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|  | **Document CWG-FHR-21/3** |
| **8 August 2025** |
| **English only** |
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| Report by the Secretary-General | |
| METHODOLOGY FOR PROVISION OF ESTIMATES OF THE FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF PROPOSED DECISIONS AND RESOLUTIONS AT ITU CONFERENCES AND ASSEMBLIES | |
| **Purpose**  In response to a request from the Council, the purpose of this document is to provide information regarding the methodology used to calculate the financial implications of decisions and resolutions made at conferences and assemblies and to propose changes to the process to enable the availability of relevant financial implications prior to the relevant conference or assembly. An example of the application of the methodology is the financial implications based on the CEPT contributions to the next WTDC-25.  **Action required**  The Council Working Group on financial and human resources is invited to **note** the information provided in this document and to **consider** the proposals for future conferences and assemblies.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **References**  [*CWG-FHR website*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-fhr/Pages/default.aspx)*; Contributions from CEPT (Documents (25)* [*07*](#CEPT_07) *and* [*08*](#CEPT_08)*)* | |

Introduction

1 This document provides a proposal for a methodology to assist membership to estimate the financial consequences of decisions/resolutions approved by conferences and assemblies.

Current process for estimating financial implications

2 During world conferences and assemblies, the work to assess and discuss the financial consequences of decisions and resolutions is conducted by the secretariat in support of the Budget Committee. When a decision or resolution is made by the conference or assembly, an exercise is undertaken to identify the **level and type** of resources required to implement a decision/resolution. This exercise is undertaken by the relevant staff at the Conference within the Bureau or General Secretariat department responsible for the implementation of the decisions/resolutions, in collaboration with the secretary of the committee concerned, supported by the secretariat of the Budget Control Committee. This includes consideration of activities that are no longer necessary or obsolete because of the decision or resolution. Once the level of resources is determined, the cost of those resources is estimated by the secretariat to the Budget Control Committee and the financial implications are presented to the Plenary of the Conference or Assembly

3 As the deliberations progress, the secretariat reviews proposals, assesses the resource requirements, and provides the relevant substantive committee with inputs on the financial consequences. Currently, the financial implications are known to the full conference or meetings only after the decision is made by the substantive committee. In recent years, conferences and assemblies have developed new resolutions and decisions which result in financial consequences which must urgently be addressed by ITU but cannot be accommodated within existing budgetary provisions. This can result in challenges for ITU in achieving its mandate as it can impact the full achievement of ITU’s existing workstreams, in favour of partial efforts in new areas.

Proposed process for pre-conference assessment of financial implications

4 To alleviate this challenge, the Secretariat proposes the implementation of a process whereby possible financial and resource implications of proposals presented to world conferences and assemblies are known to delegates to the conference or assembly before the decision is made. With this information, delegates would be able to assess the decision or resolution in the context of the resources required for implementation and address any impact the decision or resolution may have.

5 In this regard, it is proposed that upon receipt of proposals to conferences or assemblies that have been submitted on behalf of a recognized ITU regional group, the secretariat to the conference or assembly will, upon request by the relevant regional group, prepare an estimate of the financial implications of the proposal. These implications will be submitted to the first meeting of the Budget Control Committee of the conference or assembly as an information document. The preparation of the estimate shall be prepared following the process set out in the remaining sections of this document.

Criteria for estimation of financial consequences

6 The financial consequences of a decision or resolution are determined by identifying the expenses for the new activities that will need to be carried out, less any savings that can be achieved due to the cessation of any activities that may have been made obsolete due to the relevant decision or resolution. The process for estimating these financial consequences by the process set out below.

7 An exercise is undertaken to identify the **level and type** of resources required to implement a decision/resolution, in relation to the categories in paragraph 8 below. This includes the identification of activities that are no longer necessary or obsolete as a result of the decision or resolution. This exercise is undertaken by the relevant staff within the Bureau or General Secretariat department that would be responsible for the implementation of the decision/resolution. Once the level and type of resources have been determined, the cost for the provision of these resources is determined by the responsible Bureau or department in collaboration with the secretariat of the Budget Committee and the Financial Resources Management Department of ITU.

8 Expenses for ITU activities occur generally in relation to one or more of the following categories:

– staff costs and consultancy services

– conduct of meetings and events

– fellowships

– documentation (translation/typing/reprography)

– other operational expenses (including IT equipment software and services, travel expenses, rental expenses, etc.)

– overhead.

9 The costs of activities are calculated in accordance with the following guidelines:

Staff costs and consultancy services

The level and volume of the staff costs and consultancy services required are estimated based on the additional effort, complexity, and workload inherent to the decision/resolution.

For ITU human resources, the average budgeted rates per grade are used to calculate the amount of additional resources needed. The same methodology is used for short-term resources or special service agreements (SSAs) for consultant services, using rates in force at the time the calculations are made. It should be noted that additional human resource requirements may be implemented by the recruitment of new resources or the full or partial reassignment of existing resources from other activities. Where a resource is expected to be utilized on a partial basis, the cost is pro-rated for the specific activity.

As an example, the following table provides the 2024-2025 average standard budget rates per grade:

Average standard costs per grade  
Budget 2024-2025 rates  
(Monthly costs)

| Grade | CHF |
| --- | --- |
| D2 | 24 718 |
| D1 | 23 609 |
| P5 | 20 262 |
| P4 | 17 385 |
| P3 | 14 607 |
| P2 | 11 642 |
| P1 | 10 584 |
| G7 | 14 413 |
| G6 | 12 588 |
| G5 | 11 314 |
| G4 | 10 152 |
| G3 | 9 844 |

Events and meetings

Where implementation of a decision or resolution requires ITU to host one or more meetings, the following parameters are included in the cost estimate:

– Number and duration of meetings – The number and duration of meetings estimated to implement the decision, or resolution will be used to assess the quantum of the total costs on a per-meeting basis.

– Interpretation languages – Interpretation costs will be assessed based on the Table of Interpretation Costs provided below.

– Staff and expert travel costs – These costs are estimated on the number of staff and experts expected to travel to each meeting or event, based on ITU prevailing rates of DSA and estimated flight/transportation costs.

– Captioning – Costs for captioning, where included, are based on ITU's rates payable to its captioning service provider.

The following table provides the interpretation budgeted rates for a one-week meeting for the languages indicated:

Interpretation   
Budget 2024-2025 rates  
(One week – 5 days meeting)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Languages | CHF |
| 2 languages | 18 502 |
| 3 languages | 29 603 |
| 4 languages | 37 003 |
| 5 languages | 51 805 |
| 6 languages | 73 203 |

Fellowships

Where membership decides that fellowships should be offered for an activity, estimates are based on the following criteria:

– meeting/event location for travel costs and per diem estimates

– type of fellowships (partial, i.e. travel or per diem) or full fellowships

– meeting duration

– number of fellowships anticipated or to be offered (this is based on whether the meeting or event is regional or global which will impact the number of eligible countries).

Documentation

Costs are calculated based on the number of pages and languages required. The table below provides the budgeted rates per language for translation and typing (2024-2025 budget rates).

Documentation costs  
Budget 2024-2025 rates

|  | CHF |
| --- | --- |
| **Text processing (per page)** |  |
| Arabic text processing | 57.28 |
| Chinese text processing | 55.74 |
| English text processing | 95.76 |
| French text processing | 57.29 |
| Russian text processing | 57.28 |
| Spanish text processing | 53.77 |
| **Translation (per page)** |  |
| Arabic translation | 142.16 |
| Chinese translation | 153.54 |
| English translation | 328.53 |
| French translation | 148.19 |
| Russian translation | 149.51 |
| Spanish translation | 149.07 |
| **Reprography (for 1 000 pages)** | 417.32 |

Other operational expenses

Specific other operational expenses are included where anticipated and are estimated based on detailed requirements based on the input from the responsible Bureau or General Secretariat department.

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**Below are two contributions from CEPT: Cost estimation from CEPT contribution to WTDC‑25**



As far as the ECP01 contribution is concerned, there are no financial implications. The implementation of this proposal could be absorbed by existing resources.

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|  | **World Telecommunication Development Conference 2025 (WTDC-25) Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, 17 to 28 November 2025** | | A blue logo with a globe and lightning bolt  AI-generated content may be incorrect. |
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| **PLENARY MEETING** | | **Document 4079-E** | |
|  | | **22 April 2025** | |
|  | | **Original: English** | |
| **Member States of the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations** | | | |
| Proposals for the work of the conference | | | |
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| **Priority area:** - Other proposals  **Summary:**  CEPT’s Vision for Engagement with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Development Sector  **Expected results:**  **References:** | | |

GENERAL MATTERS

ECP/4079/1

**GENERAL MATTERS**

**CEPT’s Vision for Engagement with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Development Sector**

**An inclusive, sustainable Development Sector**

The European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) is committed to advancing the shared goals of the ITU and strengthening its development efforts worldwide. CEPT’s vision for the development sector of ITU aligns with the broader goals of promoting global connectivity, enhancing the accessibility of information and communication technologies (ICTs), and fostering sustainable development. Europe contributes largely to ITU development projects globally by funding diverse digital development initiatives. CEPT aims to strengthen the ITU Development Sector in terms of capacity building and executing critical projects that facilitate the digital development for countries in need. By reinforcing the ITU’s role in implementing impactful digital solutions tailored to local needs, we can ensure that these resources generate sustainable outcomes which, in turn, can support empowerment of individuals and communities, strengthening their digital capacity.

We support an active ITU Development Sector that:

– builds effective development **partnerships** with other stakeholders to support developing countries in using telecommunications/ICTs to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals;

– contributes to advancing the whole Union, through **inclusive** **working methods** for industry and developing countries, and in pursuit of One ITU with impactful outcomes for its members; and

– takes a leadership role on **inclusivity and sustainability** both within its practices and within its objectives for telecommunication/ICT development for the next four years.

# Partnerships for effective development

A wide range of organisations engage in development work, including organisations working in the private sector, the public sector, non-governmental organisations, and international organisations. Each organisation can contribute to greater resources overall and by adding new specialist expertise that can benefit developing and least developed countries.

The ITU can play a valuable role in promoting cooperation, building partnerships, and sharing best practice to maximise the impact of those resources. The ITU is uniquely placed to benefit from its close relationships with governments and regulators to ensure that development programmes are meeting the needs of Member States as effectively as possible by fostering local technological capabilities and expertise and to identify and raise awareness of strategic challenges and opportunities. The ITU’s unique combination of multilateral collaboration coupled with the involvement of all parts of society is a unique strength which is clearly demonstrated by initiatives such as Partner2Connect. Through this unique strength, the ITU can generate renewed commitment to development support and raise awareness of the impact that telecommunications/ICTs can have in delivering the Sustainable Development Agenda.

These partnerships extend to how the ITU positions itself within the United Nations system as one of a constellation of agencies and efforts -- each with their own resources, mandates, and expertise.

Alignment with the UN Processes to enhance the critical role of the ITU within the UN system

Information and communication technologies (ICTs) are fundamental to the sustainable development of every nation. CEPT recognizes that ICTs are indispensable tools for progress in today’s interconnected world, influencing nearly every aspect of economic and social development. CEPT envisions a world where ICT services are meaningfully accessible to all. CEPT aims to ensure that digital inclusion is prioritized and that efforts are made to reduce the digital divide, ensuring access to technology for all people, regardless of their geographical location or socioeconomic status. Our vision is to enhance the role of ITU in providing guidance for its Member States that integrates digital transformation into sustainable development initiatives. The ITU’s efforts should contribute within its mandate and align with strategic goals within UN-led frameworks, including the Pact for the Future, the Global Digital Compact (GDC), and the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). This alignment will ensure ITU’s actions support and amplify international development efforts, fostering a cohesive approach to global digital transformation. CEPT supports fully the UN Development System, enabling efficient coordination on digital matters and ensuring respect for ITU’s unique mandate. We advocate for a collaborative approach in which ITU, particularly its Development Sector, alongside other specialized organizations, facilitates robust, collaborative responses to the evolving digital landscape by harnessing digital innovation and driving progress in SDG-aligned projects. CEPT will work closely with ITU to implement effective, measurable initiatives, accelerating progress toward shared global targets. To reach that goal, CEPT will continue to advocate for a sound, transparent and effective governance of ITU-D projects, based on results-based management and accountability of ITU regional presence.

In this regard CEPT recognizes in particular the WSIS Action Lines as the primary framework for harnessing the potential of telecommunications/ICTs to realize the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). CEPT believes that the ITU Development Sector plays an essential role in achieving these objectives by harnessing digital innovation and driving progress in SDG-aligned projects. CEPT will work closely with ITU to support effective, measurable initiatives, accelerating progress toward shared global targets.

# Governance and working methods

Approach in collaboration for development initiatives

CEPT believes in the importance of the participation of industry, civil society, the technical community, and academia within the ITU’s development activities. An inclusive approach can help ensure that diverse perspectives and expertise are integrated into the decision-making process, fostering innovation and addressing the needs of all stakeholders. By engaging these groups, we can create a more collaborative and effective environment with greater potential for global impact towards the Union’s objectives of universal and meaningful connectivity and sustainable digital transformation.

Sustainable use of resources by One ITU

CEPT also believes the ‘One ITU’ concept should keep guiding ongoing changes within the Development Sector, as ITU could do more to increase efficient cooperation and closer working between its three Sectors to avoid any possible duplication of work, and to ensure that work is appropriately allocated to Sectors. The Development Sector has a unique and valuable role within the Union, for which it should be proud, and its impact should be maximised by reducing duplications and pooling resources where appropriate.

In addition, we commend the continued efforts to apply results-based management (RBM) techniques to monitoring and evaluating the Development Sector’s impact. The development and adoption of key performance indicators – and their regular reporting to TDAG – are an essential step in creating accountability and evidencing the Development Sector’s value to current and new members.

# Thematic leadership

Empowering Women and Youth for a co-created Digital Future

Gender equality remains a cross-cutting priority issue for ITU. We encourage the ITU to improve gender balance, and also put more of a focus on gender issues in its work, including all efforts to bridge digital divides and achieve the SDGs. We recognize that the ICT sector continues to face significant gender-related challenges. Building digital skills is essential for nations to thrive in the digital age. CEPT emphasises on the importance of capacity-building programs within the ITU Development Sector, providing member states with the tools, training, and resources to develop digital competencies. By investing in these areas, we aim to cultivate a workforce equipped to lead and sustain digital transformations globally. Accordingly, CEPT supports the efforts taken through Generation Connect as well as the Empowering Women Leaders Mentorship initiative.

CEPT envisions a more inclusive sector where gender equity is the standard. The ITU Development Sector is uniquely positioned to drive global gender equity by supporting member states in policies and programs that foster women’s inclusion, leadership, and empowerment.

Human-centric approach

CEPT understands ITU’s work as essential for telecommunications/ICTs development based upon a human-centric approach and international human rights and is committed to supporting the ITU in this regard.

A core principle of CEPT’s vision is ensuring that digital transformation is human-centric. CEPT envisions a future where digital technologies foster inclusivity, equity, and improved quality of life. The ITU Development Sector should embed a human-centric approach in all digital projects to prioritize social equity and accessibility, and promote cooperation between countries, ecosystems and talents to foster local technological capabilities.

Sustainable telecommunications/ICTs

We urge the Development Sector –and commit ourselves to contributing– to intensify its efforts in promoting sustainable telecommunications/ICTs. As the world faces unprecedented environmental challenges, it is imperative that the ITU leverages its global influence to consider the environmental impacts of telecommunications/ICTs and the sustainable development potential within. A bold green digital transformation, which involves leveraging telecommunications/ICTs for climate monitoring as well as climate mitigation and adaptation across the economies and societies, while addressing the environmental impact of digitalization, is needed more than ever.

Developing countries in particular, where the effects of climate change are already very visible and affect daily lives of the populations, thus increasing their vulnerability, require enhanced capacity building efforts to not just tackle but adapt to climate change. Recent climate-related disasters highlight the need for resilient communication systems. CEPT calls for increased ITU support for emergency communications, particularly in regions vulnerable to climate impacts, so that the ITU can ensure communities remain connected and informed during critical times.

Connecting the unconnected will require more infrastructure and devices, which will further increase demand for scarce energy and resources, and drive emissions and e-waste generation even higher if targeted interventions are not implemented. By encouraging the development of energy-efficient networks and devices, the ITU can play a pivotal role in helping to reduce the ecological footprint of the telecommunication/ICT sector. Furthermore, we call on the ITU to facilitate greater collaboration among Member States to share best practices and innovations that contribute to environmental sustainability within our sector.

We believe that the ITU’s commitment to sustainability should include promoting the recycling and responsible disposal of electronic waste and ensuring that telecommunications infrastructure is resilient to climate change and climate-related disasters. By prioritising these initiatives, the ITU can help create a more sustainable future, where telecommunication/ICT development goes hand in hand with environmental stewardship.

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| **PLENARY MEETING** | | **Document 4082-E** | |
|  | | **22 April 2025** | |
|  | | **Original: English** | |
| **Member States of the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations** | | | |
| Proposals for the work of the conference | | | |
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| **Priority area:** - Thematic Priorities, Action Plan, Regional Initiatives and SG Questions  **Summary:**  **Expected results:**  **References:** | | |

**Regional initiatives**

**MOD** ECP/4082/1

**EUROPE REGIONAL INITIATIVES**

The Europe Region's initiatives highlight its dedication to harnessing ICTs for sustainable development, addressing critical challenges, and fostering growth and innovation. Resolution 17 underscores the need for coordinated efforts and partnerships to implement these initiatives effectively. All activities carried out in the context of the ITU Regional Initiatives should support the implementation of WSIS Action Lines, SDGs the Objectives of the Global Digital Compact. Activities of the Regional Initiatives for Europe should build upon the work carried out by three sectors, including their Study Groups.

The following presents the objectives and expected results of each Regional Initiative for Europe for cycle 2026-2029.

**EUR1: Digital infrastructure development**: Objective of this initiative is to facilitate the attainment of universal and meaningful connectivity through resilient and synergistic infrastructure development and an enabling environment, ensuring ubiquitous coverage.

Expected results

Assistance to the countries in need in the following areas:

1. Development and updating of plans and feasibility studies for the deployment of ubiquitous resilient high-speed connectivity with all relevant components including legislation, standards, organizational set-up, capacity building and cooperation mechanisms, as needed.

2. Assessment of dynamics, challenges and opportunities in respect of the rollout of resilient high-speed connectivity to inform best practice sharing on the various above-mentioned aspects through the organization of regional workshops, conferences or webinars.

3. Rehabilitation and rebuilding of telecommunication/ICTs infrastructure in countries affected by natural hazards or human-induced crises, to ensure digital resilience for all.

4. Providing national or regional platforms for building capacities in the field of universal and meaningful connectivity, including enabling environment and collaborative regulation between the telecommunication sector and other synergistic sectors such as energy, railway and transportation.

5. Mapping of ubiquitous infrastructure and services, fostering harmonization of approaches across the region and taking into account infrastructure-sharing approaches applied by countries, including the development of broadband mapping systems for broadband networks and related facilities and promoting innovative solutions for meaningful connectivity.

6. Initiatives on the wider deployment of broadband information and communication technology (ICT) services and contributing to environmental sustainability.

**Implementation of this Regional Initiative will contribute to WSIS, GDC, SDGs:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Process | Focus Area |
| [WSIS Action Lines](https://www.itu.int/net/wsis/docs/geneva/official/poa.html) | C1, C2, C6, C11 |
| [Global Digital Compact](https://www.un.org/global-digital-compact/sites/default/files/2024-09/Global%20Digital%20Compact%20-%20English_0.pdf) | Objective 1. Close all digital divides and accelerate progress across the Sustainable Development Goals |
| [Sustainable Development Goals](https://sdgs.un.org/goals) | SDG9 |

**EUR2: Digital transformation for resilience:** Objective of this initiative is to facilitate the digitalization processes of services in different sectors (e.g. agriculture, health, government, education), including those of public administrations, in order to ensure greater resilience in responding to critical situations, including the challenges of pandemics, natural hazards or human-introduced crises.

**Expected results**

Assistance to the countries in need in the following areas:

1. Creating an experience- and knowledge-exchange platform between countries.

2. Developing technical and service infrastructure (data centres, networks, secure gateways, authentication, interoperability, standards and metadata) as well as capacity building within the national administrations and institutions.

3. Strengthening the emergency preparedness in the case of natural hazards or human introduced crises, including through special initiatives, such as Support to Western Balkans on Emergency Warning Systems, aiming at roll-out of cell broadcast systems in concerned countries.

4. Building the capacities necessary for accelerating the digitalization process, through the development of national strategies and dedicated programmes, including the cross-sectorial actions in support of the digitalization of different sectors of economy.

5. Raising public trust in and successful development/uptake of e-government services and digitalization processes while avoiding digital exclusion through inter-alia digital literacy.

Implementation of this Regional Initiative will contribute to WSIS, GDC, SDGs:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Process | Focus Area |
| [WSIS Action Lines](https://www.itu.int/net/wsis/docs/geneva/official/poa.html) | C1, C7, C11 |
| [Global Digital Compact](https://www.un.org/global-digital-compact/sites/default/files/2024-09/Global%20Digital%20Compact%20-%20English_0.pdf) | Objective 4. Advance responsible, equitable and interoperable data governance approaches Objective 5. Enhance international governance of artificial intelligence for the benefit of humanity |
| [Sustainable Development Goals](https://sdgs.un.org/goals) | SDG2, SDG3, SDG4, SDG9, SDG 11 |

**EUR3: Digital inclusion and skills development:** Objective of this initiative is to facilitate equitable access to information and communication technologies (ICTs) and necessary digital skills for all groups of society, including persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs, as well as women and youth, in order to take advantage of telecommunications/ICTs.

Expected results

Assistance to the countries in need in the following areas:

1. Leveraging digital accessibility for persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs as a priority for the countries, and supporting them through the creation and updating of strategies and policies, taking into account regional or global standards, building capacity, fostering application of innovative approaches, monitoring the implementation of digital accessibility, and creating new partnerships or strengthening existing ones such as ''Accessible Europe – ICT for All''.

2. Improving gender equality in all groups in the telecommunication/ICT sector and beyond by providing opportunities for collaboration, skills enhancement, maximizing impact and supporting the setting up of new projects and the scaling up of successful ongoing projects.

3. Meaningful empowerment, engagement and participation of youth in the telecommunication/ICT sector and beyond leading towards the creation of new career schemes and opportunities.

4. Assessment of national and regional approaches for digital-skills development, elaboration of national and regional strategies or action plans, development of necessary digital skills, knowledge and literacy programmes, and providing support for educators.

5. Building and/or strengthening partnerships with the private sector, regional and subregional organizations, United Nations system organizations, academia and other possible stakeholders for the benefit of digital inclusion in the European region and globally.

Implementation of this Regional Initiative will contribute to WSIS, GDC, SDGs:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Process | Focus Area |
| [WSIS Action Lines](https://www.itu.int/net/wsis/docs/geneva/official/poa.html) | C1, C3, C4, C11 |
| [Global Digital Compact](https://www.un.org/global-digital-compact/sites/default/files/2024-09/Global%20Digital%20Compact%20-%20English_0.pdf) | Objective 2. Expand inclusion in and benefits from the digital economy for all |
| [Sustainable Development Goals](https://sdgs.un.org/goals) | SDG4, SDG5, SDG8, SDG10 |

**EUR4: Trust and confidence in the use of telecommunications/ information and communication technologies**: Objective of this initiative is to support the deployment of resilient infrastructure and secure telecommunications/ICTs allowing all citizens, especially children, to use telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs) in their daily lives with confidence.

Expected results

Assistance to the countries in need in the following areas:

1. Providing platforms and tools for building human capacities to enhance trust and confidence in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, including establishing strengtehened approaches to cybersecurity capacity building for European countries with a cross-sectoral cybersecurity-skills curriculum and guidelines promoting related skills.

2. Sharing best practices and case studies, conducting surveys on confidence and trust in the use of ICTs, including training, and creating other opportunities for sharing knowledge and experience.

3. Elaboration or reviewing national cybersecurity strategies that promote multistakeholder engagement and facilitate secure adoption of new and emerging telecommunication/ICT services and technologies.

4. Setting up or improving the capabilities of national computer security incident response teams (CSIRTs) and the corresponding networks to support these CSIRTs in cooperating with each other.

5. Conducting simulation or educational exercises such as cyberdrills or other events at the national and regional levels in cooperation with international and regional organizations.

6. Creating a safer online environment for children and young people through raising awareness and education about cybersecurity, implementation and promotion of the Guidelines on Child Online Protection and other educational resources, encouraging stakeholders to identify risks and vulnerabilities for children in cyberspace.

Implementation of this Regional Initiative will contribute to WSIS, GDC, SDGs:

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| --- | --- |
| Process | Focus Area |
| [WSIS Action Lines](https://www.itu.int/net/wsis/docs/geneva/official/poa.html) | C1, C5, C11 |
| [Global Digital Compact](https://www.un.org/global-digital-compact/sites/default/files/2024-09/Global%20Digital%20Compact%20-%20English_0.pdf) | Objective 3. Foster an inclusive, open, safe and secure digital space that respects, protects and promotes human rights |
| [Sustainable Development Goals](https://sdgs.un.org/goals) | SDG9, SDG16 |

**EUR5: Digital innovation ecosystems:** Objective of this initiative is to foster environments that are conducive to innovation and entrepreneurship through systemic approaches based on digital telecommunications/information and communication technologies (ICTs), aimed at closing the growing digital innovation divide in the region.

Expected results

Assistance to the countries in need in the following areas:

1. National digital innovation strategies and policies, country profiles and reviews, and sectoral innovation assessments to provide an accurate assessment of digital innovation gaps.

2. Conduct trend research readiness and foresight studies to support countries in navigating the changing environment.

3. Capacity-building and knowledge-sharing platforms such as regional innovation forums, open innovation competitions and ecosystem development training to empower stakeholders.

4. Ecosystem-building initiatives and projects developed in line with the Regional Initiative Accelerator Framework such as technology sandboxes and programmes supporting tech start-ups and entrepreneurship to create concrete impact.

5. Promoting multistakeholder and multisectoral partnerships between and within different ecosystems, for sustainability and scale-up.

6. Fostering inclusion by sharing, twinning best practices and connecting different ecosystems, with special attention to gender and youth.

Implementation of this Regional Initiative will contribute to WSIS, GDC, SDGs:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Process | Focus Area |
| [WSIS Action Lines](https://www.itu.int/net/wsis/docs/geneva/official/poa.html) | C1, C4, C5, C7, C6, C11 |
| [Global Digital Compact](https://www.un.org/global-digital-compact/sites/default/files/2024-09/Global%20Digital%20Compact%20-%20English_0.pdf) | Objective 2. Expand inclusion in and benefits from the digital economy for all |
| [Sustainable Development Goals](https://sdgs.un.org/goals) | SDG9 |

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