

STEAM & ICT

How To Digitize Africa

1. THE GOVERNMENT MUST "GO DIGITAL"

In Africa and around the world governments have started using technology to streamline processes within the public sector and **bring the government closer to its citizens and businesses** but before the government can start digitalizing the population they must lead by example by going digital.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

1. We need to change the mindset of the governments across africa that ICT does not necessarily mean a reduction of jobs but rather it is a transformation of current ways of working
2. It improves and enables future entrepreneurs to have better access and business access. For example, in Rwanda it takes 4 days to create a company but in countries like Algeria and South Africa it takes between 25 to 61 days to create a company. It eases transactions for already existing businesses and can reduce their turnaround time.
3. It will also help governments across africa start reducing corruption by increasing transparency.
4. It will also increase revenue collection for government around africa.

2. HIGH-GRADE AFFORDABILITY ACCESSIBILITY

Internet should be accessible to all to share information and to promote intellectual work, education and businesses but also to facilitate data and communication within africa

Why is this important?

1. It will start reducing the cost of doing business especially for SMEs
2. Improved access to education and better access to ICT programmes.
3. It will also create job opportunities to start using E-learning platforms to start studying ICT & STEAM related programmes and start creating jobs and opportunities.

So what we need is a policy that makes/forces every player in the hi-tech industry such as(Amazon,Facebook,Twitter who have the resources,the man power and the capabilities to make internet accessible to all) and related fields that a certain quota of their services must be offered to the rural communities across africa.

3. STEM ; SCIENCE. TECHNOLOGY. ENGINEERING. MATHEMATICS.

Policies should ensure that they focus on global skills and the skills of the future;

Why is this important?

1. Example: South Korea vs Ghana; the importance of skills of all levels within STEM providing global skills that are not just high level but valuable skills
2. Example: Aviation mechanics, technicians, and engineers are in low supply, but the Aviation industry needs them in high demand.
3. If you're unfamiliar, STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Math. STEAM aims to help artists see and use connections between the art world and the digital world However, STEAM didn't always exist and many countries including africa don't talk or push it forward.