

ITU Regional Development Forum for Europe (RDF-EUR)

Information and Communication Technologies for attaining Sustainable Development Goals

organized by the International Telecommunication Union with the support of the National Authority for Management and Regulation in Communications (ANCOM) of Romania and cooperation with the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunication Administrations (CEPT)

22-23 May 2023
Timisoara, Romania

Remote participation at http://itu.int/go/RDF_EUR_23
(Meeting held back-to-back with Com-ITU of CEPT - 24-26 May 2023)

Please note that submitted information will be presented during the RDF-EUR P2C Roundtables and it will also be reflected on the pledging platform of the Partner 2 Connect Digital Coalition.

CONTRIBUTION FORM

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TITLE: [Title of submission]

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION: Estonia contributes to the global development of digitalisation that follows democratic principles of openness and inclusiveness, at the same time guaranteeing privacy and safety. We continue building capacity on digital transformation, at times, drawing on our own experiences in using digital technologies for better and more efficient governance and economy growth, through multilateral and bilateral cooperation. E-governance, cybersecurity and digital transformation more broadly has been our focus area for development cooperation. Our main partners in this field have been Ukraine, Georgia, Moldova and the Western Balkan region, but also Africa, where we have mainly cooperated with Kenya, Uganda, Namibia and Botswana. In addition, we support many activities in multilateral formats, such as the United Nations and its organisations, as well as the European Union (EU). In EU, we are the co-founders of the Digital4Development Hub, that serves as a multi-stakeholder platform that fosters digital cooperation between the Team Europe and its global partners. Within the framework of D4D, we have initiated or are partners of several Team Europe projects, focusing on e-governance, digital development, digital economy and skills development. Biggest projects including the AU-EU D4D project, D4D for Digital Economy and Society in Sub-Saharan Africa, and the D4D Collaboration for the Horn of Africa Initiative on Digital Government and Cybersecurity.

We strongly believe that trust and openness are the foundations of a human-centric digital society. Therefore, we have built our country following these principles, building an open digital infrastructure. Which is why Estonia continues contributing to the development and spread of digital public infrastructure (DPI) and digital public goods (DPGs). We support the funding of DPGs (i.e. co-funding the Nordic Institution for Interoperability Solutions) but also financing and developing our own open-source re-usable AI solutions/building blocks, that can be integrated with other digital tools and services and are available as DPGs. Moreover, we continue to develop a supportive ecosystem for digital development, creating and adjusting legal frameworks and looking into innovative procurement models to create a more efficient and agile governance. We



continue exchanging our knowledge and tools with different partners, both bilaterally (i.e. implementing the X-Road solution in Ukraine, Colombia, Madagascar and elsewhere) and multilaterally (i.e. UN Digital Public Goods Alliance, EU's Digital Commons), with who we can jointly achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. But we also engage actively with the private sector and other stakeholders, such as universities and NGOs.

One of our flagship projects is the GovStack initiative, which we co-lead with ITU, Germany and Digital Impact Alliance and that helps countries to build inclusive digital societies. GovStack's mission is to create reusable and modular building blocks, which enable governments to build their whole e-government architecture based on these same building blocks. This approach helps to save resources of building a sustainable digital public infrastructure, through which governments can create and offer human-centered digital services. Therefore, accelerating an inclusive digital transformation that takes us closer to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. We are proud to share GovStack's recent initiative, which is the Women in GovTech challenge. Through this initiative, we want to support women to build the skills and competencies needed for creating digital services.

COUNTRIES in FOCUS: Kenya, Uganda, Namibia, Botswana, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine, Albania, North Macedonia, Djibouti, Somalia.

YEARS of IMPLEMENTATION: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

☒ 2023

☒ 2024

☒ 2025

RELEVANT ITU REGIONAL INITIATIVE: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

☒ EUR1: Digital infrastructure development

☒ EUR2: Digital transformation for resilience

☒ EUR3: Digital inclusion and skills development

☒ EUR4: Trust and confidence in the use of telecommunications/ICTs

☒ EUR5: Digital innovation ecosystems

Please find more information on the ITU Regional Initiatives 2023-2025, as defined by WTDC-22, [here](#).

RELATED ITU-D PRIORITIES AS DEFINED BY THE ITU WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE 2022

X Affordable connectivity

X Digital Transformation

X Enabling policy and regulatory environment

X Resource mobilization and international cooperation



X Inclusive and secure telecommunications/ICTs for sustainable development

Please find more information on the ITU-D Priorities, as defined by WTDC-22, [here](#).

RELATED ITU PRIORITIES AS DEFINED BY ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE 2022

- ☐ Spectrum use for space and terrestrial services
- ☐ International telecommunication numbering resources
- X Inclusive and secure telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services
- X Digital applications
- X Enabling environment

Please find more information on the ITU Priorities, as defined by PP-22, [here](#)

RELATED WSIS ACTION LINE: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

- ☒ C1: The role of governments and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development
- ☒ C2: Information and communication infrastructure
- ☒ C3: Access to information and knowledge
- ☒ C4: Capacity building
- ☒ C5: Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs
- ☒ C6: Enabling environment
- ☒ C7: ICT applications
- ☒ C8: Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content
- ☐ C9: Media
- ☒ C10: Ethical dimensions the Information Society
- ☒ C11: International and regional cooperation

RELATED SDG: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SDG 1: No Poverty | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 2: Zero Hunger | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 3: Good Health and Well- being | |



- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SDG 4: Quality Education | <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SDG 5: Gender Equality | <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 13: Climate Action |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation | <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 14: Life Below Water |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 15: Life on Land |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth | <input type="checkbox"/> SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SDG 17: Partnerships for the SDGs |

