

ITU/BDT projects of interest in Africa Ms. Chali Tumelo (ITU-BDT-Field Office)

Telephony is no longer relied on as the only means of information exchange for social and economic development. Internet development and growth is changing society's approach to conducting business and to the way of life in general. The need to rapidly extend and modernize networks for new technologies and services continues to place demand on frequency spectrum management.

Frequency spectrum, **related to broadband and IP-based services**, is a scarce resource with which optimum utilisation has become a key concern for countries because of the liberalization that has brought in several mobile operator, Broadband Wireless Access (BWA) and the technology evolution that has led to migration from wire to wireless ICTs service delivery.

The regional office for Africa is formulating a project whose purpose is to assist the African countries **acquire maximum utilization of information exchange methods available for social and economic development by equipping them with capacity to develop, implement and manage IP-based, broadband and frequency spectrum related issues. Also to assist in frequency management, planning and monitoring through the creation of tools aiming at mainstreaming the national and sub-regional allocation, regulating and pricing.**