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Skills Enhancement in the Formulation, Development and Implementation of ICT Strategy in the Public Sector

Course Overview

The **"Strategic ICT Leadership in the Public Sector"** is a 5-day intensive program focused on the lifecycle of a National or Institutional ICT Strategy. Many African institutions struggle with "pilot-itis" (endless pilot projects that never scale) and misaligned IT investments. This course equips senior officials and ICT professionals with a structured framework to align technology with national development goals, manage complex implementations, and navigate the unique infrastructure and regulatory challenges of the African continent.

Program Objectives

By the end of this program, participants will be able to:

- **Formulate** a comprehensive ICT strategy that aligns with national/institutional mandates.
- **Assess** digital maturity using the **African Union Digital Maturity Model**.
- **Develop** a bankable ICT roadmap with clear KPIs and resource requirements.
- **Lead** the implementation of Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), including digital ID and payment systems.
- **Govern** ICT investments to ensure transparency, cybersecurity, and value for money.

Course Coverage (Modules)

Day 1: Strategic Context & Formulation

- **The Global & African Digital Landscape:** Understanding AU Agenda 2063 and the Digital Transformation Strategy for Africa.
- **Strategy Formulation:** Moving from "ICT as a Department" to "ICT as a Strategic Enabler."
- **Stakeholder Mapping:** Identifying and engaging the "Digital Ecosystem" (Private sector, NGOs, and Citizens).

Day 2: Situational Analysis & Readiness

- **The SWOC Analysis:** Analyzing Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Challenges in an African context (Power, Connectivity, and Literacy).
- **Digital Maturity Assessment:** Using tools to determine the "As-Is" state of your institution.
- **Benchmarking:** Learning from African success stories (e.g., Rwanda's Irembo, Kenya's e-Citizen).

Day 3: Developing the Strategic Roadmap

- **Defining the Pillars:** Infrastructure, Digital Skills, Legal/Regulatory, and Digital Government Services.
- **Resource Mobilization:** Budgeting for ICT, exploring PPPs, and engaging development partners.
- **The Implementation Plan:** Breaking the 5-year strategy into actionable 12-month work plans.

Day 4: Implementation & Change Management

- **Governance Models:** The role of the e-Government Authority (e.g., e-GA in Tanzania or NITA in Ghana).
- **Interoperability & Standards:** Ensuring systems talk to each other across different ministries.
- **Managing the "Human Element":** Change management strategies to overcome institutional resistance to digitalization.

Day 5: Monitoring, Evaluation & Cybersecurity

- **Impact Tracking:** Setting and measuring KPIs for digital service delivery.
- **Cybersecurity Resilience:** Integrating security into the strategy from Day 1 (Security by Design).
- **Action Planning:** Each participant develops a "Strategy Brief" for their home organization.

Target Participants

- **Chief Information Officers (CIOs)** and Heads of ICT Units.
- **Permanent Secretaries** and Directors of Policy/Planning.
- **Policy Makers** from Ministries of Communication and Digital Economy.
- **e-Government Agency** leads and Regulators.
- **Senior Project Managers** overseeing national digital infrastructure projects.

Expected Outputs

Participants will graduate with a **"Strategic ICT Leader's Portfolio"** containing:

1. **A Draft ICT Strategy Framework:** A 5-page high-level structure for their own institution.
2. **A Digital Maturity Scorecard:** A self-assessment of their current institutional digital state.
3. **An Implementation Risk Register:** Identification of the top 5 risks to ICT strategy in their country and mitigation plans.
4. **A 100-Day Action Plan:** Immediate steps to initiate or refresh the ICT strategy upon return to office

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