

Joint subgroup on the ICT Development Index

Terms of reference for the 2025 work programme

Background

In October 2022, a revision of [Resolution 131](#) was adopted during ITU's Plenipotentiary Conference (PP), which provided fresh guidance for developing and approving a new ICT Development Index (IDI) methodology. The development of the new methodology commenced in January 2023 and concluded in October 2023, upon its approval by Member States. Consequently, the methodology was adopted with a validity period of four years. The [IDI 2023](#) based on this new methodology was released in December 2023. Detailed information about the process, including links to the methodology documents, circulars, and summary reports of events, is available on [this page](#). The [2024 edition of the IDI](#) was released in June 2024.

In September 2023, the [14th Meeting of the ITU Expert Group on Telecommunication/ICT Indicators \(EGTI\)](#) and the [11th Meeting of the ITU Expert Group on ICT Household Indicators \(EGH\)](#), noting the need to create a dedicated body to work on the IDI and its methodology, agreed to establish a joint EGTI-EGH subgroup to review the IDI methodology.

During the 2024 work period, the joint EGTI-EGH subgroup on the IDI agreed on its working methods, reaffirmed the relevance of and support for the universal and meaningful connectivity (UMC) conceptual framework of the IDI, and began discussions on various indicators for the next revision of the IDI.

As a result of its deliberations, the subgroup made the following recommendations:

1. Continue to use universal and meaningful connectivity as the underpinning conceptual framework of the IDI;
2. Adopt the Candidate Indicators framework; and
3. Extend the subgroup's mandate for another year.

In September 2024, the subgroup's co-leads presented the [report of activities](#) at the annual meetings of [EGTI](#) and [EGH](#), during a joint session. EGTI and EGH adopted the recommendations of the report.

Objectives

In 2025, building on the work of 2024, the sub-group aims to:

1. Identify indicators for potential inclusion in the IDI, based on the Candidate Indicators framework (see section 4 of the sub-group's [Report of activities 2024](#)).
2. Based on the work achieved above, make a recommendation to EGTI/EGH regarding the revision of the IDI, in line with Resolution 131.
3. After identifying candidate indicators, the subgroup may, time permitting, review additional methodological aspects of the IDI, such as normalization (goalposts) and aggregation.

Reporting

The subgroup will prepare an activity report, which will be presented during a joint EGTI-EGH session at the annual meetings on 25-26 September 2025.

If, upon the expiration of the current IDI methodology, EGTI and EGH opt to revise it in accordance with Resolution 131 (Resolve 8), the subgroup's report may inform this revision.

Participation

The subgroup is open to all interested EGH and EGTI members. Members are expected to contribute actively to the work of the subgroup. Participants in the 2024 work programme will be automatically included in all subgroup-related communication, including meeting invitations, in 2025 (those who wish to opt out can write to indicators@itu.int). EGTI/EGH members who wish to join the subgroup can write to indicators@itu.int to be added to the list of members.

Co-Leads

The co-leads and rapporteurs are:

- Winston Oyadomari, Senior Survey Analyst and Head of Innovation Lab, CETIC.br, NIC, Brazil (representing EGH), and
- Teddy Woodhouse, International Policy Manager, Ofcom, United Kingdom, (representing EGTI).

Methods of work

The co-leads will convene virtual meetings of the subgroup via Microsoft Teams, during which members may take stock, define deliverables and timelines, and distribute roles. The ITU Secretariat will act as the secretariat for the subgroup to facilitate its work. The subgroup may invite experts from international organizations, research organizations, the private sector, and so on, to inform the discussions.

Timeline

In 2025, the work of the subgroup will run from March to July.

Tentative timeline:

- March: kick-off meeting.
- April-July: Monthly meetings to assess progress and finalise deliverables.
- July: draft report is circulated to EGTI and EGH members for comments.
- August: integration of comments and finalisation of report.
- September: report to EGTI and EGH during the annual meetings.