

Accessible Americas: ICTs for all

Organised by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in close collaboration with the Ministry of Communications of Cuba (MINCOM)

From 8 to 10 November 2023
Varadero, Cuba

AGENDA

Wednesday, 8 November 2023

08:00 – 09:00 Registration

09:00 – 10:30 Session 1: 10 years of “Accessible Americas – ICTs for all”, a regional platform to unite efforts and close the digital gap in the Americas region: challenges, opportunities and impact.

Moderation: Miguel Alcaine, ITU Area Representative for Central America

- Ernesto Rodriguez, Vice Minister, MINCOM, Cuba
- Ana Veneroso, Programme Coordinator, ITU Americas
- María Ignacia Rodriguez, Head of International Cooperation, Descubreme Foundation, Chile
- Trevor Prevatt, Director, Stakeholder Engagement, Caribbean Telecommunication Union (CTU)

10:30 – 11:30 Session 2: Digital transformation and accessibility in digital ecosystems: Digital inclusion for the improvement of social wellbeing for ALL.

Moderation: Mario Hernández Pastrana, Information Technology Director General, MINCOM, Cuba

- Belkis Delgado Cáceres, Social Prevention Director, Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Cuba
- Ailyn Febles Estrada, President, Union Informáticos de Cuba
- Maidelis Pupo Torres, Deputy Director, Joven Club, Cuba
- Adolfo Segura Martínez, Vice President, ETECSA, Cuba
- Eugenio Fernando Acosta Noy, Representative, OFA, Cuba

11:30 – 12:00 Coffee Break and Networking
Tour of the exhibitions.

12:00 – 13:30 Session 3: ITU Training session: Digital Accessibility: a key requirement to build an inclusive digital world for ALL.
Roxana Widmer, Senior Coordinator for Digital Inclusion, ITU.



13:30 – 15:00 Lunch

15:00 – 16:00 Session 4: Accessibility in the telecommunication sector: consumer rights and the sector's progress in policies and goals for accessibility.

Moderation: Cleveland Thomas, ITU Area Representative for the Caribbean

- Martín Lugli, Director, Technology Standards, National Office for Information Technology, Argentina (video)
- Nelson Arroyo, President of the Board of Director, Dominican Telecommunications Institute (INDOTEL), Dominican Republic
- Alfonso Hernández Maya, General Coordinator of Consumer Policy, Federal Telecommunications Institute (IFT), Mexico
- Paola Bermúdez Quesada, Head, General Unit, FONATEL, Superintendency of Telecommunications (SUTEL), Costa Rica (video)
- Fausto Luiz Jorge Padua, Management for Universalization and Access, National Telecommunication Agency (ANATEL), Brazil

16:00 – 16:40 Keynote session:

Atilio Rulli, Vice-president of Public Relations of Huawei Latin America and the Caribbean

16:40 – 17:00 Coffee Break and Networking

Tour of the exhibitions.

17:00 - 18:00 Opening session & Oficial Photo

- Fernando Hiraldo del Castillo, Resident Representative, UNDP, Cuba
- Miguel Alcaine, ITU Area Representative for Central America
- Yaniris Hernández Vento, First Vice Minister, Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Cuba
- Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava, Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau, International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- Wilfredo Gonzalez Vidal, First Vice Minister, Ministry of Communications, Cuba

Celebratory video of 10 Years of Accessible Americas.

Cuba Cultural Presentation.

21:00 – 23:00 Welcome reception of the 10th Anniversary of Accessible Americas



Thursday, 9 November 2023

9:00 – 10:00 **Session 5: Digital solutions for the improvement of the access and use of basic digital services and applications for all: health, education, e-commerce, emergency communications, among others.**

Moderation: Ernesto Vallín Martínez, Director, MINCOM, Cuba

- David Fazio, CEO, Helix Opportunity, USA
- Simão Campos, Counsellor, ITU-T SG16 "Multimedia" and ITU/WHO FG-AI4H
- Sun Yongle, Haier Group Vicepresident, People's Republic of China
- Julio García Trápaga, Director, E-Commerce, ETECSA, Cuba
- Mayelín Oliva Rodríguez, President, *Asociación Cubana de Personas con Discapacidad Intelectual*

10:00 – 11:00 **Session 6: Digital inclusion without barriers: the importance of digital skills development towards closing the mobile Internet usage gap in the region.**

Moderation: Silvina Sampastu, ITU Expert in Digital Inclusion, Argentinean Gran Chaco

- Orlando Terré, President, World Association of Special Education
- Miriam Meneses Volumem, Vicepresident, *Asociación Nacional de Sordos e Hipoacúsicos*, Cuba

11:00 – 11:30 **Coffee Break and Networking**

11:30 – 12:30 **Session 7: Gender digital inclusion in the Americas region: projects and initiatives.**

Moderation: Magda Brito D'Toste, General Director, MINCOM, Cuba

- Ana Veneroso, Programme Coordinator, ITU Americas
- Arely González Fernández, Representative, ETECSA
- Ailyn Febles Estrada, President, Unión de Informáticos de Cuba
- Sofía Gomez Gonzalez, Chief of Staff, Undersecretariat of Information Technologies, Argentina (video)

Keynote : Inés María Chapman, First Vice Minister, Cuba

12:30 – 13:30 **Session 8: Accessibility as a relevant requirement in the metaverse. Artificial Intelligence in service of Assistive Technology.**

Moderation: Roxana Widmer, Senior Coordinator of Digital Inclusion, ITU

- Simão Campos, Counsellor, ITU-T SG16 "Multimedia" and ITU/WHO FG-AI4H
- Omar Correa Madrigal, Director, Interactive Technologies Center (VERTEX) of the University of Computer Sciences, Cuba

13:30 – 15:00 **Lunch**

15:00 – 15:20 **Special Session: Digital inclusion, management and diversity policies.**



Maria Ignacia Rodriguez, Head of International Cooperation, Descubreme Foundation.

15:20 – 16:00 Session 9: Digital literacy: a fundamental requirement to expand opportunities through the use of ICT services and applications.

Moderation: Alaín Lamadrid, General Director of Information, Communication and Computerization in the Ministry of Higher Education of Cuba

- Silvina Sampastu, Silvina Sampastu, ITU Expert in Digital Inclusion, Argentinean Gran Chaco
- Diego Castilla Cabrera, Presidente del Parque Científico Tecnológico de Matanzas, Cuba
- Lilia Rosa García Perellada, Director of Information Technology, *Mypyme Avangios*, Cuba
- Maidelis Pupo Torres, Representative, *Joven Club*, Cuba
- Miguel Jorge Menendez, General Director, Guajiritos SRL

16:00 – 16:40 Session 10: The elderly in the digital world: challenges and opportunities.

Moderation: Maria Ignacia Rodriguez, Head of International Cooperation, Descubreme Foundation

- Alberto Fernández Seco, Head of the Older Adults, Social Assistance and Mental Health Department, MINSAP, Cuba
- María Esther Alfonso Suárez, Vicepresident, *Unión de Informáticos de Cuba*
- Laura de las Mercedes Sánchez Pérez, Member of the National Secretariat, ANCI, Cuba

16:40– 17:00 Coffee Break and Networking

17:00 – 17:20 Special Session: Impact Story from “Escuela Especial”

Ester María La O Ochoa, Director of *Escuela Especial “Solidaridad con Panamá”*, Cuba

17:20 – 18:00 Session 11: Child Online Protection: everyone’s responsibility.

Moderation: Ana Veneroso, Programme Coordinator, ITU Americas

- Fernando Ortega Cabrera, National Director Educational Technology, Ministry of Education, Cuba
- Leydis González Barrios, President, UIC in Sancti Spiritus, Cuba
- Yanelis Bárzaga Miyares, Legal Advisor, ACPDI
- María Carla Silveira Taboadela, Cybersecurity Director, *Empresa de Tecnologías de la Información*, Cuba

18:00 – 18:20 Tribute to countries and entities supporting AA for the last 10 years.

18:20 – 19:00 Session 12: The importance of accessible digital platforms and content to communicate in an inclusive manner in the digital world.

Moderation: Miguel Alcaine, ITU Area Representative for the Central America

- Julia Gastón, Vice President, *Asociación Nacional de Ciegos*, Cuba



- Grisel Ojeda, Director of Surveillance and Technical Scientific Information, ETECSA, Cuba
- Rolando Ramirez Concepción, Director, XETID, Cuba

20:00 – 22:00 Dinner and Cuban Night – Jardin del Criollo

Friday, 10 November 2023

9:00 – 9:45 Workshop on Innovation Projects and Collaboration Initiatives

Moderation: Blenda Silva, Programme Administrator, ITU

- Maria Ignacia Rodriguez, Head of International Cooperation, Descúbreme Foundation
- Gema Cossio Cárdenas, Innovation Lab, Empresa de Tecnologías de la Información, Cuba
- Tatiana Delgado Fernández, Innovation Project Colab, Unión de Informáticos de Cuba

9:45 – 10:30 Workshop on Youth Digital Inclusion Initiatives with:

- Keyla Estévez, Director, Youth Studies Center, Cuba
- Joven Club de computación y electrónica, Cuba
- Niaylé López Martínez, Asociación Cubana de Personas con Discapacidad Intelectual, Cuba

10:30 – 12:30 Closing Session

***Announcement of host country for Accessible Americas 2024.
Tribute to Cuba for the support to Accessible Americas.
Final remarks.***

