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# UNDP AI Readiness Assessment

## Introduction

### What is AI Readiness?

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly transforming the majority of economic sectors. It has the potential to enhance numerous industries, including agriculture, transportation, education, and healthcare. AI can assist governments in providing citizens with enhanced public services. **AI readiness refers to the degree to which a government is prepared to leverage the benefits and mitigate the risks of AI technology**, both as an enabler of the AI economy through strategies, policies, and regulations, and as a user of AI in government and public services.

### Why is AI Readiness Important?

The coronavirus pandemic demonstrated unequivocally that governments around the world must better prepare for disruptive events that have a significant impact on their economies and societies. In the coming years, artificial intelligence will play an increasingly significant role in the global economy. **Being prepared to use ethical AI in the delivery of public services will allow governments to maximize the benefits of AI while minimizing its potential risks.** Governments that are prepared for artificial intelligence will gain competitive advantages in many areas, such as trade, productivity, and security, and will also protect the rights and liberties of their citizens.

### What is UNDP's AI Readiness Assessment?

The assessment will help you in reflecting on your government's AI readiness strengths and identifying areas for improvement. It will take the form of a workshop-delivered survey, during which we will collaborate to:

- Discuss UNDP AI readiness pillars and dimensions

- Identify the AI-related policies, strategies, and ethics that can assist your government and individual departments in achieving their objectives
- Conduct a questionnaire designed to help you self-evaluate your government's AI readiness

The evaluation is based on a thorough framework of AI readiness dimensions supported by research. **However, it will be a collaborative process in which we determine how your government's top priorities align with the AI readiness components.** The theory underlying the assessment was developed in collaboration with Oxford Insights, a British consultancy firm that developed the Government AI Readiness Index.

## How Can UNDP's AI Readiness Assessment Help Your Government?

**If your government has an AI strategy:** we can help you evaluate your progress in preparing for and implementing ethical AI in the delivery of public services. We can also assist you in planning your future AI-related policy objectives.

**If your government is developing an AI strategy:** we will assist you in refining its AI objectives. We will also assist you in analyzing how your government's top priorities align with the AI readiness components.

**If your government has not yet implemented an AI strategy:** you are already contributing to AI readiness if your government is working to improve digital infrastructure, support innovative startups, or encourage citizens to pursue STEM degrees. We will assist you in determining the next steps necessary to advance your government's AI readiness to the next level.

The assessment avoids making judgments about which sectors of your economy and public services matter for AI. Instead, **we will guide and help you to understand which sectors in your country are most relevant.**

Please contact us at [digital@undp.org](mailto:digital@undp.org) for more information.