Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Swiss Confederation

Federal Departement of Economic Affairs,
Education and Research EAER
State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO

FACTSHEET

The Global GovTech Partnership

Enhancing poverty reduction through more efficient governments and better service delivery

The Global GovTech Partnership Multi-Donor Trust Fund of the World Bank aims to increase government efficiency, transparency as well as accountability and to improve service delivery to citizens and businesses by applying technological solutions.

Rationale

For all the challenges they pose, digitalization and new technologies promise to transform public sectors in diverse ways. Their use can change the way governments manage public finances, how they deal with businesses or how they interact with citizens. New technologies support governments in providing their services more efficiently as well as in increasing transparency and citizen trust. For example, big data and artifical intelligence can strenghten evidence-based policy-making and reduce corrupt practices.

However, the capacity to leverage technology for public sector transformation is uneven and typically weak in developing countries. By leveraging private sector know-how and solutions the GovTech Global Partnership supports governments in applying these solutions and in keeping up with technological developments.

Objectives and activities

The development objective of the program is to support GovTech solutions to enable well-performing governments. In working towards this objective, the project activities organize around three components.

1. Promoting research and case studies
   Most countries willing to implement GovTech solutions lack the knowledge to do so. The promotion of research and case studies on best practices provides useful guidance for governments to tackle challenges arising from the implementation of new technological solutions.
2. Providing global public goods
   Through the creation of global public goods, the GovTech Partnership makes available cost-free and unrestricted access to tools, knowledge, and solutions. Examples are proof of concepts, prototypes, guidelines, open-source libraries, as well as the organization of summit events, and support to peer-to-peer networking and learning. They strengthen the dialogue between countries, development partners, and private sector representatives.

Country/region	Global
Executing agency	World Bank
Donor countries	Switzerland, Austria
Time period	2020-2024
Total budget	USD 40'00'000
SECO contribution	CHF 1'500'000

GovTech
Putting people first

3. Supporting country and regional activities
   This third component supports specific country and regional interventions such as diagnostics, disruptive technology pilots, or capacity building.

Governance structure

The Global GovTech Partnership is a World Bank managed Multi-Donor Trust Fund. A Partnership Council with a representative of each donor and representatives of both the World Bank and the IMF will provide strategic guidance and direction on the implementation of activities, endorse annual work plans and budgets as well as review annual progress reports.

Results so far

Because the GovTech Global Partnership is at the very beginning of its existence, the definition of a road map and specific activities is still ongoing. However, several activities have already started, such as the development of a report identifying the technology trends with the biggest potential and challenges for public administrations or the elaboration of a working paper examining new methods to use GovTech for fraud detection and anti-corruption efforts. A first beneficiary country has received support to perform a digital transformation scoping exercise.

How to get involved

Any ODA-eligible country can benefit from this program through an enhanced knowledge base and improved access to global public goods. All SECO priority countries are eligible for funding under the specific country and regional activities. Interested applicants may approach the World Bank Governance Global Practice or SECO Headquarter.

Further information and contact details

World Bank website:
https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/governance/brief/govtech-putting-people-first

Program Coordinator at SECO:
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