digitized and transformational and require life long learning

• AI, Big Data

**How to ensure young people have the required digital skills**

• Policies to provide equal opportunities for all
• Public access to facilitate teaching and learning - CICs
• Access and devices for all persons especially persons with disabilities and the vulnerable
THANK YOU!!!