



Digital Transformation & Gender in German Development Cooperation





The Gender Digital Divide



On average,

12% fewer women than men have access to the internet worldwide. In developing countries, the difference amounts to 16.8%.

ITU [2016] ICT Facts and Figures



Women are 1.6 times
more likely to report lack of skills
as a barrier to internet use.

Google, Asia Pacific Insight Report: women and technology, 2015





#eSkills4Girls

- G20 initiative to raise awareness on the need to bridge the gender digital divide
- Goal of the initiative: to promote education, employment and entrepreneurship of women in the digital world
- Adding to SDGs 4 (Education) & 5 (Gender equality) as mutual efforts to end the gender digital divide















Cyber violence in the G20 statement on #eSkills4Girls

13. Equally, we recognize the need for generating resources to enhance women's and girls' digital privacy and security, including awareness and prevention of cyber violence as critical prerequisites to promote women's and girls' safety in the digital world. Cyber violence, from online harassment to malicious distribution of defamatory and illegal materials related to women and girls, can be a significant barrier to the development of women's and girls' digital skills and we underscore the need to prevent and respond to its various forms.



Annex to G20 Leaders Declaration

G20 Initiative "#eSkills4Girls"

Transforming the future of women and girls in the digital economy

A gender inclusive digital economy

During their meeting in Hangzhou in 2016, G20 Leaders endorsed the G20 Digital Economy
Development and Cooperation Initiative and committed to address ways to collectively leverage
digital opportunities, cope with challenges, and promote the digital economy to drive inclusive
and sustainable economic growth and development. In this vein, they agreed to improve the

20. (v) We encourage active prevention and response to cyber violence to ensure that online spaces are free from gender-based violence and safe spaces to allow women to be active digital citizens.





Implementing the outcomes of the #eSkills4Girls initiative Three new projects starting in 2018

- Education and employment perspectives in the digital world in South Africa
- Integrating digital skills in education systems in Mozambique
- Strengthening female micro entrepreneurs in Cameroon



Strengthening the dialogue in the framework of the multistakeholder-initiative EQUALS (Partnership for Gender Equality in the Digital Age)

- i.a. ITU, UN Women, GSMA, Unilever, UN-University
- BMZ / GIZ leading the Skills Koalition (together with UNESCO)





GIZ Competition "Empowerment of women through digital solutions"

- Using innovative "digital solutions" which specifically strengthen women and girls and help reduce gender-based discrimination.
- Submission of a total of 63 contributions, covering different regions and sectors.
- 3 winners that were funded by the Sector Program "Promoting Gender equality and women's rights" in 2017
- Experiences with implementation are available online:
 - www.genderingermandevelopment.net





Female smallholder farmers gain access to information about plant diseases





Reporting and persecution of cases of violence against women via an app

Informing female garment workers in Myanmar about their rights through a gaming approach.



"We can all do our part to make the Web a more inclusive place."