UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY



DIGITAL TANZANIA PROJECT (P-160766)

CONCEPT NOTE

ON PROPOSED STUDY TOUR FOR EXPERIENCE SHARING AND BENCHMARKING ON VARIOUS DIGITAL RELATED INITIATIVES IN ESTONIA

1. INTRODUCTION

The Digital Tanzania Project (DTP) is a government initiative aimed at fostering digital transformation in Tanzania to enhance economic growth, job creation, service delivery, and government efficiency. Launched in September 2021 under the Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology (MICIT) in collaboration with the Presidents' Office Public Service Management and Good Governance (POPSMGG), DTP has developed the Digital Economy Strategic Framework (DESF) 2024 and the National ICT Policy 2024. These frameworks aim to transition Tanzania into a competitive digital economy. The project focuses on three key areas: sustainable digital infrastructure development, digital skills development, and job creation and digital innovation. A significant part of the initiative includes benchmarking trips, such as the proposed visit to Estonia, to learn from global best practices."

Through Digital skills development, study tours and benchmarking trips to other countries has been given special focus. With this intended purpose, it is recommended that DTP project teams and beneficiaries be exposed to benchmark on best-practice projects/initiatives in various countries, so as to learn and share experience, skills and knowledge for implementation of similar initiatives in Tanzania. Benchmarking experiences will equip project teams to redesign and expand scope of DTP project implementations or other projects that can be implemented in respective institutions. In this regard, the Government through the DTP, intends to send sixteen (16) officials from different Government institutions involved in the implementation of DTP, for a benchmarking tour to Estonia. Estonia has been earmarked for this visit as the Estonian government has succeeded to mitigate the digital divide especially in diversified groups through special programmes/initiatives and therefore fits the purpose for the visit.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE BENCHMARKING

Main objective for DTP benchmarking is to learn and gain experience on policy, legislative, institutional frameworks and service model as well as its operationalization strategy from Estonia.

Specific objectives of the study-tour include the following:

- i. Learn, among other things, on digital access for vulnerable groups;
- ii. Enhance digital skills development and innovation among different groups;
- iii. Promote trustworthy use of digital technology;
- iv. Support women in technical roles and promoting open and ethical innovation;
- v. Encourage universal access to affordable communication services; and
- vi. Gain insights on digital inclusiveness survey including its metrics (Key Performance Indicators KPI's).

3. EXPECTED OUTCOMES/ KEY RESULT AREAS

- a) Identification of Digital Solutions and Best Practices: Identify areas of digital solutions, innovation, emerging technologies, policy and legal frameworks and best practices for implementation of various initiatives that also take into account diversity inclusion;
- b) Learning from Experiences: Understand and learn from Estonia experience on various initiatives to build digital skills to support growth, sustainability of digital enabled solutions and innovations for socio-economic development;
- Partnership Development: Develop partnerships and collaborations focusing on implementing various aspects of digital transformation with an emphasis on digital inclusivity; and
- d) Facilitate Networking Opportunities: Facilitate networking opportunities to stay abreast of emerging trends and future developments in the field of digital transformation.

4. BENEFICIERIES INSTITUTIONS

The benchmarking tour is targeted for DTP project implementers and beneficiaries; and other relevant Public Institutions that have critical roles in the implementation of the Digital Transformation Agenda. The list of participants, position and their respective institutions is attached.

5. CONCLUSION

It is the Government of Tanzania's belief that effective and timely conclusion of the tours will positively contribute to successful execution of DTP components. The experiences, good practices and cases that will be learnt will spearhead competent Project Management, effective and continuous monitoring.