

# Accelerating digital development through multistakeholder partnerships

SDG 17 Peer-learning session

6 April 2022 | 15:00-17:30 CEST

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## Accelerating digital development through multistakeholder partnerships

High-level peer-learning roundtable - United Nations Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (RFSD) in the UNECE Region

6 April, 15:00-17:30 CEST (UTC+2) | Virtual

\*The timing is expressed in CEST (UTC+2)

### Agenda

#### 15:00 – 15:10 Opening remarks

- Mr. Stephen Bereaux, Deputy to Director, ITU Development Bureau
- Ms. Olga Algayerova, Executive Secretary, UNECE

#### 15:10-15:15 Special statement

- H.E. Admirim Aliti, Minister, Ministry of Information Society and Administration, North Macedonia

#### 15:15 – 16:10 Segment 1: Connecting people everywhere

This segment will focus on answering the question: *“What are the challenges faced by countries to develop robust and reliable ICT infrastructure, and what are the related key solutions to enhance accessible, affordable, and safe connectivity?”*

- H.E. Ashat ORAZBEK, Vice-Minister, Ministry of Digital Development, Innovation and Aerospace Industry, Kazakhstan
- H.E. Simon Manley CMG, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, UK Mission to the WTO, UN and Other International Organisations (Geneva)
- Mr. Draško Milinović, Director-General, Communications Regulatory Authority (CRA), Bosnia and Herzegovina

#### Segment 2: Empowering communities

This segment will focus on answering the question: *“How to empower communities to enjoy the full fruit of the digital society and ensure to leave no one behind?”*

- Ms. Kristine Gyonyan, Director, Union of Operators of Armenia
- Mr. Yannis Vardakastanis, President, International Disability Forum (IDA) and the European Disability Forum (EDF)

16:10-16:15	<p><b>Special statement from the youth</b></p> <p>This statement of a youth representative will focus on how to meaningfully engage young persons in policy and strategy making on digital transformation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Pauline Laufer, Youth Envoy, ITU Generation Connect Europe Youth group</li> </ul>
[16:15-17:15]	<p><b>Segment 3: Building digital ecosystems</b></p> <p>This segment will focus on answering the question: <i>“What actions can be put in place to foster innovation and entrepreneurship, the development of applications and services, and accelerate the development of a digital economy in order to build digital ecosystems and create value out of the digital transformation?”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H.E. Oleg Pekos, First Deputy Minister, Ministry of Information Technologies and Communication of Uzbekistan</li> <li>• H.E. Andrej Čuš, State Secretary, Ministry of Economic Development and Technology, Slovenia</li> <li>• Ms. Liliana Fratini Passi, Managing Director, Interbank Corporate Service (CBI), Italy</li> <li>• Mr. David Nadirashvili, Head, Digital Governance Agency, Georgia</li> <li>• Ms. Ivonne Higuero, Secretary-General of the of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)</li> <li>• Dr. Umberto Modigliani, Deputy Director, Forecasts Department, European Center for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts</li> </ul> <p><b>Segment 4: Incentivizing investments</b></p> <p>This segment will focus on answering the question: <i>“What type of collaborative solutions worked to overcome the hurdles of attracting investment in and financing the digital development of a country; and how can they be scaled up?”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Dirk Werner, Director, Head of Telecommunications, Media and Technology, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)</li> <li>• Mr. Hoa Binh Adjemian, Deputy Head of Unit – An economy that works for people, green, digital and connected, DG NEAR A3, European Commission</li> </ul>
17:15 – 17:20	<p><b>Special statement from the youth</b></p> <p>This statement of a youth representative will focus on how to meaningfully engage young persons in policy and strategy making on digital transformation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Maksim Burianov, Youth Envoy, ITU Generation Connect CIS Youth Group</li> </ul>
17:20 – 17:30	<p><b>Summary of the discussion and closing remarks</b></p> <p>This segment will intend to summarize the discussion and key policy actions put forward by panellists to be considered in the ECOSOC High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) 2022, in order to answer the question: <i>“What type of efforts and mechanisms - and at what level - are required to facilitate the establishment and upscaling of multi-stakeholder partnerships fostering digital development in Europe and Central Asia Region, and beyond?”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Jaroslaw Ponder, Head, ITU Office for Europe</li> </ul>

**Overall moderation of the event:**

Mr. Jaroslaw Ponder, Head, ITU Office for Europe

**Co-moderation of the building blocks:**

- Ms. Natalia Mochu, Regional Director, ITU Office for CIS
- Ms. Elisabeth Tuerk, Director, Economic Cooperation and Trade, UNECE