

Richard Kerby

President, Richard Kerby LLC



Richard Kerby is a senior strategist with a successful track record of advising national administrations across the world at the levels of Heads of State, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister and Director Generals on ICT for Development, focusing on financial and technical value. He is skilled in transforming strategic plans into workable policy solutions, benchmarking performance against sustainable development goals, operational goals and international targets to accelerate and deliver digital transformation initiatives.

His expertise spans across the subject areas of Digital Government, Sustainable Development Goals, Integrated e-Services, Open Innovation, Policy Dialogue, Open Data and Big Data, Citizen Engagement and Blockchain Technology.

Richard Kerby has held many posts at the United Nations since joining in 1984. Most recently, from 2004 to 2017, he was Senior Inter-Regional Adviser on e-Government and Knowledge Management at the United Nations Department of Economic & Social Affairs (UN DESA). Among other responsibilities, he was a key contributor to the creation, measurement, analysis, writing and publication of the UN eGovernment Survey used to benchmark development and accelerate public sector digital transformation, and led over 120 advisory missions in 34 countries including emerging, developed, developing, least developed, land-locked countries and Small Island Development States. He designed and successfully implemented a suite of e-government capacity building tools covering Open Data, Open Innovation, Citizen Engagement and Social Media to accelerate knowledge. As of June 2016, Richard Kerby is President of Richard Kerby LLC.

Arab Digital Strategy Expert Group

The Expert Group of the Arab Digital Strategy selected by the Council of Arab Economic Unity reviewed the strategy developed by Cairo University. The Expert Group has members from Governments, Private Sector, International Organizations, Academics and independent consultants. This diverse group enabled them to tackle all aspects of the Arab Digital Strategy such as: overall strategy, infrastructure, capacity building, integrated e-services, data sharing, knowledge sharing and regional integration.

Having a digital strategy for the Arab region will provide the region with a platform and a roadmap for all 22 countries. Although there are many common issues, challenges and opportunities that countries in the region need to overcome and/or take advantage of, each country is unique and thus will need to buy-in to the strategy in order to fully implement it. The strategy will serve as a launching pad for countries to take advantage of new technologies, policies, sharing of data and knowledge and regional integration.