

UN-DESA ROUNDTABLE ON POST-COVID19 AND THE “NEW DIGITAL NORMAL”

Developing institutional capacities in digital transformation for a more inclusive and equitable recovery



Trend: Rapid digitalization

- Adoption of digital technologies speeded up by years
- Business continuity | Shift to online processes (across sectors) and remote work/learning
- Innovations in crisis response (contact tracing, info alerts, health/service info, etc.)
- Data for decision-making
- New forms of and spaces for engagement (and threats)
- Reframing digital government | Reimagining digital society

(Image from <https://www.bdo.com/insights>: Examples of widely known digitalization during the pandemic in the Global North)

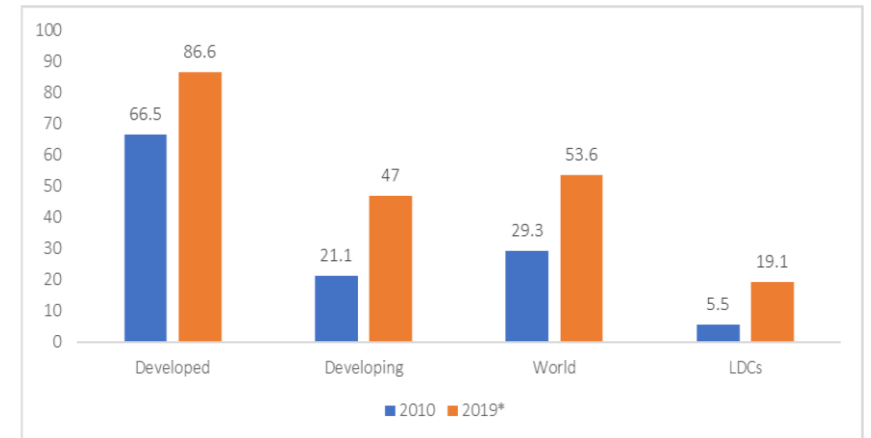
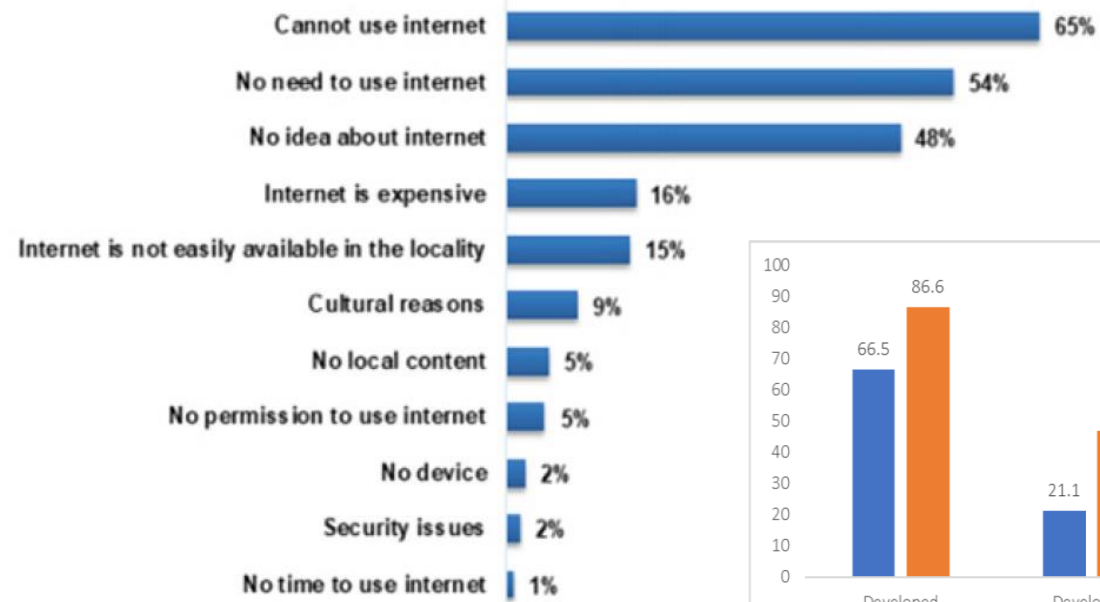


Challenge: Persistent digital divide



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Varying contexts | Differentiated impact



The connected (%), 2010 vs 2019 | Reasons for not using the Internet













Graphs from the Broadband Commission Report 2020 | Image from The Economist, 26Sept2020)

Backdrop: Severe health, humanitarian and socio-economic impact of the pandemic

72.5M cases | 1.6M dead as of 15 December 2020



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 Poverty	 Gender Equality	 Education	 Social Protection	 IDPs	 Slum Dwellers
Global extreme poverty expected to rise for the first time in over 20 years (adding at least 150 million extreme poor by 2021)	Women comprise ~70% of health and social care sector Vast majority of women in informal sector	~1.2 billion learners affected by lockdowns	~55% of world population do not have social protection ~only 20% of unemployed have unemployment benefits	1/3 of internally displaced people live in about 10 countries most at risk of Covid-19's socio-economic impact	~90% of cases seen in cities; at least 1 billion live in slums
 Jobs	 Remittances	 Trade	 Commodities	 Food insecurity	 Tourism
Lost work hours equivalent to 495 million full time jobs	Remittances to LICs and LMICs down by at least 20% (lifeline of around 800 million)	Overall world average fell by 21%	Steep decline (e.g., oil prices down 40% in March compared to start of year)	Global hunger at record level	One of the hardest hit, putting ~120 million jobs at risk and ~\$1.2 trillion revenue

<https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/coronavirus/socio-economic-impact-of-covid-19.html> (Please check back for updated data)

Some lessons from UNDP Support



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COVID-19 Data Futures Platform Explore Insights by Pillar

The UN framework for immediate socio-economic response to support countries and societies in the face of COVID-19 includes five streams of work for an integrated support package. The platform is organized into below themes following the framework:



RESPONSE SHAPES THE RECOVERY FOCUS ON VULNERABILITIES & RISKS INTEGRATED RESPONSE & RECOVERY

COVID-19 Open-Source Digital Toolkit



Technology and innovation can play an important role in tackling COVID-19, accelerating how governments and societies respond to the pandemic. Recognizing this, the UNDP Global Centre is compiling open-source tools to accelerate the digital response to COVID-19. Although not a panacea, technology and innovation have the potential to support governments in their efforts on the ground.

The tools are split into four areas:

- **Disease Monitoring:** Identifying the spread of COVID-19 in a society
- **Prevention and Containment:** preventing the spread of the disease, and supporting efforts to minimize further spread
- **Diagnosis:** helping citizens and governments to confirm whether individuals are infected or not
- **Recovery:** supporting governments and societies in recovering from COVID-19

Recommendations: **Ecosystem** for sustainable, inclusive digital transformation



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Resilient Infrastructure	People-centered strategy	Context Relevance (Truly “smart”)	Enabling framework
Local capacity building (Beyond digital skills)	Cybersecurity Secure digital identity, digital signature	Whole-of-government/society Interoperability Coherence	Trust Confidence in systems and institutions
Access Affordability (Offline roots of gaps)	Partnerships	Financing Funding Investment	... and more

Bottom Line: Real and lasting transformation

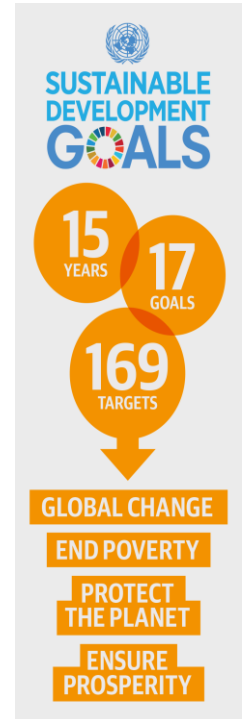


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Digital strategies to achieve the SDGs

Transforming digital landscapes to transform societies and economies for sustainable future



Source: Vision Atlas