

Digital for Development Platform: DGD Meeting update March 4, 2020

The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the 2019 activity and 2020 action plan of the **Digital for Development platform**, coordinated by **Close the Gap** and **Agoria**.

D4D	Description/Status							
Major milestones	Timing:							
	Three-year extension from March 1, 2019 until February 28, 2022							
	Milestones:							
	1. Kindling.be becomes Digitalfordevelopment.be (Sept 2019) and new look and feel							
	2. Nigeria Mission March 20-23, 2019							
	3. Tech for Dev Workshops							
	4. D4D Power Sessions							
	5. Partnerships							
	6. Preparation of Rwanda/Uganda Mission March 24-28, 2020							
Program Objectives	The Belgian Digital for Development platform pursues the following objectives:							
	1. Provide an inclusive and easily accessible networking opportunity for all Belgian development cooperation stakeholders							
	and potential partners interested in D4D (including governmental and non-governmental actors, private sector companies,							
	trade agencies, academic institutions and research centers, informal groups and networks, etc.);							
	2. Support Belgian development cooperation actors to identify digital solutions for their development interventions;							
	3. Enable the exchange of contacts, good practices, lessons learned and evidence on D4D;							
	4. Stimulate corporate social responsibility and promote investments in social and sustainable enterprises in developing countries;							
	5. Ensure links and collaborations with other platforms such as Educaid, BecauseHealth, be-gender, be-troplive, Belgian SDG Charter (hosted by The Shift), etc. regarding their D4D promotion activities.							
	In order to achieve these objectives, we have defined a series of activities that aim to be inspiring, easily-accessible and as							
	pragmatic as possible for the D4D stakeholders, with one and only continued mission in mind: "Build a bridge and create new							
	partnerships between the Belgian private sector and the development sector in realizing the Sustainable Development							
	Goals."							





Activity Report (3/2019-2/2020)

The following provides an overview of the **different D4D initiatives** put in place from 3/2019 to 2/2020 by Close the Gap and Agoria. Please note, the unexpected Belgian government resignation that took place in Dec 2018 generated a six-month uncertainty period which lead to a slower than expected program start. The D4D extension program was finally approved in June 2019. While not significant, this resulted in slightly lower than expected results.

Nigeria Mission



Watch the official after-movie here.





Timing: March 20-23, 2019

- 2nd D4D mission with 35 participants (18 startups/scaleups, 7 NGOs/non-profits, 1 academic, 4 journalists, 5 public institutions)
- 19 press review articles and 25 articles about Wecyclers/King Baudouin Foundation African Development Prize event
- 11 tech-related visits with over 50 speakers in 3 days 1/2
- Some concrete results (not based on extensive survey):
 - $\circ\quad$ Help launch of webmonks (Startup in AI) before, and after the mission
 - o Partnership between **Damian Foundation and Elewa** to set up new elearning solution
 - o Launch of blockchain application within Via Don Bosco, created with Settlemint





- o Launch support of Myimpact.org, startup in impact visualisation through video
- Contact through investor session that led to potential 1 million\$ investment in NAMe Recycling (Belgium & Cameroon based recycling company specialized in plastic waste recycling).
- Helped put Belgium on the map for Tony Elumelu Foundation with several unplanned visits to Brussels since the mission. Ex: they organized a high level conference at the European Commission on April 10, Wecyclers prize at Royal Palace on June 12 and other visits

 Co-creation startup winner visit of Nigerian Amina Rufai in July – discussions with Robovision about intelligent fruitscanner application

Testimonials:

From: Lotte Van der Stockt < Lotte. Vander Stockt @openvid.be > Sent: mardi 8 octobre 2019 17:15

To: Julie de Bergeyck < julie.de.bergeyck@close-the-gap.org > Subject: Re: Official Invitation: 3rd D4D mission to Rwanda/Uganda

Dag Julie,

Ik ben er zeker van dat het goed opgevolgd zal worden, maar ik zal het nog eens benadrukken.`

Jij bedankt voor de geweldige samenwerking.

Nigeria was once in a lifetime, zal ik nooit vergeten.

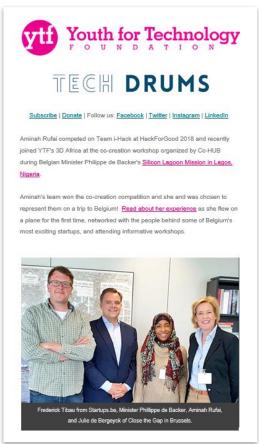
Vriendelijke groet,

Lotte Van der Stockt

Woordvoerder Open Vld Kamerfractie

+32 477 47 18 32





http://www.youthfortechnology.org/aminah-belgium-2019/





"Tech for Dev" Workshops



Tech for Development Workshops

10 October

Digital Marketing

16 October

Blockchain opportunities

28 November

Mobile Apps

More info here

federatie .AGORIA

CLOSE THE SERVICE SHEET SHEET



Based on last year's learning, this series of "tech for Dev" workshops were specifically created for non-profits and NGOs who want to learn more about the possibilities of certain technologies. They are not meant to be a training but rather provide insight on the possible applications in the field of work of NGOs in Africa and elsewhere. They also help identify possible technology vendors. They purposely usually take place in tech-related environments. Some outcome:

- Win-win partnership with NGO Federatie and shared budget
- Tech speakers showed interest in this niche audience
- 2-hour format with several speakers followed by sandwich networking lunch
- 65 registrants for Digital Marketing on Oct 10, 2019 at Facebook Offices









55 registrants for **Blockchain on Oct 16 2019 at Hub Brussels offices**



59 registrants for Mobile Applications on Nov 28 2019







- From "Digital coaches", this project has evolved towards "D4D Power Sessions" to scale the original co-creation sessions. The goal was originally have 3 NGOs meet with 3 digital experts for 3 hours to discuss their digital needs to increase their impact.
- The first pilot took place on Feb 20, 2020 with two NGOs Echo Communications and Red Cross.
- We will debrief on March 6 to finetune the process and try to sync with the Agoria Digicoach program.
- In 2019, one of our objectives was to better involve our partners. Some actions were:

Organised D4D workgroup on June 6, 2019 hosted by and at DGD with nine partners – however outcome did not bring

expected results.





- Great on-going partnership with **Startups.be/Scale-ups.eu** in organizing 3rd mission (importance of this mission for FIT, AWEX, Hub Brussels)
- Fruitful partnership with NGO Federatie and Acodev
- Extended partnership with Ondernemers voor ondernemers



Partnerships



Active partnership with Enabel (Arnaud Leclercq, Bart Cornille, Kirsten Van Kamp, Ann Flahaut)

- Meet with **FEB/VBO Vanessa Biebel** on July 5, invited us to present at the SDG Forum on Sept 24 2019.
- Investigated co-organizing large networking events with Betroplive and Startups.be (Supernova in Nov 2020)

Brand & Communication update



More digital technologies for more impact in development cooperation?

Visit digitalfordevelopment.be

AGORIA GAP

Based on a thorough brainstorm with our **communication agency, Vintage**, we refreshed our communication look & feel and changed the online platform name from Kindling.be to digitalfordevelopment.be to improve understanding and avoid confusions.

The **landing page digitalfordevelopment.be** was updated as were our communication guidelines, that included a **new logo**, a **new roll-up and new banners** for our different initiatives.

The webpage http://close-the-gap.org/D4D is continuously updated. The D4D program is often mentioned in Close the Gap posts and on Agoria website.

From 3/2019 to 2/2020, **35 posts on Facebook delivered nearly 19,993 views**. **36 posts on Linkedin with 21,694 views and 32 posts on twitter for 37,791 views**.





Digitalfordevelopment. be (ex "kindling.be")

More digital technologies for more impact?

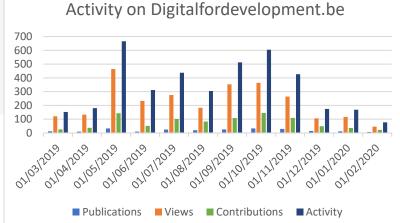
Ignite partnerships between the private tech sector and actors of Belgian development cooperation on digitalfordevelopment.be

Register here

- 809 users
- 321 registered organisations

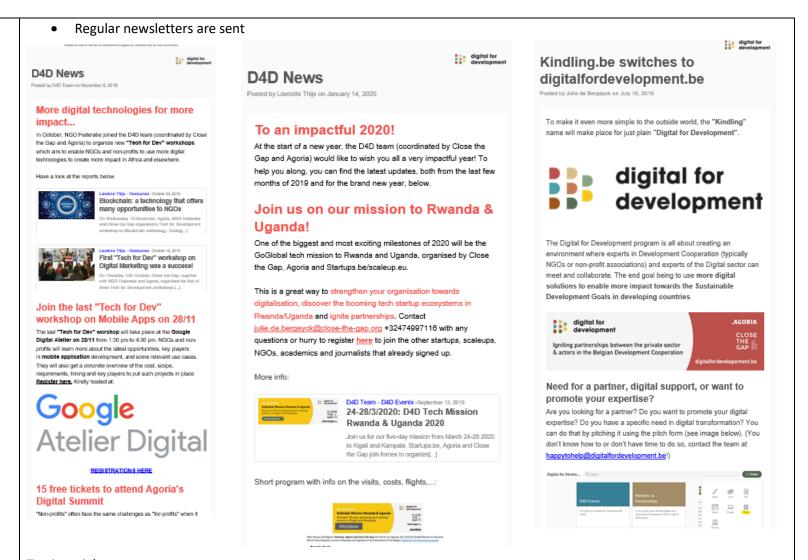
digital for development

THE GAP SECOND









Testimonial:

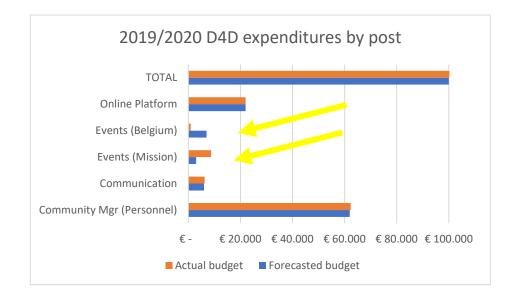
"I was delighted to join the Kindling platform earlier this year; a few weeks after the announcement of our Pitch for Partners – looking for partners interested in innovative projects for sustainable food-, I was contacted by BelgianCampus (based in South Africa) to discuss a potential partnership. This resulted in constructive discussions with our local partners in Benin who confirmed their interest. A few weeks ago, we signed a Memorandum of Understanding and we are making good progress in developing the Aquaponics project in Benin." Quote from Pascale Van Assche, Executive Director of the Foundation Hubi & Vinciane, Benin





Project success criteria	350 (achieved 321) member organisations vs 250 last year
(Year 3/2019-2/2020)	850 (achieved 809) active users vs 500
	Min 55 private companies involved in development vs 25
	5 private companies who have increased their investments in development vs 2
	3 partnerships between private and development actors
Budget update	See below. Next steps:
	Send letter by March 5 to ask 20% remaining budget for 3/2019-2/2020
	 Send letter by March 5 to ask 80% of new budget for 3/2020-2/2021

	D4D Expenses (Excluding VAT)	Type of cost	Q1		Q2	Q3		Q4	Paid	aid Forecasted		Proof?	
Cash	Freelance Project and Community Manager (65%)	Personnel	€	18.763	€ 13.300	€ 1	14.250	€ 16.031	€ 62.344	€	62.000	OK	
In-kind	Agoria and Close the Gap management (in man/days)	Management &	€	2.400	€ 2.400	€	2.400	€ 2.400	in-kind			OK	
		support											
In-kind	Close the Gap Internships	Personnel	€	1.800	€ 1.800	€	1.800	€ 1.800	in-kind			Zoe Budsworth (Feb-May), Charity Mithamo (May) Noa	
												Metta (June/July), Romane Bloch (June/July), Thomas	
												Billam (August), Anton Jongbloet (Oct 2019-Jan 2020),	
												Donnela Mutuku (Feb 2020 - ?)	
Cash	Communication : new landing page, banners, promotion, url registration, etc	Ad agency			€ 6.000			€ 250	€ 6.250	€	6.000	OK	
Cash	Usage Elium Cloud Platform (software as a service) 1.75* 1000 users*	Online tool	€	5.250	€ 5.250	€	5.250	€ 5.250	€ 21.000	€	21.000	OK	
Cash	Elium tool training & coaching	Online tool			€ 1.000				€ 1.000	€	1.000	OK	
Agoria	Mid event - 100 attendees	Events							€ -				
Cash	Workshops/cocreation	Events	€ 78		€ 157	€	680		€ 914	€	7.000	OK	
Cash	Discovery missions organization (See below expenses) + 2020 mission	Events	€	7.573				€ 1.135	€ 8.708	€	3.000	OK	
	preparation												
In-kind	Agoria contribution to	Events	€	500	€ 500	€	500	€ 500				Room on 20/2/2020, room and catering on 28/4/2020	
In-kind	Discovery missions communication (video & foto) - contribution of KBS	Ad agency	€	3.000					in-kind			OK	
	TOTAL		€	39.363	€ 30.407	€ 2	24.880	€ 27.366	€ 100.215	€	100.000		







Action Plan (3/2020-2/2021)

The following provides an overview of the different D4D initiatives we plan to in place from 3/2020 to 2/2021 by Close the Gap and Agoria.

Overall D4D Approach After roughly 3 years of managing the D4D ecosystem, we feel there is a need to evaluate where we stand today and where we want to be in 3 years time. We are convinced that there is huge potential for more intense D4D-related activities, but we are constrained by the insignificant budget and limited involvement of essential stakeholders. We therefore propose to organize a **D4D stakeholder workshop** to challenge and redefine the vision and approach of D4D, together with the following actors: DGD, Enabel, the Minister's Cabinet, EU DevCo representatives and NGO Federatie/AcoDev. We believe there are a variety of funding and support opportunities on the European level, driven by the "no Aid but Trade" credo, that we can leverage with guidance from DGD. This will reinforce the perception that Belgium is at the forefront of D4D on the EU level. We also encourage the creation of a steering committee on D4D with the forementioned actors, to professionalize the activities and to critically evaluate the outcomes. Finally, we expect the workshop to produce concrete action points to work on for the coming years, through existing or newly created initiatives. For the online D4D.be platform, we want to capitalize on the current ecosystem and focus on creating qualitative projects and partnerships with the organizations that show an established interest for D4D, rather than striving for more output numbers an

sich. We prefer quality over quantity, and therefore propose to reduce the proactive efforts to enlarge the online D4D community, although we will continue to register all individuals and organizations that partake in workshops etc.

Mission to Rwanda/Uganda

24-28/3/2020

GoGlobal Mission Rwanda & Uganda

Discover Africa's booming tech startup scenes in Kigali and Kampala.

Are you interested?



CLOSE THE ONLOGINAL SALVA

startups.be

.AGORIA

Timing: March 24-28, 2020

- 3rd D4D mission with 43 participants (16 startups/scaleups/entrepreneurs, 17 NGOs/non-profits, 3 journalists, 7 public institutions)
- On the program: 19 tech-related activities with over 50 speakers in 5 days across 2 countries
- Great collaboration with Startups.be. Agoria is officially included as co-organizer

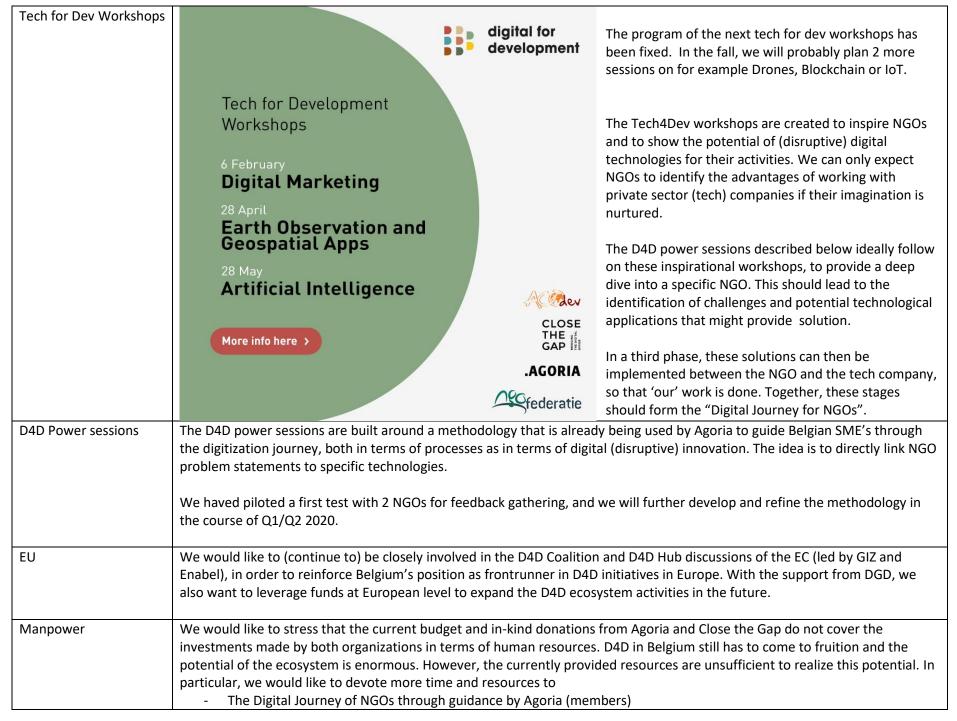




	Nice partnership with Enabel. Next year, we consider co-organizing the next mission with Enabel
Communication plan	We have briefed our communication partner, Myimpact.org, to do a video which purpose is to explain what D4D is all about by showing achievements, best practices and testimonials of D4D stakeholders. We hope to include a quote from the next minister too. By showing material, partners and achievements of the past 2 years, we want to inspire even more partnerships over the next 2 years.
	We will also maintain the (quasi) monthly newsletter, highlighting important D4D events and milestones. The communication team of Close the Gap and Agoria will sit together soon to discuss a joint communication plan for the coming months.
Large networking event	We have provisionally budgeted 6000 euros for organizing a larger networking event at Agoria in Q3 or Q4. We would like to know whether there are any upcoming announcements or launches from DGD that might make such an event worthwhile and interesting for the attendants, and we expect the D4D stakeholder workshop to produce valuable insights that might also show the relevance of such an event.
	We will look into the possibility of co-organizing an event with one of the stakeholders, and we were asked to partake in a large NGO Federation event in September 2020 to represent the D4D community.











	- Evaluation of the D4D efforts and impact measurement
	- Involvement of key stakeholders for the development of new activities or the upscaling of existing ones
Partnerships	The D4D Program manager will organize face-to-face meetings with representatives of every important stakeholder of the D4D ecosystem in order to clearly assess their view on D4D and the needs that they identify or the things they have to offer. Simultaneously, evaluative questions will be posed regarding the D4D efforts of the past 3 years and the involvement of these stakeholders therein. We want to make sure that the D4D initiatives are complementary to what stakeholders like Enabel, the Shift, etc. carry out.
Evaluation	In June, personalised emails will be sent to all 3rd and 2nd mission participants as well as workshop attendants to gather feedback on the partnerships that have resulted from the D4D activities. Special attention will be given to:
	 Increase in investments, preferably related to the context of development cooperation or the SDGs Creation of partnerships between NGOs and private sector actors
	In case the creation of the steering committee is successful, we will ask the committee to investigate proper evaluation methods to also assess qualitative results from D4D initiatives, on top of the quantitative KPIs.
Project success criteria	350 member organisations vs 321 last year
(Year 3/2020-2/2021)	900 active users vs 809 last year
	Min 65 private companies involved in development vs 55 last year
	5 private companies who have increased their investments in development
	 3 new partnerships between private and development actors
D4D.be	We still have to update the projects & resources database with input from DGD from 2019
	We will look into the possibility of promoting matchmaking through the D4D.be platform, if human resources allow it





Budget D4D 3/2020-2/2021

	D4D-Be	Type of cost	Q1 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	Year 2020
Cash	Project and Community Manager (65%)	Personnel	€ 15.675	€ 15.675	€ 15.675	€ 15.675	€ 62.700
In-kind	Agoria and Close the Gap management (in man/days)	Mgmt & support	€ 2.400	€ 2.400	€ 2.400	€ 2.400	€ 9.600
In-kind	Close the Gap Internships	Personnel	€ 1.800	€ 1.800	€ 1.800	€ 1.800	€ 7.200
Cash	Communication: new video, banners, promotion, url	Ad agency	€ 5.000		€ 1.000		€ 6.000
Cash	Usage Elium Cloud Platform (software as a service) 1.7	Online tool	€ 5.250	€ 5.250	€ 5.250	€ 5.250	€ 21.000
Agoria	Mid event - 100 attendees	Events	€ 6.500				€ 6.500
Cash	Workshops/cocreation	Events		€ 1.500		€ 2.300	€ 3.800
Cash	Discovery missions organization	Events	€ 3.000				€ 3.000
In-kind	Agoria contribution to	Events	€ 2.000	€ 500		€ 500	€ 3.000
In-kind	Discovery missions communication (video & foto)	Ad agency	€ 3.000				€ 3.000
	TOTAL		€ 44.625	€ 27.125	€ 26.125	€ 27.925	€ 125.800

ANNEX:

Date 💌	Publications 💌	Views 💌	Downloads 💌	Comments 💌	Likes 💌	Contributions 💌	Activity 🔽
01-03-19	12	121	2	0	3	26	153
01-04-19	10	133	3	0	1	38	180
01-05-19	33	464	10	0	8	143	666
01-06-19	10	233	10	0	3	51	312
01-07-19	25	275	2	1	6	101	437
01-08-19	20	183	4	0	0	83	305
01-09-19	26	353	8	0	3	108	513
01-10-19	33	364	23	2	6	146	604
01-11-19	29	264	4	2	5	109	426
01-12-19	14	106	1	1	0	49	174
01-01-20	12	117	3	1	0	36	169
01-02-20	7	46	1	0	0	23	77



