



**International Telecommunication Union (ITU)**  
**Arab Regional Office**

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Cairo, 15 June 2016

**To: Arab Administrations of ITU Member States, Regulators, ITU-D Sector Members, Associates, Academia and Regional and International Organizations concerned**

**Subject: ITU Arab Regional Workshop on “Digital Financial Inclusion”: Policies and Regulation  
Khartoum-Sudan, 24-25 August 2016**

Dear Sir/Madam,

As part of the implementation of the Operational Plan 2016 for the Arab Regional Office of the International Telecommunication Union, we are pleased to invite you to participate in the **ITU Regional Workshop on “Digital Financial Inclusion”: Policies and Regulation**, to be organized in collaboration with the Sudanese National Telecommunications Corporation “NTC-Sudan”. The workshop will be held in **Khartoum-Sudan, 24-25 August 2016**.

The objectives of this workshop are to:

- Discuss the latest technology trends and innovations which are likely to impact the digital financial services sector and providers ability to reach the poor in a sustainable and scalable manner and the challenges facing this sector;
- Discuss the opportunities and challenges of mobile payment to stimulate the financial services and financial inclusion,
- Discuss the role of mobile technologies in the development of digital financial systems,
- Create a platform for dialogue between the telecom and financial services regulators to discuss emerging issues and best practices for the policy and regulatory framework for financial inclusion;
- Discuss the harmonized regulatory frameworks for digital financial services and financial inclusion;
- Share best practices in areas of consumer protection, interoperability, access to infrastructure and security and risk management;
- Share the regional successful cases on digital financial services and financial inclusion;
- Exchange of best regional and international practices between ICTs operators and financial services and communications services on digital financial services and financial inclusion policymakers.

The workshop is targeting the specialists in the field of ICTs and financial and banking services, from developing countries, ITU Member States, ICT regulatory agencies, Central banks, policy makers, private sector (ICT and financial and banking service providers, telecommunication operators, manufacturers and solution providers).

The Workshop will be conducted in Arabic and English with simultaneous interpretation. Please note that all the information related to the workshop such as **draft Agenda, Fellowship Form, Information Note, Online Registration link** and the **Hotel Reservation Form** will be available on the ITU website at:

[www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/ArabStates/Pages/Events/2016/DFI/Digital-Financial-Inclusion.aspx](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/ArabStates/Pages/Events/2016/DFI/Digital-Financial-Inclusion.aspx)

We encourage you to participate and to register in this event through the link mentioned above. Please note the deadline for registration is **15 August 2016**.

In order to facilitate the participation of delegates from the Arab Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in this event, there will be a limited number of **Partial Fellowships** to cover the accommodation expenses of one delegate from each Arab LDCs. The interested countries should fill in the Fellowship Request Form, which is available on the workshop's website mentioned above and return it to ITU no later than **1 August 2016**.

Should you require any further information or need clarification, please do not hesitate to contact: Eng. Mustafa Al Mahdi, Associate Programme Officer, ITU Arab Regional Office, E-mail ([mustafa-ahmed.al-mahdi@itu.int](mailto:mustafa-ahmed.al-mahdi@itu.int)) and Eng. Abdulrahman El Daw, International Relations Coordinator, National Telecommunications Corporation "NTC-Sudan", Email ([abdulrahman@ntc.gov.sd](mailto:abdulrahman@ntc.gov.sd)).

Looking forward to your active participation and fruitful contribution in this important event.

Yours faithfully,



**Ebrahim AL HADDAD**  
Regional Director,  
ITU Arab Regional Office