



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

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Geneva, 29 October 2024

- Administrations of ITU Member States in Asia
- ITU-D Sector Members and Academia in Asia
- Regional organisations in Asia
- National Regulatory Authorities in Asia
- National Statistics Offices (NSOs) in Asia
- WTI and HH contacts in Asia
- United Nations Funds, Programmes, and Specialized agencies in Asia

Subject: ITU Subregional workshop for Asia on promoting and measuring Universal and Meaningful Connectivity (UMC), 16-18 December, Bangkok (Thailand)

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the ITU Subregional Workshop for Asia on promoting and measuring Universal and Meaningful Connectivity (UMC), organized by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), in collaboration with the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) of Thailand. This workshop will be held from **16 to 18 December 2024** in **Bangkok, Thailand**. The working language will be English, in-person participation is encouraged although remote participation will be available.

This workshop is part of the three-year project “Promoting and Measuring Universal and Meaningful Connectivity” funded by the European Union. It 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 Asia.

This workshop will cover the following topics:

- Embracing universal and meaningful connectivity: The new policy imperative (day 1)
- Data-driven decision making: Enhancing statistician-policymaker collaboration (day 2)
- Tracking UMC: Strategies for overcoming measurement challenges (day 3)

Interested candidates wishing to attend in person or remotely must register to [this workshop](#), or <https://www.itu.int/net4/CRM/xreg/web/registration.aspx?Event=C-00014710>, after signing in with their existing ITU user account or creating a new one by following these [instructions](#). If any assistance is needed with the registration process, they may contact directly itu-ro-asiapacific@itu.int and/or servicedesk@itu.int.

There is no participation fee for this workshop. However, all expenses related to the travel, accommodation and insurance should be covered by the participants.

To encourage in-person participation from [developing countries](#), up to two full 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 Bangkok, Thailand) and appropriate daily subsistence allowance intended to cover accommodation, meals and incidental expenses. One fellowship may be granted to the national statistical office and another fellowship may be granted to a policymaking institution (ministries or regulators) per country.

To apply for fellowships, candidates must complete this [fellowship application form](#), also available at <https://forms.office.com/e/VYZ0a4xcfn>, by **10 November 2024**. Anyone applying for fellowship must complete both the registration and the fellowship application form. Due to limited funding, it might not be possible to accommodate all requests for fellowships. Selected fellowship applicants will be contacted separately with further instructions, and a notification will be sent to non-selected candidates.

Selections for fellowships are carried out by ITU. In awarding a fellowship, account shall be taken of the candidate's professional background; current position and the practical use the beneficiary intends to make of the knowledge and experience to be gained; and candidates who may make a significant contribution to the work of the event. In line with the relevant provisions of Resolution 213 (Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, the fellowship selection shall also consider gender balance and inclusion of persons with disabilities and with specific needs.

Participants from national statistical offices and other institutions that collect data on ICT are kindly requested to complete the two following self-paced courses available through the [ITU Academy](#): "[Measuring digital development: ICT access and use by households and individuals](#)" and "[Measuring digital development: Telecommunication / ICT indicators](#)". Both courses should be completed before the beginning of the workshop.

All participants will receive further guidance on the possibility of preparing a short contribution to present during the sessions. Detailed information about content and logistics, as well as all the hyperlinks mentioned above are available on the [workshop webpage](#), or https://www.itu.int/itu-d/sites/projectumc/2024/10/28/umc_ws_asia/. For any question, including for visa support, please contact Mr Calvin Chan at calvin.chan@itu.int and Mr José L. Cervera-Ferri at jose.cervera@itu.int from ITU.

I look forward to your registration and your active participation in this subregional workshop.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed)

Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava
Director