

# DIGITAL ECONOMY FOR AFRICA INITIATIVE



WORLD BANK GROUP

#DE4A



The [Digital Economy for Africa \(DE4A\) Initiative](#) is working to ensure that every person, business, and government in Africa is digitally enabled by 2030. Achieving this digital transformation will take a collective commitment by all African countries, development partners and the private sector to massively scale up resources dedicated to building the foundations of a vibrant, inclusive and safe digital economy throughout the continent.

## VOICES FROM THE FIELD

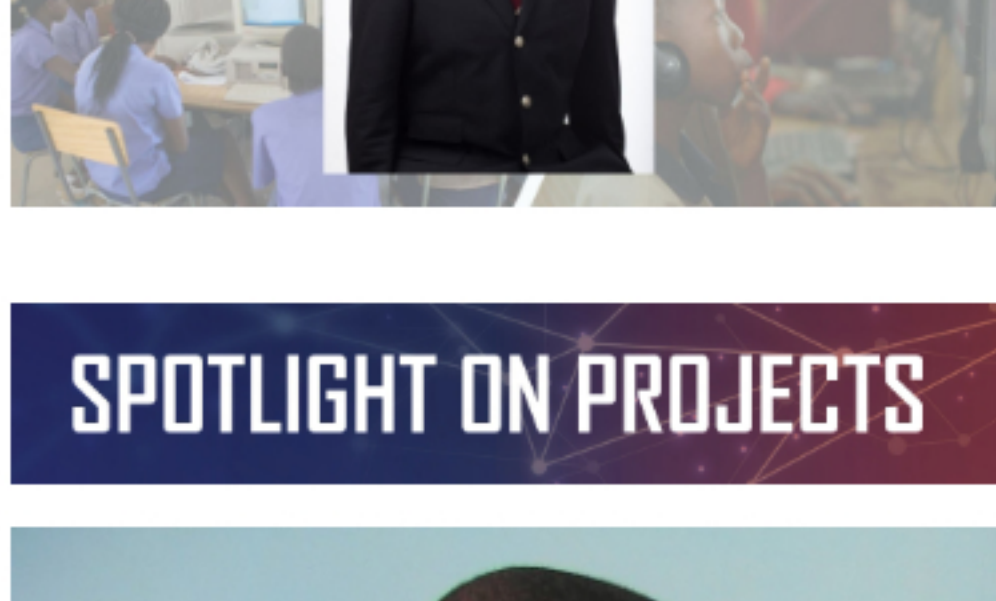
### “Built Accounting”

**Transformative Digital Projects and Platforms Provide Momentum for Economic Growth in Africa**



Rosemary Kwofi, CEO of the startup Built Accounting, was experiencing the challenge many entrepreneurs face when trying to decide which idea to pursue, while feeling resource-constrained to properly evaluate them. The \$212 million program led by the Ghanaian government helped her solve that. [More information](#)

## FEATURED INTERVIEW



### Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Senior Vice President Toshiyuki Nakamura

Mr. Toshiyuki Nakamura serves as Senior Vice President for the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) where his areas of focus include Africa, governance and peacebuilding, disaster relief and project evaluation. In this interview, Mr. Nakamura talks about boosting digital technology in Africa through partnerships and data responsibility. [More information](#)

## SPOTLIGHT ON PROJECTS



### Djibouti greenlights accelerated digital transformation program

To achieve a robust post-COVID-19 recovery, Djibouti is creating an environment for more citizens and businesses have access to quality and affordable internet. [Read more](#)

### Mozambique kicks off a program for unprecedented access to energy and broadband

Mozambique’s economy is poised to benefit from harnessing the synergies of energy and digital connectivity, particularly in rural and fragile areas. [Read more](#)

### On the road to a digital nation: The Gambia

The development of the digital economy represents an opportunity for The Gambia to address its fragility, while spurring inclusive growth, job creation and innovation. [Read more](#)

### Madagascar’s digital financial services potential

Making digital services more affordable for everyone, with universal skills training, are the foundations of Madagascar’s digital strategy. This program is working to increase the inclusiveness and affordability of services and to boost job creation. [Read more](#)

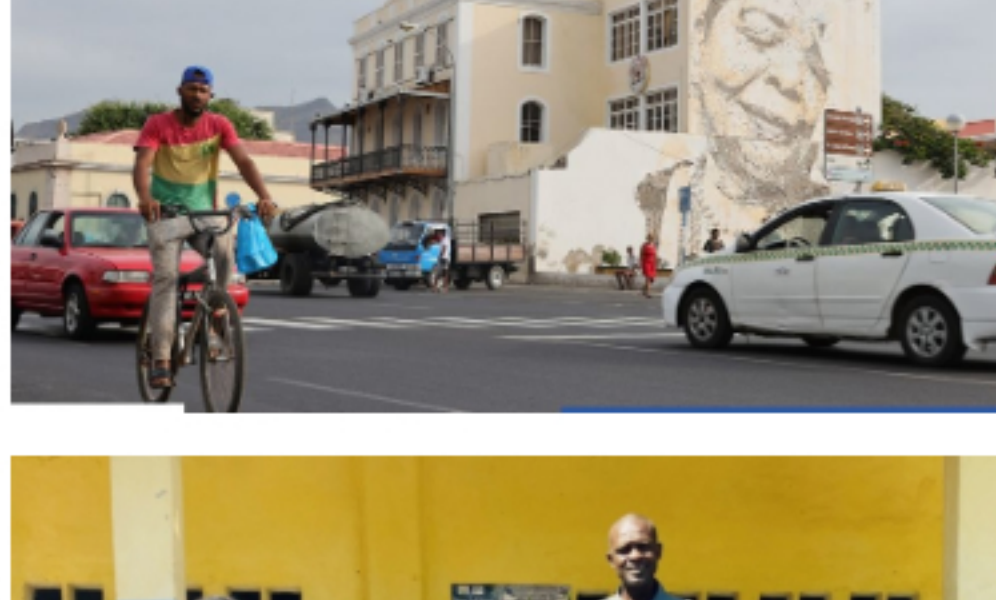
### Rwanda gets big boost to its digital transformation

The new \$100 million digital acceleration project will support the government’s expansion of digital access and adoption by spearheading a series of innovative digital access and inclusion initiatives. [Read more](#)

### Supporting a startup surge in Tunisia

Recent research in Tunisia finds that startups and small and medium-sized enterprises have become a critical source of employment and growth. This is particularly good news in the face of the weakened economic situation over the past two years – one that has been exacerbated by the global COVID-19 pandemic. [Read more](#)

## IMPACT STORIES



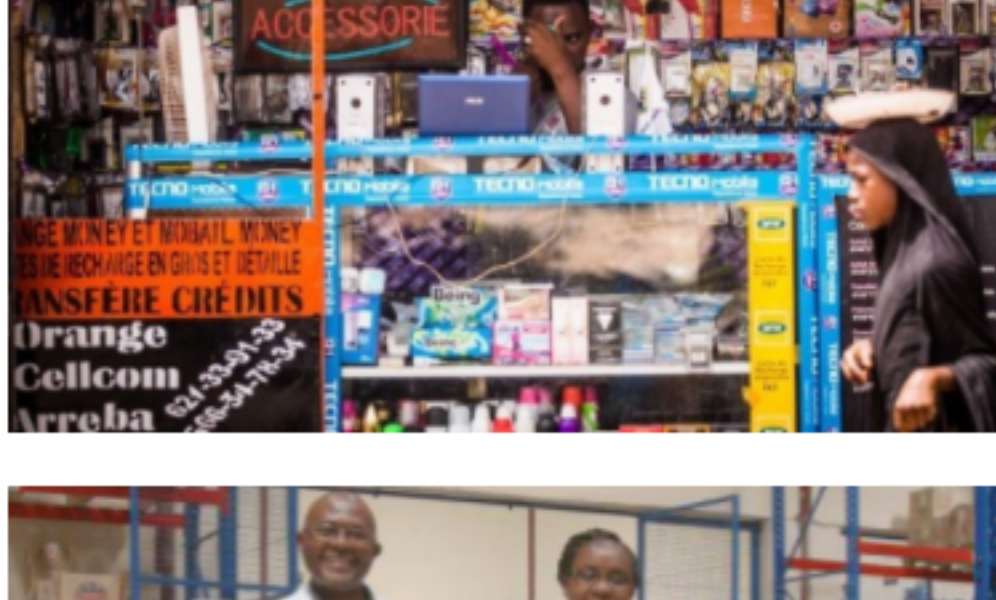
### How Cabo Verde Boosted the Vaccine Roll Out

The country’s digital health pass is designed to provide people with COVID-19 testing and vaccination certificates, as well as access to telemedicine and other health services. [Read more](#)



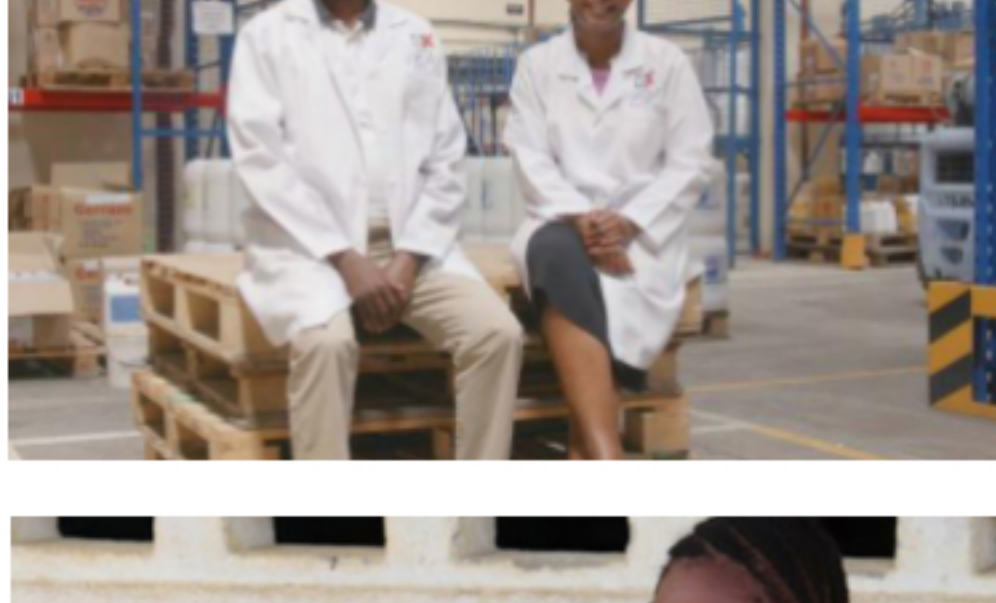
### Improving education via EdTech in Sierra Leone

Sierra Leon’s EdTech strategy is firmly focused on delivering inclusive, quality education for all learners and teachers. [Read more](#)



### Dialing into West Africa’s lower-than-expected mobile broadband internet usage

A background paper examines the main drivers and barriers to the adoption of mobile broadband internet among individuals in West Africa. [Read more](#)



### Kenya’s private sector looks to power the economy forward during a post-pandemic recovery

The “Vision 2030” plan charts a path toward an economically sound, sustainable future—all depending on how easily Kenyans can access the tools needed to build their businesses and improve their quality of life. [Read more](#)



### Tech plus teachers: Assessing the efficacy of Sierra Leone’s one-on-one phone tutorials

A new working paper explores the results of phone-based learning during lockdown. [Read more](#)



### Investing in Egyptian social commerce platform drives digital growth

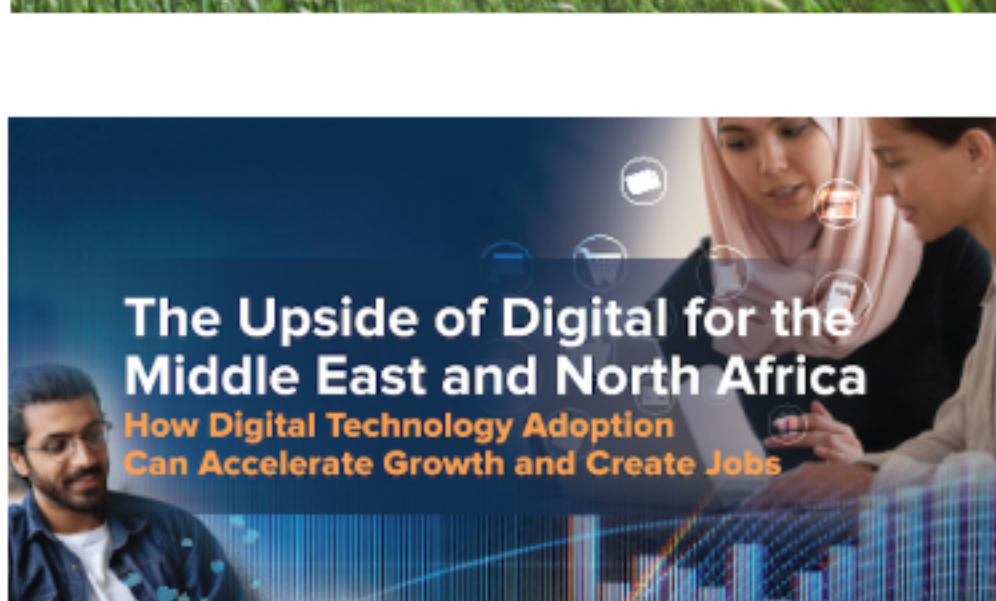
To support the advancement of local manufacturers, create job opportunities, and develop e-commerce in Egypt, IFC made an equity investment in Birmore, an Egyptian social commerce platform that connects emerging brands with distributors and customers. [Read more](#)

## KNOWLEDGE, RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS



### Using geospatial analysis to overhaul connectivity policies

Increasing access to the internet is one of the great challenges of our time and has grown in importance since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. In a market-led environment, expanding mobile broadband coverage will partly depend on lowering costs and investments risks, but the main driver will be enhanced demand for connectivity services. Given the lower-than-desired connectivity numbers in Sub-Saharan Africa, this report seeks to explain how to expand mobile internet coverage and adoption in the region. [Read more](#)



**The Upside of Digital for the Middle East and North Africa**  
How Digital Technology Adoption Can Accelerate Growth and Create Jobs

### The upside of digital for the Middle East and North Africa

This study focuses on how digital technology adoption can accelerate growth and create jobs by providing estimates of the economic gains from digitalization and offering policy recommendations on how the region could approach universal coverage. [Read more](#)



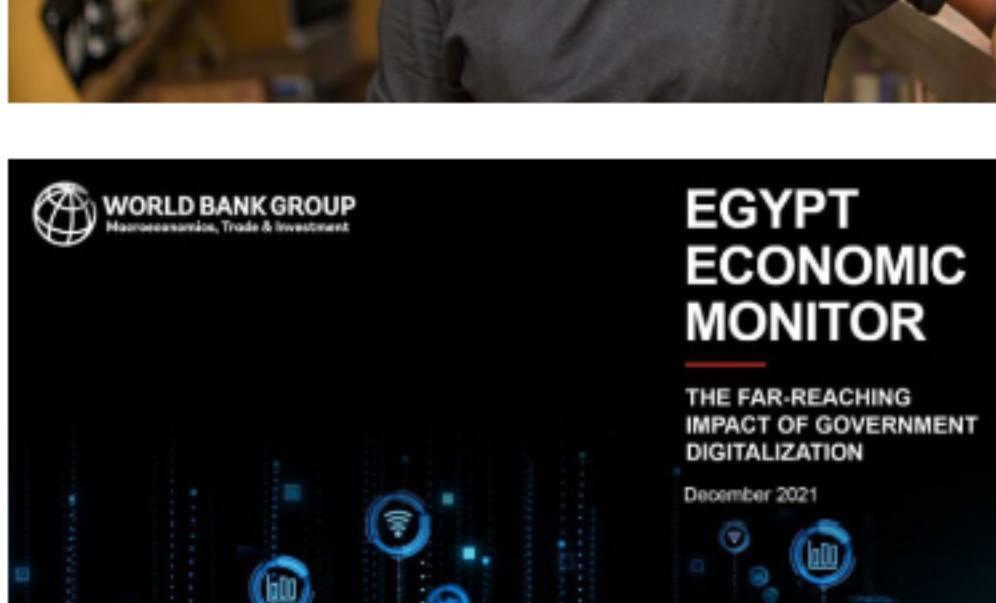
### Ghana rising: Accelerating economic transformation and creating jobs

The focus of this Country Economic Memorandum is to review options for Ghana to create enough higher quality jobs through economic transformation. [Read more](#)



### Women and e-commerce in Africa

The study provides a deeper understanding on how to boost opportunities for women in emerging markets and to help close the knowledge gap on women in e-commerce. [Read more](#)



### The far-reaching impact of Egypt’s government digital transformation

This report covers the Egyptian economic resilience throughout the COVID-19 pandemic—attributable in part to the macroeconomic and energy sector reforms it implemented in recent years—as well its challenges caused by the uneven recovery across the world. [Read more](#)

## DIGITAL ECONOMY COUNTRY DIAGNOSTICS



### A snapshot of the state of Africa’s digital economies

The Digital Economy for Africa (DE4A) Country Diagnostics maps each country to the five pillars of the DE4A initiative (digital infrastructure, digital public platforms, digital services, digital businesses, and digital skills). [Read more](#)

## MULTIMEDIA



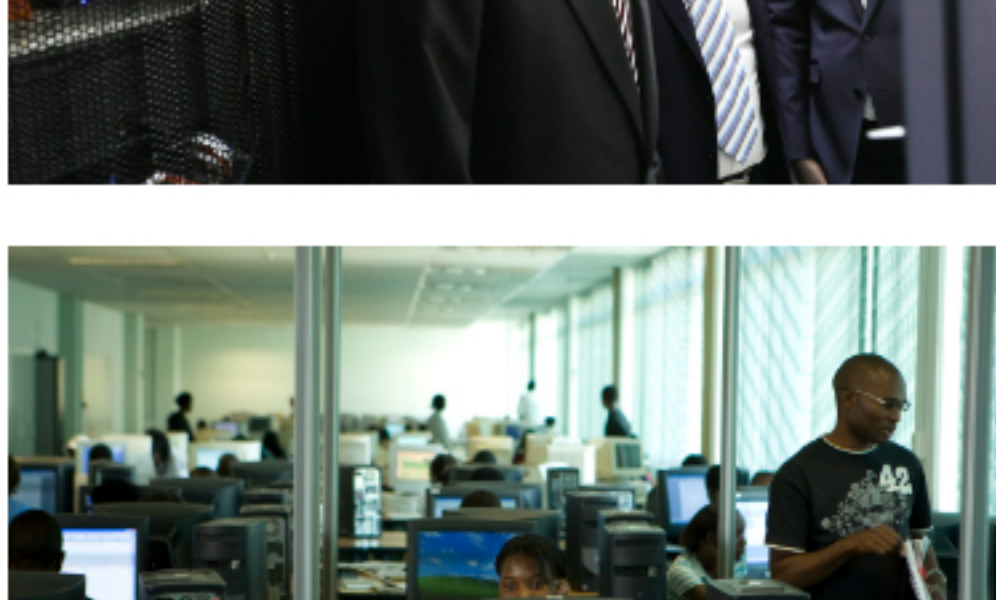
### The Digital Revolution: Fostering Inclusion and Resilient Growth

This April 20 event, part of the World Bank Group Spring Meetings, will explore how countries can boost growth, productivity, inclusion and resilience as they recover by embracing private sector innovation coupled with enabling government policy. [Learn more](#)



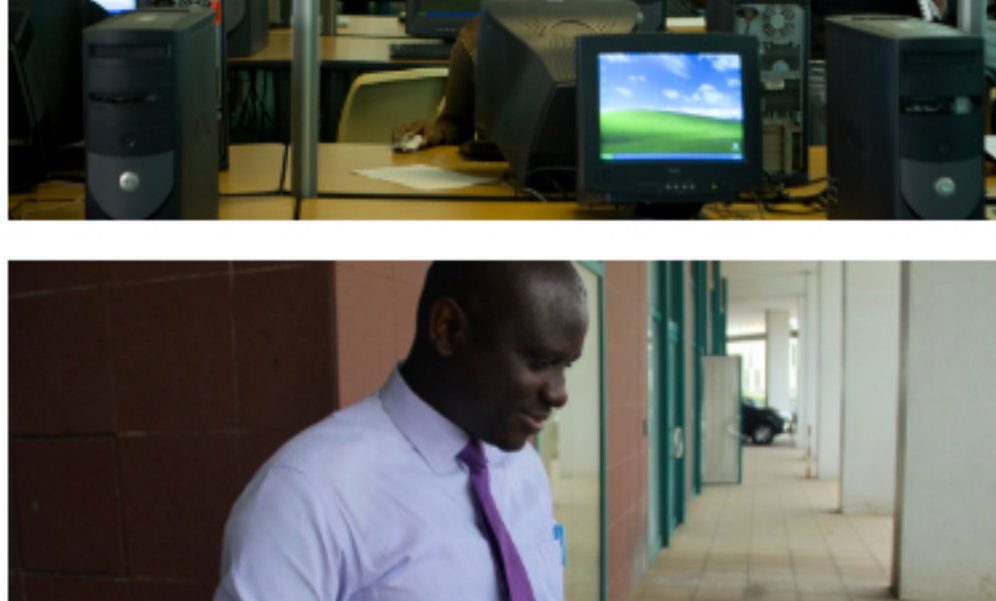
### World Bank President highlights importance of digital development in Senegal

During his recent trip to Senegal, the President of the World Bank Group exchanged with public and private sector leaders as well as young and promising start-ups on the importance of digital connectivity and digital technologies to drive growth, innovation, and job creation. [Learn More](#)



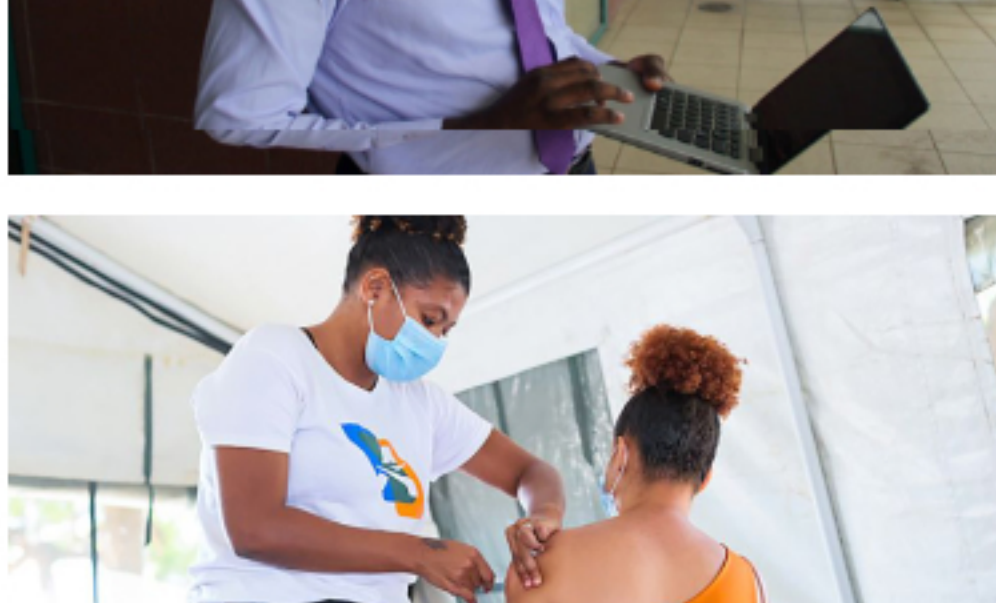
### A digital win for Burkina Faso: Solving tough connectivity problems with new infrastructure

Burkina Faso, a landlocked country, is solving some of its toughest connectivity problems with new infrastructure, including a critical fiber optic network reaching the border with Ghana. [Watch here](#)



### Supporting the digital transformation in Burundi

Burundi has a tremendous opportunity to harness the digital economy as a driver of growth and innovation. [Watch here](#)



### How Cabo Verde boosted vaccine take up: Digital health pass

One of the COVID-19 strategies supported by the World Bank was the launch of Cabo Verde’s digital health pass. This digital wallet is designed to provide people with testing and vaccination certificates, along with access to telemedicine and other health services. [Watch here](#)



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