

**Intergovernmental Group of Experts on  
E-Commerce and the Digital Economy**  
*First session*

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**Geneva**

**Contribution by**

**ARGENTINA**

## **Contribution by Argentina**

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### **THE WAY FORWARD SESSION**

*In order to contribute to further discussions and to help defining the work program of the next session of the IGE, we then describe some domestic experiences focused on SME and KBS.*

- ***“Programa 111 Mil” (111K Programme)<sup>1</sup>***

In order to prevent bottlenecks that could restrict growth of KBS, the government launched in 2016 “Programa 111 Mil”. It is an ambitious plan that aims to develop entrepreneurship (1,000 new entrepreneurs), strengthen education in universities (10,000 new professional in some KBS areas) and certify 100,000 coders in the next four years. The certificate is issued by the Ministry of Production and endorsed by the Ministry of Education and KBS industry. There are currently 47,000 students in the programme all over the country.

Besides developing software industry, “111 Mil” is expected to support digital transformation of other industries and promote digital inclusion. In fact, most students come from other industries and many of them have low-qualified jobs such as taxi drivers, hairdressers, babysitters, housewives, maids, kitchen assistants, waiters, among others.

- ***National Programme for Regional KBS Clusters Development***

There are 30 KBS clusters in Argentina, where more than 38,000 people work in 1,000 firms. The National Programme for Regional KBS Clusters Development was created to strengthen and develop

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<sup>1</sup> In Argentina there are almost 424,000 registered private jobs in KBS which contrast to employment in other sectors because of their skills (More than 83% of KBS workers have attended the university ), formality (Registered jobs represent 76% of employment in KBS) and higher wages (Wages in KBS are 9.3% higher than the average wage). When considering also freelancers, entrepreneurs and informal workers, more than 1.4 million people work in KBS activities.

emerging clusters through capacity identification as well as cooperation promotion and strategic planning. In addition, the programme supports the creation of IT districts in main locations.

- ***SMEs DIGITAL INNOVATION PROGRAM***

The program was created in order to improve the connectivity, technological development and digital infrastructure of SMEs. It enables SMEs the access to technological products and services through provision of credit.

It also includes training and development of digital leadership and management for owners, managers, middle managers, and workers. Software and Hardware purchase and update. Integral Connectivity coordinated with Custom Duty reduction for electronic devices.

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