**Connect2Recover Research Competition
Best practices and recommendations for digital
inclusion through resilient infrastructure
28 November 2022
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

AGENDA

Opening	
10:00 - 10:30	**Moderator: Ms. Anne-Rachel Inne,** Regional Director, Regional Office for Africa, ITU **Welcome Remarks:** • **Ms. Anne-Rachel Inne,** Regional Director, Regional Office for Africa, ITU • **H.E. Julia Niblett,** Australian Ambassador to Ethiopia, Non-resident Ambassador to Djibouti, Non-resident Ambassador-designate to Central African Republic, South Sudan, and Representative to the African Union, UNECA and IGAD • **Mr. Karl Song**, Vice President, Corporate Communications Department, Huawei **Opening Remarks: H.E. Dr. Belete Molla,** Minister of Innovation and Technology, Ethiopia **Launch of the 15 Research Reports and ITU Publication "Build Back Better with Broadband: Research stories from the frontline**
10:30 - 10:45	**Group Photo**
10:45 - 11:00	**Keynote: Mr. Philippe Wang,** Executive Vice-President of Huawei Northern Africa
11:00 - 11:10	**ITU/UNESCO Broadband Commission Working Group on Smartphone Access** **Mr. Matthew Harrison-Harvey,** Chief External Affairs and Regulatory Officer, Safaricom
11:10 - 11:30	**ITU/World Bank Open Data Initiative** • **Mr. Sameer Sharma,** Senior Advisor, ITU • **Ms. Alice Munyua,** Senior Director, Africa Mradi, Mozilla Corporation
11:30 – 11:55	**Introduction to Connect2Recover and research competition** • **Professor Ahmad Reza Sharafat,** Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Tarbiat Modares University, I. R Iran • **Mr. Sameer Sharma,** Senior Advisor, ITU

	Session 1: Digital Inclusion - Health
	Objective: This session assesses the challenges in providing health services, and propose solutions to ensure digital inclusion in health, particularly those in rural and remote areas.
	Moderator: Ms. Caroline Gaju, Programme Officer, ITU
12:00 - 13:00	**Network in a Box to Provide Health Services in Remote Areas** **Presenter:** Dr. Ki-Hong Park, Research Scientist, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST), Kingdom of Saudi Arabia **Tele-medicine as a panacea to medical tourism in Africa exploiting communications satellite technologies** **Presenter:** Dr. Lasisi Salami Lawal, Senior Research Fellow, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Nigeria **The use of Telemedicine in the Management of Chronic Diseases in Small Island Developing States (SIDS): Cases Study – Dominica** **Presenter:** Dr. Benet Henry, Medical Practitioner, A-MEDIC Inc., Dominica; Ms. Taletha Laudat, Project Manager, A-MEDIC Inc., Dominica **Digital health through telemedicine ecosystem against pandemics, epidemics and natural disasters in Sub-Saharan Africa** **Presenter:** Dr. David Botchie, Senior Lecturer, Brunel University, United Kingdom
	Q&A
13:00 - 14:00	**Lunch**
14:00 – 14:05	**Remarks: Dr. Cosmas Zavazava**, Chief Partnerships for Digital Development and (Director Telecommunication Development Bureau-Elect)
	Session 2: Digital Inclusion - Education
	Objective: This session concentrates on challenges in online learning faced during the COVID-19 pandemic and recommendations to ensure greater access to education in the recovery phase.
	Moderator: Dr. René Arnold, Vice President Public Affairs Strategy, Huawei
14:05 - 14:45	**Inclusive higher education post-Covid-19** **Presenter**: Mr. Michael Canares, Strategy Advisor, Step Up Consulting, Philippines **Taking Action towards Digital Inclusion in African cities and regions: policy framework for digital resiliency in education for a better COVID-19 recovery** **Presenter**: Mr. Hassan Mohammed Yakubu, Architect, School of Architecture, Planning & Design, Mohammed VI Polytechnic University, Morocco **Determinants of Digital Inclusion in Higher Education: Exploring the Ethiopian Context** **Presenter**: Dr. Wondwossen Mulualem Beyene, Freelance Researcher, Hawassa University, Ethiopia
	Q&A

Session 3: Digital Inclusion - Job Creation	
14:45 - 15:30	**Objective:** This session focuses on opportunities in leveraging digital technology, digital financial inclusion to transform smaller enterprise and advance agricultural sector, and effectively improve jobs and livelihoods. **Moderator: Ms. Karen Woo**, Project Officer, ITU • **Building resilient micro-enterprises with digital transformation** **Presenter**: PK Senyo, Associate Professor, FinTech & Information Systems, University of Southampton, UK • **Advancing Smallholder Agribusiness in Botswana through Smart Digital Innovation** **Presenter**: Dr. Thorsten Jelinek, Director and Senior Fellow, Taihe Institute, China • **The digital financial inclusion of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) of the COMESA region into electronic business during and post the COVID 19 pandemic** **Presenter:** Dr. Reason Masengu, Senior Lecturer, Department of Management Studies, Middle East College, Muscat, Oman **Q&A**
Session 4: Digital Inclusion - Vulnerable Persons	
15:30 - 16:00	**Objective:** This session focuses on challenges faced by vulnerable persons, and the opportunity available to society by empowering them with digital services. **Moderator: Mr. Sameer Sharma,** Senior Advisor, ITU • **An Assessment of Digital Inclusion among the Vulnerable Persons in Developing Economies** **Presenter**: Dr. Fredrick Kanobe, Lecturer, Kyambogo University, Kampala, Uganda • **Reinvigorating Elderly Population in Post-COVID 19 Pandemic Era through Digital Inclusion Strategies: A Malaysian Case Study** **Presenter:** Dr. Maniam Kaliannan, Associate Professor, School of Business, University of Nottingham Malaysia **Q&A**
16:00 - 16:15	**Coffee break**
Session 5: Digital Connectivity and Resilience	
16:15 – 16:55	**Objective**: This session focuses on the importance of digital connectivity and resilience, and the need to ensure ubiquitous, reliable, and affordable services to support digital inclusion. **Moderator: Mr. Andy Hun,** Director of Corporate Communications, Huawei • **Market Resilience in Emerging Digital Economies: Case Study of Kenya During Covid-19 Pandemic** **Presenter**: Mr. William Baraza, Director and CEO, African Advanced Level Telecommunications Institute (AFRALTI), Kenya • **Covid-19 Recovery: Rebuilding Digital Inclusion for the Rural Counties of Kenya** **Presenter**: Mr. Leonard Mabele, Research Fellow, Telecommunications & Manager, Internet of Things (IoT) Research, Strathmore University, Kenya • **CoLRN: A Community-based Vision for Local Resilient Networks** **Presenter**: Ms. Ndinelao Iitumba, Masters Student, Department of Computer Science, University of Cape Town, South Africa **Q&A**
16:55 – 17:00	**Remarks: Ms. Doreen Bogdan-Martin,** Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau, and ITU Secretary-General elect

	Panel Discussion
17:00 - 17:55	**Moderator: Ms. Anne-Rachel Inne** **Panelists: (TBC)** • **Digital Inclusion in Health:** Dr. David Botchie, Senior Lecturer, Brunel University, United Kingdom • **Digital Inclusion in Education:** Mr. Michael Canares, Strategy Advisor, Step Up Consulting, Philippines • **Digital Inclusion in Job Creation:** Dr. Thorsten Jelinek, Director and Senior Fellow, Taihe Institute, China • **Digital Inclusion for Vulnerable Persons:** Dr. Maniam Kaliannan, Associate Professor, School of Business, University of Nottingham Malaysia • **Digital Connectivity and Resilience:** Ms. Ndinelao Iitumba, Masters Student, Department of Computer Science, University of Cape Town, South Africa
17:55 - 18:00	**Closing Remarks: Ms. Anne-Rachel Inne**, Regional Director, Regional Office for Africa, ITU