ENHANCING CYBERSECURITY
IN LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

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ITU

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Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) provide unprecedented opportunities to accelerate social and economic development. However, at the same time, their misuse and their vulnerabilities create new and serious threats having the potential to harm the society.

Cyber-attacks occur rapidly and spread across the globe in minutes, ignoring borders, geography, time and space boundaries, or national jurisdictions.
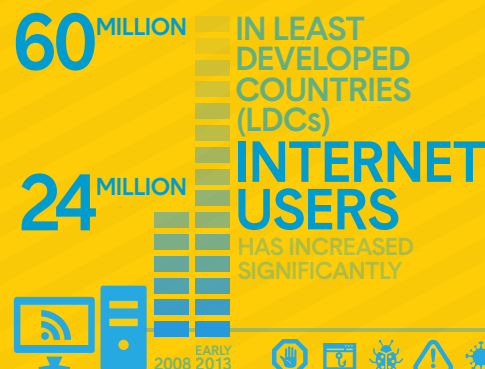
Cybercrime ranges from identity theft to child pornography, from industrial data stealing to the complete disruption of a country's Internet connectivity.

We are more interconnected than ever before, including in the Least Developed Countries (LDCs). This increasing dependency on ICTs makes cybersecurity a PRIORITY.

The establishment of national cybersecurity strategies (including mechanisms to identify, manage and respond to cyber threats), as well as cooperation between countries at regional and international levels are crucial to properly face the challenges imposed by the borderless nature of cybercrime.

Cybersecurity is particularly challenging for LDCs that lack adequate legal and regulatory frameworks, have limited human capacity and face financial constraints.

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60 MILLION

24 MILLION

2008   EARLY 2013

IN LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (LDCs) **INTERNET USERS** HAS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY

CYBER CRIME
18 VICTIMS PER SECOND

1 OUT OF 5 ONLINE ADULTS HAS BEEN A VICTIM

OF **SOCIAL** OR **MOBILE** CYBERCRIME

1.5M VICTIMS PER DAY

THE PROJECT

In a context of ever increasing growth of malicious cyberactivities, ITU, the UN agency for ICTs, is launching the "Enhancing Cybersecurity in Least Developed Countries" project aiming at ensuring that LDCs can maximize the socio-economic benefits of access to ICTs in a cybersecure environment.

The project will be implemented in the framework of ITU's mandate to enhance security and to build confidence in the use of ICTs applications.

The project will support LDCs in strengthening their cybersecurity capabilities to better respond to cyber threats, to ensure enhanced protection of their national infrastructure, including their critical information infrastructure, thereby making the Internet safer, and protecting Internet users.

The project also aims at providing LDCs with the capacity of participating effectively in the global effort to fight cybercrime.

The project will be implemented over a 2-year period following three main pillars:

- **Policy-level assistance** through customized guidelines on national cybersecurity legislation, regulation, and technologies;
- **Capacity building** efforts through workshops, training events, and training curricula;
- **Equipment and software** distribution.

GET INVOLVED! TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

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