

Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT)

Ref.: Circular BDT/DNE/FNS/043

Geneva, 30 October 2024

To:

- Administration of ITU Member States
- State of Palestine (Resolution 99 (Rev. Dubai, 2018))

Subject: ITU Project titled Connect Schools in Countries

Dear Sir/Madam,

In line with Resolution 87 (Kigali, 2022) of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) on "Connecting every school to the Internet and every young person to information and communication technology services", I am pleased to inform you of a new project titled "**Connect Schools in Countries**" initiated by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The project benefits from a partnership with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) of Switzerland related to the joint UNICEF-ITU Giga global partnership initiative launched in 2019.

Besides providing support in mapping infrastructure for school connectivity, the project will also:

- Develop model for school connectivity and provide short-mid-long term global targets for connecting every school in line with the global targets of universal and meaningful connectivity, towards 2030.
- Evaluate models for affordable and sustainable approaches and financing with a view to connecting every young person, especially those in rural or remote areas, to ICT services, based on study of these models.
- Continue to assist Member States in developing policy, regulatory and financial frameworks for connecting every school to the Internet and will also invite Sector Members to contribute to this effort.

As we continue to consult with the Administrations of ITU Member States and ITU Sector Members toward the effective implementation of the "**Connect Schools in Countries**" project, I would kindly request you to **designate a focal point within your Administration**, with whom we will liaise and coordinate on regular basis to ensure that the project achieves the desired outcomes.

Mr. Desire Karyabwite, Senior IP Coordinator in BDT is the designated ITU focal point for this project. He can be reached by e-mail at <u>desire.karyabwite@itu.int</u>, Tel: +41227305009 and is at your disposal for any questions you may have. In all cases please copy: <u>bdtdirector@itu.int</u>.

I look forward to your continued engagement and collaboration.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed)

Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava Director