



DIGITAL
transformation

2025- 2026

GEP DEEP DIVES

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION, DATA &
INNOVATION



**AMERICAN
UNIVERSITY
OF BEIRUT**



I. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT PROMISES

The following commitments were made by the Lebanese government in its ministerial statement, forming the baseline against which actual progress is assessed in **Digital transformation, Data and Innovation**.



New Ministry of Technology and AI

A dedicated ministry will lead Lebanon's strategy for adopting advanced technological sectors.



Telecom as a Foundational Pillar

Modernized telecommunications are recognized as the essential requirement for digital transformation.



Fostering the Innovation Ecosystem

Focus on attracting Lebanese talent and supporting startups to drive economic renewal.



Strategic Investment Attraction

The government aims to foster investment in advanced future-oriented technology sectors.



Full Legal Implementation

Commitment to the comprehensive enforcement of the Telecommunications Services Regulation Law.

II. AREAS WHERE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE



1. Strategic Directions:

- Cabinet approval of a draft law **establishing a dedicated Minister of State for Technology and Artificial Intelligence**, positioned as a cross-government coordinating role.
- A **National Digital Transformation and AI Strategy 2025–2030** was launched, emphasizing data sovereignty, inclusive services, and responsible innovation, positioning AI as a pillar of administrative and economic reform.
- The **Lebanon Tech, AI & Innovation Summit 2025** brought together entrepreneurs, investors, and innovators, elevating Lebanon's global technological profile and reinforcing its regional innovation hub status.
- The **“Smart Government, Diaspora Experts for Lebanon” conference**, organized by the Lebanese Executives Council, brought together global Lebanese talent to support public sector reform and private sector collaboration, advancing a national vision for smart, transparent, and digitally driven governance.
- **The World Bank approved \$150 million financing to support the “Digital Acceleration in Lebanon” project**, marking a major step toward national digital transformation.

II. AREAS WHERE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE (CONT'D)



2. Capacity Building & Innovation Ecosystem:

- The **NUMŪ national digital and AI training program** was launched to provide practical, role-based learning aligned with Lebanon's national priorities, reaching students, educators, professionals, civil servants, and technical specialists across all regions.
- **Strategic partnerships were signed with Roland Berger**, global tech firms (such as Oracle), and leading universities, alongside initiatives like "Code for Lebanon" and a plan to train 50,000 citizens in AI and cloud computing, strengthening Lebanon's human capital and innovation ecosystem.
- Lebanon's **first angel investor network** was established by B&Y Ventures to support early-stage entrepreneurs in accessing capital and scaling businesses locally.



3. Digital Infrastructure & Legislative Reform:

- **Centralized cross-government delivery platform onboarded 8 ministries, captured 1,000+ initiatives**, and embedded 7 national objectives to strengthen coordination and visibility of digital initiatives.
- Progress was recorded across several ministries, including **digitalization of intellectual property services** at the Ministry of Economy and Trade, **automation of authentication services** at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and **digitalization of National Social Security Fund records** with ILO support.
- In 2025, several legislative and regulatory frameworks were developed or advanced:
 - At the parliamentary level: **MITAI Law and the Digital Authority Law**
 - Drafts prepared for submission: **Data Protection Law, Cybersecurity Law, e-Signature Law, and the Special Technology Economic Zone (STEZ) Decree.**
- Currently under consultation: **Privacy & Security Guidelines, Cloud Policy Framework, Cyber Readiness Framework, National AI Framework, and AI Readiness Framework.**



4. Telecommunications

- Appointing a new board for the **Telecommunications Regulatory Authority after more than 13 years.**
- Progress **continued toward the creation of Liban Telecom** as a national operator, envisioned as an institution capable of steering the sector toward a more advanced and efficient future.
- A national **5G roadmap was introduced, and satellite internet services were licensed, including Starlink.** Operators continued expanding broadband and fiber networks while preparing for 5G deployment.

III. AREAS WHERE EFFORTS CONTINUE TO EVOLVE - AGENDA IN PROGRESS

INSTITUTIONAL & REGULATORY FRAMEWORK



INSTITUTIONAL & REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

IN PROGRESS

Critical components are still being defined and implemented to make the Ministry fully operational.



SUSTAINABLE STRUCTURAL REFORMS REQUIRED

While some regulatory progress exists, sustainable structural reforms are still required for long-term growth.



INSUFFICIENT SUPPORT FOR TECH SMES

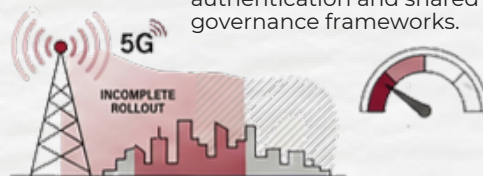
The absence of operationalized technology zones limits the ability of startups to scale and innovate.

SYSTEMS & INFRASTRUCTURE

FRAGMENTED DIGITAL IDENTITY SYSTEMS



Ministries currently use standalone initiatives lacking unified authentication and shared data governance frameworks.



UNDERDEVELOPED GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE

Digital infrastructure within government systems remains limited by a lack of investment incentives.

IV. OVERALL ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Commitment	Progress	Note
Establish a Ministry of Technology & AI with a national strategy		Draft law approved by Cabinet; ministry not yet fully operational
Strengthen innovation ecosystem & retain talent		NUMŪ program launched; angel investor network established; structural tech zones not yet operationalized
Attract strategic investments in technology		International investment flows still limited
Accelerate digital transformation across public & private institutions		8 ministries onboarded; digitalization progressing in several institutions; systems remain fragmented
Develop and reform the telecommunications sector		New TRA board appointed after 13 years; Liban Telecom in progress; structural reforms still needed
Full implementation of the Telecommunications Services Regulation Law		5G roadmap introduced; Starlink licensed; full implementation not yet complete



Note: RED - early progress ;
YELLOW – moderate progress;
GREEN – advanced progress



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