

ID2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ID2020 announces Clive Smith as new executive director

San Francisco, CA, July 14, 2022 – The [ID2020](#) Board of Directors announced today that Clive Smith has been appointed to serve as the organization’s new executive director.

“We are very pleased to welcome Clive to the ID2020 team,” said Board Chairman Kim Gagné. “ID2020 is at an inflection point as an organization. While we are proud of our accomplishments over the past six years, we also recognize that we have much work to do to achieve our goal of improving the well-being of the world’s most vulnerable populations through the promotion of “good” digital ID solutions. The field of digital identity is evolving rapidly, and our success will require a commitment to collaboration, creative problem-solving, and innovation. We are confident that Clive’s unique skill set and depth of experience will position him well to guide ID2020 into the future.”

A serial technology entrepreneur and expert in the “diffusion of innovation,” Smith has served in a variety of C-level and director positions with technology start-ups and Fortune 500 companies. He blends this private sector experience with a robust background in “technology for development.” Before joining ID2020, Smith served as a Director in HP’s Emerging Markets Group, leading the development of its Living Laboratory and iCommunity initiatives, and was Director of Global Operations at the United Nations Foundation Mobile Health Alliance, advancing innovative digital solutions in support of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. This combination of skills and settings will be essential as ID2020 continues to evolve.

“I am excited to join ID2020 at this critical juncture,” said Smith. “Having spent most of my career working with vanguard technologies in both developed and developing economies, I have experienced first-hand the necessary ecosystem complexity of successful development solutions. Collaboration across all constituencies and levels is essential to achieve positive impacts at scale. A universally recognized digital ID is fast becoming an indispensable requirement for equitable participation in contemporary life in every type of economy. The field is evolving rapidly, with a multitude of parties advocating on behalf of various policy and technical approaches. ID2020 can play a pivotal role, helping ensure that the appropriately interoperable solutions – and related financial, legal, and regulatory guardrails – are in place, and become the foundation of digital ID in the decades ahead.”

Today, roughly one in eight people – nearly one billion people globally – are unable to prove their identity through any widely recognized means. Without a formal identity, these

individuals often struggle to access essential social services (e.g., education, health, and financial services), basic rights as citizens and voters, and the ability to participate in the modern economy.

ID2020 was launched in 2016 to address this persistent challenge and ensure that all people are able to prove their identity and various attributes about themselves across different contexts and geographies. ID2020 Alliance partners share a commitment to promote digital ID solutions – and accompanying standards, policies, and best practices – that protect user privacy, promote individual control of personal data, and can serve as a portable and persistent asset throughout an individual’s life.

ABOUT ID2020

ID2020 is a global public-private partnership that harnesses the collective power of corporations, governments, and civil society organizations to promote the adoption and implementation of user-managed, privacy-protecting and portable digital ID solutions.

www.id2020.org

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