



## Concept Note

### Knowledge sharing sessions on the use of the ITU Academy online platform to support the scale up of the African Girls Can Code Initiative

#### 1. Background and Introduction

The African Girls Can Code Initiative (AGCCI) was commissioned by UN Women, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC) Department of Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development and Department of Women, Gender and Youth Division. It aims to train and empower a minimum of 2000 young girls aged between 17-25, across Africa to become computer programmers, creators and designers, placing them on track to pursue studies and careers in Information Communication and Technology (ICT), coding among others. The initiative has two key strategies namely: coding camps and mainstreaming ICT and gender into the national curricula and promotes the implementation of national media campaigns to involve role models such as women in ICT, female teachers in schools to inspire young girls to engage in the ICT sector. Through an on-line platform now hosted on the ITU academy, the initiative aims to enable increased outreach among girls, trainers, and mentors.

The implementation of the first phase took place between 2018 and 2021 with funding support received from the Government of Denmark. The second phase was launched in April 2022 and targets 11 AU Member States namely Burundi, Niger and Mali, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Senegal and Democratic Republic of Congo with funds mobilized from the Government of Belgium, Siemens AG (German based technological company) and UN Women Finland. Implementation has been led by UN Women Liaison office with the technical support of the UN Women Country Offices in partnership with relevant government sector ministries and other key stakeholders including Civil Society Organizations and the private sector. Towards the launch of the second phase, a pool of Training of Trainers (TOT) from the 11 countries were trained in Dar es salaam, Tanzania on the standardized training module to be used during national coding camps in 2022 and 2023. Following the launch, it was agreed that the online platform is hosted on the ITU Academy that provides additional capacity and functionalities to support the scale up of the initiative. The training content from the first phase was successfully migrated onto the ITU Academy with different modules on Soft skills and Technical skills developed and made available on the ITU Academy.

#### 2. Objective

The knowledge sharing sessions aim to equip the trainers from the different countries with knowledge on how to use the ITU Academy online platform, develop and upload additional content to support the effective delivery of the coding camps through national programmes. Through these sessions, the trainers will also exchange experiences and aim to become champions to share the knowledge obtained and build a community of practice within their respective countries to ensure sustainability of the initiative.

#### 3. Expected outcome/outputs

- Trainers equipped with knowledge on the use and different functionalities provided by the ITU Academy online platform to support the scale up of AGCCI.
- Information shared on the different modules available for the AGCCI course with guidance on how to develop, update and upload training material for continuous improvement.
- Enhanced collaboration among the trainers to effectively integrate the different online modules during the delivery of the coding camps.

#### 4. Format

The knowledge sharing sessions will be delivered virtually over a period of two days from 14:00hrs to 16:30hrs East African Time through a zoom platform. Interpretation services in English, French and Portuguese will be available to support the different languages from the respective countries and the training materials will be shared.

#### DRAFT AGENDA:

##### Day 1:

<b>Time:</b>	<b>Activity:</b>
14:00hrs -14:15hrs	Opening and brief introduction of the session
14:15hrs - 14 :45 hrs	Overview of the ITU Academy platform and functionalities
14:45hrs -15: 15hrs	Overview of the AGCCI Course and available modules
15:15hrs -15 :30hrs	Q& A
15:30hrs-16:10hrs	Focused discussion on selected modules; Part 1
16:10hrs – 16:20 hrs	Q&A
16:20hrs – 16:30hrs	Wrap up of day 1

##### Day 2:

<b>Time:</b>	<b>Activity:</b>
14:00hrs -14:15hrs	Brief recap from day 1
14:15hrs - 14 :45 hrs	Focused discussion on selected modules; Part 2
14:45hrs -15: 00hrs	Q&A
15:15hrs -15 :30hrs	Discussion on approaches to enhance and update existing content
15:30hrs-16:10hrs	Discussion on methods to integrate the online modules during the delivery of the coding camps
16:10hrs – 16:20 hrs	Q&A
16:20hrs – 16:30hrs	Wrap up of day 2 and Closing