Joint EGTI/EGH subgroup on the ICT Development Index (IDI) 2025 work period

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Summary of the subgroup's first virtual meeting, 13 March 2025

- The first virtual meeting of the Joint EGTI/EGH subgroup on the ICT Development Index was held on 13 March 2025. Co-leads Winston Oyadomari (NIC.br) and Teddy Woodhouse (Ofcom) welcomed participants and introduced the objectives for 2025. They recalled that the current IDI methodology is valid through 2026.

- They emphasized that the subgroup's role is to prepare recommendations that may inform a future revision starting in 2027. The Terms of Reference (ToRs) for the subgroup were presented and shared in advance. Members were invited to provide comments or suggestions by email. The co-leads outlined the schedule for the year, with monthly meetings planned from April to July, leading to a final report in September.

- To guide the year's work, the co-leads reviewed key topics discussed in the previous cycle. These include skills indicators, cybersecurity, fixed broadband penetration, internet speed, device ownership, affordability, network capacity, data timeliness, and methodological considerations. It was noted that the skills indicators face challenges related to conceptual clarity and limited data availability. Fixed broadband penetration remains a priority topic, but the lack of official household data as a denominator presents difficulties. Internet speed was again raised as an area of interest, with debate around using third-party sources like Ookla. There were also discussions on the importance of considering both mobile phones and computers in assessing meaningful connectivity, particularly in low-income settings.

- Several participants raised methodological and procedural issues. Qatar emphasized the importance of relying solely on official, primary data sources for IDI indicators, given the Index's role in other international indices. The ITU Secretariat provided an update on ongoing efforts to develop internationally comparable estimates of the number of households, noting that the work has been recognized as a priority by the UN Statistical Commission but remains constrained by funding and institutional responsibilities. Egypt raised concerns about using multiple reference years for the different components of the IDI. The Secretariat clarified that all indicators used in the Index are aligned to the same reference year, with the exception of GNI per capita, which is produced with a one-year lag. Qatar also raised a concern about the use of projected values for the 95th percentile in traffic data, proposing that this be based on actual data to ensure methodological consistency.

- The co-leads encouraged members to begin submitting proposals using the established template, either via email or on the shared Teams platform. They noted that current data availability is reflected in an up-to-date Power BI dashboard. A suggestion was made to also consider trends in data availability when assessing potential new indicators. A broader point was raised about including data on infrastructure such as Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) and data centers; while recognized as increasingly important, these fall outside the scope of the current IDI framework. The meeting concluded with a reminder that the subgroup will not propose changes to the current IDI but will develop

recommendations for consideration in the next revision cycle. The next meeting will take place in April.

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Additional information

- IDI subgroup's Microsoft [Teams channel](#).
- Contact:
  - [Teddy Woodhouse](#) , International Policy Manager, OFCOM, United Kingdom (co-lead representing EGTI)
  - [Winston Oyadomari](#), Senior Survey Analyst and Head of Innovation Lab, Cetic.br, Brazil (co-lead representing EGH)
  - BDT Focal Point: [Thierry Geiger](#) (for inquiries and participation requests)
- EGTI/EGH members wishing to join the IDI subgroup can write to indicators@itu.int.
- More information about EGTI and EGH available on the dedicated [webpage](#).