

## *Financing South-South Cooperation for Building Digital Capacities*

Seminar on South-South Cooperation for Building Digital Capacities for  
Industrialization in Africa  
04 October 2018, Geneva  
Dr. Ricardo Gottschalk  
UNCTAD

UNCTAD (2018)  
has proposed a  
ten-point digital  
cooperation  
agenda for  
supporting  
structural  
transformation:

*Building a regional data economy*

*Building regional cloud computing infrastructure*

*Strengthening regional broadband infrastructure*

*Promoting e-commerce in the region*

*Promoting regional digital payments*

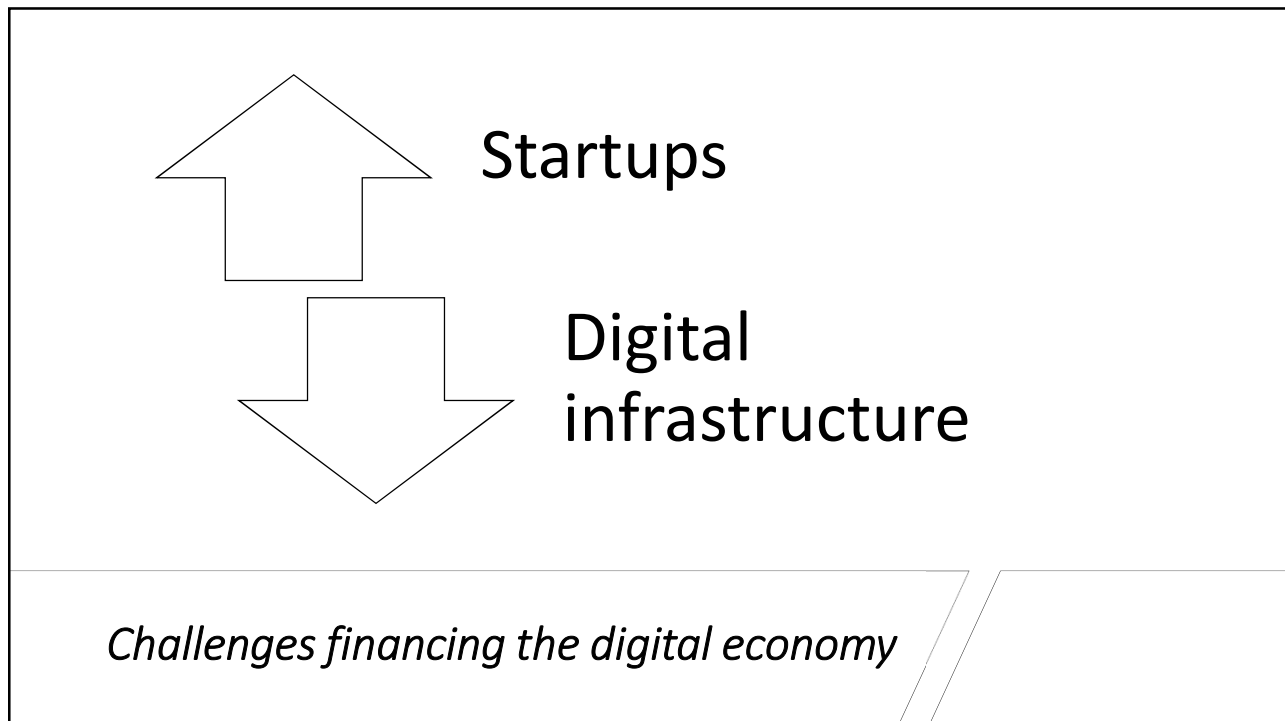
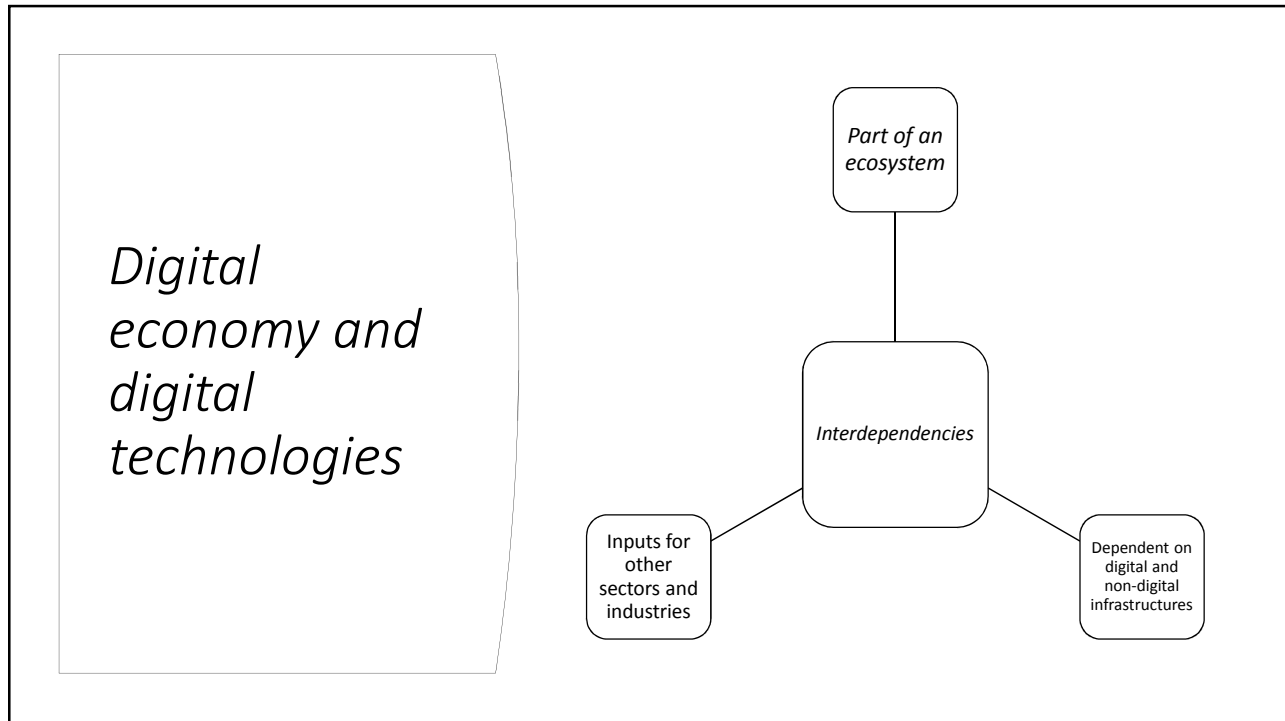
*Progressing on single digital market in the region*

*Sharing experiences on e-government*

*Forging partnerships for building smart cities*

*Promoting digital innovations and technologies*

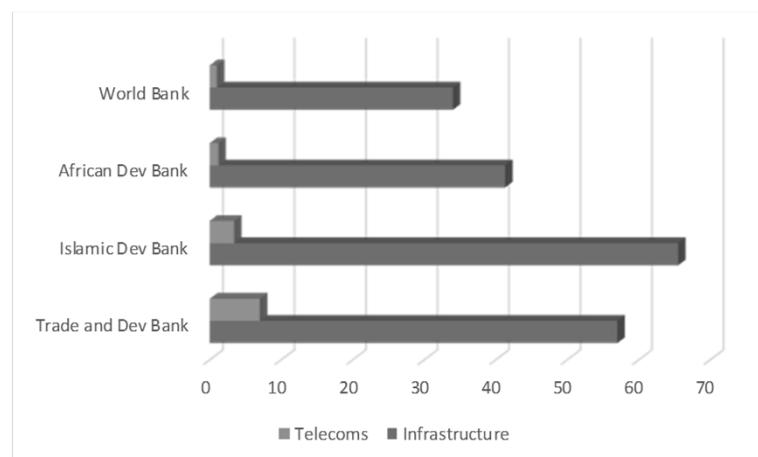
*Building statistics for measuring digitization*



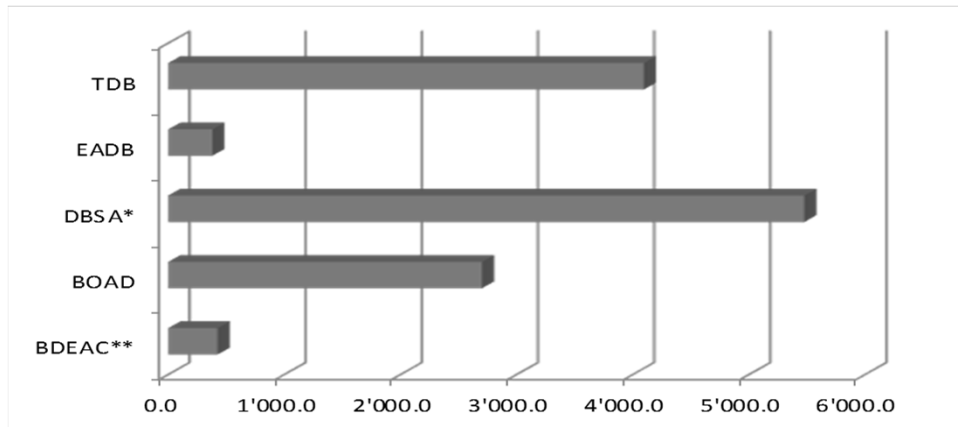
*But the real challenge starts with financing regional digital infrastructure...*

As we move from the private sphere to the public realm: moving from a world of private returns to one of generation of a public good with societal returns in the long term.

*How to finance it? How to finance such a regional initiative in Africa?*



Africa's sub-regional development banks – Total assets  
(US\$Million, 2015)



*Other  
sources of  
finance?*

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An African  
digital/development fund?

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Sovereign wealth funds

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Diaspora bonds