ITS Technology & Innovation Lab

Learning Platform | Exploration Space | Emerging Tech Advisory

ITS Technology & Innovation Lab serves as an internal technology advisor, and a knowledge and exploration hub around operationalizing emerging technologies for development impact, enabling WBG to be future ready and competitive in the digital age.

USE CASES

![Diagram of use cases](image-url)
WHAT WE DO
The Lab serves as catalyst, enabler and accelerator for WBG staff to learn about and build expertise around emerging technologies’ potential to support the Sustainable Development Goals and the WBG’s Disruptive Technologies agenda. It operates as an internal technology advisor and knowledge hub, producing rapid Proof of Values (PoV) and prototyping to test new capabilities, expedite learning, and understand the applicability and operationalization of new technologies to address development challenges. The Lab collaborates with staff and engages with internal and external partners to foster a “learning by doing” modus operandi.

PROBLEMS WE SOLVE
We work across multiple sectors and themes to solve development challenges, using emerging transformative technologies and innovative paradigms.

We have worked in the following areas: Education, health, climate, agriculture, energy and mining, land, insurance, and financial inclusion.

Other areas we have explored: Supply Chains, Financial Inclusion, Tokenization for Development, Results-Based Financing, Identity for Development (I4D), Business Model Innovation, Legal and Policy Innovation, Digital Transformation, and Operational Efficiency.

Solutions leveraged: Blockchain, Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things, AR/VR, 3D Printing, other mature technologies.

HOW WE WORK
We use Design Thinking methodologies, along with Agile and Foresight tools, to define and shape solutions to diverse challenges as per the demand from the WBG community.

First we understand and frame the problem, and identify opportunities to solve it.

We apply a multi-disciplinary approach to explore the potential of different emerging technologies to find and shape relevant and feasible solutions. We do this through an agile model, spanning up to 12 weeks, in collaboration with WBG operational, legal and policy professionals.

The prototypes and services developed enable our partners, clients and WBG operations to determine whether emerging technologies can help solve development challenges in more effective and efficient ways in specific country contexts. We identify preconditions, and gauge the impacts on the country’s business and operational models, and legal and policy frameworks.

Lessons learned from the PoV are packaged in a viability report, which may support the prototype’s incubation, scaling, and further action to operationalize the solution for WBG operations.

MILESTONES
- **2017:** Lab launches (blockchain, DLT)
- **2018:** Lab expands (AI, IoT)
- **2019:** Lab pivots (business model innovation, operationalizing emerging technology, Foresight etc.)