# DIGITALIZATION FOR ECONOMIC **GROWTH AND** JOB CREATION



DR. RACHEL SIBANDE

DIRECTOR. UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATIONS





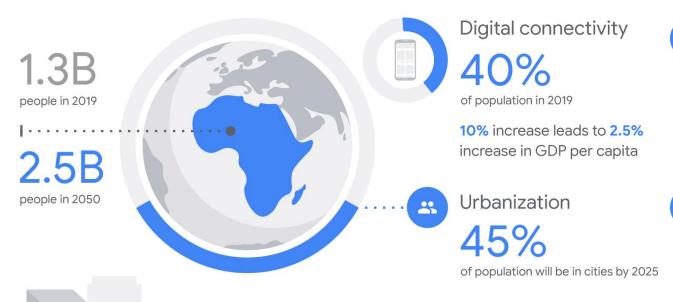




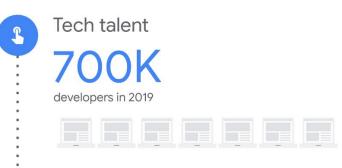


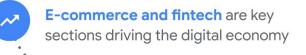
## Africa's \$180B Internet economy future

#### Growing urban, mobile population



#### **Expanding tech ecosystem**

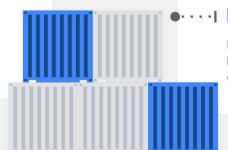




### • · · · · · · · I Infrastructure investments

Drives increased access to more affordable higher-speed Internet

Source: e-Conomy Africa 2020.



#### •···· Pro-innovator regulation

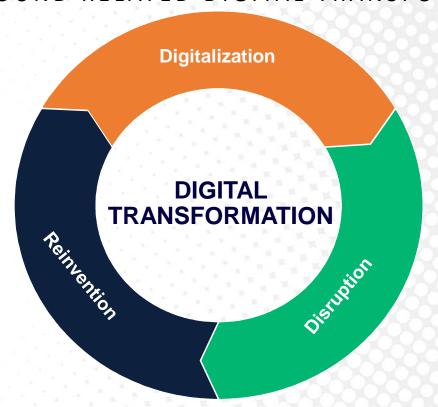
Including startup acts and regional harmonization, such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)







# ALIGNING ON DEFINITIONS AND UNDERSTANDING TO SUPPORT DIALOGUE AROUND RELATED DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION CONCEPTS



**Digital**: Refers to any form of technology and data use in any sector, be it public or private. (UNU-eGOV)

**Transformation:** Relates to a complete change in the appearance or character of something, especially so that the thing is improved. (UNU-eGOV)

**Digitization:** the **conversion** of analogue data and processes into a machine-readable format (OECD)

**Digitalization:** The process of **transitioning** business and services to use digital technologies, products, and services. Using digital technologies to support the traditional ways of doing things. (UNCTAD)

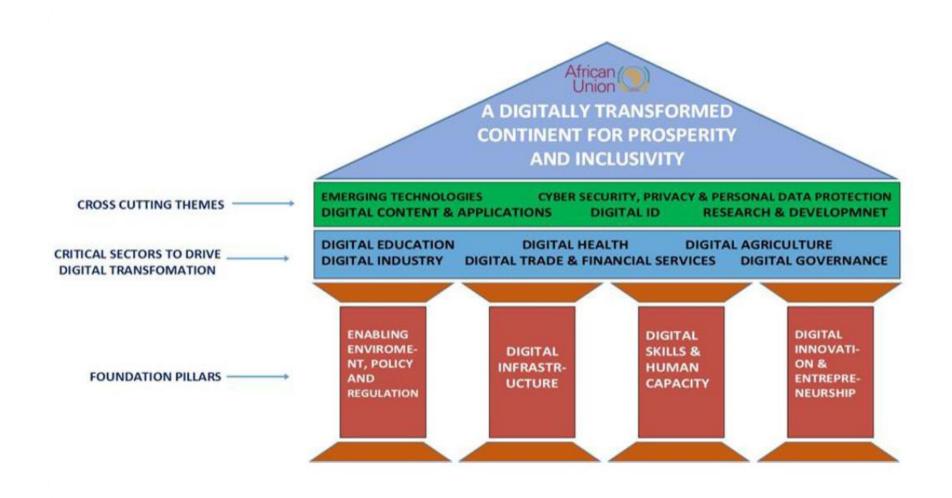
#### **Digital Transformation:**

- (process) The process in which digital is **disrupting** and **re-inventing** traditional services, sectors, business models, economies and societies (DIAL)
- (outcome) refers to the economic and societal effects of digitisation and digitalization (OECD)





# A VISION AND ROADMAP FOR AN INTEGRATED AND INCLUSIVE DIGITAL SOCIETY AND ECONOMY IN AFRICA



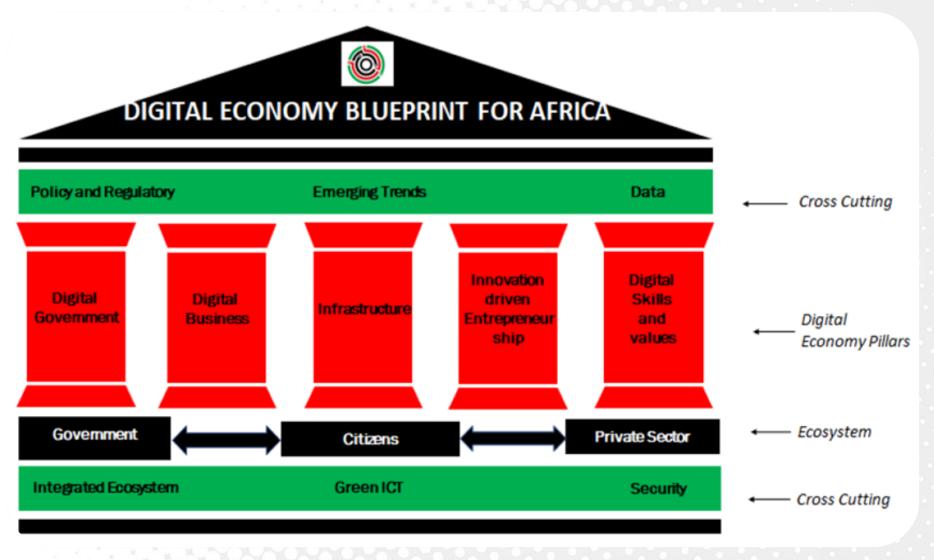
**Source:** https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/38507-doc-dts-english.pdf





#### GOVERNMENT OF KENYA

# STRATEGY FOR DESIGNING STRATEGIES FOR DIGITAL ECONOMY AMONG SMART AFRICA MEMBER STATES



Source: https://ca.go.ke/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Kenyas-Digital-Economy-Blueprint.pdf

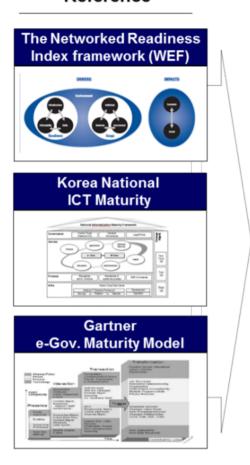


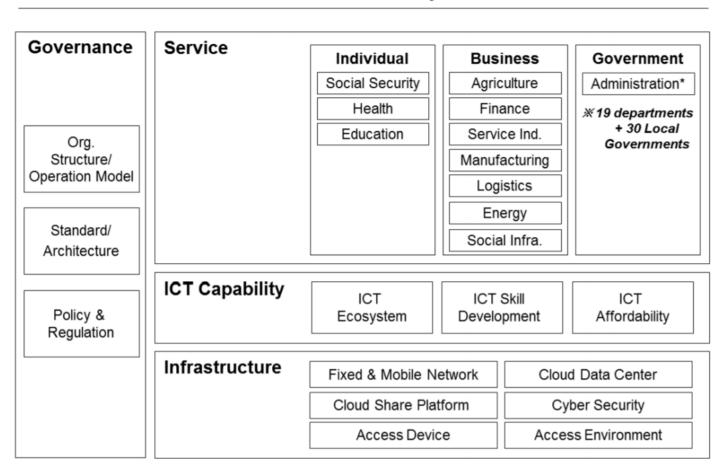
#### GOVERNMENT OF RWANDA

# UNECA: FRAMEWORK FOR NATIONAL ICT MATURITY LEVEL ASSESSMENT

#### Reference

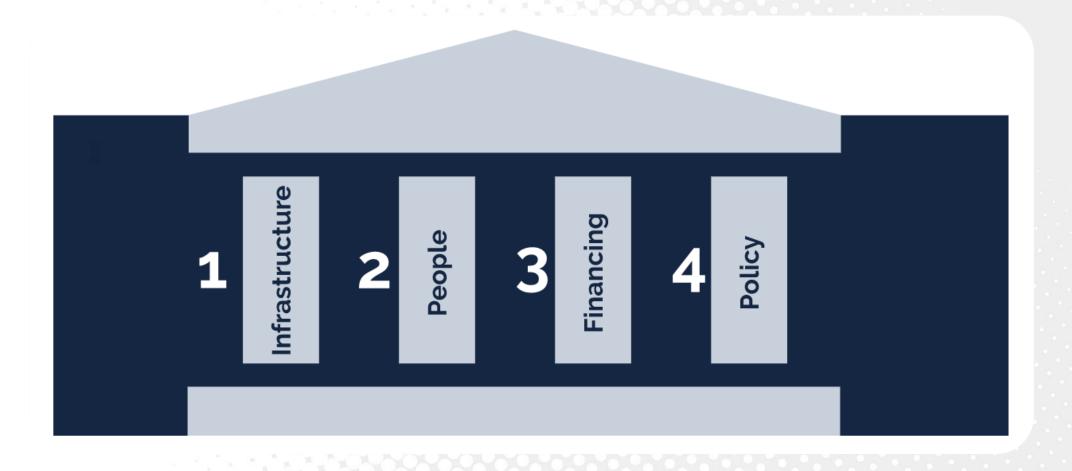
#### Framework for National ICT Maturity Level Assessment







# GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH AFRICA, ETHIOPIA, MONGOLIA PATHWAYS FOR PROSPERITY: DIGITAL ECONOMY KIT



• Source: https://pathwayscommission.bsg.ox.ac.uk/digital-economy-kit

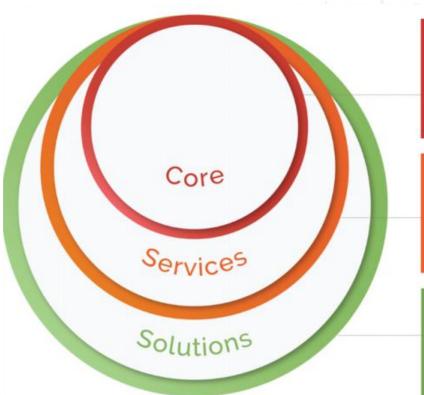
# MALAWI DIGITAL ECONOMY STRATEGY





#### STRATEGY FRAMEWORK

Each of the 3 components contains 3 priority areas and specified objectives, reflecting the expected outcomes of the strategy by 2026:



**Network Access:** Increasing internet usage to 80% of the population and broadband coverage to 95% of the population by 2026

**Device Access:** Increasing device ownership from 51% to 80% of the population and energy access to 20% of the population

**Skills:** Raising the pass rate of secondary school examinations from 50% to 80% and increasing the availability of digitally relevant skills

e Trade: Reducing trade compliance costs by 37% and time by 31% to enable industrialization through increase competitiveness and eCommerce adoption

Digital Financial Services: A 30% increase (2.1 million) in the number of mobile money accounts and a financial market development index score of at least 5 out of 7

Digital Government: The National ID is universally used for identity verification and supports government service delivery and digitization objectives

**Agriculture.** Increasing average farm family earnings from USD 1,800 to USD 2,250 by increasing the adoption of agricultural services and access to agricultural technology **Health:** Increasing life expectancy by an additional two years and supporting efficient resource allocation

**Digitally Traded Services:** Doubling ICT service exports to 4% of total exports while creating 50,000 new jobs in digitally traded services



#### UNCTAD: RAPID E-TRADE READINESS ASSESSMENT

# Assessment of the current digital economy combined with concrete next steps



Strategy: e- commerce readiness assessment & Strategy Formulation	Uses the ITU IDI Ranking and UNCTAD B2C e-commerce Index for ranking. Encompasses: 1.1 National policies related to ICT, e-government and e-commerce. 1.2 National policies related to trade 1.3 National coordination 1.4 Access to relevant statistics
ICT Infrastructure and Services	<ul><li>2.1 Broadband, mobile, and smartphone penetration (use ITU, MISR for ranking info)</li><li>2.2 Reliability, affordability, latency, speed and coverage (WB, DAI &amp; ITU MISR)</li><li>2.3 Major infrastructure projects</li><li>2.4 ICT Services (digital government)</li></ul>
Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation	<ul><li>3.1 Mode of delivery, last mile delivery, traffic and regulations</li><li>3.2 Cross-boarder trade facilitation (OECD trade facilitation indicators)</li></ul>
Payment Solutions	<ul><li>4.1 Banking penetration and financial inclusion (central bank, World Bank Global Findex)</li><li>4.2 Financial regulations (eye towards interoperability and protection)</li><li>4.3 Main mobile, cashless payment solutions available</li></ul>
Legal and regulatory frameworks	Existing regulatory frameworks and implementation of them (privacy, consumer protection, licensing, etc.). UNCTAD's cyberlaw tracker, ITU's Global cybersecurity Index
Skills development	<ul><li>6.1 Skills gap identification</li><li>6.2 Availability of tertiary education and professional training</li><li>6.3 Start-up and business development support landscape</li></ul>
Access to financing	<ul><li>7.1 Financing by banks and MFIs</li><li>7.2 Business incubators, business accelerators and venture capitalists</li><li>7.3 Financing by development partners</li></ul>

Source: https://unctad.org/en/PublicationsLibrary/der2019 en.pdf



# MOST COMMON VARIABLES ACROSS THE DIGITIAL FRAMEWORKS DRIVING DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH



Preliminary analysis of variables across 30 frameworks

- 1. Infrastructure
- 2. Policy
- 3. Legal and Regulatory/Regulation
- 4. Skills / Capacity
- 5. Security / Secure
- 6. Strategy and Vision
- 7. Management
- 8. Innovation

How is Malawi doing as regards attaining growth in each of these common variables driving Digital Transformation?

What can be done to accelerate Malawi's Digital Transformation Agenda towards sustainable economic growth?

How far are we from achieving the status of the digital exemplar countries?

# T H A N K