



CALL TO UGANDAN TECH INNOVATORS & START-UPS

Government Systems Prototype Showcase and National Innovator Registry

Issued by: Ministry of ICT and National Guidance

Date of Issue: 18 May 2026

Submission Deadline: 30 May 2026, 23:59 EAT

Portal: gdr.go.ug/innovators-showcase

1. INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of ICT and National Guidance (MoICT&NG) is mandated to lead the digital transformation of Government services, systems, and institutions. In the 2025/26 financial year, the Ministry shall oversee the digitization of several priority Government systems across multiple sectors. These systems are intended to improve efficiency, transparency, and citizen access to Government services.

The Ministry is committed to engaging Ugandan innovators in this work and building a sustainable pipeline of locally developed Government digital solutions. To this end, MoICT&NG issues this Call to Ugandan Innovators, inviting developers, start-ups, technology companies, and academic institutions to participate in the Government Systems Prototype Showcase.

2. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this Call is to identify, assess, and register Ugandan innovators who have developed working prototypes or functional systems relevant to Government service delivery. The Prototype Showcase shall achieve the following objectives:

1. To identify Ugandan innovators with demonstrated capability in developing Government-relevant digital systems.
2. To establish the Uganda National Innovator Registry — a database of vetted Ugandan innovators from which the Ministry and partner MDAs shall source candidates for Government digitisation assignments.
3. To assess and shortlist prototypes suitable for deployment, adaptation, or further development as operational Government systems.
4. To promote local content and Ugandan-built digital public infrastructure.

3. SCOPE

This Call applies to:

1. Ugandan-owned and registered technology companies and start-ups.

2. Individual Ugandan software developers and technology innovators.
3. Universities and research institutions based in Uganda.
4. Innovation hubs and community technology groups operating in Uganda.

Consortia of Ugandan-owned entities shall be eligible, provided the lead entity is Ugandan-owned and registered. Joint ventures involving foreign firms shall not be eligible under this Call.

All applicants shall submit applications exclusively through the Government Digital Registry (GDR) portal at gdr.go.ug/innovators-showcase.

4. AREAS OF INTEREST

The Ministry is particularly interested in prototypes and systems in the following thematic areas. These areas reflect current Government digitization priorities, but are not exhaustive.

#	Thematic Area	Illustrative Examples
1	Digital Identity & Civil Registration	National ID integration, birth/death registration, e-permits
2	Revenue & Financial Management	Tax collection, e-payment gateways, and financial reporting
3	Health Information Systems	Patient records, facility management, supply chain tracking
4	Education Management Systems	Learner enrolment, examination management, teacher registries
5	Land & Property Administration	Land registration, titling, spatial data management
6	Agriculture & Agribusiness Management	Farmer registries, input distribution, market information, crop monitoring
7	Labour Management & Employment Services	Employment registries, labour inspection, skills matching platforms
8	Pension Management & Social Security	Contributor management, benefits processing, pension fund administration
9	Justice, Law & Order	Case management, court systems, and police information
10	Interoperability & Data Exchange	Government API platforms, data integration middleware, GovHub
11	Citizen Engagement & Service Delivery	e-Government portals, mobile services, complaint management
12	Monitoring & Evaluation Systems	Programme tracking, performance dashboards, reporting tools

Applicants are explicitly encouraged to think beyond the thematic areas listed above. Innovative solutions addressing any aspect of Government service delivery, public administration, or digital public infrastructure that is not listed shall be considered on merit. Submissions shall clearly demonstrate relevance to Uganda's Government context.

5. SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

Applications shall be submitted exclusively through the Government Digital Registry portal at gdr.go.ug/innovators-showcase. The following steps shall be followed:

1. The applicant shall register or log in to the Government Digital Registry at gdr.go.ug.
2. The applicant shall navigate to the Innovator Showcase module and complete the Application Form and the Innovator Profile Form.
3. The applicant shall upload all required supporting documents in PDF format via the GDR document management module.
4. The applicant shall submit the completed application before the deadline of 30 May 2026 at 23:59 East Africa Time.
5. The GDR system shall generate and issue a confirmation receipt and application reference number upon successful submission. Applicants who do not receive confirmation within 24 hours shall contact Support - grd@ict.go.ug.

Submissions by paper, email, or physical delivery shall not be accepted. All evaluation communications, shortlisting notifications, and Registry enrolment notices shall be issued through the GDR portal.

End.

6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The following documents shall be submitted via the GDR portal. All items marked Mandatory shall be provided for an application to proceed to technical evaluation.

#	Document	Status
1	Completed Application Form (available on GDR portal)	Mandatory
2	Completed Innovator Profile Form (available on GDR portal)	Mandatory
3	Written System Description (max 5 pages, PDF)	Mandatory
4	Certificate of Incorporation or Business Registration (URSB) / National ID of lead applicant	Mandatory
5	URA Tax Clearance Certificate	Mandatory
6	System architecture diagram or screenshots	Mandatory
7	Video walkthrough (max 15 minutes) — for applicants not presenting in person	If applicable
8	Reference letter from a prior Government or institutional user	Recommended
9	Source code repository link (read-only access)	Recommended

Intellectual property in all submitted materials remains vested in the applicant. Submitted materials shall be treated as confidential and used solely for evaluation purposes.

7. EVALUATION AND NATIONAL INNOVATOR REGISTRY

All applications shall be evaluated by the MoICT&NG Technical Evaluation Panel using the Prototype Evaluation Criteria. The evaluation framework covers technical soundness, relevance to Government needs, security and compliance, scalability, usability, local innovation value, and innovator capability.

Applicants meeting the minimum eligibility threshold shall be enrolled in the Uganda National Innovator Registry and assigned a classification tier. The Registry shall serve as the authoritative reference database from which the Ministry and MDAs shall source innovators for future Government digitisation assignments. Registry enrolment does not constitute an award of contract or a guarantee of future engagement.

8. KEY DATES

Milestone	Date
Publication of Call on Government Digital Registry	18 May 2026
Deadline for Submissions (23:59 EAT)	30 May 2026
Administrative Eligibility Screening	2–3 June 2026
Technical Evaluation by Panel	4–11 June 2026
Notification to Shortlisted Applicants	13 June 2026
Government Systems Prototype Showcase	25 June 2026
Final Registry Classification and Gazettement	5 July 2026

9. RESPONSIBILITY

MoICT&NG shall be responsible for administering this Call, managing the evaluation process, and maintaining the National Innovator Registry. All applicants are responsible for ensuring that submissions are accurate, complete, and lodged on the GDR portal before the stated deadline. The Ministry shall not be responsible for late or incomplete submissions.

10. EXCEPTIONS AND DISCLAIMER

Where an applicant is unable to submit via the GDR portal due to a verified technical failure of the portal, the applicant shall notify support@gdr.go.ug immediately with supporting evidence. Exceptions shall be reviewed and determined by the Permanent Secretary.

The Ministry reserves the right to modify the timelines, criteria, or scope of this initiative with appropriate notice. Participation in the Showcase or enrolment in the National Innovator Registry does not create any legal obligation on the part of the Ministry or the Government of Uganda to engage or procure from any applicant.

Issued by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of ICT and National Guidance, Republic of Uganda.

Portal: gdr.go.ug/innovators-showcase | Inquiries: innovators@ict.go.ug | Support: grd@ict.go.ug