



**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.: BDT/DIR/AMS/DM012

Geneva, 10 April 2026

Administrations of ITU Member States from
Americas
ITU-D Sector Members from Americas
ITU Academia from Americas
Regional Telecommunication Organizations
from Americas

Subject: ITU Regional Development Forum for Americas 2026 (Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, (from 16–17 June 2026) and ITU Regional Workshop on Regulatory Innovation and Sandbox (18 June 2026)

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the **ITU Regional Development Forum for the Americas 2026 (RDF-AMS)**, to be organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) with the support of the **Communication Regulatory Commission of Colombia (CRC), Colombia**.

The Forum will take place on **16–17 June 2026 in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia**, in a **hybrid format**. Participants are also kindly invited to attend the ITU Regional Workshop on Regulatory Innovation and Sandbox, held back-to-back with the RDF at the same venue, on 18 June 2026.

Under the overarching theme **“Universal, meaningful, and affordable connectivity for an inclusive and sustainable digital future,”** RDF-AMS will provide a high-level platform for dialogue among ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates, Academia, regional and international organizations, development partners and other stakeholders from across the Americas.

The Forum will:

- Assess the **state of digital development and emerging trends in the Americas**, identifying challenges and opportunities for the region;
- Discuss the outcomes of the **World Telecommunication Development Conference 2025 (WTDC-25)** held in Baku, Azerbaijan, and their regional implementation.
- Address the implementation of the **five Regional Initiatives for the Americas** adopted at WTDC-25, focusing on resilient infrastructure, digital inclusion and skills, innovative digital ecosystems and emerging technologies, cyber resilience, and enabling regulatory frameworks;
- Facilitate matchmaking through the Partner2Connect Digital Coalition (P2C), fostering partnerships and mobilizing commitments to accelerate digital development in the region;

- Enable the presentation of country contributions and foster regional coordination toward the implementation of the Regional Initiatives;
- Advance dialogue on **regulatory innovation**, including agile governance, institutional capacity building, and regulatory experimentation mechanisms such as sandboxes.
- Promote regulatory innovation and experimentation, including the launch of pilot initiatives in Central America and the Dominican Republic.

Member States, Sector Members and other stakeholders contributing to the implementation of the Baku Action Plan at the regional level — in particular to the ITU Regional Initiatives for the Americas — are kindly invited to provide their written input by 15 May 2026 to amsdir@itu.int using the official Contributions Template available on the event webpage.

The responses to this consultation will contribute to the development of the **Regional Roadmap for the Implementation of the ITU Regional Initiatives for the Americas**, which consolidates all contributions received through the matchmaking process. This Regional Roadmap will be shared with the Membership and presented for discussion during the RDF. All submitted proposals will serve as the basis for further coordination at the ITU level.

The Forum will be conducted in accordance with ITU's paperless policy. All relevant information, including the agenda, practical information, Contribution Template, registration and webcast access details, will be made available on the ITU website.

To participate, kindly register online as indicated on the [event webpage](#).

For any additional enquiries, the ITU Regional Office for the Americas (e-mail: amsdir@itu.int) remains at your disposal.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed)

Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava
Director



***ITU Regional Development Forum for Americas
(RDF-AMS) 2026***

Universal, meaningful, and affordable connectivity for an inclusive and sustainable digital future

16-17 June 2026

Cartagena de Indias, Colombia

Meeting organized by the International Telecommunication Union in cooperation and hosted by the Communications Regulation Commission of Colombia

RDF-AMS 2026 is held back-to-back with the ITU Regional Workshop on Regulatory Innovation and Sandbox

DRAFT AGENDA

DAY 1

1. Opening ceremony
2. Session one: State of digital development and trends: Challenges and opportunities
3. Session two: Building upon the outcomes of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC 2025), and UN Processes towards the results and impact-oriented regional actions in the Americas Region
4. Session three: Roundtable on the implementation of the ITU Regional Initiatives for the Americas.

DAY 2

1. Session four: Partner2Connect matchmaking roundtable- Member States: Matchmaking/ Regional Initiative contributions
2. Session five: Partner2Connect matchmaking roundtable- Private Sector: Matching the countries and regional needs with the stakeholders' interests to support digital development across the Americas
3. Session six: Governance and enabling regulatory frameworks for sustainable digital transformation-
4. Session seven: Special presentation, Regulatory Innovation project in Central America and the Dominican Republic.
5. Closing Ceremony

DAY 3

Thursday, 18 June 2026

1. ITU REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON REGULATORY INNOVATION AND SANDBOX



ITU REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FORUM FOR AMERICAS

(RDF-AMS 26)

**Universal, meaningful, and affordable connectivity for
an inclusive and sustainable digital future**

16 and 17 June 2026

Cartagena de Indias, Colombia

<http://itu.int/go/RDF-AMS-26>

CONTRIBUTION FORM

This form is intended to collect inputs from stakeholders contributing to the implementation of the Baku Action Plan and the ITU Regional Initiatives for Americas (2026–2029).

Please send the filled in form to: amsdir@itu.int by 15 May 2026

ORGANIZATION: [Name of the submitting organization and country]

FOCAL POINT: [First Name and Surname, Title, email address, phone number]

TITLE: [Title of submission]

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION: [Provide a brief description up to 500 words]

COUNTRIES in FOCUS: [Name countries to be impacted by this action]

YEARS of IMPLEMENTATION: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

- 2026
- 2027
- 2028
- 2029

RELEVANT ITU REGIONAL INITIATIVE: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

- AMS1: Facilitating resilient infrastructure to enable deployment of universal and meaningful connectivity
- AMS2: Digital inclusion, digital skills/competencies
- AMS3: Support for innovative digital ecosystems and the adoption and use of emerging technologies
- AMS4: Promoting cyber resilience and capacity building in cybersecurity and cyber resilience
- AMS5: Governance and enabling regulatory frameworks for sustainable digital transformation

Please find more information on the ITU Regional Initiatives 2026-2029, as defined by WTDC-25, [here](#).

RELATED ITU-D PRIORITIES AS DEFINED BY THE ITU WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE 2025

- Affordable connectivity
- Digital Transformation
- Enabling policy and regulatory environment
- Resource mobilization and international cooperation
- Inclusive and secure telecommunications/ICTs for sustainable development

Please find more information on the ITU-D Priorities, as defined by WTDC-25, [here](#).

RELATED PARTNERS2CONNECT FOCUS AREAS

- Focus Area 1 – ACCESS: Connecting people everywhere
- Focus Area 2 – ADOPTION: Empowering communities
- Focus Area 3 – VALUE CREATION: Building digital ecosystems
- Focus Area 4 – ACCELERATE: Incentivizing investments

Please find more information on the Partner2Connect Focus Areas Action Framework [here](#).

RELATED WSIS ACTION LINE: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

- C1: The role of governments and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development
- C2: Information and communication infrastructure
- C3: Access to information and knowledge
- C4: Capacity building
- C5: Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs
- C6: Enabling environment
- C7: ICT applications

- C8: Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content
- C9: Media
- C10: Ethical dimensions the Information Society
- C11: International and regional cooperation

RELATED GLOBAL DIGITAL COMPACT: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

- 1: Close all digital divides and accelerate progress across the Sustainable Development Goals
- 2: Expand inclusion in and benefits from the digital economy for all
- 3: Foster an inclusive, open, safe and secure digital space that respects, protects and promote human rights
- 4: Advance responsible, equitable and interoperable data governance approaches
- 5: Enhance international governance of artificial intelligence for the benefit of humanity.

RELATED SDG: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 1: No Poverty | <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 2: Zero Hunger | <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 3: Good Health and Well- being | <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 4: Quality Education | <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 5: Gender Equality | <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 13: Climate Action |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation | <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 14: Life Below Water |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 15: Life on Land |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth | <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure | <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 17: Partnerships for the SDGs |



Information Note for Participants

Venue

The Regional Development Forum (RDF) takes place from 16 to 17 June in Cartagena, Colombia.

The event will take place at the Hotel Radisson Cartagena Ocean Pavilion, in Cartagena de Indias. All information related to RDF will be available on the [RDF-AMS website](#).

Registration

Advance registration is mandatory, following these steps:

1. [Create an ITU user account](#) (if you already have an account, go to step 2): When creating an ITU user account affiliated to an ITU Member ([Member States](#), [Sector Members](#), [Associates](#), [Academia](#), and [UN System](#)), users must obtain approval of their affiliation from the corresponding TIES Focal Point prior to submitting a registration request.
2. [Register here](#): Log in with your ITU user account credentials and complete the corresponding registration request form. After successful submission, you will receive an acknowledgement of successful submission of the registration request.

For assistance with the registration process, please contact: BDTMeetingsRegistration@itu.int

Please allow enough time for the visa to be processed.

Remote Participation

Advance registration is required to participate remotely. Instructions on how to connect to the remote participation platform will be sent to registered participants.

[Zoom](#) is the remote participation platform that will be used for the RDF.

Participation fees

No participation fee is required for these events. However, all participants are to cover their own expenses for travel, accommodation and insurance.

Fellowships

A limited number of fellowships will be made available to eligible participants from ITU Member States in the Americas, subject to the availability of funds and in accordance with ITU rules and procedures. Interested candidates are encouraged to apply within the indicated timeframe.

Please refer to the [ITU Fellowships Portal](#) for the Policy for awarding fellowships for events and activities funded through the ITU regular budget and for the [list of Member States](#) eligible to receive ITU fellowships.

The decision criteria to grant a fellowship include:

- available ITU budget;
- equitable distribution among countries and regions;
- gender balance and the inclusion of persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs.

Subject to the availability of funds, **one full fellowship or two partial fellowships** may be awarded per eligible Member State of the Americas region.

To request a fellowship, the participant must [first register to the meeting](#) and obtain the approval of the focal point.

The deadline for fellowships is 5 May 2026. Any application received after this deadline will not be considered. The application form and other additional information will be posted to the RDF website. Should you require any further information, please contact fellowships@itu.int

Paper policy and access to documents

ITU-D meetings are paperless. Meeting documents including the forms, the agenda, presentations, practical information will be made available on the [RDF-AMS website](#).

Interpretation

The Forum will be conducted in English and Spanish.

Table 1: Summary of key deadlines

Region	RDF	Deadline for fellowship application	Deadline for the submission of contributions
Americas	16 to 17 June	5 May	15 May

Contact

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 Programme Officer
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