ITU Regional Development Forum for Europe (RDF-EUR)

Information and Communication Technologies for attaining Sustainable Development Goals

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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: SMART SPECIALIZATION STRATEGY OF MONTENEGRO (S3) 2019-2024

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION:

In the field of innovation policy and technological development, Montenegro has opted for an innovative approach of the strategic planning that enables the identification and development of the country's comparative advantages through identifying priority areas of development in which there is a strong concentration of research and innovation capacity and a great economic potential. This EU "recipe" of strategic planning is better known as smart specialization and brings together public administration, academia, businesses and civil society on the task of the implementation of a long-term economic growth strategy based on knowledge and innovation.

S3 identifies 4 key priority areas:

- Sustainable agriculture and food value chain;
- Energy and sustainable environment;
- Sustainable and health tourism; and
- Information and communication technologies as a horizontal priority in the function of the development of the previous 3 (vertical) priorities.

Vision of S3 for Information and Communication Technologies: *Digital Montenegro with the application of advanced ICT solutions in all branches of the economy and developed it awareness, which enables a dynamic and proactive approach to new and innovative technologies.*

Objectives of the sector:

- Improving the competitiveness of the ICT sector through innovative activities; and
- Strengthening the digital economy.

Strategy identifies several focus areas as a great potential, such as:

• Next-generation communication technologies (5G, SDN, NFV, GNSS);

• IoT (Internet of Things);

• Virtual reality, altered reality (VR/AR), 3D;

• ERP systems, e-business, financial technologies, GIS, etc.;

• Blockchain technology and cryptocurrencies;

• Big Data, Cloud – services;

• Video games;

• Security of information systems;

• Smart technologies (cities, buildings, etc.);

• Green ICT (emission reduction, energy savings, etc.); and

• Machine learning and artificial intelligence.Telecommunications and Software engineering are recognized as a strong focus areas.

Montenegro welcome strengthening the collaboration with ITU on the aforementioned areas.

COUNTRIES in FOCUS:

Western Balkan & EU countries sharing the same priorities

YEARS of IMPLEMENTATION:

☒ 2023

☒ 2024

☒ 2025

RELEVANT ITU REGIONAL INITIATIVE:

☒ 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

☐ Affordable connectivity

x Digital Transformation

x Enabling policy and regulatory environment

☐ 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

☐ Inclusive and secure telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services

☐ 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]

☐ SDG 1: No Poverty

☐ SDG 2: Zero Hunger

☐ SDG 3: Good Health and Well- being

☒ SDG 4: Quality Education

☐ SDG 5: Gender Equality

☐ SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

☒ SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

☐ SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

☒ SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

☐ SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

☐ SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

☒ SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

☐ SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

☒ SDG 13: Climate Action

☐ SDG 14: Life Below Water

☐ SDG 15: Life on Land

☐ SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

☐ SDG 17: Partnerships for the SDGs