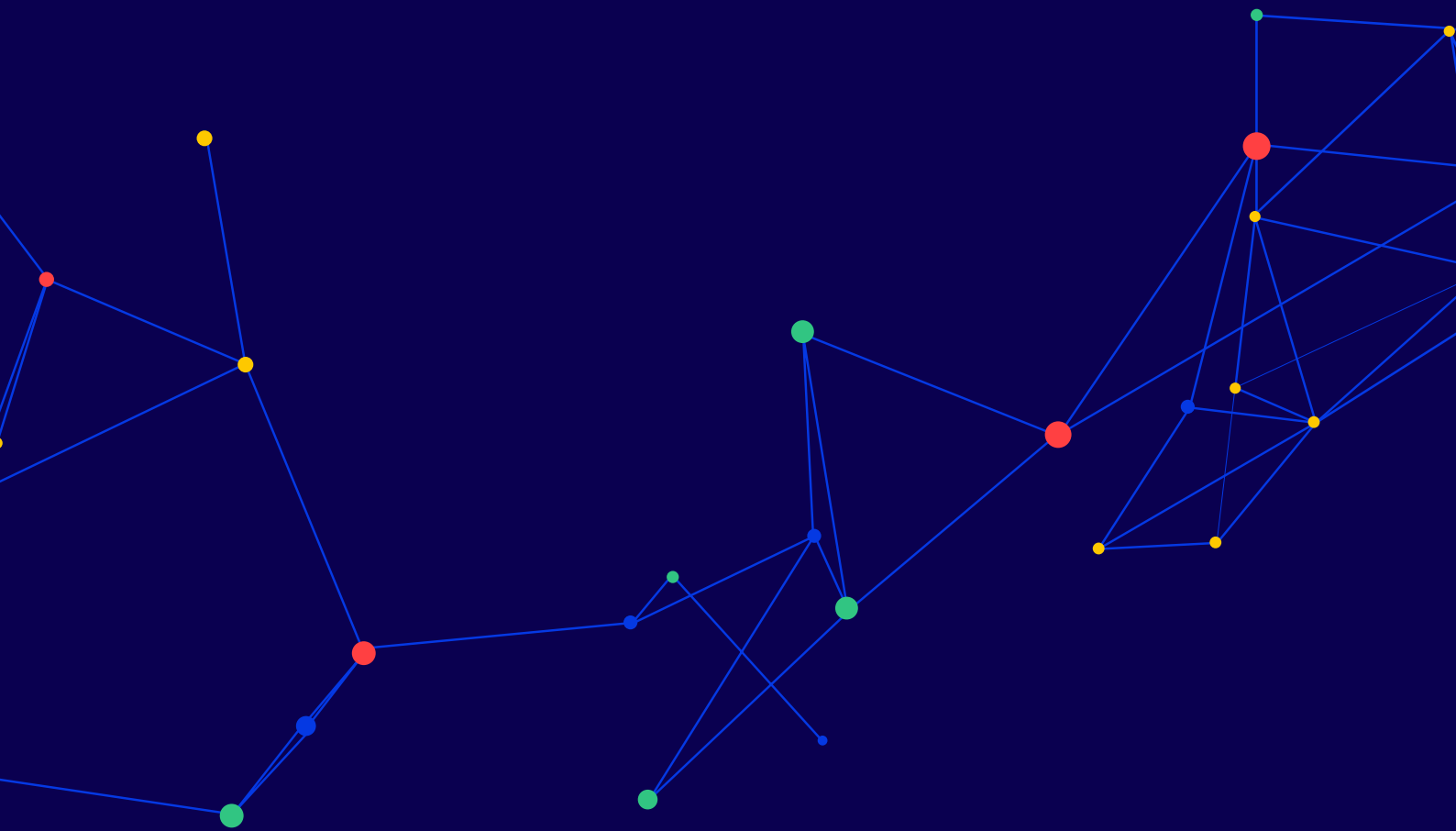



digital.  
global

# Digital transformation in development cooperation





# We shape digital policy that is social, environmental and feminist!



Svenja Schulze,  
Federal Minister for Economic  
Cooperation and Development

Dear partners in German development cooperation,

Today's crises—from the COVID-19 pandemic and climate change to the war of aggression against Ukraine with its ramifications for food security and energy—are global, and greater and more complex than ever before and mark a major turning point in international development cooperation.

Digitalisation can help to formulate responses to these global challenges and deliver new solutions. We want to work with our partner countries to make digital transformation fair, sustainable and people-centred, use its potential and close digital gaps in the Global South.

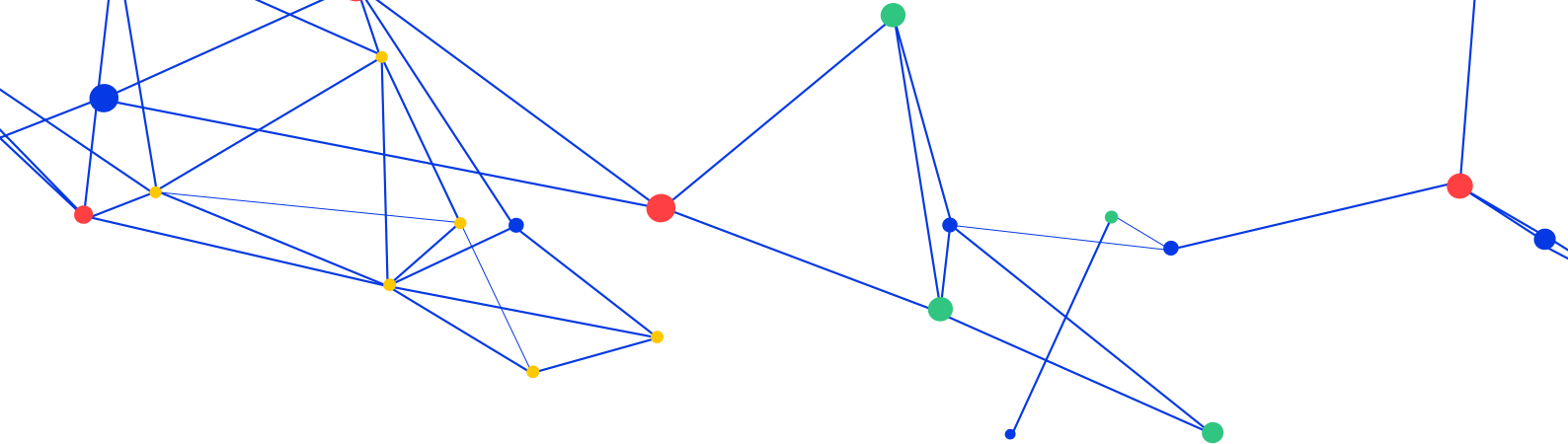
After all, a third of the world's population is still 'offline', cutting them off from the social and economic opportunities offered by digitalisation. As a result, people in developing countries and emerging economies, especially women, are at risk of being

left even further behind in important areas of life, such as food security, medical care, the energy transition, or even integration into global supply chains.

The German Federal Government offers its partner countries an international digital policy that is value-based and incorporates European standards. Our guiding vision is a digital transformation geared towards social, environmental and feminist principles that allows our partner countries to have digital sovereignty and makes them members of a globally open internet and fair data markets.

I invite you to learn more about how development cooperation contributes to the Federal Government's international digital policy, and about the stakeholders involved.

Yours sincerely,  
Svenja Schulze



# What do we want to achieve?

Digitalisation is not an end in itself. That is why we have set out a clearly defined framework of goals for the fields of action that German development policy wants to focus on in the context of digitalisation. The 17 United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals act as guideline to our actions.

First and foremost, our aim is to bridge digital gaps between genders, countries and world regions and to accelerate sustainable development, including through digital solutions. Our political priority issues have only gained in importance as Europe and our partner countries deal with the impacts of the war against Ukraine:



**1. Effectively reducing poverty and hunger**



**2. Decisively advancing the Just Transition**



**3. Managing the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts; preventing new pandemics**



**4. Establishing a feminist development policy**



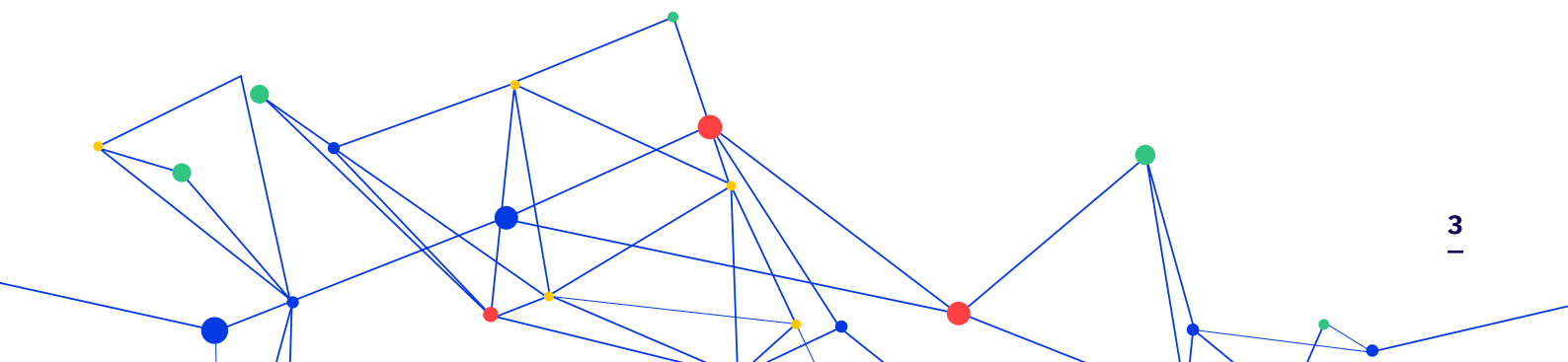


**German development cooperation already carries out around 600 projects which use digital technologies in 90 countries around the world. Two factors are key to the GIZ here: a focus on partner countries' needs, and links with existing national and international digital agendas (such as the German Federal Government's Digital Strategy, the EU's 2030 Digital Compass, the UN's Roadmap for Digital Cooperation and the African Union's Digital Transformation Strategy for Africa).**

We examine the opportunities and risks of digitalisation in development policy both in terms of different sectors (from eAgriculture to Industry 4.0, from eCommerce to Smart Energy, from FinTech to FemTech, from eMobility to eGovernment) and digital policy discourses (from cyber war to data protection, from GreenIT to working conditions in the gig economy). We need strong partnerships to step up our

engagement and provide a joint response to the global crises of our times.

With this in mind, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) will continuously adapt and expand technical and financial cooperation— multilaterally and bilaterally—to meet the ever-changing challenges of ongoing digital transformation in all areas of life.



# Our network [digital.global]

We are joining forces with our broad network, which already counts well over **100 actors** from policy making, the (digital) economy, civil society and the academic and scientific communities in Germany, our partner countries and the multilateral system of partners, to shape a global digital transformation that is aligned with social, environment and feminist principles. In the future, you can find all the information you need at our one-stop service centre,

no matter if you are a start-up looking for financing, an investor wanting to get involved in relevant funds, an institution seeking multilateral cooperation or to forge contacts with the ICT sector in an African country, for instance; if you want to draw on the knowledge and data resources of the BMZ's implementing organisations; or if you have specific questions about interoperable AI standards or smart GovTech solutions.

## Network for Digital Transformation in Development Cooperation

The Network for Digital Transformation is a platform for everyone working to advance social, environmental and feminist digitalisation. It also offers services to harness the innovative power of the digital economy for development policy goals, join forces and together improve the lives of people in our partner countries through digital solutions.

**Specifically, we offer the following services through our initiatives and partners in the network:**

- A service centre for the digital economy
- Advice on cooperation, networking, and co-financing opportunities
- Tailored funding instruments (such as develoPPP4Digital)
- Joint events (such as thematic workshops and dialogue events)

- A virtual communication and dialogue platform [digital.global] including a newsletter
- Other opportunities for participation and action

Do you have questions about digitalisation in relation to economic cooperation and development with the Global South? If so, please get in touch with the staff at the new digital.global service centre at

[www.bmz-digital.global](http://www.bmz-digital.global)

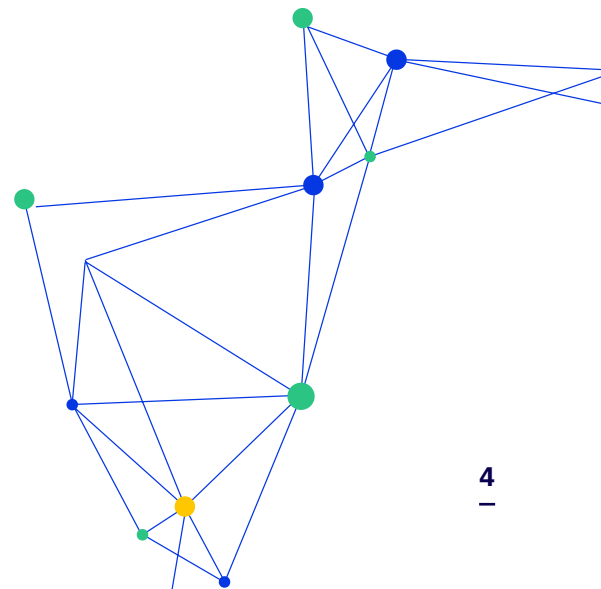
[info@bmz-digital.global](mailto:info@bmz-digital.global)

The service centre provides an overview of contact possibilities, topics and services and organises the exchange of information within the network.



More information on the network and contact details can be found **here**.

The network is an initiative of:



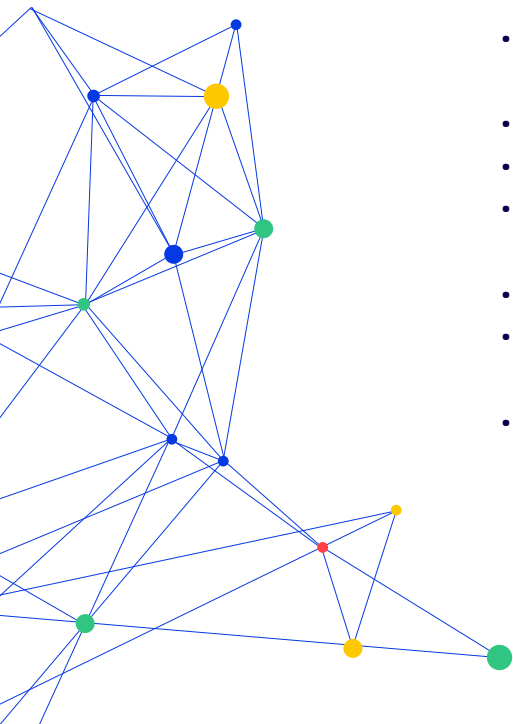


## Our cooperation services

Below, you can find a selection of some of our current programmes and services.

**Our work makes use of the innovative power of the digital economy and promotes sustainable solutions. Our diverse approaches offer you:**

- a broad spectrum of consulting services through the **Agency for Business & Economic Development (AWE)**
- worldwide interfaces with chambers of commerce and associations through the **Business Scouts for Development** programme (only available in German)
- cooperation on climate and energy solutions **Business Alliance Energy**
- the development of innovative project-based approaches in our **Make-IT Initiative** and the **Strategic Partnerships with Africa (DE)**
- scalable innovations through our laboratory of innovation **digilab**
- matching potential business worldwide via our online platform **Leverist.de/en**
- joint innovation processes for sustainable business models in developing and emerging countries in our **lab of tomorrow**
- tailor-made funding programmes for business solutions with **develoPPP**
- promoting innovative development-related business models of young SMEs by the **DEG**
- international tenders from the KfW and GIZ



**We carry out digital projects around the globe and create conditions for a fair, social, environmental and feminist digital transformation. Together with our partner countries, we promote:**

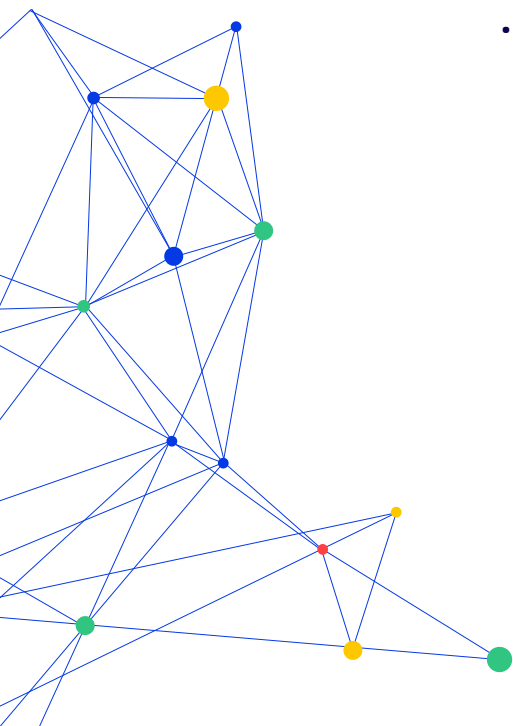
- digital learning opportunities for all with **atingi**
- the fair use of data potential through our **Data Economy initiative**
- building global networks through our worldwide **Digital Transformation Centers**
- the pandemic response and strengthening health care systems through **SORMAS** (only available in German), the Surveillance Outbreak Management and Analysis System, and **Digital Innovation in Pandemic Control (DIPC)**
- standardised citizen and administrative services through **GovStack**
- Fair platform work through our **gig economy initiative**
- digital regulatory consulting with our **Smart Africa Digital Academy (SADA)**
- solutions for transparent and safe public investment, e.g. through **TruBudget**
- **KfW**-financed projects and funds worldwide
- ongoing tenders of the German development cooperation through the foreign trade agency **Germany Trade & Invest**
- collaboration on TeamEurope approaches in the **D4D Hub**



**We look forward to hearing from you.**

**We create knowledge and awareness of our shared goals in the national and international context through:**

- recent data and figures on development cooperation via our **Transparency Portal** (DE)
- studies, publications, and academic and scientific expertise as part of our own **publications**
- up-to-date information on digital topics in development cooperation via our **newsletter**
- diverse dialogue events with political, business, scientific and academic, and civil society representatives
- funding of feasibility studies by the **DEG**



# Imprint

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