GIGA Region/Country Engagement Methodology

Design

1 Engage
Identify and engage a GIGA Lead Organization/Lead Country as an Influential Champion for connectivity and digital skills for young people across a broad group of stakeholders (governments, private sector, civil society)

2 Align
Develop a GIGA shared agenda, including high-level vision, principles, and targets to be achieved through the initiative (key to align with national and regional ICT strategies and other stakeholder plans e.g. funders)

3 Structure
Establish the partnership structure for GIGA and sign an agreement to drive collaboration and mutual accountability among organizations. Build in a transition strategy for long-term sustainability

Implement

4 Assess
Establish working groups per GIGA pillar and collectively identify gaps, barriers and opportunities for school connectivity and digitalization to be addressed at country level. Determine pre-requisites such as investment, policies, capabilities & partnerships required

5 Plan
Collaboratively define specific goals, timelines and funding approaches, and elaborate action plans to deliver outcomes in the four GIGA pillars. Plans include partner roles and expectations; roadmap and milestones to be reached

6 Implement
Implement GIGA action plans by experimenting with new collaboration approaches, financial and technical innovations, and bringing together necessary stakeholders. Identify and set up **quick wins** for early progress and momentum

Monitor and scale

7 Monitor
Track progress of GIGA action plans and leverage milestones to drive progress including high-level global leadership convenings and in-country partnership meetings

8 Review
Review the GIGA partnership agreements, strategies and structures as needed to seize new opportunities over time

9 Scale
Scale proven initiatives for extending affordable access to connectivity and providing digital public goods and services, documenting and sharing lessons and innovations developed through in-country or global / regional partnership networks

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Design	Key actions	Outputs / Deliverables
1 Engage **Identify and engage a GIGA Lead Organization / Lead Country** as an Influential Champion for connectivity and digital skills for young people across a broad group of stakeholders (governments, private sector, civil society)	✓ Identify a lead organization / lead country ✓ Discuss roles and responsibilities ✓ Agree on the terms of engagement ✓ Identify potential countries and organizations in the region who might be interested to participate in the initiative	- **Letter of Intent (LoI)** between the Lead Organization / Lead Country, UNICEF and ITU - **Announcement of the collaboration** in a high-level (virtual) meeting / event. - **Blogs and media coverage** of the collaboration's kick-off
2 Align **Develop a GIGA shared agenda,** including high-level vision, principles, and targets to be achieved through the initiative (key to align with national and regional ICT strategies and other stakeholder plans e.g. funders)	✓ Organize a first (virtual) meeting between UNICEF, ITU and the GIGA Lead Organization / Lead Country. ✓ Discuss and agree on the high-level vision, principles, targets, budget and contributions (financial and non-financial)	- **Project document** with the GIGA high-level vision for the region / country, principles and targets. - **Budget** document that includes the **financial and non-financial contributions** of each participant to the initiative.
3 Structure **Establish the partnership structure for GIGA and sign an agreement** to drive collaboration and mutual accountability among organizations. Build in a transition strategy for long-term sustainability	✓ Agree on the governance structure for the initiative in the country and region. ✓ Agree on the participants, roles and responsibilities of the GIGA Steering Committee/chosen governance structure. ✓ Agree on the positions and team structure to implement the initiative in the region.	- **Terms of Reference** for the **GIGA Steering Committee.** - Document with the roles and responsibilities for country-level focal points. - **Terms of Reference for the GIGA regional team positions:** project lead, finance manager, connectivity specialist, DPG coordinator.

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Implement	Key actions	Outputs / Deliverables
4 Assess **Establish working groups per GIGA pillar and collectively identify gaps, barriers and opportunities for school connectivity and digitalization** to be addressed at country level. Determine pre-requisites such as investment, policies, capabilities & partnerships required	✓ Within the Steering Committee, assign a 'champion' country or organization per GIGA pillar and establish a working group to coordinate implementation. ✓ Assign leads in each working group. ✓ Working groups to discuss and define a strategy for their pillar (mapping, finance, connect, empower)	- **Document with the structure of Working Group(s)** leads and participants. - **Workplans** for the four GIGA pillars: mapping, finance, connect, empower. - Schedule regular sessions of the Steering Committee and high-level meetings with participant countries.
5 Plan **Collaboratively define specific goals, timelines, and funding approaches, and elaborate action plans** to deliver outcomes in the four GIGA pillars. Plans include partner roles and expectations; roadmap and milestones to be reached	✓ Agree on a GIGA work plan for the region / country (based on the input of the working groups). ✓ Identify key stakeholders, partners in private and public sector to support the implementation of the GIGA initiative in the region / country. ✓ Put in place required team for implementing GIGA	- **GIGA work plan for the region / country** with objectives, targets, indicators, budgets, deadlines, and a framework to monitor progress. - **Recruitment** of GIGA regional team
6 Implement **Implement GIGA action plans** by experimenting with new collaboration approaches, financial and technical innovations, and bringing together necessary stakeholders. Identify and set up **quick wins** for early progress and momentum	✓ Identify quick wins in the Mapping and Empower pillars and define a fast-track strategy to provide quick results in these areas. ✓ Engage multilateral development banks, national development agencies, private investors, donors, industry to create a models for financing and delivering connectivity.	- **Quick wins / fast-track** plan for selected outputs in the Mapping and Empower pillars - Onboard **GIGA regional team** - **Business case** documents created for funding asks - Bring in **new partners (financiers + industry)** to support the Finance and Connect pillars

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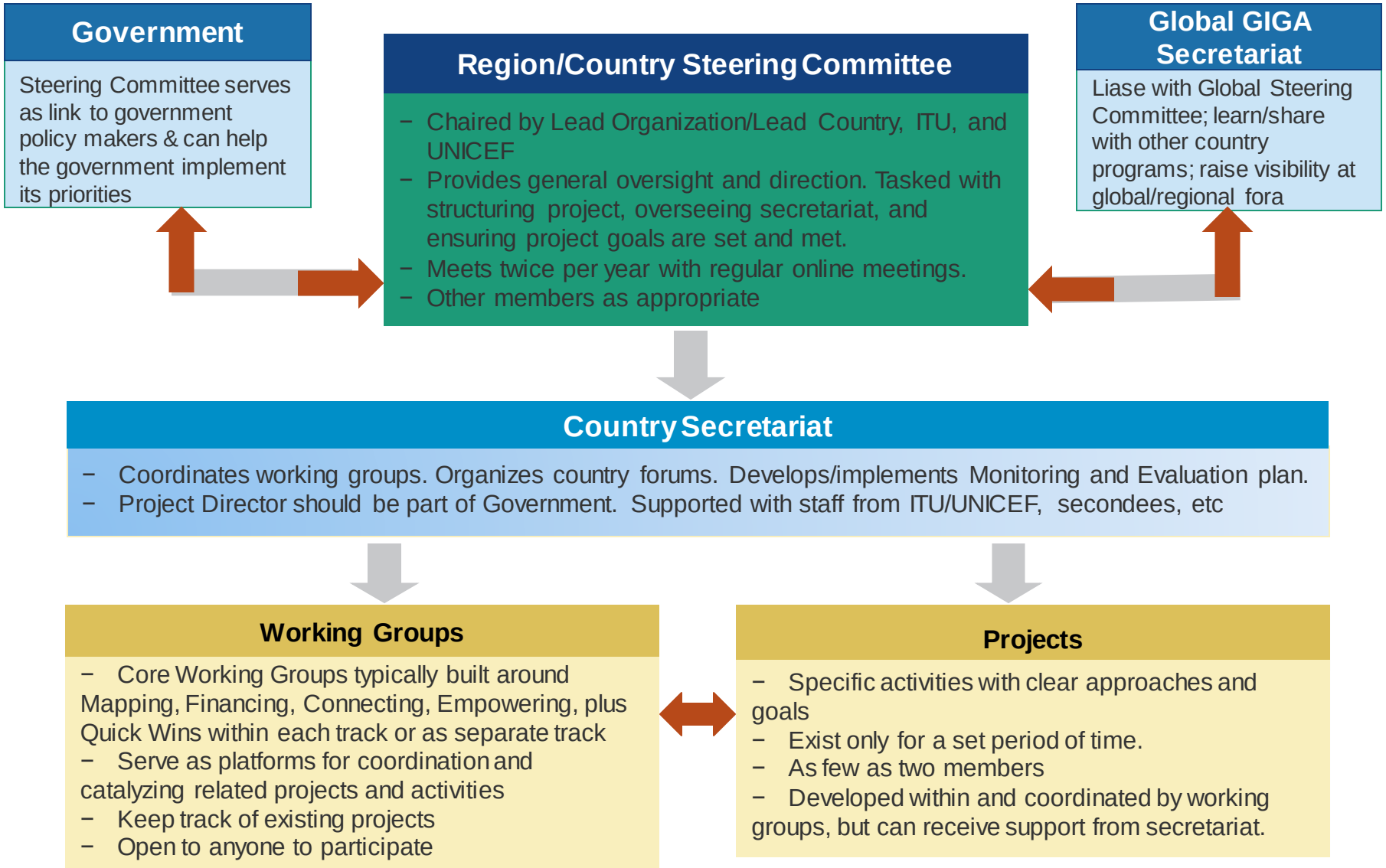
Monitor and scale	Key actions	Outputs / Deliverables
7 Monitor **Track progress of GIGA action plans and leverage milestones to drive progress** including high-level global leadership convenings and in-country partnership meetings	✓ Regular Steering Committee to update and track progress	- **Specific outputs in each of the four pillars:** Mapping, Finance, Connect, Empower
8 Review **Review the GIGA partnership agreements, strategies and structures** as needed to seize new opportunities over time	✓ Regular high-level meetings with the participant countries and other key stakeholders and partners to update and adjust if necessary	- **Adjustments to GIGA workplans and strategies**
9 Scale **Scale proven initiatives for extending affordable access to connectivity and providing digital public goods and services,** documenting and sharing lessons and innovations developed through in-country or global / regional partnership networks	✓ Identify and document successful models (financing, business models, etc.) across all 3 pilot regions.	- Finalised f**inance models** to expand affordable access to connectivity - **Connected schools** - Investment in developing and scaling required **Digital Public Goods** for education, remote learning, online teacher training, etc.

GIGA Region/Country Governance Structure