# MEANINGFUL CONNECTIVITY ITU Special Initiatives

Sameer Sharma 8 May 2023



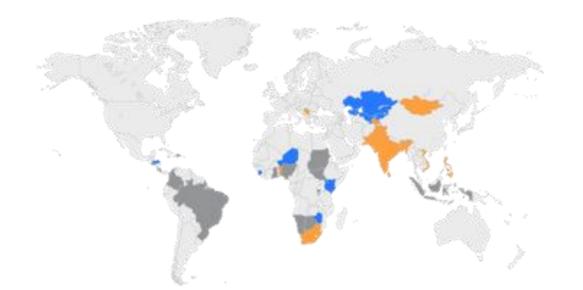


Giga: Connecting every school to the internet and every young person to information, opportunity and choice



## **How Giga Works**

- 1 Map the location of schools and monitor school connectivity status in real-time
- Model the infrastructure, policies, regulations and investments needed to deliver school connectivity
- 3 Help governments to **contract** connectivity for schools



Giga also works to support government in building the right layered financing to pay for school connectivity



## **Results of Startup Period (2020-2023)**

5,600+

connected

2.1 Mn+

19

students connected

in countries

"Thanks to Giga, now 99% of schools are connected, and we are committed to achieve 100%. This makes a huge difference for more than 1.4 million school children in Kyrgyzstan." Christine Jaulmes, UNICEF Kyrgyzstan Representative

"When we piloted Giga, we were able to bring down the cost of connecting schools to the Internet by 55%. This is the power of Giga – by aggregating demand for Internet connectivity, we make it more affordable to connect schools."

H.E. Paula Ingabire
Minister of ICT and Innovation, Rwanda

"Giga is the key to our work on digitalization in Zimbabwe,

We have made substantial progress since we began working with this initiative."

**Gift Machengete**, Director General, Director General Postal and Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of Zimbabwe (WSIS, March 2023)



## Plans for Giga in 2023

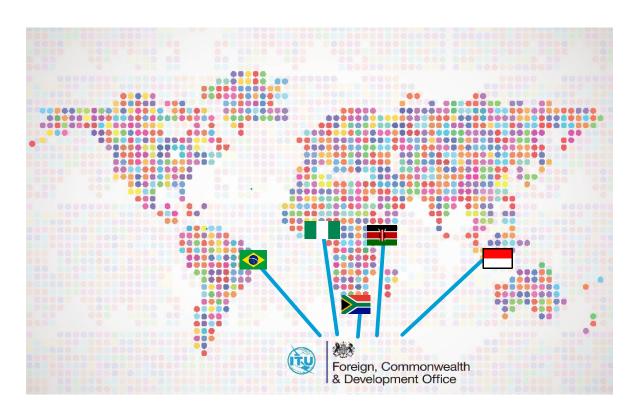
In 2023, Giga aims to

- Map 2.5 million schools;
- Support 40 countries;
- Help Governments to connect 20,000 schools and 6 million students (assumption of 300 students per school)



## **ITU and FCDO**

Ensuring that no-one is left behind in a digital world



- ITU is working with the FCDO Digital Access Programme (DAP) towards broader digital inclusion
- Focus on 4 technical areas:
  - Regulatory Analysis, Framework and Tool Development
  - 2. Promoting sustainable models
  - Promoting a more conducive environment for investment
  - 4. Advancing digital skills

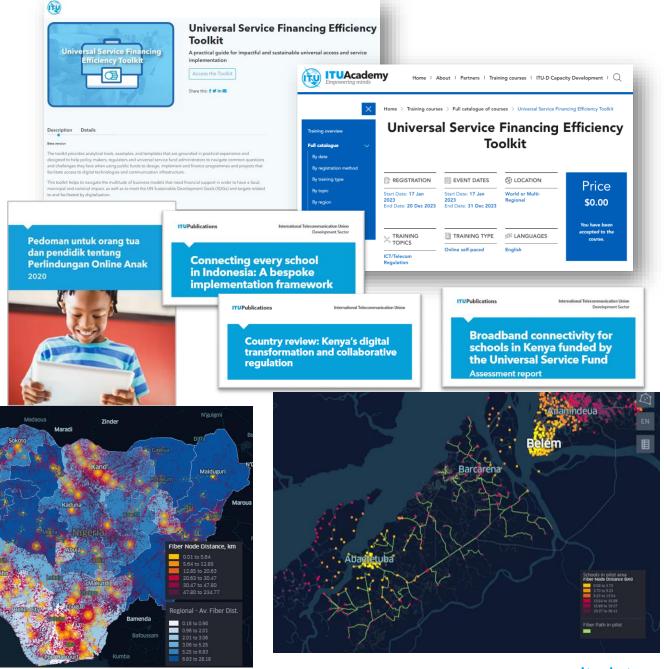
## **Key Achievements**

Universal Service Financing Efficiency Toolkit and training (self-paced and face-to-face) <a href="https://www.itu.int/itu-d/reports/regulatory-market/usf-financial-efficiency-toolkit/">https://www.itu.int/itu-d/reports/regulatory-market/usf-financial-efficiency-toolkit/</a>

 Policy guidance, recommendations for regulators, and on the ground practical advice

 Research into last-mile and alternative access networks

- Interactive infrastructure mapping and cost modelling
- Digital skills assessments and training



### 2023 Outlook

- Publication of country research
- Universal Service Financing Efficiency Toolkit training - in-person and through ITU Academy (and available in more languages)
- Introduction to Broadband Mapping through ITU Academy
- Ongoing support to governments
- Workshops to share learnings explore best practices

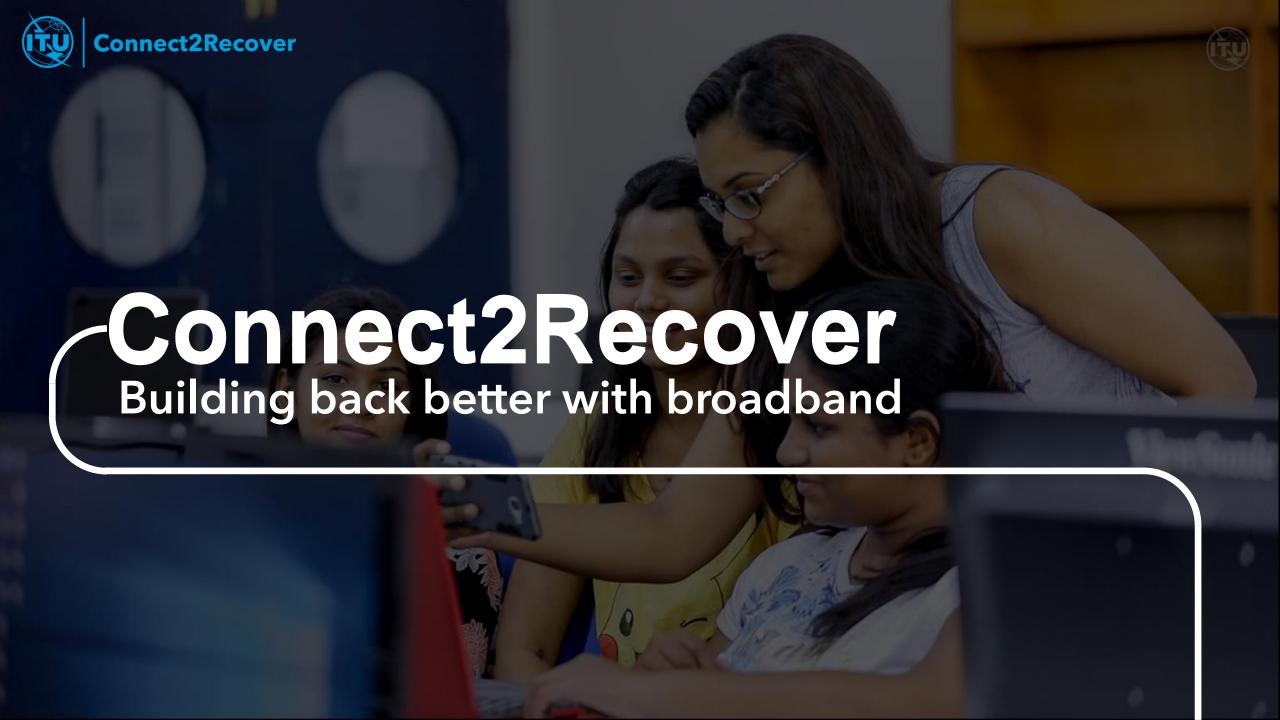














## Connect2Recover4Impact Objective

To reinforce and strengthen the digital infrastructure and digital ecosystems of beneficiary countries to respond to consequences of COVID-19 pandemic, future pandemics and natural hazards through:

- Collaboration with UN agencies and stakeholders
- Deployment of telecommunications
   / ICTs projects and programs
- Providing connectivity to communities to preserve human life
- Updating NETPs

#### **Verticals**



#### **Education:**

Synergies with <a href="https://irrediction.org/line-12.22">ITU/UNICEF Giga Initiative</a>



#### **Health:**

Synergies with

ITU/WHO Be

He @Ithy, Be Mobile

Initiative



#### **Employment/Jobs:**

Synergies with

ITU/ILO/AU Program

on Decent Jobs and

Digital Skills

#### Regions

Africa
Arab States
Americas
Asia-Pacific
CIS
Europe

- \* Priority to Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries, Small Island Developing States
- \* Aligned with WTDC resolutions 16, 37 and Plenipotentiary resolution 215



#### **Connect2Recover Partners**





#### Member States



#### **Australian Government**

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications



MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

## **Sector Members**





**Others** 





## Connect2Recover: ITU-D priority areas and impact (1)

#### 1. Affordable Connectivity

- a. Networks and digital infrastructure
- Global methodology <u>Connect2Recover methodology for identifying connectivity gaps and strengthening resilience</u> in the new normal and Harmonising Broadband Data Collection Across ITU Connectivity Initiatives
- 2. 5 country-level assessments for Armenia, Kazakhstan, Mauritania, Zimbabwe (ongoing), Grenada (ongoing)
- 3. Rwanda: Pilot on school connectivity with Giga
- 4. Montenegro: Pilot on IPv6 laboratory (ongoing)
- 5. Arab region: update broadband transmission map
- 6. <u>Broadband Commission Working Group report "Strategies Towards Universal Smartphone Access"</u>
- b. Emergency telecommunications
- 1. Haiti: Resilience assessment conducted post-disaster
- Moldova: Development of National Emergency Telecommunication Plan and the support on cell broadcast implementation (ongoing)
- 3. Tonga: Develop Quality of Service / Experience rules to strengthen resilience post-disaster

#### 2. Enabling policy and regulatory environment

a. Policy and regulation

- 1. Caribbean Community (CARICOM): Assessment for Regulatory Compliance
- 2. The State of Palestine: National numbering plan framework (ongoing)
- 3. Syria: Telecom / ICT market review (ongoing)

b. Capacity development

- 1. Best practices and recommendations for digital inclusion through resilient infrastructure event @IGF, Addis Ababa
- 2. ITU Regional Radiocommunication Seminar 2022 for Asia-Pacific
- 3. Information Session on Resilient Digital Infrastructure for Meaningful Connectivity



## Connect2Recover: ITU-D priority areas and impact (2)

#### 3. Digital transformation

- **Digital inclusion**
- **Digital services** and applications



Build back better with broadband



#### Digital inclusion in health



Digital inclusion in education

Digital inclusion for







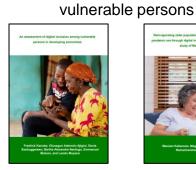
Digital inclusion for enterprises and job creation







Digital connectivity and resilience











#### 15 research reports

#### focus on 17 countries:

- Australia
- Botswana
- **Dominica**
- Eswatini
- Ethiopia
- Ghana
- India
- Kenya
- Malaysia
- Morocco
- Nigeria
- Philippines
- Rwanda
- South Africa
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe



## Partner2Connect

#Partner2Connect www.itu.int/partner2connect Partner2Connect@itu.int





## **Objective**

To serve as a leadership level platform to engage all stakeholders to mobilize and announce new resources, partnerships, and commitments to foster meaningful connectivity and digital transformation globally, with a focus on but not limited to hardest-to-connect communities in Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS)

## **P2C Accomplishments**

- P2C is a true multistakeholder Digital Coalition
- Within one year of having launched the P2C Pledgign Platf orm, P2C has gathered 618 pledges worth nearly 30 USD Billion
- At present, P2C engages **296 entities** from government, private sector, UN agencies and other international or regional organizations (including multilateral development banks), civil society, academia, and youth groups
- Of the 296 entities participating in the Coalition, 101 are
   Member States
- The private sector represents about 25% of the entities participating in the Coalition
- Fourteen UN Agencies are currently involved with the Coalition

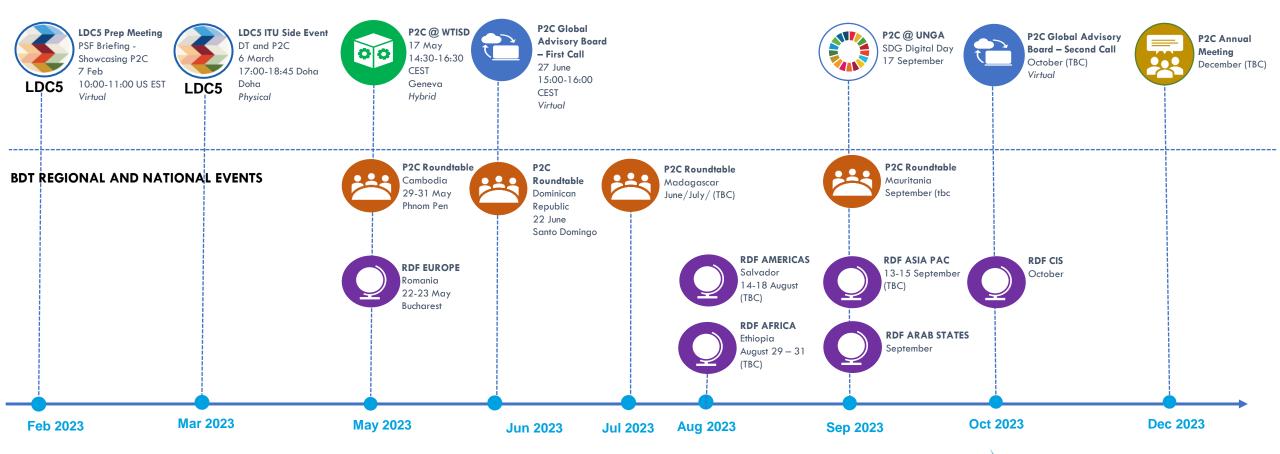
\$29.99bn
Pledges Stimated financial value (USD)

296
Entities Countries of pledge-makers



## Partner2Connect Events 2023

#### **GLOBAL EVENTS**





## Alignment to ITU-D Study Group 1 Questions

	Giga	ITU- FCDO	C2R	P2C
Q1/1: Strategies and policies for the deployment of broadband in developing countries	✓	✓	<b>√</b>	✓
Q2/1: Strategies, policies, regulations and methods of migration to and adoption of digital technologies for broadcasting, including to provide new services for various environments				<b>√</b>
Q3/1: The use of telecommunications / ICTs for disaster reduction and management			✓	✓
Q4/1: Economic aspects of national telecommunications / ICTs	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$
Q5/1: Telecommunications / ICTs for rural and remote areas	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	✓	$\checkmark$
Q6/1: Consumer information, protection and rights				$\checkmark$
Q7/1: Telecommunication / ICT accessibility to enable inclusive communication, especially for persons with disabilities			<b>√</b>	✓

### **Additional Information**

- Giga giga.global
- ITU and FCDO <u>www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Pages/FCDO/default.aspx</u>
- Connect2Recover <u>www.itu.int/itu-d/sites/connect2recover</u>
- Partner2Connect <u>www.itu.int/itu-d/sites/partner2connect</u>