Principles *for* Digital Development

Using the Digital Principles to Evaluate the Viability and Sustainability of Digital Development Programs

Overview:

The Digital Principles provide a framework for how organizations can evaluate the high-level technical aspects of both nascent and ongoing programs. To facilitate this type of evaluation, consider the criteria and key questions in the table below.

While some Digital Principles relate to only certain aspects of a project, each Principle can still guide a program officer in thinking about the core considerations of stakeholders, geographic contexts, and program accountability.

Evaluation Criteria	Key Questions	Relevant Digital Principles
 Technical viability and relevance	• Have you conducted a **landscape assessment** of the current technologies available in the region? • Have you organized **user groups** to appropriately **test the early versions** of your program? • Have you **written use cases and user personas to understand each stakeholder** who will be involved in the project process?	Understand the Existing Ecosystem Design with the User Reuse and Improve
 Effective program deployment	• Are you **actively working with the larger digital development community** to get iterative feedback on your program? • Does your **solution allow for real-time and rapid data collection** for getting feedback in a timely manner?	Be Data Driven Reuse and Improve
 Scaling up and respecting institutional capacity	• Have you **collaborated with the digital development community** to understand why your project should or should not be scaled? • Have you **accounted for increased costs and any unknown challenges** that may arise during scaling? • Does the future of your **project empower existing institutions** and communities?	Design for Scale Be Collaborative Build for Sustainability
 Accountability and program sunsetting	• Have you properly **engaged with stakeholders to understand your project's results** and how it should be closed out or sustained? • Did you ensure that any sensitive data was dealt with in a **secure and responsible manner?** • Are you **leveraging the open source community to get critical feedback** and understand any lessons learned from your project?	Build for Sustainability Use Open Standards, Open Data, Open Source, and Open Innovation Address Privacy and Security