



**CAFRAD WEBINAR SERIES**

**Organisation  
Intergouvernementale  
Panafricaine**



**WEBINAR on :  
“Digital Governance for  
Sustainable Development”**

**April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025**

**Summary of the theme and the speakers**

## THEME SUMMARY

**Digital governance for sustainable development** refers to the use of digital technologies to enhance government operations, improve service delivery, and promote transparency, accountability, and citizen engagement. For African administrations, **digital governance** plays a crucial role in **transforming public sector management**. It enables more efficient **resource allocation**, **data-driven decision-making** and **better communication between governments and citizens**. In today's rapidly evolving digital world, embracing digital governance is essential for African countries to achieve sustainable development goals, improve public service delivery, and foster economic growth. It helps create more **inclusive** and **transparent systems**, addressing challenges such as corruption and inefficient bureaucracy, while promoting long-term societal well-being.

*Keywords: digital governance, sustainable development, data, data-driven decision-making, inclusive systems, social well-being*





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## Key speaker

Dr. Luís Soares Barbosa is the Deputy Director of the United Nations University Operational Unit on Policy-Oriented e-Governance (UNU-EGOV) since 2017. He also coordinates its research line on *Participation, People, and Communities*. Dr. Barbosa is a Full Professor in the Department of Computer Science at the School of Engineering, University of Minho, and a senior researcher at INESC TEC.

In his role at UNU-EGOV, Dr. Barbosa has been involved in numerous consultancy and development projects with various international institutions such as UNDP, UM ECA, and UNESCO. He was a key member of the teams that developed National Strategies for Digital Governance/Transformation in Cape Verde, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Guinea-Bissau. Recently, he has supported the establishment of Digital Governance Forums in West Africa (Banjul, 2023) and East and South Africa (Pretoria, 2024), promoting a network of countries and international agencies focused on digital governance.



**Dr. Luis Barbosa**

**Deputy Director of the United Nations University  
Operational Unit on Policy-Oriented e-  
Governance (UNU-EGOV)  
(PORTUGAL)**



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## Moderator

Dr. Saleem ZOUGHBI is a Senior Associate Expert of the United Nations University Operational Unit on Policy-Oriented e-Governance (UNU-EGOV). Saleem Zoughbi is a Senior Research Consultant at UNU-EGOV, specializing in ICT and digital transformation. With over 18 years of academic experience, he has provided advisory services to over 50 developing countries, focusing on e-governance, smart cities, and ICT development. His expertise covers digital governance strategies, equitable development, and the integration of emerging smart technologies, with an emphasis on community engagement, reducing the digital divide, and fostering economic growth. Saleem is currently involved with the Digital Government Authority of Saudi Arabia and is a cofounder of the West African Digital Governance Forum. He holds a Ph.D. in Digital Engineering and a Post-Doc Certificate in Science Public Policy.



**Dr. Saleem ZOUGHBI**

**Senior Associate Expert of UNU EGOV**  
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