Giga: An initiative to connect every school to the Internet, and every young person to information, opportunity and choice

ITU Regional Development Forum for Asia-Pacific

Digital Services For Digital Development

November 3, 2020

RIGHT NOW
Half of humanity does not have internet access

WHICH MEANS
Those without internet today will not have good jobs in the future

www.gigaconnect.org | info@giga.partners

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Why is this only possible now?

1. **Financing**. New global financing instruments built can be more sophisticated than the advanced market commitments of GAVI

2. **Connectivity technology**. Connectivity expansion through low earth orbit satellites and mesh technologies now make building coverage easier.

3. **Accountability**. We have new ways to transparently monitor progress and ensure service continuity (e.g. blockchain)

4. **Focus**. Concentrating on "schools" as an entry point for bid construction gives us a laser-focus and a unique "edge" to bring connectivity investments into target communities

Colombia

Schools in existing database

7000 additional schools located when AI was used in satellite imagery

Giga is a convener

Giga acts as convener between funding opportunities and connectivity projects for schools in disconnected areas and, ultimately, their communities.

Funders and Supporters

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Partner Countries

Providers

Giga helps funders hold governments and providers to account through clear target-setting and timeline management
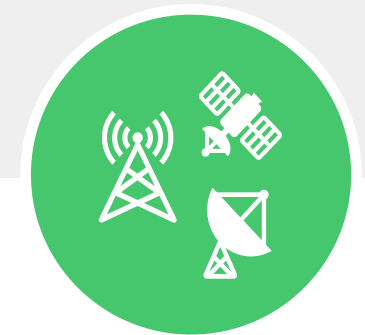
Giga provides grants and technical advisory services to help governments in project preparation

Giga enables relevant regulation, and establishes & shares best practices in mapping connectivity demand, identification of funding, project preparation, project delivery and post-delivery device adoption and empowerment

What does Giga add?

Highlights

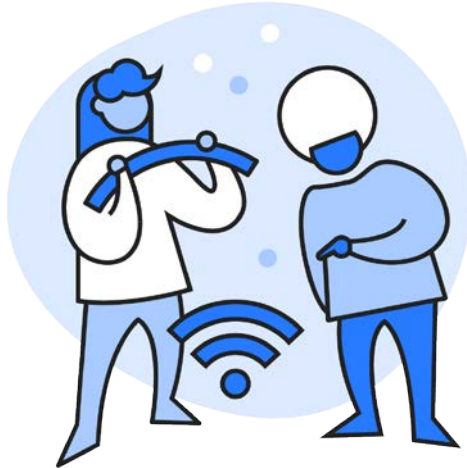|	
UNICEF, ITU, and strategic partnerships with Government and Private Sector	▪ Country Plans w/ every govt ▪ Support to COVID-19 response with connectivity and remote learning solutions ▪ Research to develop financial models to fund connectivity
Ability to layer public and private money (i.e. GAVI++)	▪ National Budgets (Education, Health) ▪ Creation or Expansion of USFs ▪ Donors and Investors ▪ Broadband Commission Working Group on School Connectivity
Regulatory and Network & Digital Infrastructure Expertise	▪ Regulatory frameworks fostering a competitive ICT environment ▪ Products, services and expertise on Telecommunication/ICT network and digital infrastructure ▪ Holistic and scalable digital strategies and services to empower digital societies
Focus on the child (digital skills & education)	▪ Government Programs to connect schools ▪ Infrastructure Programs ▪ Education solutions: remote learning, teachers' training, etc. ▪ Entrepreneurship and Digital Finance

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Engaging with Giga

Map schools to identify connectivity gaps

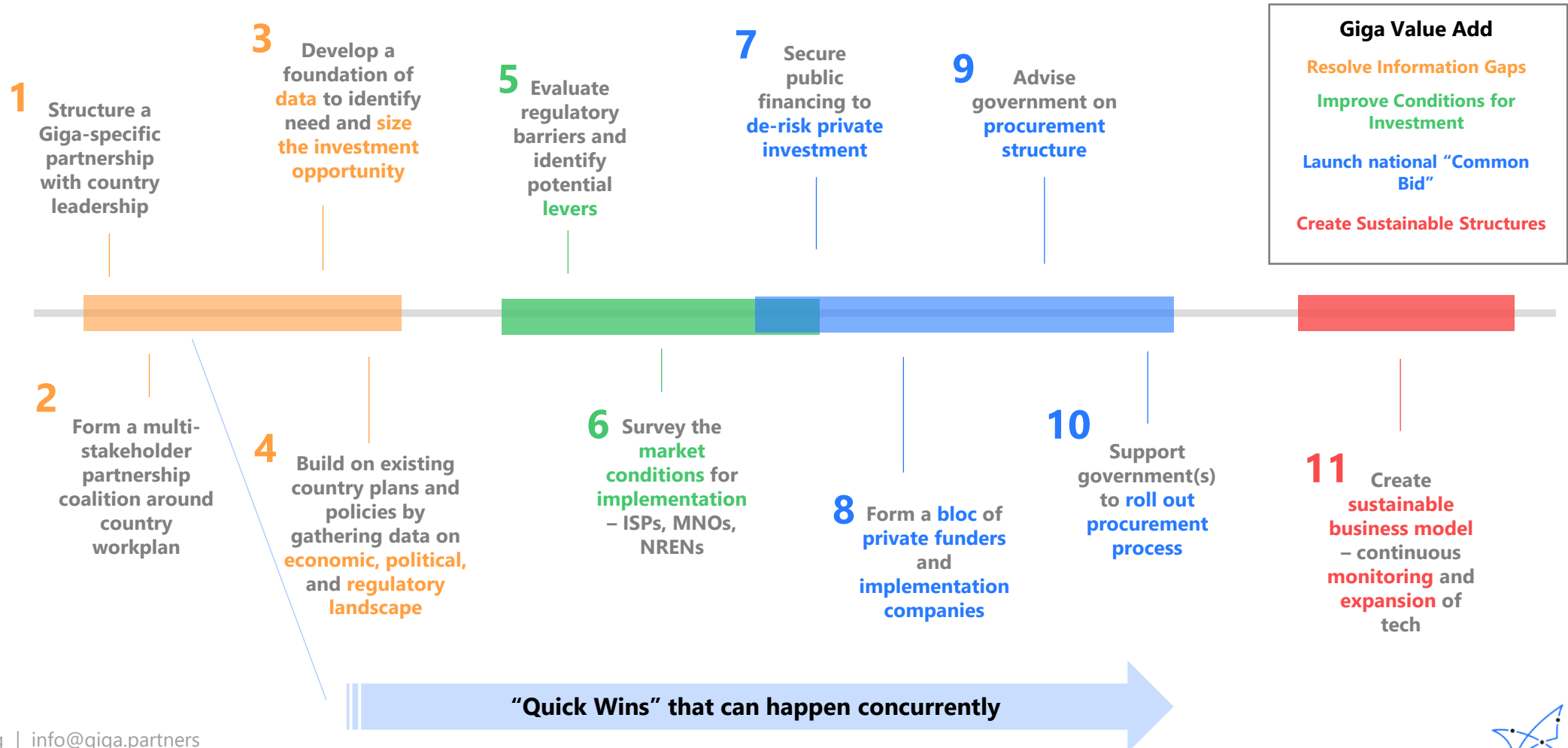Build affordable and sustainable **Finance** models

Implement fit-for-purpose infrastructure to **Connect** schools and ultimately every community and every citizen

Empower learning and other skills and services via appropriate Digital Public Goods

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Giga Country Progress Dashboard

Updated Aug 6, 2020

	STEP 1 Government Agreement	STEP 2 Multi-stakeholder Partnership Coalition	STEP 3 Project Connect: School + Connectivity Data	STEP 4 Country Data and Analysis	STEP 5 Regulatory and Policy Framework	STEP 6 Service Provider Market Landscape	STEP 7 Public Financing	STEP 8 Bloc of Private Funders	STEP 9 Structure Procurement Process	STEP 10 Issue Public Procurement	STEP 11 Sustainability and Accountability
KENYA				■		■	■	■			
SIERRA LEONE	■			■			■				
NIGER							■				
RWANDA	■										
ZIMBABWE						■					
BENIN											
TOGO											
KAZAKHSTAN	■	■									
KYRGYZSTAN	■	■	■	■			■				
UZBEKISTAN		■	■				■				
OECS		■	■								
EL SALVADOR									■		
HONDURAS							■				
COLOMBIA			■								

AFRICA CENTRAL ASIA LATIN AMERICA + CARIBBEAN ✓ GIGA READY

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The **Broadband Commission** Working Group on School Connectivity provided Giga with a broad and diverse expert Advisory Group

The Digital Transformation of Education:
Connecting Schools, Empowering Learners
September 2020

BROADBAND COMMISSION
FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Key consultation group for Broadband Commissioners who provided advisory and advocacy guidance on the development of Giga in it's first year

The Working Group also examined the issues that many governments face when developing and deploying school connectivity initiatives and produced a report introducing a methodology and framework for connecting schools to the internet, and highlighting the work of Giga and UNESCO's Global Education Coalition (video available here)

The work on School Connectivity is continuing under the Giga Interim Experts Group and the new Broadband Commission Working Group on Digital Learning

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Giga is highlighted in the UN Secretary General's Roadmap for Digital Cooperation as a Key Way Forward to achieve Universal Connectivity*

1A: Every adult should have affordable access to digital networks

1B: Have a broad, multi-stakeholder alliance, involving the UN, create a platform for sharing digital public goods

We recommend that by 2030, every adult should have affordable access to digital networks, as well as digitally-enabled financial and health services, as a means to make a substantial contribution to achieving the SDGs. Provision of these services should guard against abuse by building on emerging principles and best practices, one example of which is providing the ability to opt in and opt out, and by encouraging informed public discourse.

We recommend that a broad, multi-stakeholder alliance, involving the UN, create a platform for sharing digital public goods, engaging talent and pooling data sets, in a manner that respects privacy, in areas related to attaining the SDGs.

* See https://www.un.org/en/content/digital-cooperation-roadmap/

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Contact us

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