



Western Africa Digital Governance Forum



Banjul, The Gambia

Launching Event

13-14 September 2023

Wednesday September 13, 2023

8:00-09:00	Registration
09:00-09:10	Welcoming – Ministry of Communications and Digital Economy
09:10-09:25	Opening statement – His Excellency Minister Ousman Bah, Ministry of Communications and Digital Economy, Gambia
09:25-09:40	Opening statement – Prof. Dr. Delfina Soares Director, UNU-EGOV, Portugal
09:40-10:00	Coffee Break
10:00-11:15	<i>S1: Digital Governance progress in Western Africa: Reality, drivers, challenges</i> Presentation: Saleem Zoughbi (UNU-EGOV) Panel Mactar Seck (UN ECA) Luis Barbosa (UNU-EGOV) tba (World Bank)
11:30-13:00	<i>S2: Digital Governance: New trends and Challenges</i> Presentation A: New trends and challenges, Delfina Soares (UNU-EGOV) Presentation B: Data-oriented governance, Alexandre Barbosa (CETIC, Brasil) Panel & Debate E-Gov Academy Estonia Dr. Jorjoh Ndure Tamedou, Insist Global Gambia
13:00-14:00	Lunch Break
14:00-15:15	<i>S3: The Challenge of AI in Digital Governance</i> Presentation A: Artificial Intelligence in Digital Governance, Abdou Karim Jallow Presentation B: AI Applications in eHealth and Digital Transformation, Nevine Makram Labib, Institute of National Planning, Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, Egypt
15:15-15:30	Coffee Break



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15:30-16:30	<p><i>S4: Communications and identity as key enablers for digital governance</i></p> <p>Presentation A: Non-authoritative Digital Identity, Vitor Fonte, IDINA Project, Portugal Presentation B: The Internet Ecosystem in West Africa, Poncelet O. Ileleji, West Africa Internet Governance Forum</p>
16:30-17:30	<p><i>S5: Digital Governance: International benchmarking and benchlearning</i></p> <p>Panel with</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• EGDl (UN DESA) – Denis Susar (UN DESA) (by zoom)• GovTech (WB) – Cem Denar (World Bank) (by zoom)



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8:00-09:00	Registration
09:00-10:15	<p><i>S6: Accelerating Digital Transformation in West Africa Region</i></p> <p>Panel coordinated by UN ECA with representatives of different countries, Moderated by Mactar Seck (UN ECA)</p>
10:30-11:45	<p><i>S7: Innovative Digital Strategies</i></p> <p>Presentation A: ECOWAS Digital transformations strategy, Marie Saine, ECOWAS Presentation B: UNICEF - Connectivity for children, UNICEF Presentation C: Effective Infrastructures in MENA (Rouda Al Amirali, ITU)</p>
11:45-12:00	Coffee Break
12:00-13:15	<p>Official launching of the WADGov Forum and Closing Session</p> <p>Topics to be addressed include 1) mission / objectives / challenges, 2) organization and governance, and 3) roadmap for 2023-2024.</p> <p>Introduction by Saleem Zoughbi and Luis Barbosa</p> <p>Panel with</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) A representative of UN ECA(2) World Bank (local representative)(3) ECOWAS (local representative)(4) UNU-EGOV (Delfina Soares)(5) A representative of one West Africa country
13:45-15:00	Lunch