

Smart Africa Alliance and Digital Cooperation Organization (DCO) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to advance the digital transformation of the continent and seek collaborative ways to accelerate the digital development and achieve social prosperity and growth of the digital economy in Africa.

Smart Africa and DCO will join forces to promote common interests towards digital transformation.

The partners will engage in joint activities such as enhancing cross-border data flows, focusing on the digital empowerment of women, youth, and entrepreneurs, and supporting the creation of a favorable business environment for innovation-driven enterprises (IDEs) to grow and thrive.

Additionally, both parties will be exchanging knowledge in governance, strategy development, and initiatives funding will also form part of the common agenda.

Commenting after signing the MoU, the Secretary-General of the DCO, Deemah Alyahya said that they firmly believe in the power of collaboration with like-minded organizations to enable digital prosperity for all

“We look forward to working with SmartAfrica and the 30 nations it represents to support the organization’s important work in ushering Africa into a knowledge economy,” he said

The Director-General of Smart Africa, Mr. Lacina Koné stated that they’re very pleased to combine our efforts with the DCO, a like-minded organization, and find avenues where we can collaborate on our common objective to enhance the growth of our digital economies.

“This MoU will contribute to reinforcing the achievement of our vision to create a single digital market in Africa by 2030.” He noted

The DCO is a global multilateral organization founded in November 2020 with the aim to enable digital prosperity for all by accelerating the inclusive growth of the digital economy.

It is focused on empowering youth, women and entrepreneurs, leveraging the accelerative power of the digital economy, and harnessing innovation to drive economic growth and increase social prosperity.

The DCO brings together the Ministries of Digital Economy and ICT of ten nations – Bahrain, Djibouti Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Rwanda and Saudi Arabia – that collectively represent nearly US\$2 trillion in GDP and a market of over 600 million people, more than 70% of whom are under the age of 35.