

Cotonou, Benin, December 2 (Infosplusgabon) - The coronavirus health crisis has accelerated digital transformation in the world, according to the Network Readiness Report (NRI 2020) launched Wednesday by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the Portulans Institute, a Washington D.C.-based research and teaching institute.

According to the report, which focuses on the theme: 'Accelerating the Digital Transformation in a Post-COVID Global Economy', COVID and containment strategies have accelerated the digital transformation in much of the world, creating opportunities and challenges, such as possible increases in inequalities, and increasing the need for appropriate governance mechanisms to mitigate the problem without hindering the former.

Prior to the COVID pandemic, the key elements of a global digital transformation were already in place, both within nations and enterprises. They have all accelerated in recent months: new practices have affected the way we work, learn, share and interact.

They will not disappear in a post-COVID environment, underlined a statement issued by the UNECA following the video conference launch of the report.

Digital technologies have immense potential to transform economic and social interactions and open up new possibilities for greater transparency, accountability and citizen participation in policy-making and service delivery, said the report's initiators.

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