Welcome to the new edition of the GovTech Global Partnership Newsletter!

Looking back, as the end of the 2021 calendar year draws to a close, this year has been a crucial time for GovTech. The ongoing COVID-19 has, yet again, accelerated public sector innovation and highlighted the usage of digital technologies to transform how governments operate and deliver services.

In this edition, we are delighted to share selected highlights of our engagements and knowledge-sharing activities during the last quarter period. Particularly, the global launch of GovTech Maturity Index: The State of Public Sector Digital Transformation report has been a significant milestone, but, simultaneously, a reminder that the digital divide is still very much with us. We believe that GTMI will serve as important guidance and foundation for the client countries to determine where they are on their GovTech maturity trajectory and how to further the GovTech agenda.

We hope you enjoy reading up on the latest. And please visit our GovTech Knowledge Platform as well to stay up to date on our knowledge & learning opportunities.

We wish you a warm holiday and best wishes for 2022!

Ed Olowo Okere, Global Director, Governance Global Practice
Tracey Lane, Practice Manager, Public Sector and Institutions Reform

In this newsletter, read about
- Recent Updates: New Publications, GovTech Maturity Index, GovTech Academy, GovTech projects
- What’s Coming: GovTech Case Studies
- Revisiting our Archive: Publications, Blogs
- GovTech and GovTech Global Partnership: Welcoming New Partners

NEW PUBLICATIONS
The Global Launch of the GovTech Maturity Index (GTMI) Report

The GovTech Maturity Index: The State of Public Sector Digital Transformation report was introduced through a global launch event on September 16. This report provides a snapshot of GovTech maturity in 198 economies, along with a diverse set of good practice examples to assist practitioners in the design of new digital transformation projects. The launch event featured a panel of experts from the government, international organizations to academia to discuss the key findings and recommendations of the report.

READ REPORT | EVENT REPLAY | LEARN MORE ABOUT GTMI

GTMI Data Bites: The Scale of Digital Divide

The digital divide is significant, especially in low- and middle-income countries. According to the report, on average, countries in the A Group (GovTech leaders) have the highest index score, and the gap between A (GovTech leaders) and D (minimal focus on GovTech) is wide, as presented below. Similarly, a substantial gap exists between the average GTMI scores of high- and low-income countries.

VIEW GOVTECH DATASET

World Bank Guidebook for Accessible GovTech

The World Bank has committed to supporting the development of universally accessible GovTech in the lower income countries that benefit from resources of the International Development Association (IDA). This guidebook aims to provide development practitioners and governments with steps and actions to mainstream accessibility concerns in the development of GovTech projects and adopt accessibility as a systematic feature of digital solutions in the provision of public services.

READ GUIDEBOOK
LEARNINGS

Enroll Now! GovTech 101 e-Learning Course: Fundamentals and Key Concepts

The “GovTech: Fundamentals and Key Concepts” e-Learning course (GovTech 101) is available now on the World Bank Open Learning Campus (OLC). The course introduces the GovTech concepts, focus areas, solutions, and good practices to support digital transformation reforms of governments around the world.

ENROLL NOW

Our GovTech Academy is growing. Stay tuned for a second GovTech Academy e-learning course on GovTech solutions in the Public Financial Management (PFM) area!

This course will highlight disruptive technology solutions that can improve the PFM performance, transparency, and accountability, together with the modernization and integration of existing core government systems (FMIS, Tax, Customs, PIMS, HRMIS, Payroll, and others).

EVENTS

GovTech Talks Webinar Series

A webinar series, GovTech Talks, has been newly launched to explore the diverse GovTech approaches and solutions with the subject matter experts and practitioners. In case you missed it, you can replay the following events:

- (Nov 2021) Open-Source CORE-MIS: Improving Social Protection Program Management and Delivery
  EVENT REPLAY
- (Dec 2021) Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technology for Government Digital Transformation
  ABOUT EVENT | EVENT REPLAY | READ BLOG

BLOGS

- Blockchain technology has the potential to transform government, but first we need to build trust
- GovTech in the age of COVID: Urgent need and uneven progress
- AI can help trace language to violence
- Disruptive technologies can provide developing countries with a pathway to revamp their public procurement processes

INITIATIVE

GovTech and World Bank ITS Technology & Innovation team launches a Joint Initiative GovTech Innovation Lab

The Governance Global Practice (GGP) GovTech and ITS Technology & Innovation team launched a joint initiative GovTech Innovation Lab, which will offer a safe exploratory environment with emerging technologies to
explore, experiment and design with, and validate/demonstrate the feasibility of an emerging technology for solving a particular governance-related problem. Keep an eye out for this initiative’s activities!

PORTFOLIO

The GovTech Global Partnership (GTGP) has launched a range of new country-level projects in support of Digital Government Readiness Assessments, county dialogue and technical assistance. These include:

SEE GOVTECH PROJECTS | LEARN MORE ABOUT GTGP

BULGARIA

The economic costs of non-competitive public procurement and state capture, using digitalized public procurement transaction data. This project aims to design and set up a mechanism for the early detection of public procurement malpractice with the use of data and technology.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Improving Selected User Centric e-Services
This project aims to optimize existing cross-cutting government administrative e-Services by promoting interoperability, universal accessibility, and transparency.

EGYPT

Digital Government Readiness Assessment of Justice Sector
This project aims to determine the infrastructural, institutional, and technological factors needed to increase ICT adoption to improve the quality and efficiency of justice services through a sectoral Digital Government Readiness Assessment.

PANAMA

Digital shared services for a modern and efficient public sector
This project aims to support the evaluation of the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of adopting digital shared services in core government functions.
UPCOMING PUBLICATIONS

A New Guidebook on Service Upgrade: GovTech Approach to Citizen Centric Service Delivery (expected publication date: Dec 2021)

Service Upgrade: GovTech Approach to Citizen Centric Service Delivery is a guidebook for governments and technical teams supporting them, introducing a four-stage model to design and deliver a citizen centric services reform program that increases access, efficiency, and quality of e-services.

A series of GovTech Case Study Notes (expected publication date: Jan 2022)

A series of GovTech Case Study Notes provides better understanding of GovTech focus areas by introducing concrete experiences of adopting GovTech solutions, lessons learned and what worked or did not work. The first set of case studies will explore national identification system in Lesotho, mobile phones for maternal and child cash transfers in Myanmar and maximizing the benefits of Financial Management Information System in Cambodia. If anyone is interested in the publication of the case study note or would like to recommend good GovTech practices, please contact to the GovTech team (govtechgp@worldbank.org).
Focus areas of the upcoming policy notes
Policy notes this year will focus on climate change (Green GovTech), GovTech reforms in FCV settings, Interoperability, CivicTech, and mGov.
OUR PARTNERS

The GovTech Global Partnership (GTGP) as multi-stakeholder initiative is very kindly supported by a range and growing number of partners. We are happy that the Ministry of Economic Development of the Russian Federation joined and committed funding to the GovTech Global Partnership. The Government of Japan and the Ministry of Interior and Safety of the Republic of Korea are supporting the Partnership with substantial in-kind contributions. A number of institutions are supporting GTGP knowledge-sharing activities.

The GovTech Global Partnership thanks all our partners for the great collaboration and support.

Donors and Partners

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Ministry of Economic Development
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State Secretariat for Economic Affairs
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The Government of Japan

Ministry of the Interior and Safety
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Knowledge Partners
The GTGP welcomes contributors from all stakeholder groups to join in our work. Send inquiries to govtechgp@worldbank.org for more information on how to partner with GTGP.

STAY CONNECT WITH US

Visit our GovTech Knowledge Platform and enjoy the latest GovTech publications, stay-up-date on knowledge & learning opportunities, community of practices engagements, and announcements.
And follow us on our World Bank Governance Twitter!

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