

ITU Regional Development Forum for Europe (RDF-EUR)

*Information and Communication Technologies for Attaining
Sustainable Development Goals*

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TITLE: Regional Regulatory and Economic Dialogue (RED) on Telecommunications/
ICTs for Europe

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Europe Regional Initiative: EUR3: Accessibility, affordability and skills development for all to ensure digital inclusion and sustainable development

Year(s) of implementation: 2019

Background

The ITU Plenipotentiary Conference (PP) in 2010 was mindful that, in many ITU Member States, independent regulatory bodies have been established to deal with regulatory issues such as interconnection, determination of tariffs, licensing and competition, designed to promote digital opportunities at the national level (RESOLUTION 139 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)).

PP 2010 has considered that restructuring of the telecommunication sector, especially the separation of regulatory and operating functions, the liberalization of services and the continuing appearance of new regulatory players, is possible in the majority of ITU Member States; as well as that national telecommunication/ICT policies and regulations have to be recognized and understood, so as to allow the development of global markets which can support the harmonious development of telecommunication services (RESOLUTION 2 (REV. BUSAN, 2014)).

Also PP 2010 has defined among the sectoral and inter-sectoral objectives to foster an enabling environment for ICT development and foster the development of telecommunication/ICT networks as well as relevant applications and services, including bridging the standardization gap. Here the enhanced dialogue and cooperation among national regulators, policy-makers and other telecommunication/ICT stakeholders on topical policy, legal and regulatory issues to help countries achieve their goals of creating a more inclusive information society has been defined as outcome to this objective.

The development of this idea was the agreement at the WTDC 2017 the regional initiative "Accessibility, affordability and skills development for all to ensure digital inclusion and sustainable development".

Proposal

The goal of this proposal is to exchange knowledge and sharing good practices on economic, financial and regulatory mechanisms in the telecommunication/ICT industry, especially in broadband environment, 5G and digital services.

This Forum would be addressed to representatives of ministries, regulators, telecommunication operators, universities and general education institutions, telecommunication equipment manufacturers, research and design institutes, software developers and other interested stakeholders of the ITU Member States, Sector Members and Associates from Europe.

In particular, the Forum will cover following issues:

- Economic and financial issues in a converged broadband environment
- The economic impact of 5G
- Fiscal Policies and Practices for digital services
- Advances of regulatory costing and pricing strategies in the Digital Economy
- Strategic aspects of the formation of an effective regulatory mechanism in the telecommunication/ICT industry
- Normative and legal provision of prices and tariffs regulation in telecommunications/ICT
- Organizational and procedural aspects of regulation of prices and tariffs in telecommunications / ICT
- The main problems and ways to overcome them in setting the tariffs for regulated telecommunication services (universal services, connection services and use of RFR)
- Features of determining and setting tariffs for unregulated telecommunication/ICT services
- Capacity building in the field of formation of an effective mechanism for tariffing in telecommunications/ICT

Activities:

- analysis of reports from previous workshops and forums, analysis of ITU Telecommunication Development Sector activities in the areas of forum sessions, search for moderators and rapporteurs among leading experts in this field;
- holding the roundtable discussions “New business models & key aspects of expanding cooperation in the field of formation of an effective mechanism for tariffing in telecommunications/ICT”
- simultaneous interpretation in English and other European languages, as requested;
- providing the media coverage: communication with the media , interviews and reportages in the media;
- live broadcasting of the Forum on the Internet;
- organizing the cloud storage of presentations and photos with 24/7 access.

