# ITU Regional Development Forum for Americas (RDF-AMS)

**Accelerating the digital development in the Americas**

organized by the International Telecommunication Union with the support of the
the Government of El Salvador

### 16-18 August  2023
### San Salvador, El Salvador

Please note that submitted information will be presented during the RDF-AMS P2C Roundtables and
it will also be reflected on the pledging platform of the Partner 2 Connect Digital Coalition.

### Once completed send to **AMSDir@itu.int**

## CONTRIBUTION FORM

ORGANIZATION: National Communications Agency

FOCAL POINT: Guillermo Montenegro, National Director for Convergence and Planification of the National Communications Agency, gmontenegro@enacom.gob.ar

TITLE: Management of the radio frequency spectrum in Argentina

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION:

Natural resource management is a key subject regarding sovereign objectives through policy. Over the years, Argentina has implemented public policies to foster and promote the knowledge-based economy industry. In 2004, the Argentine Software Industry Law and the Software Industry Promotion Law was enacted, providing tax benefits on employer contributions and income tax. In 2014, the Software Industry regime was ratified and extended. In 2019, that regime was expanded, and the Knowledge-based Economy Law was enacted. Finally, in 2021, Argentina extended the industrial promotion regime of Tierra del Fuego, Antarctica, and the South Atlantic Islands for fifteen years and expanded it to cover emerging technologies related to the internet.

Within the ICT sector, spectrum is one of the most relevant resources for the provision of mobile telecommunications services. The administration of Argentina's national natural resources has undergone different phases throughout history, depending on the socio-economic and productive model proposed by each government, ranging from extraction and concessions to private entities (both national and foreign) to models of public exploitation.

However, in 2021, Argentina incorporated a platform for the technical verification of electromagnetic emissions in the radio spectrum, developed domestically. This reversed the logic that had previously been followed, where the administration of the spectrum was carried out by international third parties or through technological solutions provided by foreign companies, thus concluding the cycle of sovereignty over the management of the natural resource that began in 2004.

The recently acquired technological solution, called ISpectrum, is entirely local and the result of collaborative efforts between the public and private sectors, which flourished thanks to the policies promoting the development of the knowledge economy.

The platform for the technical verification of electromagnetic emissions in the radio spectrum is a flexible and manufacturer independent solution, aspects that facilitated the deployment and reuse of the existing equipment. Argentina has made progress in resolving historical issues such as the technological obsolescence of its radio emission verification system and its dependence on the global oligopoly of hardware manufacturers, as well as circumstantial challenges like the lack of foreign currency to acquire international goods and services, operational difficulties in having highly

qualified human capital, and long-term projections by positioning itself with its capabilities at the edge of mobile technology evolution. I

Argentina has considered the effective and efficient use of public resources by deciding to nationalize the management of the radio spectrum in 2004, intending to prioritize people´s and society´s development.

In this way, Argentina fosters the public value chain, creating opportunities for local companies and workers that can serve as a model for other countries.

COUNTRIES in FOCUS: [Name countries to be impacted by this action]

Argentina.

YEARS of IMPLEMENTATION: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

- ☑ 2023
- ☑ 2024
- ☑ 2025

RELEVANT ITU REGIONAL INITIATIVE: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

- ☐ AMS1: Infrastructure deployment (DEPLOYMENT OF MODERN, RESILIENT, SECURE AND SUSTAINABLE TELECOMMUNICATION/INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE)
- ☐ AMS2: Digital Inclusion and skills development (ENHANCEMENT AND EXPANSION OF DIGITAL-LITERACY, DIGITAL-SKILLS AND DIGITAL-INCLUSION PROGRAMMES, ESPECIALLY AMONG VULNERABLE POPULATIONS
- ☑ AMS3: Digital transformation and innovation ecosystems (EFFECTIVE SUPPORT FOR DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS THROUGH SCALABLE, FUNDED AND SUSTAINABLE CONNECTIVITY PROJECTS
- ☑ AMS4: Enabling Policy and Regulatory environments (DEVELOPMENT OF ENABLING POLICY AND REGULATORY ENVIRONMENTS TO CONNECT THE UNCONNECTED THROUGH ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE TELECOMMUNICATIONS/INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES

Please find more information on the ITU Regional Initiatives 2023-2025, as defined by WTDC-22,

https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Americas/Pages/RI-projects-2023-2025.aspx

RELATED ITU-D PRIORITIES AS DEFINED BY THE ITU WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE 2022

- ☑ Affordable connectivity
- ☑ Digital Transformation
- ☑ Enabling policy and regulatory environment
- ☐ Resource mobilization and international cooperation
- ☐ Inclusive and secure telecommunications/ICTs for sustainable development

Please find more information on the ITU-D Priorities, as defined by WTDC-22, here.

RELATED ITU PRIORITIES AS DEFINED BY ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE 2022

- ☑ Spectrum use for space and terrestrial services
- ☐ International telecommunication numbering resources

- ☐ Inclusive and secure telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services
- ☑ Digital applications
- ☑ Enabling environment

Please find more information on the ITU Priorities, as defined by PP-22, here

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