Republic of Rwanda
Ministry of ICT and Innovation

Backward-Looking Joint ICT Sector Review 2022/2023FY

ABSTRACT

The ICT Backward-Looking Joint Sector Review brings together all ICT Sector Working Group (SWG) stakeholders to engage in policy dialogue and to ensure ownership, accountability and transparency of national medium term development strategies' implementation and monitoring process.

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1.0 Introduction

The Ministry of ICT and Innovation (MINICT) hosted the ICT Backward Looking Joint Sector Review meeting (BWJSR) on 26th October 2023. The meeting brought together all Sector Working Group (SWG) stakeholders: Government Institutions, the Private Sector, Academia, and Development Partners, to engage in policy dialogue and to ensure ownership, accountability and transparency of the National Strategy for Transformation (NST-1) implementation and monitoring process and reviewing the progress of the sector towards ICT policies and strategies.

Under the guidance of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MINECOFIN), the discussions and deliberations of the meeting had the following objectives:

- To assess progress in achieving sector objectives with focus on 2022/23 targets for: NST1 indicators, selected sector performance indicators, and their corresponding policy actions. This will include discussion on catch-up plans in relation to the overall NST/SSP 2023/24 targets and interventions to fast-track implementation of likely unfinished business in NST1 considering available resources.
- To present and discuss budget execution performance for FY2022/23.
- To provide latest implementation status on SDGs indicators already monitored by sectors and to highlight plans for monitoring the additional SDG indicators applicable to Rwanda and currently having clear computation methodologies, but not monitored at the moment.
- To highlight priority areas (maximum of five) for the 2024/25 fiscal year that will inform the planning and budgeting process for institutions in the sector with focus on likely unfinished business in NST1/SSPs.
- To identify lessons learned and priorities (current and emerging) to inform the elaboration of the next generation of NST and SSPs
- To review progress against the implementation of recommendations from the last JSR meetings
- Summary of discussions on implementation of 2021/2022 Office of the Auditor General (OAG) recommendations.
- Backward-Joint sector review Recommendations

2. Success factors under sector

Rwanda has made investments in making sure the schools are connected. Rwanda has 95% 4G coverage and a broadband fiber backbone in all major cities, but due to Rwanda's geography, some areas of the country are hard to reach at an affordable cost and good reliability, using these technologies. In

February 2023, Rwanda officially launched Starlink satellite internet services, to improve access to affordable, fast, and reliable internet connectivity in remote areas.

The Government of Rwanda has already connected 44.5% of public schools across the country via fiber optic, the One Government Network project, and the Giga Initiative. Through the Tomorrow Partnership with the Government of Rwanda, the Tony Blair Institute (TBI) has committed to connecting 50 of the 500 pilot schools.

Rwanda has been setting a great example for circular and sustainable policies for its neighbors in East Africa. As the country has been promoting electronic access in rural areas, it has also increased its e-waste levels. Therefore, Rwanda has now invested in setting up an e-waste recycling facility to tackle this environmental threat. This recycling initiative has already made a large impact in reducing the toxic waste that comes with used electronic devices, and through the public-private collaboration, the otherwise wasteful items get collected, and later either repaired, donated, or dismantled into recyclable and valuable parts. Rwanda seeks to create a sustainable industry that generates less waste and creates new decent jobs. Rwanda has a bold vision to become a carbon-neutral and climate resilient nation by 2050. To achieve this, environmental protection must be a priority. By properly disposing of e-waste, this will reduce the amount of e-waste that goes to landfill. This will support the conservation of natural resources, the creation of green jobs, and the reduction of risks from hazardous materials affecting the health of Rwandans and environment.

This initiative has brought many benefits to the country, and to date, EnviroServe Rwanda has achieved the following: 413 green jobs, 5,430 computers refurbished and re-used in school, 2,778 tons of e-waste collected, 2,500 tons of e-waste dismantled, 550 tons of solar e-waste collected, and 1,648 tons of CO2 emissions mitigated.

After COVID-19 Rwanda has launched a cashless campaign in 2022. This campaign aimed to accelerate the adoption and use of responsible digital payments to every household to further the transition from cash to the digital economy. Payments and eCommerce service providers were part of every caravan to provide necessary tools, services and education to the businesses, in a bid to increase easier access to affordable digital financial services that grow social-economic opportunities for Rwandans as we recover from the huge impact of COVID-19.

Additionally, the protection of personal data and privacy was officially gazetted on 15th October 2021. One of the tenets of this law is the clear and unambiguous consent of an individual to the collection, storage, and processing of personal data, which is a fundamental right. The law now brings Rwanda in line with international data protection standards, vital for the modern digital economy facilitating services such as e-commerce, international financial transactions, and various online services. Some of the primary goals of this law are too

Empower citizens with agency over their personal data, Enable trusted and secure data flows, domestically and internationally, Provide regulatory certainty for existing businesses and prospective investors, and an enabling environment for SME growth, and Accelerate Rwanda's ambitions towards a technology enabled and data-driven economy. This law provides the necessary foundation to transform Rwanda into a data-empowered society, by ensuring all critical stakeholders, starting with government institutions, are attaining the gold standard in personal data protection and privacy.

Furthermore, Rwanda has ambitions to achieve 100% digitization by 2024, and one enabler is smartphone penetration, which allows access to digital services, information, facilitates communication, and promotes business innovations. The broadband policy outlines targets to achieve 80% smartphone penetration among individuals, 90% among households, and 80% broadband connectivity.

Today, out of 3,312,743 households, only 2,586,651 (78.1%) own phones, of which 957,445 are female-headed households and 2,355,298 are male-headed households. In terms of smartphones, only 689,829 households own at least one smartphone, with 149,746 headed by females and 540,083 headed by males. Airtel Rwanda, in partnership with the Ministry of ICT and Innovation, is embarking on an ambitious mission to provide 1.6 million affordable 4G LTE-enabled smartphones to Rwandans.

3. Reflection on current progress against 2022/23 targets, NST1, SSP and SDGs

The ICT sector in collaboration with all stakeholders focused on the following sector outcomes along with their associated indicators from NST1 and other selected sector performance indicators corresponding to policy actions.

3.1 Digital communities empowered and transformed through improved access to information and services using ICT

I. **Indicator (NST1):** % of digital literacy for citizens: To ensure continuous skills development in the ICT sector aligned to the skills of the future, the digital talent policy has been implemented. Additionally, The Digital Ambassadors Program (DAP) is an initiative led by the Rwandan Ministry of ICT and Innovation (MINICT) aimed at increasing the number of digitally literate citizens and their use of e-Government and e-Business services in Rwanda. The Digital Ambassadors manage Services Access Points in all 30 districts in Rwanda and offer digital literacy skills to citizens. It is an innovative way to reach out to the last mile citizen in rural areas where proximity plays a great role in building trust between citizens and the Digital Ambassador. The Digital Ambassadors Project was revised along with concerted efforts from different stakeholders (development partners, telecommunications companies and MINEDUC).

Currently, 35.1%[1] of the citizens aged 15 years and above reported to have attained basic digital literacy skills. It is expected to have this rate updated in the EICV6 (Integrated Households Living Condition Survey).

3.2 Establishment of Vibrant, Competitive, and Innovative ICT Private Sector

I. **Indicator (SSP):** Number of new Technology Companies valued between 100K - One Million USD in Rwanda**:**

To ensure an increase in the number of new technology companies, the Startup ecosystem was strengthened to incentivize both local and foreign companies. Cumulatively, 279 Technology Companies valued between 100K - One Million USD in Rwanda were reported by Rwanda Revenue Authority, 2022.[2] MINICT will closely follow up with the revision of regulations including; Collective Investment Scheme, Investment Code and Partnership Law under the Kigali International Financial Centre as well as incentives aimed at attracting FDI in an effort to position Rwanda as a hub for cross-border investments into the region.

II. **Indicator (SSP):** Number of Innovation Centers established**:**

In collaboration with development partners to support young innovators during ideation stages and development of their innovations, 7 Innovation Centers have been established and operationalized in collaboration with different partners and more innovation centers will be supported by other development partners (e.g., EU, Israel, etc.) at secondary cities and academic institutions.

III. **Indicator (SSP):** Percentage increase of business/companies participating in e-commerce:

Business/ companies that are onboarded on e-commerec platforms are 3,624. To ensure increased participation of business/companies in e-commerce, SMEs and cooperatives have been trained to effectively use and adopt existing e-commerce platforms. So far, 390 companies/Businesses are able to offer services and products using 68 e-commerce platforms.

IV. **Indicator (SSP)** Digitization of Government services delivered online:

The recently conducted inventory assessed the level of the Government's Digitization Journey for a total of 1,828 government services. The report indicated that 58% of these services have been fully automated, and this number is expected to increase through the mass service digitization initiative. More services will be added and made accessible via the Irembo platform.

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[1] http://statistics.gov.rw/publication/labour-force-survey-annual-report-2019

In addition to the 8 sectors Enterprise Architecture (EA) blueprints that were developed earlier, six (6) Sector EA blueprints were developed by RISA's Business Process Reengineering and validated during the FY 2020-2021. Those sectors include JUSTICE, MINISPORTS, MIFOTRA, MoE, SENATE & PARLIAMENT, MYCULTURE of total Businesses (Micro, Small, Medium and Large enterprises combined). There is also Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Go Digital project that has already started with aims to support 1,000 MSMEs to trade online via different e-commerce platforms and so far 115 MSMEs were invited, trained and began trading on E-commerce platforms.

In order to increase participation of more companies, an e-commerce strategy with incentives is being developed. The strategy will be implemented to accelerate the expanded use of e-commerce services in Rwanda.

3.3 Improve Government operational efficiency and citizen satisfaction.

V. Indicator (NST 1) Mobile-broadband internet subscriptions /100 pop

Target reached 25.99%[3] against 17.7% targeted in 2020/21 Financial Year. In order to promote continuous increase in the mobile-broadband subscriptions and smart device penetration, attractive financing mechanisms through the smart device acquisition strategy for low income citizens was developed. This strategy enabled de-risking credit lines that ensure people can purchase affordable smart devices. In addition, the “Connect Rwanda 2.0” initiative was expanded to support existing interventions by putting smartphones in the hands of the unconnected households. This initiative builds on Connect Rwanda 1.0 that distributed the pledged smartphones for over 26,719 beneficiaries across the country.

VI. Indicator(SSP) Public institutions connected to 4G:

Through One Government Network Project and other connectivity initiatives, in 2022-2023FY, 58% of public institutions were connected to broadband internet (4G LTE).

VII. Indicator(SSP) Number of highly skilled people in cyber-security:

200 people have been equipped with high-level cyber-security skills through specialized training and certification for IT professionals.

3.4 Summary of Success Factors or challenges and their effect on the achievements of 2022/2023 targets and Policy Actions:

I. **Success Factors under Digital Communities:**

Connectivity and Infrastructure: Rwanda has invested heavily in building a robust ICT infrastructure, including high-speed internet connectivity. This has facilitated access to digital resources and information for individuals and communities, promoting digital literacy and inclusion.

II. **Digital Skills Development:** The government has prioritized digital skills training and education, ensuring that the workforce is equipped with the knowledge needed for the digital era. This investment has led to a growing pool of skilled ICT professionals.

Challenges:

- **Limited Internet Access in Remote Areas**: While urban areas benefit from robust connectivity, remote and rural regions still face challenges in accessing the internet, hindering the development of digital communities in these areas.
- **Digital Divide**: Disparities in digital literacy and access still exist, leading to an unequal distribution of the benefits of the ICT sector. Bridging the digital divide remains an ongoing challenge.
- **Cybersecurity Concerns**: As digital communities grow, the risk of cyber threats and online privacy issues also increases. Ensuring robust cybersecurity measures is a constant challenge for the sector.

II. **Vibrant, Competitive, and Innovative Sector**

Success Factors:

- **Government Support:** The Rwandan government has implemented policies and initiatives to attract investment and foster a competitive and innovative ICT sector. This includes offering incentives to tech companies and startups.
- **Entrepreneurship Ecosystem**: The availability of venture capital, support networks, and incubators has created a conducive environment for tech entrepreneurs to develop innovative solutions and products.
- **Regional Integration:** Rwanda's strategic location within East Africa positions it as a gateway to regional markets. This proximity to neighboring countries has facilitated trade and collaboration, making it a competitive ICT hub.

Challenges:

- **Competition from Established Markets**: Rwandan tech companies often face competition from established global players, which can make it challenging for local startups to gain a foothold in the market.
- **Access to Financing**: While progress has been made in attracting investment, securing adequate funding for ICT projects and startups can still be difficult, limiting their growth and innovation potential.
- **Regulatory and Policy Challenges**: The sector needs continuous fine-tuning of regulations and policies to keep pace with rapid technological advancements and ensure a business-friendly environment.

III. Government Operation Efficiency

Success Factors:

- **E-Government Initiatives**: The Rwandan government has embraced e-government solutions, streamlined public services and enhancing efficiency in various sectors, such as education, healthcare, and public administration.
- Digital Transformation: The use of technology in government operations, such as digital record-keeping and data management, has improved transparency and accountability.
- **Collaboration with Tech Industry**: Collaboration between the government and tech companies has led to the development of innovative solutions, making public services more accessible and efficient.

Challenges

- **Data Privacy and Security:** With the increasing digitization of government operations, protecting sensitive data and ensuring cybersecurity becomes paramount.
- **Capacity Building:** Continuous training and development of government staff to adapt to evolving technologies is essential to maintain operational efficiency.

4. Budget Execution performance for 2022/23 Fiscal Year

Below is the Budget Execution indicating Budget for the Ministry of ICT and Innovation for 2022/2023 FY.

2022/23 MINICT Budget Execution by programme and sub programme, recurrent and development, domestic and external			
	Allocation (Frw)	**Execution (Frw)**	**% execution**
Programe 1. Administrative and Support services	7,438,728,758 4,557,467,440	9,787,925,216 7,104,717,690	 155.89%
Programme 2: ICT for development	2,881,261,318	2,683,207,526	93.13%
Sub Programme: Innovation & ICT Private Sector Development	811,754,417	613,700,625	76%
Sub Programme: Digital Inclusion and Skills Development	2,069,506,901	2,069,506,901	100%

- Due to The World telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) that took place for the first time here in Rwanda in 2022, the Ministry of ICT went over budget for this Fiscal year. The funds were dispersed late which impacted the budget. The Ministry curates and leads a number of ICT events throughout the year that aim at catalyzing & igniting forward-looking conversations on how technology can be leveraged to drive growth and development. There have been different challenges on approving budget for events throughout the Fiscal year. 5. Identification of priorities for the upcoming fiscal year 2024/2025.

5. The section below highlights proposed priority areas that will inform the planning and budgeting process for the 2024/2025 FY.

5.1. Innovation & Private Sector Development

- Strengthen national innovation ecosystem through supporting early/acceleration stage start-up development and expansion and operationalization of innovation and incubation centres across countries
- Expand E-commerce services

- Accelerate expansion of Kigali Innovation City and implement Smart city initiatives
- Implement the Tech Enabled Innovation Strategy including procurement for innovations

5.2. Empower Digital communities through improved access to information and services

- Promote Digital literacy for citizens
- Create collaborative community co-working spaces and centres of excellence
- Promote Smart device penetration and increase internet connectivity for all citizens

5.3. Digitization of Services

- Mass service Digitization of all Manuel Services through Irembo and other Entities
- Private Sector to invest into the digitization agenda.
- Fully (end-2-end) digitalision of public services
- Awareness, promotion and upskilling users on cloud services

5.4. Develop ICT skills needed to realize a knowledge-based economy (capacity development of ICT professionals)

- Promote education and professional training to ensure the development of skilled workforce in different areas (Software engineering, cyber security, hardware, general computer skills)
- Strengthen Industrial attachment programme for ICT students

5.5. Emerging technologies development

- Capitalize emerging digital solutions (e.g., block-chains, space/aerospace technologies, drones, Internet of Things (IOT), Virtual/Augmented Reality (VR/AR), Artificial Intelligence (AI)/Deep Learning, Robotics, Digital Manufacturing, Open innovations, Utilization of Data, etc
- AI industry promotion through implementation of projects under CAIPI

5.6. Smart Cities

- Deployment of MBAZA citizen portal (in partnership with GIZ)
- Deployment of the Emergency response system (with MoH & RNP)
- Activation of the Smart City hub engagements with minimum 4 districts
- Launch of the Rwanda Smart city index

6. Reflection on the lessons learned from NST1 and SSP implementation to inform the elaboration of the next generation strategies

Rwanda has made significant inroads in emerging as one of the leaders in digital transformation in Africa. Ambitious national and sectoral policies such as the National Strategy for Transformation (NST1 2017–2024), National Information Communication Infrastructure Plans NICI I, II & III 2000–2015), the Smart Rwanda Master Plan I (2016-2020), ICT Sector Strategic Plan (2018-2024), the National Digital Talent Policy (2016) and Rwanda's Vision 2035 and 2050 have paved the way for Rwanda`s digital acceleration. Their common denominator is to ensure that Rwanda transforms into a competitive, knowledge-based, innovation-driven, service-oriented economy and an upper middle-income country by 2035.

The National Strategy for Transformation (NST 1) as the medium-term national strategy (2017 – 2024) Rwanda 7 Years Government Program that implemented the 1st four years of Vision 2050 and the strategy also domesticated the SDGs as well as other continental and regional commitments.

NST 1 is built on 3 Pillars;

1. Economic Transformation,
2. Social Transformation
3. Transformational Governance.

➢ **Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)**

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) was considered a cross-cutting Sector in NST1 across various sectors, including government policies, development initiatives, and business strategies. This means that ICT played a crucial and integrated role across multiple sectors, industries, and areas of development.
NST1 deplored a wide range of use cases where ICT was seen as an enabler, jobs creation, service delivery, accountability, high-tech areas such as Financial Services/Fin-tech/e-payment, , Legal, Security services, and other professional services, Leveraging on ICT tools to visualize major trends and achievement via dashboards for ease of M&E activities.

➢ **Implementation Analysis**:
Implementation of NST1 and SSP has significantly contributed to the development of Digital technologies that has played a critical role in determining economic growth, national security, and international competitiveness. The digital economy has imparted a profound influence on the Rwanda's trajectory and the societal well-being of ordinary citizens. It has affected everything from resource allocation to income distribution and growth.

➢ **Challenges and Obstacles:**

Among the challenges faced by the implementation of NST1 and SSP, were low Knowledge in the uptake of digital solutions provided by the strategies (skills) as well means to utilize the solutions(tools)At the some point, digital acceleration and innovation ambitions often suffered from design-reality gaps where there was disconnects between digital acceleration projects and intended designs and realities on the ground

➢ **Lessons Learned NST1/SSP:**

- Expansion and affordability of last mile connectivity to reach more people, more places, and increase skills and access to digital tools
- Well targeted incentives for catalyzing growth of innovation systems through commercially viable applied research, development and innovation (RD&I) culture
- Sustainable and well targeted cultivation of local talent pool demanded by the market.
- Enhanced private investment in ICT RD&I.
- Digital solutions contributing in measurable ways to increased participation, inclusion and increased job creation among the most vulnerable, women, girls and youth.
- Expansion of easily accessible, paper-less range of end-to-end national and sectoral digital services – based on user-centric, interactive, design thinking principles.
- Coherent planning, implementation, scaling and incentivized downstream adoption.
- Gender equality in access to digital infrastructure and opportunities.
- Data-driven strategic planning and decision-making culture at central and local government level.
- Universities and research organizations need to play an integral, pro-active role in the agenda setting, decision making and implementation of innovation and digital skills development.

Alignment with relevant global, regional, and national policies and standard

6.1 Current and Emerging Strategies for the ICT sector

- The Ministry of ICT and Innovation supported by the Rwanda Digital Acceleration project under world Bank is working on different Policies. Furthermore, the Ministry of ICT is working on a Scenario Methodology approach that will support a data driven policy making. These initiatives are aimed at advancing our national ICT infrastructure and promoting digital innovation and inclusion to continue positioning Rwanda as an ICT hub in Africa. We believe that collaboration with our esteemed

development partners and the active engagement of ICT stakeholders are crucial for the successful execution of these Policies.

VIII. Policies under development:

I. **SMART Rwanda Master Plan II (SRMPII):** This comprehensive five-year strategy for ICT embodies our commitment to accelerating Rwanda's digital transformation and achieving a dignified, resilient, and prosperous society, under the vision of "Inclusive and Innovative digital Transformation for a dignified, resilient, and prosperous Rwanda society". SRMPII centers around four core themes under:

- **Data-driven**: Mindset where optimized use of data stimulates smarter decision-making and innovation.
- Inclusive, User-centric and seamless: Adopting a public service ethos that ensues inclusive and seamless experiences for all Rwanda's, including the most vulnerable
- **Ethical & trusted**: Ensuring digital acceleration that respects privacy, builds trust and online safety for all users
- **Agile and Innovative:** Embracing a digital transformation and innovation ethos that is agile, risk-tolerant and open to disruptive thinking of value creation

a) The key pillars of the SRMP are digital government, digital business and digital citizen

- **Digital Government**: This pillar focuses on providing inclusive, user-driven, and transformative public services. It emphasizes the use of cloud-based, scalable, efficient, and back-end systems. Additionally, it promotes data-driven and innovative public services.
- **Digital Business:** Within this pillar, the emphasis is on the adoption of digital tools and upskilling of workforce. It also seeks to enable digital trade and mainstream emerging and future technologies to drive economic growth.
- **Digital Citizen**: The digital citizen pillar aims to ensure digital skills and equal access for everyone. It also emphasizes the importance of localizing digital transformation and fostering social innovation. Furthermore, it seeks to sustain social dignity through digital rights and data protection.

II. **Rwanda Innovation Strategy**: Our mission is to create a competitive, efficient, and inclusive innovation ecosystem capable of generating locally relevant and impactful solutions with global potential. Under the mission

of “creating a competitive, efficient, and inclusive innovation ecosystem that generates locally relevant and impactful solutions that are primed for scale across Africa and the world”. This strategy aims to address challenges such as a small market size, ecosystem coordination, and low innovation outputs. This is in line with Rwanda’s strategy to be a proof of concept and continued support to nurture an innovative ecosystem. Key Outcomes include:

- **Competitive**: Innovative ecosystem that attracts funding, talent, and international partners
- **Efficient:** Innovative ecosystem that utilizes innovation inputs to creat scalable and impactful outputs
- **Impactful innovation ecosystem:** That creates businesses, Jobs, and benefits for all Rwandans.

III. **Scenario planning process**: The Ministry of Information Communication Technology and Innovation (MINICT) Rwanda’s mission is to address national priorities for economic growth and poverty reduction through the development and coordination of national information technology, communication and Innovation policies and programs, as well as citizen’s empowerment. For that, the ministry has established a policy lab to start developing data driven policy making.

Under that framework, the Ministry of ICT is starting to explore implementation of a scenario planning process. This is a disciplined analytical process to identify the driving forces of future change and key uncertainties, such as demographic trends and technological advancements. This approach aims to develop alternative scenarios of the future, altering decision-makers' mindsets and ensuring preparedness for future opportunities and threats.

The scenario-based planning will identify core issues as focus topics to be studied and led by key decision makers on each core issue. This approach will also Use and development of key data to inform the process and the analytical process and involve experts in the process.
Key issues that have been identified so far include topics such as job creation, food security to name a few.

7. **Progress against implementation of recommendations from the last JSR meetings**

#	Responsibilities	Responsible	Progress
1	Promote digital literacy and engagement with the business sector, including cooperatives and SMEs, to integrate technology into their day-to-day operations and maintain their interest.	MINICT	This is an ongoing exercise with I affiliated agencies
2	Enhance child online protection by raising awareness about parental control measures.	MINICT,NCS,NC DA,MIGEPROF	National Cyber security has been supporting with content classification this exercise is being done with MINICT
3	Introduce digital literacy programs in basic schools to educate children on safe and responsible internet usage.	MINICT	Ongoing exercise throughout the country using different campaigns.
4	Address smartphone penetration by finding ways to encourage citizens to understand the importance of smartphones and access services through them.	MINICT, Partners	Airtel through connect Rwanda phase 2 were. 1.2million devices will distributed
5	Implement quality regulations for devices to ensure smartphones meet the needs and expectations of users on things like battery capacity.	Rwanda standard board, MINICT	The Ministry is working with Rwanda Standard board to indicate t standards of a smartphone

8. Implementation of 2022/23 Office of the Auditor General (OAG) recommendations.

The auditing exercise will start its exercise from 16th October to 17th of November for the year 2022/2023. Auditing exercise for the years 2020-2021, and 2021-2022 reached the implementation rate reached at 45%(Partially Implemented). Regarding what was Fully Implemented we have up to 54% (This includes financial audit, Compliance audit)

9. Implementation status on SDGs indicators already monitored by sectors

The section below explains status, plans and strategies for monitoring additional SDG indicators with clear computation methodologies applicable to Rwanda.

➢ **SDG Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.**

- **Status:** Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills: (computer literacy is currently at 15% and basic digital literacy rate is at 20.4% according to the NISR/Labor Force Survey (LFS) report 2022.
- **Plan/ Strategy to monitor the indicator:** MINICT will continue tracking with NISR to ensure reporting in the next Integrated Household Living Condition Survey (EICV).

➢ **SDG Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.**

From the Recent population census, households with mobile Phones are currently at 78.1% of 52% are owned by Females. This is according to the 5th population census 2022.

➢ **SDG Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation**

- **Indicator**: Proportion of population covered by mobile technology networks.
- **Status**: Currently 2G is covering 99.92% and 3G is at 93.37% while 4G is at 96.6%. The Ministry of ICT and other stakeholders are currently rolling out 5G pilot.
- **SDG Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development**
- **Indicator:** From the Population census the current internet usage is at 22.8% as per house hold.
- **Indicator:** Proportion of individuals using the Internet: Request was made to NISR to start tracking the indicator in the next EICV and in LFS. NISR used to track Household using internet in EICV, however, MINICT requested to track at individual level that the indicator is integrated in LFS questionnaire for every one year reporting frequency
- Highlighted plans for monitoring the additional SDG indicators applicable to Rwanda and currently having clear computation methodologies, but not monitored at the moment.
- **Indicator 1**: Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by type of skill (computer literacy and digital literacy are the two indicators that being reported). With this indicator, the Ministry requested NISR to start tracking this indicator effective next EICV

10. BWJSR Recommendations.

Item	Recommendation	Responsible	Timeline
1	Ensuring Inclusion of people with disabilities in day-to-day programs	MINICT/PARTNERS	Ongoing
2	Women Inclusion in programs and having policy's that work in their favor	MINICT/PARTNERS	Ongoing
3	Continuous discussions with Partners on policies being implemented by the Ministry, to ensure alignment	MINICT	In progress
4	The next generation of NST to focus on outcomes rather than outputs	MINICT	In progress
5	To involve stakeholders when creating policies that will impact their work	MINICT	In progress
6	Ministry and Private Sector to consider ethical linings around AI/fourth Industrial revolution to avoid future Misuse	MINICT/Private sector	Ongoing
7	Private entities to be able to access data (Open data policy) for different innovative ideas leveraging on available data whether private/Public	MINICT	Ongoing