

## **Report of the ITU Regional Workshop on ICT Statistics** **Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan, 31 January – 1 February 2018**

The ITU Regional Workshop on ICT statistics was held in collaboration with the Ministry of Information and Communication of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Committee on Statistics of the Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the city of Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan, from 31 January to 1 February 2018.

The workshop was attended by **90 participants** (4 remotely) representing **11 countries** (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan), as well as the Executive Committee of the Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communication (RCC) and ITU.



The objective of the workshop, which was organized upon the request of the CIS countries and in accordance with the 2018 ITU Operational Plan, was to strengthen the capacity of countries in the region to produce national statistics and indicators on telecommunications and ICTs according to international standards. The workshop was attended by representatives of communication administrations, regulators, national statistical offices and other interested stakeholders of the countries of the region and India, who are responsible for collecting and producing ICT statistics.

At the opening ceremony, the workshop participants were welcomed on behalf of the Republic of Kazakhstan by Mr. **Kairat Balykbaev**, Vice Minister of Information and Communication of the Republic of Kazakhstan and by Ms. **Zifa Yakupova**, Head of the Department of Services and Energy Statistics, Committee on Statistics of the Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan; on behalf of ITU, by Mr. **Kirill Oparin**, Head of the ITU Area Office for CIS; and on behalf of RCC, by Ms. **Natalya Zorya**, Deputy Director General, RCC Executive Committee. The welcome speeches were greeted with applause.



During the two days of the workshop, the participants, who listened to **17 presentations**, had the opportunity to discuss and share experiences on the main telecommunication/ICT indicators, the methodology of ICT statistics collection, international ICT measurements, ICT indicators dissemination, and harmonization at the international level.

Mr. **Farid Nakhli**, Programme Officer at the ITU Area Office for CIS, Mr. **Martin Schaaper**, Senior ICT Analyst at the ITU/BDT ICT Data and Statistics Division, and Mr. **Ivan Vallejo**, Market Analyst at the ITU/BDT ICT Data and Statistics Division, were the ITU speakers delivering the technical presentations of the workshop. They reviewed the ITU role in the collection, harmonization and dissemination of ICT data at the international level; presented to participants in detail the ICT indicators required for monitoring international targets, such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG); presented the ITU data collection and indicators from telecommunication operators; and discussed ICT household surveys and the main indicators on access to, and use of, ICT by households and individuals.

An important focus of the workshop were the new indicators required for the ITU ICT Development Index. Data availability for the new indicators in CIS countries and India was presented and the data gaps and methodological issues were discussed in detail.

The workshop participants were briefed on regional initiatives in the area of ICT statistics. In particular, Ms. **Natalya Zorya**, Deputy Director General, RCC Executive Committee, presented to the audience the evolution of the regional monitoring that RCC carries out in the area of ICT statistics. Ms. Zorya highlighted the importance of aligning the ICT data collection methodologies with those defined at the international level by ITU and mentioned some of the actions undertaken by RCC to support the collection of ICT statistics in CIS countries.

Country experiences were presented by Ms. **Zulfia Khudaibergenova**, Director, Department of the Communication Policy of the Ministry of Information and Communication of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Mr. **Timur Mashanpin**, Head of Mobile Communications Department, Ministry for Development of Information Technologies and Communications of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Mr. **Yevgeniy Malishevskiy**, Director of the Science and Consulting Centre, National Telecommunications Association of Kazakhstan, Ms. **Sara Nukusheva**, Senior Expert, Committee on Statistics of the Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan and Ms. **Kunduz Tashmatova**, Head of Market Analysis Division, State Communication Agency under the State Committee of Information Technologies and Communications of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Speakers described national practices used for data collection and analysis, highlighted importance of international cooperation and availability of comparable data for benchmarking and also pointed to such challenges as difference in terminology in CIS countries, lack of relevant materials in Russian and need to have common agreement on how particular groups of population should be counted (e.g. diaspora, children under the age of 6 etc.).

Ms. **Larisa Sokolova** from the **State Statistical Committee of Ukraine** who participated remotely also asked ITU experts how ICT penetration is measured in the corporate sector, which software

tools are used for data collecting and analysis, what is the definition of e-commerce, how Big Data is analyzed and what are the practices for assessing development of cloud technologies, 3D printing and robotics.

On the second day of the workshop participants were also greeted by Mr. **Malcolm Johnson**, ITU Deputy Secretary General and Mr. Nurudin Mukhitdinov, Director General of the RCC Executive Committee.



The workshop participants noted the significance of the issues covered by the workshop, the substantial and balanced programme, the good working atmosphere of the event and thanked the host for the cordial welcome.

The workshop participants extended thanks to the ITU, in particular, to the Area Office for the CIS and the ICT Data and Statistics Division, ITU/BDT, for organizing this fruitful workshop.