

## Digital Opportunity Trust joins the EDISON Alliance and pledges to equip 1 million youth with digital and 21st-century skills by 2025.

This year, Digital Opportunity Trust (DOT) is celebrating 20 years of supporting, at scale, underserved young people, particularly young women, to overcome the Digital Divide

As DOT looks forward to the next 20 years, we are announcing an important commitment, DOT joins the EDISON Alliance, 1 Billion Lives Challenge, to empower 1 million youth by 2025 to lead their communities into an inclusive digital economy.

Under the leadership of the World Economic Forum, the EDISON Alliance 1 Billion Lives Challenge is a global movement of over 45 champions from the public and private sectors that are committed to prioritizing digital inclusion as foundational to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Announced at DAVOS in 2021, the EDISON Alliance for digital inclusion aims to ensure that every person can affordably participate in the Digital Economy. Through the challenge, EDISON Alliance members are committing to **Improving 1 billion lives globally through affordable and accessible digital solutions across, health, finance, and education by 2025.**

As an organization committed to digital inclusion, women's empowerment and the potential of young people as leaders of change, Digital Opportunity Trust (DOT), and its network of thousands of young leaders, has reached over 3 million people globally. By joining the EDISON Alliance 1 Billion Lives Challenge, DOT pledges to deliver digital literacy and 21st-century skills in the marginalized communities and schools of Africa and the Middle East, to reach an **additional 1 million people by 2025.**





## **Building on a legacy of advocacy and champion of young people and digital inclusion**

DOT's commitment, announced by Founder and CEO, Janet Longmore, comes as a celebration of its 20-year record in delivering digital and social entrepreneurship skills at scale. DOT has accomplished this through a broad network of trusted partners across civil society, the private sector, and government who are collaborating to support youth worldwide as they co-design peer-to-peer solutions.

DOT Founder and CEO, Janet Longmore, says:

“We are proud to be a contributor to the goals of the Edison Alliance - goals that align with our belief in digital inclusion and our passion to see young women and men reaching their potential. We commend the World Economic Forum for taking the leadership to bring together this collaboration of responsible, forward thinking organizations. We are here specifically to forge partnerships that will bring to reality the Alliance's digital inclusion commitments for millions of young lives.”

DOT's pledge to the EDISON Alliance and the 1 Billion Lives Challenge, aligns with its mission to mobilize and inspire all underserved and disadvantaged young people with the digital literacy, 21st century skills and the self-confidence that will enable them to thrive in an inclusive digital economy.

DOT's commitment will build on the success of its unique youth-led peer-to-peer model which has impacted more than 3 million young women and men across the globe since 2002. DOT's model has been embraced by the world's largest generation of young people - young women and men who are eager to seize the opportunities that the digital world of work is offering.

### **A long-term partnership with the World Economic Forum**

DOT has long been committed to the work of the World Economic Forum. Janet Longmore has been recognized as a Schwab Foundation Social Entrepreneur and she has contributed to the Davos meetings. She is a leader in the movement for digital inclusion and she has championed the equitable empowerment of youth and women through leadership roles in the World Economic Forum's Internet for All initiative, the Catalyst 2030 network and the Business Leaders Caucus of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation.

### **About Digital Opportunity Trust**

DOT is headquartered in Ottawa, Canada, with 6 locally-managed offices in Africa and the Middle East (Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Lebanon, and Jordan. DOT presence extends to Ghana, Uganda, Malawi and Zambia through local partnerships with youth-serving organizations. DOT has created impact in over 25 countries as a development innovators and catalysts placing youth at the center of its activity to unlock their potential, bridge the digital divide across communities, and provide equal access to digital solutions for impact.

Know more about Digital Opportunity Trust [www.dotrust.org](http://www.dotrust.org)

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