



General Secretariat (SG)

Geneva, 19 March 2026

Ref: **CL-26/20**

Contact: Christopher Clark

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To

- ITU Member States
- ITU Sector Members
- ITU Academia

Subject: Open Call for Strategic and Technical Partners – ITU Innovation Hub

Dear Sir/Madam,

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU), as the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies, is strengthening its capacity to adapt and deliver in a rapidly evolving digital landscape.

In alignment with the UN80 reform agenda and ITU's ongoing transformation efforts, ITU is launching an open call for partners to support the ITU Innovation Hub - a platform designed to embed innovation, experimentation, and AI-enabled delivery at the core of ITU's operations.

The ITU Innovation Hub is an ITU-wide initiative that:

- Accelerates modernization through structured experimentation and rapid prototyping
- Applies AI, data, automation, and digital tools to real business and service challenges
- Strengthens delivery capacity through learning, design sprints, and implementation support
- Transitions successful pilots to the relevant operational departments for scaling of solutions

Open Call for Contributions

ITU invites Member States, Sector Members, Academia, and other eligible partners to express interest in supporting the ITU Innovation Hub through:

1. In-kind Technical Contributions

Including but not limited to:

- Cloud platforms, AI tools, and usage credits
- Deployment of AI agents, automation, and workflow optimization tools
- Engineering and architectural expertise
- Data engineering, DevOps, and solution integration support
- Technical training and hands-on clinics
- Participation in rapid-response delivery teams

2. Financial Contributions

Financial support may be provided to strengthen delivery capacity, training, sandbox environments, and pilot implementation.

Combined financial and in-kind contributions are also welcomed.

All contributions will be governed by ITU's rules and procedures, ensuring full alignment with ITU's principles of neutrality, transparency, intellectual property clarity, and non-conflict with procurement processes. ITU Innovation Hub partners receive neither preferential treatment in ITU procurement processes, nor are they excluded from such opportunities.

Expression of Interest

Organizations interested in contributing are invited to submit an Expression of Interest outlining:

- Nature of proposed contribution (financial, in-kind, or combined)
- Areas of expertise or technology support
- Contact focal point

Expressions of Interest should be sent to: transformation@itu.int by 19 May 2026. In this way, implementation activities can be launched in September 2026.

The ITU Innovation Hub represents an opportunity to jointly strengthen delivery capacity, advance responsible and scalable use of AI and digital technologies and contribute to institutional transformation within ITU and the UN system.

We look forward to engaging with partners committed to practical implementation, shared learning, and measurable impact.

Please accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of our highest consideration.

(signed)

Doreen Bogdan-Martin

Secretary-General

International Telecommunication Union