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**GDAŃSK UNIVERSITY
OF TECHNOLOGY**

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DATA AND DIGITAL GOVERNANCE 2024

Seminar 1 on Digital Government Frameworks and Strategies for Sustainable Development

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Shanghai and Deqing

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INTRODUCTION TO SEMINAR 1

1. Digital transformation is about change, not technology...

Often a far-reaching change to government, to the nature of citizenship and government-citizen relationships. It relies on digitizing or digitalizing but does not stop there.

2. But due to the nature of technological progress and complexity of the structures impacted...

Accelerating, exponential and combinatorial nature of technological progress and the complexity of social and administrative structures that enable government's role in today's world.





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3. The outcome of this change is partly designed (top-down) and partly organic (bottom-up)...

The direction and outcome of this change are partly designed, predictable and controlled, and partly emerging, uncontrolled, and even counterintuitive. Consider social media decreasing deliberative spaces or generative AI increasing the need for human fact-checking.

4. Thus the process is both about planning and building, and about experimenting and learning

Digital transformation is as much about planning, designing and developing as it is about experimenting, failing, learning and trying again.





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5. The impact of digital government on sustainable development is not assured...

In particular, the outcome of digital transformation on government (1 order impact) and, in turn, of digital government on sustainable development (2 order impact) is not assured.

6. We observe positive impact, e.g.

- the creation of the digital infrastructures that connect entire societies,
- the provision of public services over such infrastructure,
- continuing such provisions even in crisis situations like COVID-19, etc.





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7. We also observe negative impact, e.g.

- on the quality of human interaction,
- on equal access to digital opportunities,
- on the work-life balance, etc.

8. Only some positive or negative impact is captured by SDGs

Only some positive or negative impact is captured by the established measures of development progress like the Sustainable Development Goals – SDGs.





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9. Countries must pursue individual strategies to realize the gains and avoid the losses

Every country has to uncover and pursue their own individual strategies on how to realize the gains and avoid the losses of digital transformation against its own policies and goals.

10. A moving target for the countries' digital transformation

As technology, circumstances and goals change, countries pursue a moving target. This includes international measures as SDGs have only 5 more years to go, and on digital transformation, the forthcoming framework can radically differ from the current one.





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Leading to this conference and the role of UNDESA...

Given the logic above, this conference and the role of UNDESA that can bring state actors together in the framework of mutual deliberation and learning are particularly needed.





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Thank You

Merci

Спасибо

Gracias