



High-Level Briefing on Digital Government for Maldives **23 June 2021 (Wednesday), 10:00AM – 12:00PM, Male time**

The last two decades have seen a rapid societal transformation in the way information is processed and consumed, with digital medium dominating all aspects of everyday life. The use of digital technologies has led to a shift in the way people carry out their daily lives. And even as there is a significant progress in the use of information and communication technologies (ICT), frontier technologies such as artificial intelligence, Internet of Things (IoT), assistive technology, blockchain, and virtual reality continue to be innovated and increasingly adopted.

The benefits that accrue from these advances in digital technologies are changing the everyday life of individuals, organizations, and society at large. National governments, in particular, are increasingly leveraging digital government applications to enable better policymaking and effective public service delivery across multiple application domains, such as health, education, food and nutrition security, livelihoods, public order, safety, tax administration, and regulatory processes. The Covid-19 pandemic has only highlighted the relevance of e-government applications, with governments using a wide range of ICTs in contact-tracing applications, algorithmic models for predicting trends, and risk information communications with citizens.

The ***High-Level Briefing on Digital Government for Maldives*** aims to deepen understanding among the country's policymakers on how digital government can advance the sustainable development agenda and their roles in championing effective digital development policies and programmes. The event will also examine global/regional trends on digital government and identify strategies that can facilitate the country's digital government transformation.

Objectives

The High-Level Briefing has the following key objectives:

- Enhance awareness among policymakers and senior government officials on how digital government transformation advances the sustainable development agenda;
- Increase awareness on current global/regional trends on digital government development;
- Deepen understanding of creating an enabling environment for digital government transformation; and

- Emphasize the role of policymakers as champions of the digital transformation of government.

Participants

The event will be attended by high-level / senior officials across ministries as well as members of the parliament.

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Time (Male time)	Description
10:00 – 10:15	<p>Opening Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Kiyoung Ko, Director, APCICT/ESCAP • H.E. Ms. Aminath Shauna, Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Technology, Maldives • Mr. Bokyun Shim, Head, United Nations Project Office on Governance, DPIDG/UN-DESA
10:15 – 10:40	<p>Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global and regional trends of digital government development - <i>the analysis on Maldives ranking in UN E-Government Survey and suggestions for the way forward</i> <p><i>Mr. Keping Yao, Senior Governance and Public Administration Expert, UNDESA/UNPOG</i></p>
10:40 – 11:00	<p>Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importance of internet connectivity and affordability for digital government <p><i>Ms. Anju Mangal, Head of Asia-Pacific Region, Alliance for Affordable Internet, World Wide Web Foundation)</i></p>
11:00 – 11:15	<p>Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital government transformation of the Republic of Korea <p><i>Ms. SeongJu Park, Deputy Director, Digital Government Cooperation Division, Ministry of Interior and Safety (MoIS), Republic of Korea</i></p>
11:15 – 11:40	<p>Presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imperatives for successful digital government transformation <p><i>Mr. Amit Prakash, Associate Professor, International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore (IIIT-B), India, APCICT Resource Person</i></p>
11:40 – 11:55	Q & A
12:00	<p>Closing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Mohamed Shareef, Minister of State for Environment, Climate Change and Technology, Maldives