OMIDYAR NETWORK
A WORLD OF POSITIVE RETURNS

In pursuit of "Good ID"

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The power of digital identity

Identification – especially digital identification – has extraordinary potential to **empower individuals**, improve **government effectiveness**, and **bolster economic growth**.

However, if identification technologies and policies are not designed, procured, implemented, and managed with great care, **they will not meet this potential**. And they may cause a great deal of harm.

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Our work at Omidyar Network

As a philanthropic investment firm dedicated to harnessing the power of markets to improve people's lives, **Omidyar Network is committed to promoting digital identity systems that expand economic and social inclusion for everyone**.
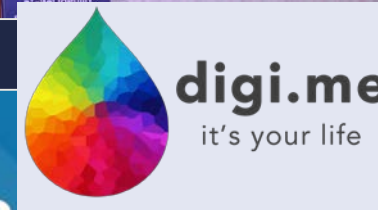
Our vision is for a world where digital identity empowers people to participate meaningfully in the modern economy, while also protecting individuals' rights to privacy, security and user control.

What we've learned

- Foundational vs functional
- Openness & interoperability
- Individuals at the center
- Roles of public and private sector
- Policy and technology together

Building an understanding of "Good ID"

PRINCIPLES

INCLUSION: UNIVERSAL COVERAGE AND ACCESSIBILITY

1. Ensuring universal coverage for individuals from birth to death, free from discrimination.
2. Removing barriers to access and usage and disparities in the availability of information and technology.

DESIGN: ROBUST, SECURE, RESPONSIVE, AND SUSTAINABLE

3. Establishing a robust—unique, secure, and accurate—identity.
4. Creating a platform that is interoperable and responsive to the needs of various users.
5. Using open standards and ensuring vendor and technology neutrality.
6. Protecting user privacy and control through system design.
7. Planning for financial and operational sustainability without compromising accessibility.

GOVERNANCE: BUILDING TRUST BY PROTECTING PRIVACY AND USER RIGHTS

8. Safeguarding data privacy, security, and user rights through a comprehensive legal and regulatory framework.
9. Establishing clear institutional mandates and accountability.
10. Enforcing legal and trust frameworks though independent oversight and adjudication of grievances.

For an identity system to achieve the objectives laid out in the *Principles on Identification for Sustainable Development,* we believe it must follow three foundational precepts:

1. Be **available** and **useful** to individuals.

2. Be **non-discriminatory** and designed for **inclusion, user-control and privacy**.

3. Provide for **recourse and accountability** for harms caused.

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Building an understanding of "Good ID"

Our current perspective on the minimum technological and governance requirements for advancing "Good ID"
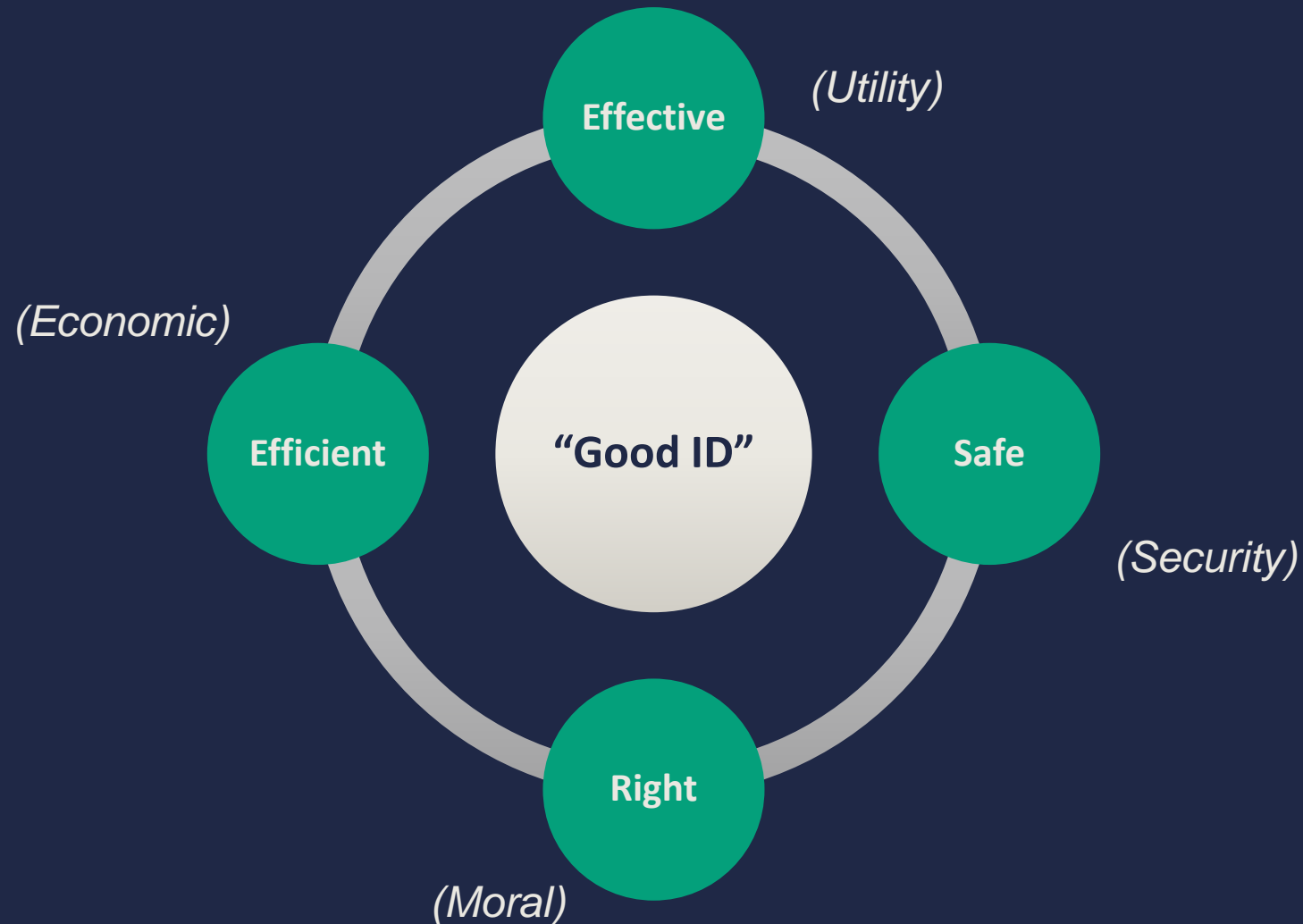
Technology

- The design must be based on **informed and meaningful user consent and control**.

- It must have **purposeful** and **limited data collection and use**.

- The system should **include privacy and security features by design**.

- It should be built for openness and interoperability, and prevent lock-in to a vendor or technology.

Governance

- The governance structure must **ensure inclusion of all residents** of the country, free from discrimination.

- The ID system must also encourage **transparency** of data collection, processing and use.

- **Recourse** should be made easily accessible to all individuals and accountability clearly fixed and enforced. All of this will require **independent administrative and judicial oversight**.

The benefits of "Good ID" for government

(Utility)

(Economic)

Effective

Efficient

"Good ID"

Safe

(Security)

Right

(Moral)

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Laying the "tracks" for inclusive growth

Global momentum in deploying ID technologies will continue to accelerate; **choices made today will impact individual welfare and economic growth for decades to come.**

Only by working together will policymakers and technologists be able to ensure digital identity delivers on its full promise for individuals.

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