



**Telecommunication  
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.: BDT/DIR/ASP/DM/019

Geneva, 3 June 2026

- Administrations of ITU Member States from the Asia and the Pacific region
- ITU-D Sector Members from the Asia and the Pacific region
- ITU Academia from the Asia and the Pacific region
- Regional Telecommunication Organization from the Asia and the Pacific region
- Intergovernmental Organizations operating satellite systems
- The United Nations and its Funds and Programmes
- Specialized agencies of the United Nations
- TDAG Bureau members
- Chairs and Vice-Chairs of ITU-D study groups
- Partner2Connect Partners

**Subject: ITU Regional Development Forum for Asia and the Pacific 2026, Bangkok (Thailand), 16-17 July 2026**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the **Regional Development Forum for Asia and the Pacific (RDF-ASP) 2026**, to be organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and co-hosted by the Office of the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (Office of the NBTC) of Thailand. The Forum will be held from 16 to 17 July 2026 in **Bangkok, Thailand**, back-to-back with the **23rd APT Telecommunication/ICT Development Forum (ADF-23)**, held from 14 to 15 July 2026.

Under the theme **‘Universal, meaningful, and affordable connectivity for an inclusive and sustainable digital future’**, the Regional Development Forum for Asia and the Pacific serves as a platform for ITU and its stakeholders, including Member States, Sector Members, Associates and Academia, regional organizations, development partners and financial institutions, to discuss the newly adopted regional initiatives for Asia and the Pacific and exchange views on achieving meaningful connectivity and sustainable digital transformation in the region. RDF-ASP will feature Partner2Connect matchmaking sessions and provide an opportunity to match specific country and regional needs with potential partners’ interests to advance digital development.

In this context, the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific is launching a Regional Consultation that offers ITU Member States, Sector Members, and other stakeholders an opportunity to contribute to ITU’s activities at the regional level and to reflect the strategic needs of the region during the implementation of Baku Action Plan for the period 2026 – 2029.

Stakeholders contributing to the implementation of the Baku Action Plan at the regional level, in particular to ITU Regional Initiatives for Asia and the Pacific, are kindly invited to provide their written input by **1 July 2026**

to [ITU-RO-AsiaPacific@itu.int](mailto:ITU-RO-AsiaPacific@itu.int), using the Contributions Template attached as **Annex 3** to this letter and also available on the website: [itu.int/go/RDF-ASP-26](http://itu.int/go/RDF-ASP-26).

A draft agenda can be found in **Annex 1**. For information on registration and practical information, please see **Annex 2**.

For any additional enquiries, Ms. Atsuko Okuda, ITU Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific (e-mail: [ITU-RO-AsiaPacific@itu.int](mailto:ITU-RO-AsiaPacific@itu.int)) remains at your disposal.

Yours faithfully,

*(signed)*

Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava  
Director

**Annex 1: Draft agenda****ITU Regional Development Forum for Asia and the Pacific  
(RDF-ASP) 2026**

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

RDF-ASP is organized by the ITU and is co-hosted by the Office of the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (Office of the NBTC) of Thailand.

**16-17 July 2026  
Bangkok, Thailand**

Event website: [itu.int/go/RDF-ASP-26](https://itu.int/go/RDF-ASP-26).

RDF-ASP 2026 is held back-to-back with the 23rd APT Telecommunication/ICT Development Forum (ADF-23).

The ITU Regional Development Forum for Asia and the Pacific (RDF-ASP) 2026 will be held under the theme "Universal, meaningful, and affordable connectivity for an inclusive and sustainable digital future".

In line with the ITU Baku Action Plan and for the effective implementation of the 2025 World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-25) outcomes and recommendations, RDF-ASP explores synergies that include the agreed Asia and the Pacific regional initiatives, projects and other initiatives.

**DRAFT AGENDA**

1. Opening Ceremony
  2. Session 1: State of Digital Development and Trends - Challenges and Opportunities
  3. Session 2: Infrastructure Development for Universal Meaningful Connectivity
  4. Special Announcements
  5. Session 3: Building upon the outcomes of the WTDC and new resolutions introduced
  6. Session 4: Building UN partnerships to achieve WTDC outcomes
  7. Partnership Announcements
  8. Session 5: ITU Regional Initiatives for Asia and the Pacific: Contributions
  9. Special Announcements
  10. Session 6: ITU Regional Initiatives for Asia and the Pacific: Contributions & Presentation of Contributions to RDF
  11. Session 7: Partner2Connect matchmaking roundtable: Matching the country and regional needs with stakeholders' interests to support digital development across the region
  12. Session 8: Partner2Connect matchmaking roundtable: Matching the country and regional needs with stakeholders' interests to support digital development across the region (continued)
  13. Innovation Café
  14. Presentation of the RDF report by the Chair
  15. Closing ceremony
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## Annex 2: Practical information for participants

### Venue

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RDF-ASP will be held at Conrad Bangkok hotel in Bangkok, Thailand. Additional information is available on the RDF-ASP [website](#).

### Registration

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Advance registration is mandatory and will be carried out exclusively online with manual approval. [Online registration is open here](#).

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. 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](mailto:BDTMeetingsRegistration@itu.int)

Please allow enough time for the visa to be processed.

### Remote Participation

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Advance registration is required to participate remotely. Instructions on how to connect to the remote participation platform will be sent to registered participants and made available on the meeting websites. [Zoom](#) is the remote participation platform that will be used for the meetings.

### Participation fees

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

### Fellowships

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To facilitate participation from [eligible countries](#), one full (or two partial) fellowships per country may be awarded, subject to available funding **within Asia and the Pacific region**. Full fellowships will cover a) the **air ticket** (one return economy class ticket by the most direct/economical route from the country of origin to the meeting venue), and b) an appropriate **daily subsistence allowance** (intended to cover accommodation, meals and incidental expenses). Partial fellowships will cover either the air ticket, or the subsistence allowance. The applicant's organization is responsible to cover the remaining participation costs.

In line with Plenipotentiary Resolution 213 (Dubai, 2018), it is encouraged that fellowship nominations take into consideration gender balance and inclusion of persons with disabilities and with specific needs. The criteria to grant a fellowship include: available ITU budget; active participation, including the submission of relevant written contributions; equitable distribution among countries and regions; application by persons with disabilities and specific needs; and gender balance.

The request form is available from the event website. **Fellowship requests must be received by 11 June 2026 at the latest.** They are to be sent by e-mail to [fellowships@itu.int](mailto:fellowships@itu.int) or by fax to +41 22 730 57 78.

**Registration (approved by the focal point) is required before submitting a fellowship request**, and it is strongly recommended to register for the event and to start the request process at least seven weeks before the meeting.

### Paper policy and access to documents

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ITU-D meetings are paperless. An ITU user account with [TIES access](#) is required to download the meeting documents.

**Table 1: Summary of key deadlines**

<b>Region</b>	<b>RDF dates</b>	<b>Deadline for fellowship application</b>	<b>Deadline for the submission of contributions</b>
Asia and the Pacific	16-17 July 2026	11 June 2026	1 July 2026

**Other practical information**

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Additional practical information is available on the RDF-ASP [website](#).

**Contact**

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Ms. Atsuko Okuda,  
Regional Director, ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific  
Email: [ITU-RO-AsiaPacific@itu.int](mailto:ITU-RO-AsiaPacific@itu.int)

Annex 3: Contribution Template

# ITU Regional Development Forum for Asia and the Pacific (RDF-ASP) 2026

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

**16-17 July 2026  
Bangkok, Thailand**

Event website: [itu.int/go/RDF-ASP-26](https://itu.int/go/RDF-ASP-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 Asia and the Pacific (2026-2029).

Please send the filled in form to: [ITU-RO-AsiaPacific@itu.int](mailto:ITU-RO-AsiaPacific@itu.int) by 1 July 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]

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

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**YEARS of IMPLEMENTATION:** [Tick the relevant boxes]

- 2026
- 2027
- 2028
- 2029

**RELEVANT ITU REGIONAL INITIATIVE:** [Tick the relevant boxes]

- ASP1: Addressing special needs of least developed countries, small island developing states, including Pacific island countries, and landlocked developing countries
- ASP2: Harnessing telecommunications/ICTs to support inclusive and sustainable digital transformation
- ASP3: Fostering development of infrastructure to enhance digital connectivity and connecting the unconnected
- ASP4: Enabling an innovative and sustainable telecommunication/ information and communication technology sector
- ASP5: Supporting a safe, secure and resilient telecommunication/ information and communication technology environment

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** [Tick the relevant boxes]

- 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 PARTNER2CONNECT FOCUS AREAS** [Tick the relevant boxes]

- 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]

- 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]

- 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]

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