

A \$1.2 Billion Warning — DR Congo Cancels Its National Biometric ID Contract Over Cost and Governance Concerns

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · Congo (the Democratic Republic of the)

Quality score: 13/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

DR Congo's ONIP cancelled a \$1.2 billion biometric ID contract with Idemia and AfriTech — over triple its \$360 million estimate — after the World Bank refused financing and a Bloomberg/Lighthouse Reports probe exposed cost irregularities and an internal "scam" warning.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured public value	0/3
Transparency, fairness & accountability	1/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	0/3
Scalability beyond pilot	0/3
Governance, capability & sustainability	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-11

[Office National d'Identification de la Population \(ONIP\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-11

[PYMNTS: Report — DR Congo Cancels Digital Identity Project](#) — accessed 2026-09-11

[ID Tech Wire: Congo Cancels \\$1.2B Biometric ID Contract](#) — accessed 2026-09-11

Cite this — Evidoria. *A \$1.2 Billion Warning — DR Congo Cancels Its National Biometric ID Contract Over Cost and Governance Concerns*. Persistent ID: 23ee8b0e-2d27-43ba-b0e7-7f287b0a8c62.