S08 – DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

Digital Transformation, AI, and Data Sovereignty

Sponsored by **Government of Niger — Ministry of Communication and New Information Technologies**
UNDP as integrator and implementing agency; ARCEP regulators, Niger Télécoms, and NIGELEC



ESTIMATED PROJECT COST	LOCATION	FINANCING SOUGHT	RETURN ON INVESTMENT
EUR 25.76 million	**Nationwide. Pilot in Niamey; Phase 2: regional capitals, Smart Villages, and Digital Triangle sites**	**Technical assistance (grants), concessional financing, PPPs, and blended finance** World Bank, AfDB, IsDB, IFC, ITU, UNESCO, UNCDF, Giga (UNICEF/ITU), bilateral partners, private investors, and national counterpart funding	**At least EUR 90.99 million in investment mobilized**

Approximately EUR 25.48 million (amount in the official list). Additional financing is to be mobilized for Digital Triangle infrastructure (at least EUR 90.99 million). All monetary figures are in EUR. Converted estimates are indicative and rounded; source estimates may use different valuation bases.

Investment opportunity

In 2024, only 16% of Nigeriens used the internet and 21.3% had access to electricity; public systems remain fragmented and manual, and strategic data are dispersed. A gender gap also persists: 12.2% of women have a financial account, compared with 17.6% of men.

There is a foundation to build on: Smart Villages has connected 7.3 million people in more than 2,000 villages, and digital taxation in Niamey has increased revenue. The challenge is to move from isolated projects to government-led transformation measured in services, revenue, and jobs, while attracting at least EUR 90.99 million in investment.

AT A GLANCE

PROJECT SPONSOR	Government of Niger — Ministry of Communication and New Information Technologies
FINANCING STRUCTURE	World Bank, AfDB, IsDB, IFC, ITU, UNESCO, UNCDF, Giga (UNICEF/ITU), bilateral partners, private investors, and national counterpart funding
TARGET POPULATION	Service users and public administrations; women, young people, and SMEs (at least 40% women and at least 60% young people among trainees, subject to validation); rural populations through assisted access points
CAPACITY	At least 20 priority public services digitalized; at least EUR 90.99 million in infrastructure investment targeted
REFERENCE	Project sheet submitted by the sponsor

PROJECT STATUS

– **Feasibility study** : To be conducted for the Digital Triangle (C1 site selection and feasibility studies to be launched; indicative amounts).

Objectives

Make digital technology a driver of public-sector performance and an economic infrastructure: more effective government, control over data, and at least EUR 90.99 million in digital and AI investment.

- Measure transformation in processing times, services, and revenue rather than equipment
- Build digital sovereignty through law, interoperability, national cloud and data centers, and skills
- Simplify before digitalizing; begin with a few high-impact services
- Prepare a bankable project portfolio for the Digital Triangle

Components

1. A — Governance: national strategy, coordination, legal framework (data, AI, cloud, and cybersecurity), and responsible AI (UNESCO)
2. B — Digital government: interoperability, at least 20 paperless services, taxation and business procedures, and civil servant training
3. C — Sovereign infrastructure: Digital Triangle (feasibility, ESIA, cloud/HPC/AI), bankable projects, PPPs, and blended finance
4. D — Inclusive economy: AI occupations, startups (STARTUP IA Niger, UNIPOD), MSMEs, and community access points

Expected outcomes

Expected results (indicative 2027–2030 targets)

- Digital and AI strategy adopted and budgeted; interministerial coordination operational
- At least 20 digitalized, interoperable public services, prioritizing taxation, business creation, and civil registration; reduced processing times and costs and increased revenue
- At least 1 bankable Digital Triangle project; at least EUR 90.99 million in investment mobilized
- Certified civil servants and professionals (at least 40% women); startups and MSMEs supported

Strategic alignment

'Digitalization' accelerator ('Three Pillars, Three Accelerators' vision), PRR 2025–2029, UNSDCF 2023–2027, AU Digital Transformation Strategy 2020–2030, UNESCO Recommendation on AI, Global Digital Compact, AES, and AfCFTA; SDGs 5, 8, 9, 10, 16, and 17.

Breakdown by workstream (strategic note: EUR 25.91 million over 48 months)

WORKSTREAM	EUR
Workstream A — Digital and AI governance (EUR 2.18 million)	2,195,265.85
Workstream B — Digital government (EUR 12.37 million)	12,439,839.81
Workstream C — Infrastructure and investment (EUR 5.69 million)	5,716,838.15
Workstream D — Inclusive digital economy (EUR 5.67 million)	5,698,544.26

Partnerships sought

Technical partners

UNDP (integrator), ITU, UNESCO, Giga (UNICEF/ITU), UNCDF, UNIPOD, STARTUP IA Niger, and IDCA

Financial partners

World Bank, AfDB, IsDB, IFC, bilateral partners, and private investors

Government role

Digital ministry (lead) and sector ministries; ARCEP, Niger Télécoms, NIGELEC, and data and cybersecurity authorities

Risks and mitigation

RISK	PLANNED MITIGATION
Weak institutional coordination	Mandated interministerial mechanism; roles clarified from Phase 1
Insufficient energy and connectivity	Solar power and storage, modular infrastructure; offline and SMS channels
Cyberattacks and data leaks	Security by design, audits, and business continuity plan
Delays in adopting legal instruments	Priority legal instruments, legal support, and service sequencing
Digital Triangle financing	Bankable modular projects; guarantees and blended finance
AI bias and misuse	Prior assessment, human oversight, and avenues for redress

INVESTOR CONTACT

ANPIPS
(+227) 20 35 36 84
Email: service.courrier@anpips.ne
Website: www.anpips.ne

INVESTOR INTRODUCTIONS

ANPIPS is the single point of contact: it connects investors with the project sponsor and arranges B2B meetings at F2IN 2026.