Digital Transformation Centres

The lack of digital skills is the greatest barrier to digital inclusion, especially in developing countries and marginalized communities.

What is the DTC Initiative?

The Digital Transformation Centres (DTC) Initiative was launched in September 2019 by ITU in partnership with Cisco with the objective of supporting countries to strengthen digital capacities of citizens, particularly in the underserved communities. The selected DTCs become part of a global network of institutions to accelerate the uptake of digital technologies among citizens and boost the capacity of young entrepreneurs and SMEs to succeed in the digital economy.

How does the Initiative Work?

Governments: Provide support to the DTCs in their country and ensure the work of the DTC is aligned with national digital strategies, programmes and priorities

Private sector (national and multinational): Provides funding, expertise, training content, infrastructure and logistics
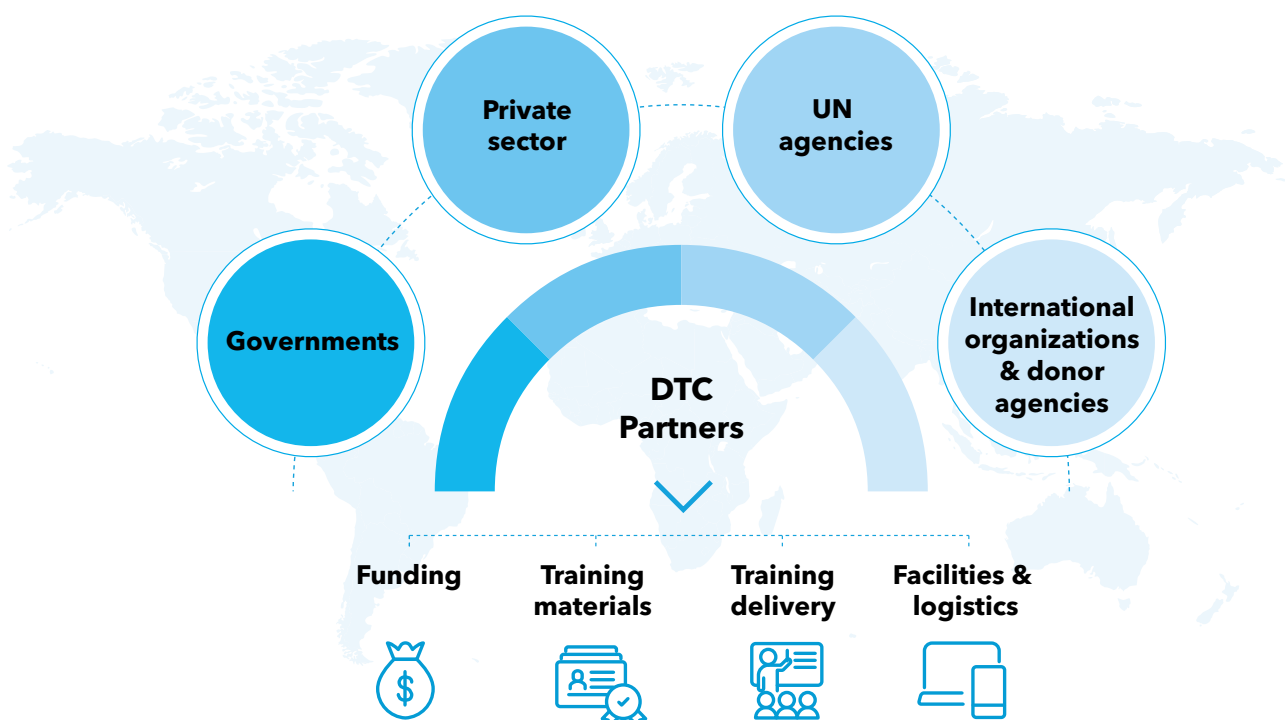
International organizations and development agencies: Provide funding, logistics, infrastructure at local level and expertise

Training delivery partners: Provide certified content/curricula to be used by DTCs

Local community stakeholders: Provide facilities at local level, community mobilization and buy in.

Private sector

UN agencies

Governments

International organizations & donor agencies

DTC Partners

Funding

Training materials

Training delivery

Facilities & logistics

Who can become a DTC?

DTCs are national institutions that commit to engage as active partners in the Initiative and meet the following requirements:

Government Support
- ✓ DTCs should be institutions with a government mandate to develop digital capacities in marginalized communities
- ✓ Non-governmental training institutions require government endorsement to become a DTC
- ✓ DTCs should be aligned to national digital transformation initiatives.

Infrastructure
- ✓ Physical infrastructure to deliver training, including classrooms with a sizeable capacity (minimum 30 students at a time)
- ✓ A network of centres and facilities at local level through which training can be conducted
- ✓ Ability to establish networks or partnerships with centres at community level that could be used to deliver digital skills training at basic and intermediate level
- ✓ Equipment facilities such as computers and desks
- ✓ Internet connection with a minimum speed of 1.5 Mbps
- ✓ Electricity, as well as off-grid backup power supply.

Resources
- ✓ Financial resources that are allocated to the delivery of training at basic and intermediate level
- ✓ Ability to mobilize financial resources to scale the DTC activities
- ✓ Qualified instructors to conduct training under the DTC framework.

Benefits of being a DTC

- Free access to training materials developed by ITU, Cisco and other partners
- Free access to ITU and Cisco online learning platforms
- Support from partners at national, regional and global level
- Access to the train-the-trainer programme organized as part of the DTC Initiative
- Networking opportunities through the global network of DTCs
- Use of ITU and Cisco brand for promotion and marketing of courses
- Opportunity to award internationally recognized certification to local citizens
- Being part of advancing the national digital inclusion agenda.

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