A nighttime photograph of the Obelisco de Buenos Aires, a tall, white, four-sided monument. The monument is illuminated with blue and white lights. In the background, the city of Buenos Aires is visible with various buildings, some with lit-up windows and signs. The foreground shows a busy street with cars and traffic lights. The overall scene is a vibrant cityscape at night.

Regional Initiatives and WTDC Objectives

AMS Regional Office 2018



1:Coordination: Foster international cooperation and agreement on telecommunication/ICT development issues

2:Modern and secure telecommunications/ICT infrastructure: Foster the development of infrastructure and services, including building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs

3:Enabling enviroment: Foster an enabling policy and regulatory enviroment conducive to sustainable telecommunication/ICT development

4:Inclusive digital society: Foster the developmnet and use of telecommunications/ICTs and applications to empower people and societies for sustainable development

The ITU-D mission is not just about connectivity for connectivity's sake, but is more to aim at seeing innovative uses of telecommunications/ICTs that fundamentally improve people's lives for the better.



FOREWORD

The Regional Development Forum gives the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), each year, the opportunity to present the work it has done and to decide, with its Members, the steps to follow. I invite you to accompany the work of the ITU in the region, to criticize constructively, to reach agreements, to cooperate and to approve the full range of activities that will support both your national and regional objectives.

The five Regional Initiatives included in the 2017 World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) Buenos Aires Action Plan indicate the direction that the ITU will work towards in the coming years. They provide all stakeholders with a path for the development of ICTs, in agreement with the Governments. Emergency communications, digital broadcasting, broadband access, accessibility, digital economy and smart cities are the five areas identified by the region as priorities, where the ITU will focus on.

Currently, ICTs are recognized as having a central role in seeking to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. This role, however, cannot be assumed by a single entity or a single economic or social sector. Therefore, the BDT, through the Offices in the region, will work together with all the interested parties to transform the intentions, noted in the Initiatives, into realities reflected in the social and economic development of the inhabitants of this beautiful region.

The ITU Regional Office for the Americas is deeply committed to its tenacious work in implementing these objectives as a means to achieving sustainable development in the region. We will continue building bridges over the gaps that still divide our societies with the use of ICTs, in tireless pursuit for the inclusion of all.



Mr. Bruno Ramos,
Director, ITU Regional Office for the Americas

"The Regional Initiatives can make a difference on the ground. Through their implementation, we can put a human face to ICTs and accelerate the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. I therefore call upon all our members and stakeholders to work with ITU to implement the Regional Initiatives adopted by the World Telecommunication Development Conference in Buenos Aires."

Mr. Brahim Sanou,
Director, ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau



REGIONAL INITIATIVES

ITU AMERICAS

Buenos Aires Action Plan

2018-2021



AMS REGIONAL INITIATIVES

AMS1: Disaster risk reduction and management communications

AMS2: Spectrum management and transition to digital broadcasting

AMS3: Deployment of broadband infrastructure, especially in rural and neglected areas, and strengthening of broadband access to services and applications

AMS4: Accessibility and affordability for an inclusive and sustainable Americas region

AMS5: Development of the digital economy, smart cities and communities and the Internet of things, promoting innovation





Regional Initiative 1

Disaster risk reduction and manangement communications



DISASTER RISK
REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT
COMMUNICATIONS

PROJECT PROPOSAL



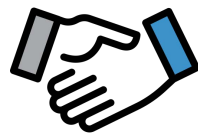
1. Based on the Pilot project for an Alternate Regional Emergency Telecommunications Network already including countries in Central America and Caribbean, implement regional mechanisms to coordinate early warning systems, business continuity plans, and climate change, adaptation and mitigation plans.
2. Creation of a Disaster Ready Pan-American Telemedicine Network: Organize emergency response kits integrating medical and video conferencing equipment with mobile and satellite devices and services that will allow medical emergencies in disaster areas to be assisted remotely from health centers.





Estimated budget

USD 200,000.



Potential partners

Governments, Satellite Services
Operators, Wireless Reach, Fedex,
UNOCHA, CAF



Country or countries involved

LA&C

PROJECT PROPOSAL 1



Alternate Regional Emergency Telecommunications Network

2019 Activities

Develop and promote procedures to coordinate early warning systems and business continuity plans

2020 Activities

Assist selected countries on coordinating early warning systems and business continuity plans..

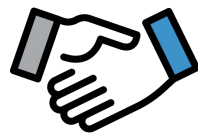
2021 Activities

Follow up, report on the status of regional emergency communications coordination and propose additional actions where needed



Estimated budget

USD 250,000.



Potential partners

Governments, Satellite Operators, Mobile Operators, Regional Airlines, WHO/PAHO, Providers of health services and equipment



Country or countries involved

LA&C

PROJECT PROPOSAL 2



Disaster Ready Pan-American Telemedicine Network

2019 Activities

Develop a proposal for an emergency response kit in consultation with Governments and PAHO including communications services

2020 Activities

Negotiate an agreement with telecommunications services providers and relevant health centers in the region to provide assistance when needed. Training activities to operate telemedicine emergency services

2021 Activities

Promote that the interested parties of the region join the agreement

4K

Regional Initiative 2

**Spectrum management and
transition to digital broadcasting**





SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT
AND TRANSITION TO
DIGITAL BROADCASTING

PROJECT PROPOSAL

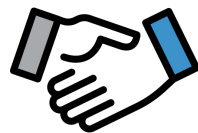


1. Develop roadmaps for the transition from analogue to digital terrestrial television broadcasting and consolidate training curricula on this topic and broadcasting policies. Provide such training to interested countries in the region.
2. Support Administrations in arranging and updating National Radio Spectrum Plans based on ITU Radio Regulations including decisions adopted at WRC 19.



Estimated budget

USD 150,000.



Potential partners

Governments, Radiocommunication Services providers, CAF



Country or countries involved

LA&C

PROJECT PROPOSAL 1



2018 Activities

Elaborate a training curricula on transition from analogue to digital broadcasting. Develop roadmaps for selected countries

2019 Activities

Organize a training activity based on the approved curricula. Provide assistance for international coordination. Develop roadmaps for selected countries

2020 Activities

Provide assistance for international coordination. Develop roadmaps for selected countries.

2021 Activities

Develop roadmaps for selected countries

Roadmaps for the transition from analogue to digital broadcasting



Estimated budget

USD 150,000.



Potential partners

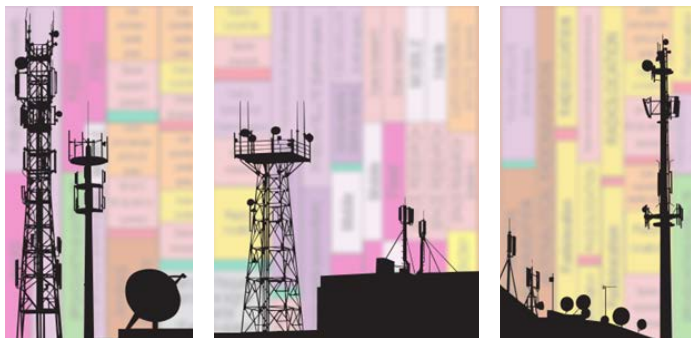
Governments, Spectrum Agencies



Country or countries involved

LA&C

PROJECT PROPOSAL 2



National Radio Spectrum Plans

2018 Activities

Provide assistance to selected countries on arranging and updating National Radio Spectrum Plans

2019 Activities

Annual Forum on spectrum management and WRC-19 preparations

2020 Activities

Annual Forum on spectrum management and WRC-19 results

2021 Activities

Provide assistance to selected countries on arranging and updating National Radio Spectrum Plans

Regional Initiative 3

Deployment of broadband infrastructure, especially in rural and neglected areas, and strengthening of broadband access to services and applications





DEVELOPMENT OF BROADBAND
INFRASTRUCTURE, ESPECIALLY
IN RURAL AND NEGLECTED
AREAS AND STRENGTHENING
OF BROADBAND ACCESS TO
SERVICES AND APPLICATIONS

PROJECT PROPOSAL



1. IXPs deployment in the Americas region at a national and regional levels in order to allow local and regional traffic to remain within the region avoiding international traffic costs and promoting local contents to be hosted within the region.
2. Assess the cooperative and community network models including legal, regulatory, and technical aspects in order to identify best practices in the region and promote alternative models to provide broadband access in areas currently unattended or under attended.





Estimated budget

USD 240,000.



Potential Partners

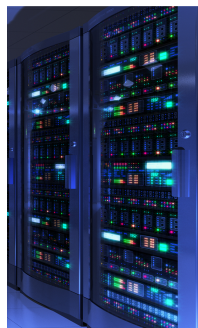
Governments, ISOC, CISCO, local content providers, local hosting providers



Country or countries involved

Countries without IXP

PROJECT PROPOSAL 1



IXPs deployment in the Americas region

2018 Activities

Provide assistance to 2 selected countries to deploy national IXPs including basic equipment

2019 Activities

Provide assistance to 2 selected countries to deploy national IXPs including basic equipment

2020 Activities

Provide assistance to 2 selected countries to deploy national IXPs including basic equipment

2021 Activities

Provide assistance to 2 selected countries to deploy national IXPs including basic equipment

AMS 3 : Deployment of broadband infrastructure, especially in rural and neglected areas, and strengthening of broadband access to services and applications





Estimated budget

USD 100,000.



Potential Partners

Governments, Service providers,
Cooperatives, CABASE, ISOC



Country or countries involved

LA&C

PROJECT PROPOSAL 2



Alternative models to provide broadband access in areas currently unattended or under attended.

2019 Activities

Assess cooperative and community service providers models and identify best practices in the region.

2020 Activities

Develop regulation models to include alternative providers

2021 Activities

Provide assistance to Administrations on implementing these models in rural and neglected areas

AMS 3 : Deployment of broadband infrastructure, especially in rural and neglected areas, and strengthening of broadband access to services and applications





Regional Initiative 4

Accessibility and affordability for an inclusive and sustainable Americas region



ACCESSIBILITY AND AFFORDABILITY
FOR AN INCLUSIVE AND
SUSTAINABLE AMERICAS REGION

PROJECT PROPOSAL



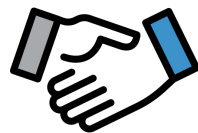
1. Expand “Accessible Americas” to consolidate it as the ICT inclusion platform for the entire region and implement joint actions with governments and stakeholders to harmonize policies and regulations to promote the use of accessible technologies.
2. Connect schools to facilitate affordability in underserved areas. Schools can also serve as community ICT Centers. The project includes the provision of connectivity, equipment and training.





Estimated budget

USD 100,000.



Potential Partners

Governments, Service providers,
Broadcasters, G3ict partners



Country or countries involved

LA&C

PROJECT PROPOSAL 1



Harmonize policies and regulations to promote the use of accessible technologies.

2018 Activities

Annual Accessible Americas event

2019 Activities

Annual Accessible Americas event. Provide guidelines and regulatory frameworks on ICT accessibility for PwD

2020 Activities

Annual Accessible Americas event. Promote policies and regulations change

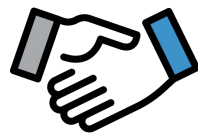
2021 Activities

Annual Accessible Americas event. Provide tools for countries to develop their own policies and regulation



Estimated budget

USD 300,000.



Potential Partners

Governments, Services providers, Equipment providers, UNESCO, UNICEF, Scholas Occurrentes



Country or countries involved

6 LA&C countries

PROJECT PROPOSAL 2



Connect schools to facilitate affordability in underserved areas

2019 Activities

Identify schools to be connected in selected countries, define needs and budget required

2020 Activities

Connect selected schools and train teachers and facilitators.

2021 Activities

Assessment, report and follow up activities connecting schools in the region



Regional Initiative 5

Development of the digital economy, smart cities and communities and the Internet of things, promoting innovation



DEVELOPMENT OF THE
DIGITAL ECONOMY, SMART
CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
AND THE INTERNET OF
THINGS, PROMOTING
INNOVATION

PROJECT PROPOSAL



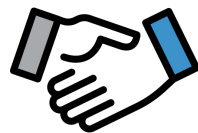
1. Assessment and implementation of best practices for the incorporation in mobile devices of health sensors and services to monitor health condition and provide early diagnosis. .
2. Provide capacity building, identify and share best practices on the development of national/regional innovation ecosystems with a special focus on supporting SMEs access to innovation.





Estimated budget

USD 200,000.



Potential Partners

Governments, European Union, Service providers, Providers of health services and equipment, WHO/PAHO



Country or countries involved

LA&C

PROJECT PROPOSAL 1



Incorporation in mobile devices of health sensors and services to monitor health condition and provide early diagnosis.

2019 Activities

Collect and share national experiences of working with mHealth at scale across a variety of disease areas and intervention types in coordination with PAHO

2020 Activities

Identify suitable, sustainable and affordable technologies to provide M-Health

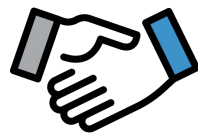
2021 Activities

To help Member States introduce mHealth programs and build relationships with regional and global counterparts



Estimated budget

USD 120,000.



Potential Partners

Governments, Private Sector, Financial Sector, CAF



Country or countries involved

LA&C

PROJECT PROPOSAL 2



Capacity building, identify and share best practices on the development of national/regional innovation ecosystems

2019 Activities

Assess innovation ecosystems in selected countries.

2020 Activities

National workshops for stakeholders to come together on the scope & agreement on the problems to develop specific projects to help address missing pieces in the innovation framework

2021 Activities

Full digital transformation roadmap with specific policies and project recommendations, at the national level, for selected countries