



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.: Circular BDT/DKS/IDA/091

Geneva, 18 December 2025

- Administrations of ITU Member States
- ITU-D Sector Members
- Academia
- National Regulatory Authorities
- National Statistics Offices
- WTI and HH contacts
- United Nations Funds, Programmes, and Specialized agencies

Subject: Invitation to an ITU Subregional Workshop on Promoting and Measuring Universal and Meaningful Connectivity (UMC), 24-26 March 2026, Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to the ITU Subregional Workshop on Promoting and Measuring Universal and Meaningful Connectivity (UMC), organized by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The workshop will be hosted by the **Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA)** from **24 to 26 March 2026** in **Dar es Salaam**.

The workshop is intended for policymakers in charge of national policies and strategies for digital connectivity, and statisticians responsible for the measurement of telecom/ICT development from ministries, national statistics offices (NSOs), regulators, telecom operators, research institutions, and other relevant organizations from the following countries: Botswana, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe. The working language will be English.

Held in the context of the project “Promoting and Measuring Universal and Meaningful Connectivity” funded by the European Union, the workshop will cover the following topics:

- Universal and meaningful connectivity: The new policy imperative (day 1)
- Tracking UMC: Strategies for overcoming measurement challenges (days 2 and 3)

Those wishing to attend must register via the following [link](https://www.itu.int/net4/CRM/xreg/web/Login.aspx?src=Registration&Event=C-00016157) (<https://www.itu.int/net4/CRM/xreg/web/Login.aspx?src=Registration&Event=C-00016157>) after signing in with their existing ITU user account or creating a new one by following these [instructions](#). They may contact directly BDTMeetingsRegistration@itu.int and/or servicedesk@itu.int for assistance with the registration.

Participation is free of charge. However, participants are responsible for covering their own travel, accommodation, and insurance expenses.

To encourage in-person participation, one full or two partial fellowships per country may be granted, covering air ticket (one return economy class ticket by the most direct/economical route from the country of origin to Dar es Salaam, and appropriate daily subsistence allowance intended to cover accommodation, meals and incidental expenses. In case two partial fellowships are granted, one fellowship may be granted to the NSO and another fellowship may be granted to a policymaking institution (ministries or regulators) per country.

Those applying for fellowships must complete the [corresponding fellowship application form](#) *in addition* to the registration form, by **3 February 2026**. Due to limited funding, it might not be possible to accommodate all requests for fellowships. Those granted a fellowship will be contacted separately with further instructions, and a notification will be sent to other candidates.

Selections for fellowships are carried out by ITU. In awarding a fellowship, account will be taken of the candidate's professional background, current position, and the practical use the beneficiary intends to make of the knowledge gained; as well as their potential contribution to the event, including written contributions. In line with Resolution 213 (Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, the selection process will also consider gender balance and inclusion of persons with disabilities and those with specific needs.

- Participants from National Statistics Offices (NSOs) and other institutions that collect data on ICT are required to complete the following two self-paced courses available through the [ITU Academy](#), prior to the workshop:

- [Measuring digital development: ICT access and use by households and individuals](#)
- [Measuring digital development: Telecommunication / ICT indicators](#)

All participants will receive guidance on preparing a short contribution to present during the sessions. Detailed information about content, registration, fellowship request form and logistics is available on the workshop webpage https://www.itu.int/itu-d/sites/projectumc/2025/12/08/umc_ws_africa/.

For any questions, please contact Mr José L. Cervera-Ferri, Senior Project Manager, at jose.cervera@itu.int and Ms Cynthia Poullain, Project Assistant, at cynthia.poullain@itu.int.

I look forward to your participation.

Yours faithfully,

(signed)

Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava
Director