

**Telecommunication Development
Advisory Group (TDAG)**

33rd Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland, 7-10 April 2026



**Document TDAG-26/INF/11-E
11 April 2026
English only**

Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau

Opening Speech

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ITUTDAG

TELECOMMUNICATION
DEVELOPMENT
ADVISORY GROUP

7 - 10 April 2026

Geneva, Switzerland (Hybrid format)

Opening Speech

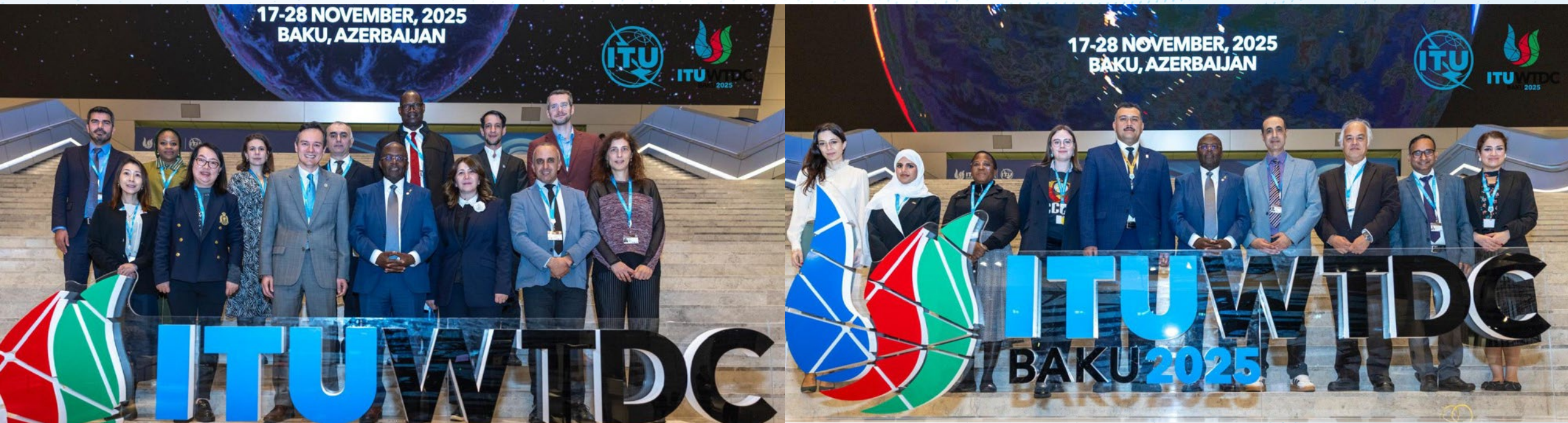
Dr Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava
ITU BDT Director



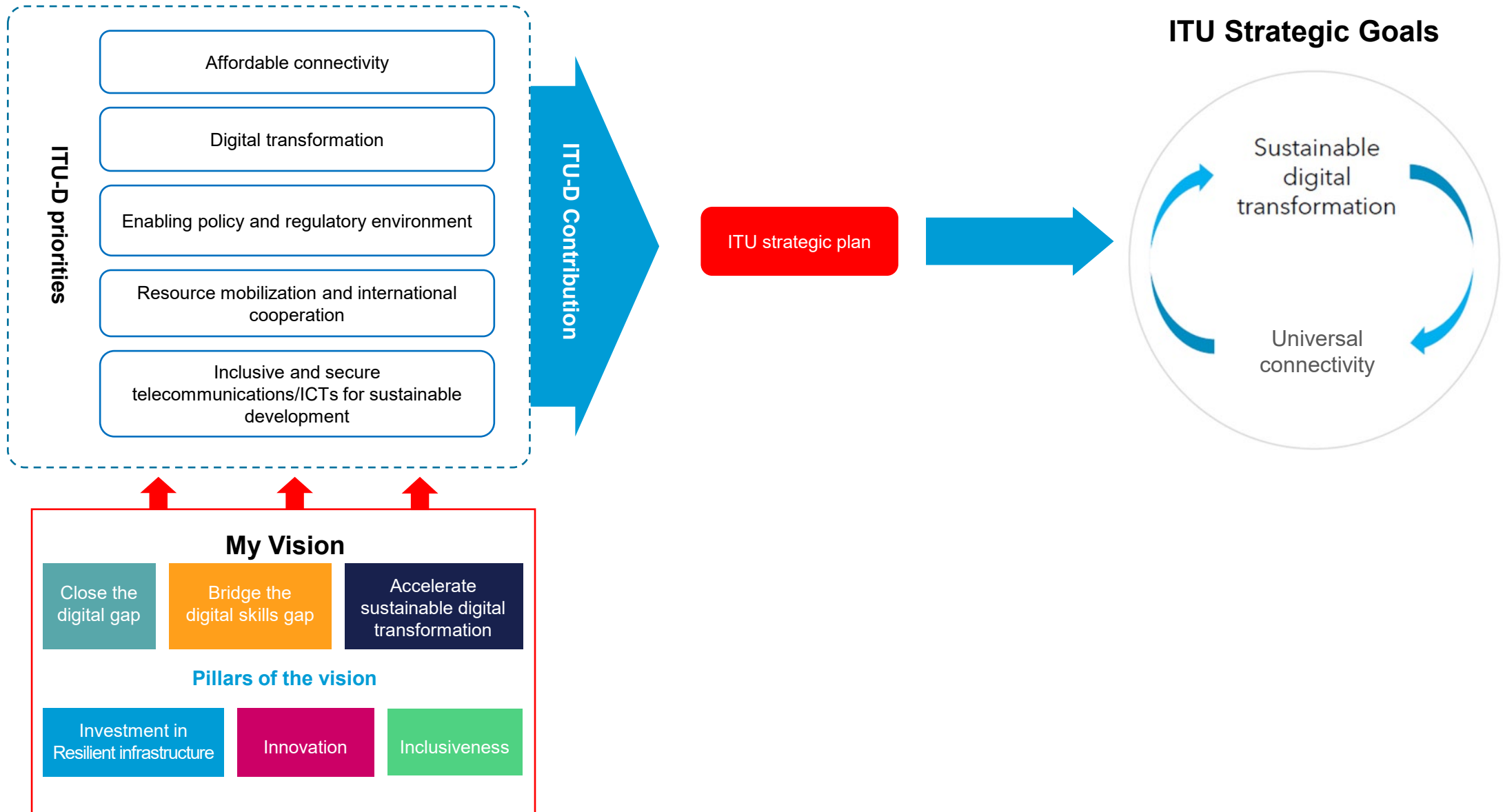
Welcome to the new TDAG Bureau



Welcome to the new ITU-D Study Groups management teams



My vision



The Road to a BDT4Impact: 90-day plan & beyond

Month 1: Begin journey

- ☐ Listen to perspectives
 - Engage staff
 - Engage stakeholders
- ☐ Undertake 2023 RBM Operational Planning (OP-23)
- ☐ Share my vision with staff
- ☐ Embark on resource mobilization
- ☐ Emphasize work-life balance
- ☐ Engage and empower regional offices
- ☐ Inspire BDT staff to cultivate team spirit
- ☐ Introduce work principles in BDT

Month 2: Keep travelling

- ☐ Continue listening tour
- ☐ Codify strategy for organizational transformation in BDT
- ☐ Hold retreat for senior management
- ☐ Communicate direction to staff
- ☐ Start implementation of the Kigali Action Plan
- ☐ Embark on staff skills development processes review
- ☐ Craft a stakeholder engagement plan

Month 3 and beyond: Full cruise towards implementation of the Kigali Action Plan

- ☐ Continue listening tour
- ☐ Socialize strategy with key stakeholders
- ☐ Start implementing the strategy
- ☐ Deliver impactful results
- ☐ Position BDT as a premier development entity

Beyond WTDC-25

A BDT that is:

- Agile
- Efficient
- Effective
- Innovative
- Adaptable
- Responsive

= **BDT4Impact**

**A BDT that delivers results
and impacts people's lives
through digital development**

September – December 2025

Events



GSR-25



WTIS-25



Global Youth Celebration 2025



Third meeting of the Digital Innovation Board



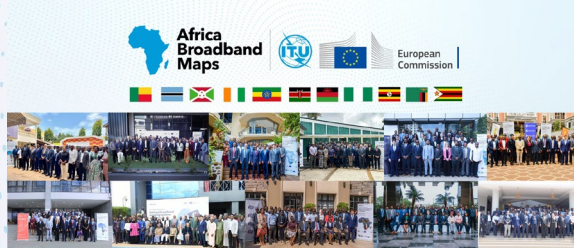
Accessible Europe in Belgium



Accessible Americas in Guatemala



CyberDrills in Mongolia and Armenia



Africa Broadband Maps project national events



ITU and EY 'AI Skills Accelerator for Girls' workshops in ASP, CIS, ARB regions



First Arab Regional Forum on Early Warning Systems in Egypt



National Workshop on Validation of NETP in Mauritania



Subregional workshop for Portuguese-speaking countries on promoting and measuring UMC



Workshops on child online protection and cybersecurity in Palau

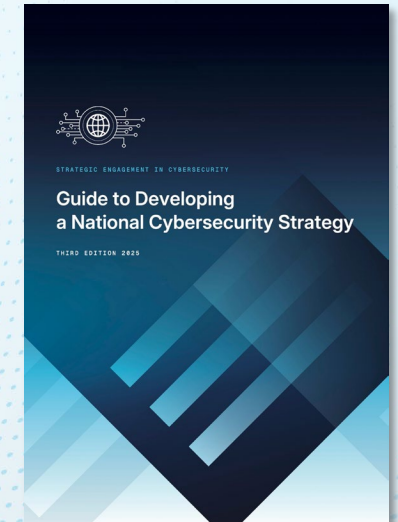


Satellite phones provided to restore vital links and services in Jamaica after Hurricane Melissa



Digital literacy and skills trainings in Tonga under the Smart Villages and Smart Islands initiative

Reports



Visit the webpage for
ITU-D Publications



World Telecommunication Development Conference 2025 (WTDC-25)

About

2000
participants

including

165 VIPs

153 Member States and the State
of Palestine under Resolution 99



Baku Action Plan



Events



Haiti's National Emergency Telecommunications Plan



Artificial Intelligence Workshop in Cameroon



Meeting of the Digital Regulation Network Board hosted by Georgia



Training sessions on cybersecurity in Pakistan



ITU Data Hackathon



National validation workshop on Emergency Warning Systems in Montenegro



Bootcamp in Saudi Arabia to support the commercialization of technology research



Training sessions to Kenya under Open-Source Ecosystem Enabler



Workshop on regulatory innovation mechanisms for El Salvador



Third cohort of the Generation Connect Young Leadership Programme



National training on emerging technologies in Belarus



Technical sessions on network and digital infrastructure in Timor-Leste



Launch of the African Digital Transformation Centre in South Africa

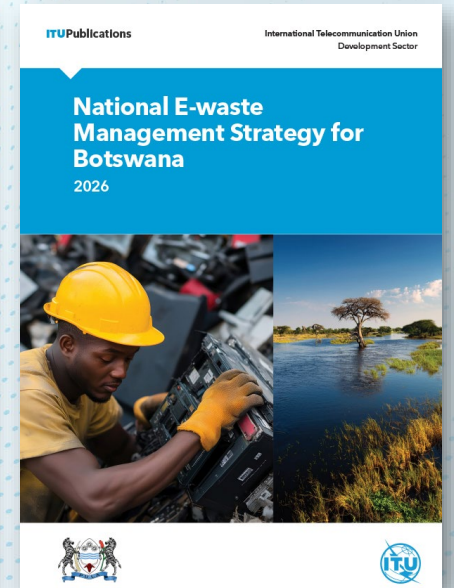


"Know Your Members" webinar



Fourth edition of Her CyberTracks

Recently published BDT reports



Visit the webpage for
ITU-D Publications



Growing ITU-D Membership



55 New Sector Members,
Associates and Academia
joined in 2025



U CLOUD GLOBAL



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ
ΠΑΤΡΩΝ
UNIVERSITY OF PATRAS



西安电子科技大学
XIDIAN UNIVERSITY

New Sector Members
and Academia
joined in 2026



540

Total Sector Members,
Associates and Academia

Partnerships and Agreements signed



76

Partnership
agreements signed
in 2025



14

Partnership
agreements signed
since January 2026

Highlights of partnerships (September 2025 – March 2026)



Enhancing the sustainability of Smart Villages and Smart Islands in the Asia-Pacific with the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts of Australia (DITRDCA)



SatCom Capacity Building with Intersputnik



Enabling Gender-Inclusive Digital Trade Ecosystems in Senegal with Autorité de Régulation des Télécommunications et des Postes (ARTP), Sénégal



Hand over of technical reports on the development of the National Early Warning and Public Alerting System and on technical, economic and regulatory readiness for the implementation of an early warning system in the Republic of North Macedonia



Hand over of a technical report and feasibility study supporting the implementation of a Cell Broadcast-based public warning system in Montenegro



Hand over of a national assessment on Moldova's policies and regulations on digital accessibility

External engagements (September 2025 to March 2026)

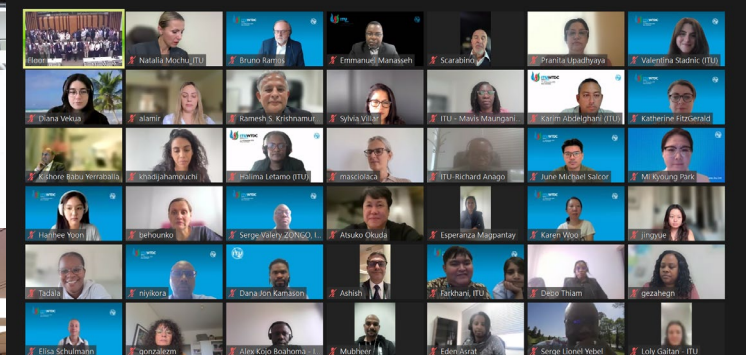


Internal BDT staff engagements (September 2025 to March 2026)

BDT Staff Engagement Meetings in September 2025



BDT Staff Engagement Meetings in January 2026



Online participation



BDT Staff Engagement Meetings in November 2025



BDT Staff Engagement Meetings in March 2026

Engaging the UN System



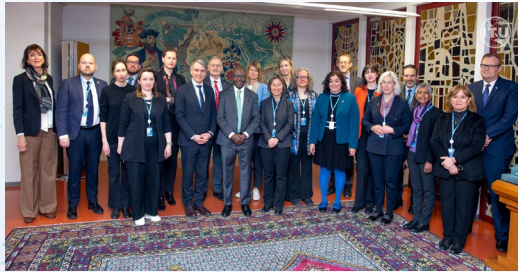
LLDC3, Awaza, Turkmenistan



SIDS4, Antigua and Barbuda



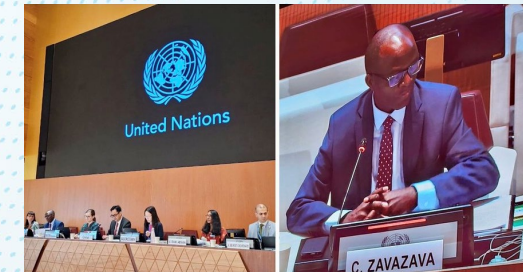
LDC5, Doha, Qatar



**Resident Coordinators
from Europe & CIS**



**Addressing the UN Regional Forum on
Sustainable Development for Europe**



**Addressing the UNCTAD Intergovernmental Group of
Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy**



Looking ahead

The Global Digital Transformation Centres Workshop and the Annual Meeting of the ITU Academy Training Centres

21-24 April 2026
Geneva, Switzerland

ITU Academy
Empowering minds

Number of active courses:
159

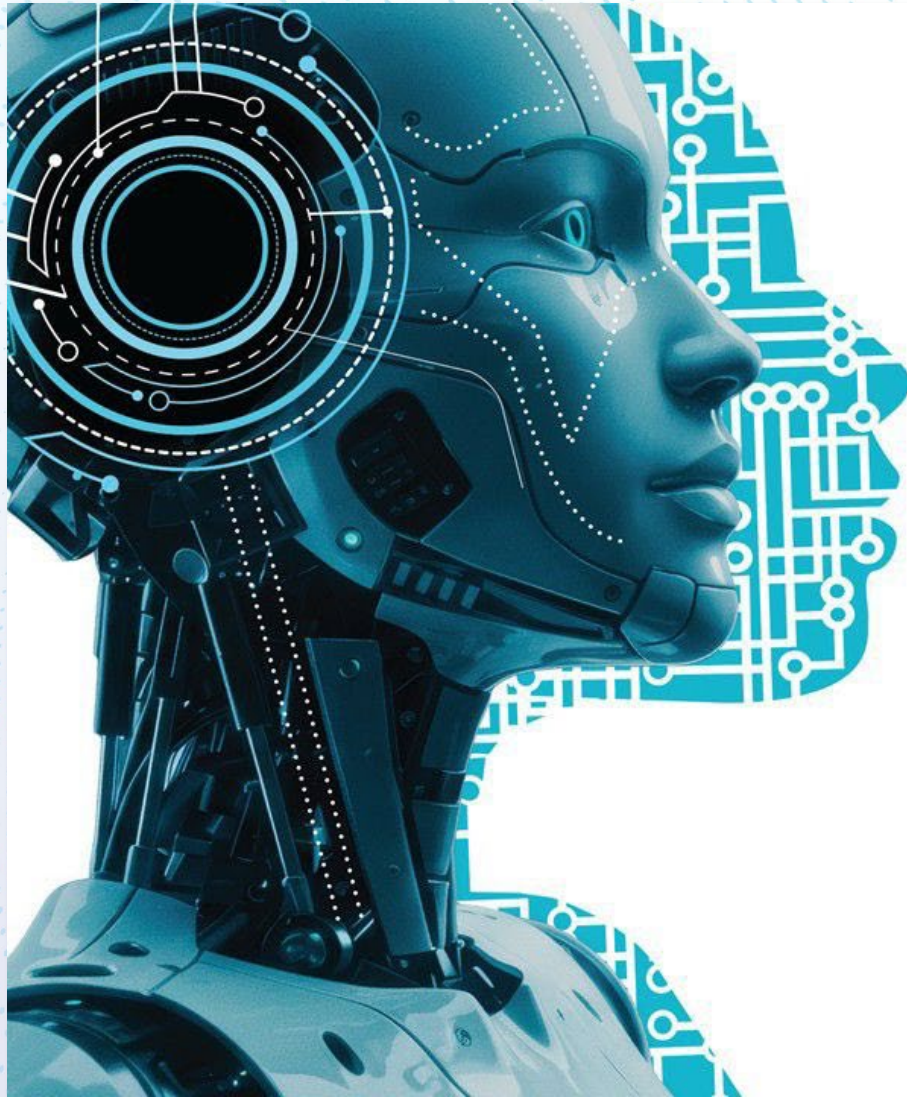
Number of current participants:
around **5000**

ITU Academy
Training Centres

14

Countries with
networks of Digital
Transformation Centres

16



Girls in ICT

*AI for development:
Girls shaping the digital future*

23 April 2026

Global Celebration

Tirana, Albania

Brasília, Brazil

Co-hosted by the Europe
and the Americas regions

itu.int/girlsinict



GLOBAL SYMPOSIUM FOR REGULATORS

ITU GSR ANKARA2026

Navigating the Digital Frontier

12-15 May 2026
Ankara, Türkiye

www.itu.int/gsr26
#ITUGSR



Regional Development Forums 2026

ITU REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FORUM
ITURDF
EUROPE REGION
PRAGUE 2026

24 March
Prague, Czech Republic

Done ✓

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Hosted by
Ministry of Industry and Trade
of the Czech Republic

In cooperation with
Com-ITU

Organized by
ITU



ITU REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FORUM
ITURDF
AFRICA REGION
VICTORIA FALLS 2026

25-26 May
Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

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Zimbabwe Republic Police

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ITU REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FORUM
ITURDF
AMERICAS REGION
CARTAGENA DE INDIAS 2026

16-17 June
Cartagena de Indias, Colombia

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ITU REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FORUM
ITURDF
ARAB STATES REGION
TBD 2025

1-2 July
TBD

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ITU REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FORUM
ITURDF
ASIA-PACIFIC REGION
BANGKOK 2026

16-17 July
Bangkok, Thailand

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ITU REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FORUM
ITURDF
CIS REGION
DUSHANBE 2026

29-30 September
Dushanbe, Tajikistan

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With our Regional Directors



Concluding remarks on WTDC-25

- **Lessons learnt**
- **Committee work and improvements**

Thank you to all Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs,
special mention to **Mr Muath S. AlRumayh** from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Finally, thank you to TDAG and its working groups for your work towards WTDC

**Thank you
and welcome to
TDAG-26!**