

The Digital Impact Alliance's vision is a world in which the underserved benefit from digital technology.



The Opportunity and Challenge

Advancements in digital technology are profoundly impacting society but have been slow to reach many in the developing world. The Digital Impact Alliance (DIAL) is committed to identifying the most effective and efficient digital solutions to speed service delivery to reach many more people and position countries to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Advancing digital inclusion to achieve the SDGs.

DIAL's Focus

DIAL has three primary aims: to expedite the deployment of proven software and technology platforms, expand mobile distribution channels, and ensure responsible, widespread access and use of network data. We conduct research and demonstration projects across these areas.

DIAL's work to expedite the deployment of proven software and technology platforms includes:

- **Information, Communications and Technology (ICT) platforms and gap analysis:** Working with the International Telecommunications Union, DIAL published an analysis of available software platforms across sectors to inform donor and country-level digital investments, minimize duplication of efforts, and promote the re-use of proven technology. The methodology and requirements will be validated in select countries.
- **The Open Source Center (OSC):** The OSC provides technical, community and financial support and guidance to developers of open source software for humanitarian and development programs. The OSC convenes a vibrant and inclusive community of engineers who build free and open source software and practitioners who use it to promote knowledge sharing and collaboration. DIAL and OSC partners co-invest in both software projects and human capacity to improve the ability of the development sector to incorporate software platforms into their programs for the underserved.
- **The Principles for Digital Development:** DIAL advocates for policies in digital development and builds sectoral capacity, acting as a steward of the *Principles for Digital Development*. This work includes creating “how-to” products like “Beyond Scale” and “Mobile Capability Model” which provide practical advice to development practitioners.



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DIAL's work to expand mobile distribution channels includes:

- **Messaging applications for international development:** In addition to mapping out capabilities of existing mobile service provider networks, DIAL analyzes the common use cases for messenger platforms to achieve international development goals across sectors and regions. The team is currently working with technology implementers to adapt their solutions for use in development projects.
- **Mobile network integration:** DIAL is working to estimate the aggregate demand for services by mobile network operator (MNO), use case, sector, and country. This estimate will inform a joint value proposition for MNOs and the development sector in bulk procurement of mobile services.
- **Innovative financing:** DIAL explores innovative funding options for mobile network services, data and software. In one effort looking across industries, DIAL co-funded work with the Tableau Foundation to understand what **lessons** can be applied from improvements in vaccine procurement to market failures in digital technologies in emerging markets.



DIAL's work to ensure responsible, widespread access and use of network data includes:

- **In-country data partnership and process models:** DIAL is currently running several projects in Africa, working with government ministries and regulators, MNOs and data analytics platform providers and global development organizations. Current initiatives are focused on health and agricultural sector data as a starting point to understand what insights matter and testing alternative operational, contractual and security best practices required to scale the use of data consistently across development projects.
- **Data platforms:** DIAL invests in existing data analytics platforms (e.g., Flowminder, OPAL) to deliver multiple open data analytics platform products that any development actor could leverage in their future programs. These platforms are being refined based on the team's published research on cross-sectoral questions which network data can address and findings on how MNOs can better leverage D4D to help achieve the SDGs profitably.
 - **Ecosystem support to leverage D4D:** DIAL is developing a common learning agenda with key partners including GSMA, the World Bank, UNICEF and private sector actors to leverage collective efforts in identifying which market, operating and governance models will deliver the most impact in the D4D sector.



To learn more about the Digital Impact Alliance, visit:
www.digitalimpactalliance.org
or get in touch with the team at **info@digitalimpactalliance.org**.