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Communications Minister unveils Ghana's digital economic policy, strategies

BY CLIFF EKUFUL

THE Ministry of Communications and Digitalisation has unveiled the country's Digital Economy and

Policy Strategy to guide its digital evolution.

Dubbed: 'Ghana Digital Economy Policy and Strategy 2024' the new document seeks to address the opportunities and the direction for the country's emerging digital economy.

It will also help leverage digital technologies to foster economic growth, improve public services, and ensure equitable access to digital resources.

Launching the policy documents in Accra yesterday, the Minister of Communication and

Digitalisation, Mrs Ursula Owusu-Ekuful, said the new policy would replace the 2003 document which had been in operation since its formulation.

She stated that the policy was to enable the country stay in tune with the fast evolving environ-

ment of digital technology as well as harness its full potential for socio-economic development.

Mrs Owusu-Ekuful underscored the transformative power of digitalisation while emphasising that access to digital technologies and services was no longer a

luxury for the privileged few but a human right for all.

She said the expansion of a high-speed e-Government network connecting 951 public institutions, backed by 3,500 kilometres of fiber optic cables laid in 2023, was a key milestone by the Akufo-Addo goods in bridging the digital divide.

Additionally, she noted that the government was laying the groundwork for a digitally inclusive future and this would ensure that all Ghanaians benefit from the enormous opportunities presented by the digital age.

The Minister explained that the policy focused on five key areas including; entrepreneurship, digital skills, digital government, universal access, and emerging technologies.

These, she said, were intended to strengthen the country's economic base, promote an ecosystem in which technology

drives inclusive growth, and open doors for both individuals and companies.

Furthermore, she indicated that it was the government's strategy to leverage digital technologies to address the economic needs of the country both in the present and the future.

"By aligning digital efforts with job creation and GDP growth, the policy aims to ensure that technology becomes a powerful engine for inclusive development, reducing poverty and enhancing prosperity for all Ghanaians."

"Through digital technologies, we are confident of seeing significant progress in entrepreneurship and public service efficiency," she said.

The Minister expressed gratitude to the Ministry's key partners in the development of the document, especially the World Bank and the Tony Blair Institute.

Moreover, she appealed for greater collaboration across sectors, emphasising that private-sector investment is essential for addressing connectivity gaps.

Mrs Owusu-Ekuful used the occasion to reaffirm the need for adaptive regulation to foster innovation while protecting citizens from risks like fraud and misinformation as Ghana positions itself as a leader in Africa's digital future.

"This is our roadmap to securing a prosperous digital future for all Ghanaians," she said.



• Mrs Ursula Owusu-Ekuful (middle) with other dignitaries launching the policy documents