|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Logo, company name  Description automatically generated | **Telecommunication Development****Advisory Group (TDAG)****29th Meeting, Virtual, 8-12 November 2021** | A close up of a sign  Description automatically generated |
|  |  |
|  | **Document TDAG-21/2/31-E** |
| **27 October 2021**  |
| **Original:** **English**  |
| Chairman, TDAG-WG-RDTP |
| Revised Proposal for ITU-D Thematic Priorities (WTDC) – four Thematic Priorities |
|  |
| **Summary:**This document is a revised version of the **Chairman’s Proposal** **for ITU-D Thematic Priorities (WTDC)** further to the discussions held at the6th meeting of TDAG-WG-RDTP on 30 June 2021, as contained in document TDAG-WG-RDTP/53(Rev.1).**Action required:**TDAG is invited to endorse this document.**References:**n/a |

This version of the draft document on WTDC Thematic Priorities attempts to capture views expressed during the meetings of TDAG-WG-RDTP, including that of 30 June 2021.

The four Thematic Priority areas being proposed are aimed at grouping related areas together with the sole purpose of building synergies, better coordination and achieving management efficiencies in the work of BDT, resulting in optimal resource allocation and use. The Supporting Components within each of the Thematic Priority areas will facilitate the implementation of work by the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) in the same way programmes in the past were used as an implementation vehicle of activities, projects, and initiatives.

The proposed **four Thematic Priorities** will guide the framing of the **ITU-D Strategic Plan Objectives** and the **Supporting Components** will become the **Outputs in the Strategic Plan**. The proposed Supporting Components which will be finalized during the drafting of both the Action Plan and the Strategic Plan, will take into account the existing Outputs under the Buenos Aires Action Plan while leaving flexibility to further refine existing and new topics. Please note that a list of Supporting Components has been added under each Thematic Priority as examples.

**[BDT] Thematic Priorities**

|  |
| --- |
| 1. **Connectivity:** The focus of this Thematic Priority is on the deployment of modern, available, secure, accessible, and affordable [broadband]telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services and bridging the digital divides. This Thematic Priority seeks to foster the development of infrastructure and services by utilizing existing as well as new and emerging digital [technologies, connectivity solutions and new business models]. [In doing so, providing assistance to Member States on technical and organizational aspects of **cybersecurity and building confidence, trust and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs is of vital importance**.]
 |
| **Examples of possible Supporting Components (please note that this section will be dealt with during discussions on the Action Plan and Strategic Plan):** * Deployment of Future Networks;
* Connecting remote and rural areas;
* Resilient and Safe Digital Infrastructure (including EMF-related issues, availability, and reliability);
* [Cybersecurity;]
* [Data protection and Privacy;]
* Connectivity in the Era of Pandemics and Other Disasters; and
* Emergency Telecommunications.
 |
| 1. **Digital Transformation:** The focus of this Thematic Priority is on the development and use of telecommunications/ICTs and applications and services to close the Digital Divide and empower people and societies for sustainable development. This is of critical importance as societies adapt to changes, including those in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic and other global disasters in future. In so doing, there is a need to recognize the needs of marginalized groups (e.g., women, youth and persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs).
 |
| **Examples of possible Supporting Components (please note that this section will be dealt with during discussions on the Action Plan and Strategic Plan):** * Digital Services and Applications (health, education, agriculture, emerging; technologies/digital platforms, digital financial services, etc.);
* [Digital Economy (e-commerce, new business models, job market re-engineering, trade, and investment);]
* Digital Innovation Ecosystems;
* Environment(climate change adaptation and mitigation, and e-waste); and
* [Building confidence, trust and security in the use of ICTs.]
 |
| 1. **Enabling Environment:** The focus of this Thematic Priority is on fostering an enabling policy and regulatory environment conducive to sustainable telecommunication/ICT development that encourages investment in infrastructure and ICTs. This Thematic Priority comprises key enablers that underpin ITU’s work to deliver on the Connectivity and Digital Society priorities.
 |
| **Examples of possible Supporting Components (please note that this section will be dealt with during discussions on the Action Plan and Strategic Plan):*** Data and Market Analysis (statistics);
* Policy and Regulation [(Internet related issues, Consumer Protection and Privacy, etc.)];
* Digital Inclusion (gender issues, persons with disabilities and specific needs, financial inclusion, youth, and indigenous people);
* Capacity and Skills Development; and
* Internet Related Issues.
 |
| 1. **Resource Mobilization and International Cooperation:** The focus of this Thematic Priority is on mobilizing and attracting resources and fostering international cooperation on telecommunication/ICT development issues. This Thematic Priority is also cross cutting by providing resources and fostering international cooperation to deliver relevant global outcomes. The needs of developing countries, countries with economies in transition and particularly those of LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS, as well as underserved and vulnerable populations should be prioritized and given due attention.
 |
| **Examples of possible Supporting Components (please note that this section will be dealt with during discussions on the Action Plan and Strategic Plan):** * Projects;
* Partnerships;
* Mainstreaming the needs of developing countries, countries with economies in transition and particularly those of LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDS;
* WSIS and SDGs;
* Membership engagement for better impact; and
* ITU-D Study Groups.
 |
| 1. **[Building confidence, trust and security in the use of ICTs:** the focus of this thematic priority is related to assisting member states on technical and organizational aspects on building confidence, trust and security in the use of ICTs.]
 |

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_