**Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.:   BDT/AMRO/C/128/2023   Brasilia, 12 June 2023

To:
- Administrations of ITU Member State.
- ITU-D Sector Members; Affiliated and Academic entities
- Regional Organizations in the Americas Region
- National Regulation Authorities of ITU Member States

Subject: **ITU Policy and Economics Colloquium for the Americas Region IPEC-23
San José, Costa Rica, 25 to 29 September 2023**

Dear Sir/Madam,

It is our great pleasure to invite your organization to participate in the ITU Policy and Economics Colloquium IPEC-23 which will take place physically in San José, Costa Rica from 25 to 29 September 2023. The event is organized by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in partnership with the Superintendencia de Telecomunicaciones de Costa Rica (SUTEL) and the Instituto Costarricense de Electricidad (ICE), with the support of the Ministry of Science, Innovation, Technology and Telecommunications (MICITT).

This year, the ITU AMERICAS IPEC-23 will include the:

- Regional Economic Dialogue (RED-AMS) to be held 25 to 26 September;
- Business Planning for Infrastructure Development applying 5G Networks Training course for the Americas Region to be held 27 to 28 (morning) September; and
- ITU-T Study Group 3 Regional Group for Latin America and the Caribbean (SG3RG-LAC) meeting to be held 28 (afternoon) to 29 September.

The Regional Economic Dialogue (RED-AMS) will focus this year, on opportunities and challenges to achieve digital transformation in the Americas Region; fixed and mobile networks as a means to promoting affordable and adoption; and advances in regulatory costing and pricing strategies – practices in the Americas region. The RED-AMS will be organized hybrid.

The Business Planning for Infrastructure Development applying 5G Networks Training course offers ICT, policymakers, regulators and stakeholders a practical approach for the accurate economic evaluation of broadband infrastructure installation and deployment plans in urban and rural areas using up to 5G networks technologies. The course will be in Spanish with limited capacity of participants, so you are invited to apply as soon as possible. It will be 8 weeks online course with a final session face-to-face for one day and a half during the IPEC. The Training course will start on 3 July 2023. Those who meet the requirements will be issued a certificate of approval of the Course.

TSB Collective letter 2/SG3RG-LAC provides more information about the annual meeting of the ITU-T Study Group 3 Regional Group for Latin America and the Caribbean (SG3RG-LAC). A limited number of partial fellowships are available for delegates from eligible countries participating to all the events.

The preliminary agenda for all three events are available in Annex 1.

Participants are requested to submit an update about the telecommunication/ICT sector in their respective countries using the ITU Questionnaire on Tariff Policies. It must be completed online on the website: www.itu.int/ITU-D/icteye/ at "Survey Login". If you do not have the identification information to connect (username and password), please contact Ms. Carmen Prado-Wagner (tariffs@itu.int).

In order to build on progress and to optimize the knowledge transfer, it is recommended that the Administrations, when possible, appoint representatives with expertise, experience and responsibility on regulatory, economic and financial issues.

In order to apply for the fellowships, as well as their conditions, please refer to the TSB Collective letter 2/SG3RG-LAC.

All participants are invited to register online for the Business Planning for Infrastructure Development applying 5G Networks Training course **by the June 24, 2023 at ITU ACADEMY (https://academy.itu.int)** and for Regional Economic Dialogue (RED-AMS **by September 20, 2023 in the following website: www.itu.int/go/regitud**.) and participation in the annual meeting of the ITU-T Study Group 3 Regional Group for Latin America and the Caribbean (SG3RG-LAC) please refer to the and the TSB Collective letter 2/SG3RG-LAC.

IPEC-23 will be conducted in English and Spanish with simultaneous interpretation. The presentations will not be translated, however all of them will be published on the event website. All necessary practical information will be published shortly in the following website: https://www.itu.int/go/IPEC2023.

All events, the RED, training course and SG3RG-LAC meeting, are free of charge, however the participating entities must cover the transportation, lodging and per diem expenses of their delegates. It is important that participants consider in advance the requirements to enter in Costa Rica, prior to travel.

Mr Rodrigo Robles (rodrigo.robles@itu.int) of the ITU Americas Regional Office is at your disposal should you need any further information.

I look forward to your participation in this event.

Yours faithfully,

(Original signed by)

Bruno Ramos
Regional Director

ITU POLICY AND ECONOMICS COLLOQUIUM FOR AMERICAS / COLOQUIO UIT DE POLÍTICAS Y ECONOMÍA (IPEC-23)

San José, Costa Rica, 25-29 September / septiembre 2023 (TBC)

Regional Economic Dialogue / *Diálogo Económico Regional (RED)*

San José, Costa Rica, 25-26 September / septiembre 2023

Preliminary Agenda / *Agenda Preliminar*

Monday 25 / *Lunes 25*

08.30 – 09.00	**Delegates registration /** *Registro de Delegados*
09.00 – 09.15	**Opening Ceremony /** *Ceremonia de Apertura*

GROUP PHOTO/ FOTO DE GRUPO - COFFEE BREAK / *PAUSA CAFÉ*

09.45 – 12.00	**High Level Session 1: Opportunities and challenges to achieve digital transformation in the Americas Region – policy and economic approaches //** *Sesión de Alto Nivel 1: Oportunidades y desafíos para lograr la transformación digital en la región Américas – aspectos políticos y económicos* • Public policies, regulation and digital transformation country cases / *Políticas públicas, regulación y casos de países sobre transformación digital* • Economic and fiscal incentives to accelerate digital transformation / *Incentivos económicos y fiscales para acelerar la transformación digital*

LUNCH / *ALMUERZO*

14.00 – 17.00	**Session 2: <u>FIXED NETWORKS</u>: as a means to promoting affordable access and adoption /** <u>*REDES FIJAS*</u>*: como medio para promover el acceso asequible y la adopción* • Opportunities and challenges / *Oportunidades y desafíos* • Available technologies – potential solutions / *Tecnologías disponibles: soluciones potenciales* • *rights of way, in-building access, fiber unbundling* • Regulatory and economic incentives to promote infrastructure development and sharing / *Incentivos regulatorios y económicos para promover el despliegue de infraestructura* • Financing the investment for infrastructure deployment / *Financiación de la inversión para el despliegue de infraestructura* • Country cases and lessons learned / *Casos de países y lecciones aprendidas*

Tuesday 26 / *Martes 26*

09.00 – 12.00   **Session 3: <u>MOBILE NETWORKS</u> – accelarating sustainable digital transformation / *REDES MÓVILES – acelerando la transformación digital sostenible***

- Sustainable infrastructure development, focusing on 5G technologies – business planing / *Planificación de negocios en Desarrollo de infraestructura sostenible, centrándose en tecnologías 5G*

- Financing universal access to digital technologies and services / *Financiamiento del acceso universal a tecnologías y servicios digitales*

- Spectrum management challenges for emerging technologies / *Desafíos de la gestión del espectro para las tecnologías emergentes*

- Infrastructure sharing models / *Modelos de compartición de infraestructura*

- Investment challenges to deploy in rural and isolated areas / *Desafíos de inversión para desplegar en áreas rurales y aisladas*

- Affordable access for end-users / *Acceso asequible para los usuarios finales*

- Country cases and lessons learned / *Casos de países y lecciones aprendidas*

LUNCH / *ALMUERZO*

14.00 – 16.30   **Session 4: Advances in regulatory costing and pricing strategies – practices in the Americas region / *Avances en costeo regulatorio y estrategias de fijación de precios: prácticas en la región de las Américas***

- Regulatory costing and pricing methodologies applied by countries in the region / *Metodologías regulatorias de costos y precios aplicadas por los países de la región*

- National, regional and global coordination on economic policies and methods of determining the costs of services - ITU-D Study Group 1 Question 4/1: Economic aspects of national telecommunications/ICT / *Coordinación nacional, regional y mundial sobre políticas económicas y métodos para determinar los costos de los servicios - Comisión de Estudio 1 del UIT-D Cuestión 4/1: Aspectos económicos nacionales de las telecomunicaciones/TIC*

- ITU-T Focus Group - Costing Models for Affordable Data Services

16:30 – 17:00   **Closing Regional Economic Dialogue / *Cierre Diálogo Económico Regional - IPEC 2023***

ITU Policy and Economics Colloquium for Americas / Coloquio UIT de Políticas y Economía (IPEC-23)

San José, Costa Rica, 27-28 (morning) September 2023

Training on Business Planning for infrastructure development 5G technologies / *Curso en Planificación de Negocios para el desarrollo de infraestructura con redes 5G*

ICT infrastructure is the basis of today's digital economy and offers enormous potential to advance progress towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and improve people's lives in fundamental ways. Deploying broadband in big towns and cities happens almost naturally. But deploying these networks to rural and remote areas is markedly more challenging.

The expert guidance offered in this course is based on the ITU ICT Infrastructure Business Planning Toolkit and has the aim at facilitating the development of a credible and coherent business plans adaptable to a wide range of broadband infrastructure deployment projects.

The main objective of this hands-on training is to build knowledge and skills of participants on the principles of business planning and practicing it, in the context of supporting policy and regulatory decision-making on infrastructure development.

It will discuss on the main aspects related to the theme, such as: estimation of demand, expected revenues and operational costs, definition of parameters related to investments and definitions associated to the Weighted Average Cost of Capital (WACC). There is also a specific section aimed at identifying public mechanisms for financing ICT infrastructure projects.

La infraestructura de TIC es la base de la economía digital actual y ofrece un enorme potencial para avanzar hacia los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible (ODS) de la ONU y mejorar la vida de las personas de manera fundamental. La implementación de banda ancha en grandes pueblos y ciudades ocurre casi de forma natural. Pero desplegar estas redes en áreas rurales y remotas es mucho más desafiante.

La orientación experta que se ofrece en este curso se basa en el conjunto de herramientas de planificación empresarial de infraestructuras de TIC de la UIT y tiene como objetivo facilitar el desarrollo de planes empresariales creíbles y coherentes adaptables a una amplia gama de proyectos de despliegue de infraestructura de banda ancha.

El objetivo principal de esta capacitación práctica es desarrollar el conocimiento y las habilidades de los participantes sobre los principios de la planificación empresarial y practicarlos, en el contexto de apoyo a la toma de decisiones normativas y regulatorias sobre el desarrollo de infraestructura.

Se discutirá sobre los principales aspectos relacionados con el tema, tales como: estimación de la demanda, ingresos esperados y costos operativos, definición de parámetros relacionados con las inversiones y definiciones asociadas al Costo Promedio Ponderado de Capital (WACC). También hay un apartado específico destinado a identificar mecanismos públicos para la financiación de proyectos de infraestructuras TIC.

The training will be delivered for 7 weeks divided in two phases: / *El curso se impartirá durante 7 semanas divididas en dos fases*:

Phase 1 – online sessions / *sesiones en línea (4 weeks/semanas)*

Full participation in the online training - ITU Academy Certificate / *Participación completa en la formación en línea - Certificado de la Academia de la UIT*

Phase 2 – clinics (3 weeks online and 1.5-day physical during the IPEC-23) / *clínicas (3 semanas en línea y 1.5 días físicos durante el IPEC-23)*

Online clinic workshops and results presentation - ITU Academy Certificate (Advanced level) / *Talleres clínicos en línea y presentación de resultados - Certificado de la Academia ITU (Nivel avanzado)*

ITU POLICY AND ECONOMICS COLLOQUIUM FOR AMERICAS / COLOQUIO UIT DE POLÍTICAS Y ECONOMÍA (IPEC-23)

San José, Costa Rica, 28 (afternoon)-29 September 2023

Meeting of the ITU-T Study Group 3 Regional Group for Latin America and the Caribbean (SG3RG-LAC) / *Reunión de la UIT-T Comisión de Estudios 3 Grupo Regional para América Latina y el Caribe (SG3RG-LAC)*

Draft Agenda (Reference: TSB Collective letter 2/SG3RG-LAC)

	Agenda item / *Punto del orden del día*
1	Opening of the meeting / *Apertura de la reunión*
2	Adoption of the agenda / *Adopción del orden del día*
3	Available documents (Contributions and TDs) / *Documentos disponibles (Contribuciones y DT)*
4	Overview of ITU-T Study Group 3 and working methods / *Descripción general de la Comisión de Estudio 3 y métodos de trabajo*
5	Review of previous SG3 parent and Regional Group meetings / *Examen de reuniones anteriores de la Comisión de Estudio Rectora y de los Grupos Regionales*
6	Status of SG3 work programme / *Situación del programa de trabajo de la CE 3*
6.1	Dispute Resolution Processes / *Procedimientos de solución de controversias*
6.1	Mechanisms for pricing of licenses for mobile/broadband/fixed / *Mecanismos para la fijación de precios de las licencias para el servicio móvil/la banda ancha/el servicio fijo*
6.1	International Internet Connectivity / *Conectividad internacional a Internet*
6.1	Roaming aspects of IoT and M2M including any related development and tariff principles / *Aspectos de itinerancia de IoT y M2M incluidos cualquier evolución al respecto y los principios tarifarios*
6.1	Direct Carrier Billing / *Facturación directa por el operador*
6.1	Big Data and Digital Identity / *Macrodatos e identidad digital*
6.1	Mobile Financial Services / *Servicios financieros móviles*
6.1	Mobile Roaming / *Itinerancia móvil*
6.1	Economic impact of OTTs / *Repercusión económica de los OTT*
7	Future Work Programme and Action List for SG3RG-LAC / *Futuro programa de trabajo y lista de acciones para el GRCE3-LAC*
8	SG3RG-LAC and Member Contributions to SG3 Rapporteur Group Meetings and Plenary meeting in November 2023 / *Contribuciones del GRCE3-LAC y de los Miembros de la Comisión de Estudio 3 del UIT-T en noviembre de 2023*
9	Venue and date of next SG3RG-LAC meeting / *Lugar de celebración y fecha de la próxima reunión del GRCE3-LAC*
10	Any other business / *Otros asuntos*
11	Closure of the meeting / *Clausura de la reunión*