

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

ORGANIZATION: MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENERGY, REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

FOCAL POINT: enkelejda.mucaj@infrastruktura.gov.al;

TITLE: Regional Digital Innovation Profile

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION: [Provide a brief description up to 500 words]

Albania has benefited from the technical assistance from ITU in preparing the ICT Centric Innovation Ecosystem Country Review Albania Report during 2016. Since that time, Albania has come a long way in preparing and fostering digital transformation of its economy and institutional and administrative organization, setting out its ongoing ambitions in its Digital Albania Strategy.

ITU has also collaborated closely with National Regulatory Authorities and multi-stakeholders in other countries in the region besides Albania such as Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Serbia, Montenegro and North Macedonia over the past eight years to publish country-specific Digital Innovation Profiles.

These profiles assess a country's ICT ecosystem, and offer an efficient method for analyzing and optimizing it. To unlock the potential for digital transformation at the regional level, we are proposing a more focused and comprehensive **Regional Digital Innovation Profile**, seeking commonalities, strategies, and possible areas of collaboration that will enable the Western Balkan Region to advance together.

In this framework and based on ITU initiatives on digital innovations: https://www.itu.int/itu-d/sites/innovation-alliance/ we express our interest in hosting the European ITU Innovation Center in our capital city, Tirana.

Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy is responsible for drafting and implementing Albania's general state policy in the field of urban planning and development, in the sector of infrastructure and transport, in the telecommunication and postal sector, in the energy sector, in the use of energy resources and mining. We are committed to fostering innovation and digital transformation in our





country and region, and we believe that hosting the ITU Innovation Center would be a great opportunity to achieve this goal.

The ITU Innovation Center would benefit from the strategic location of Tirana, which is a hub for regional connectivity and cooperation. Tirana has a vibrant and dynamic ecosystem of public and private actors, academia and civil society, who are actively engaged in promoting innovation and digital solutions for sustainable development.

COUNTRIES IN FOCUS (N			
COUNTRIES in FOCUS: [Name countries to be impacted by this action]			
Albania, Western Balkans			
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			
\square 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			
\square Affordable connectivity			
X□ Digital Transformation			
☐ Enabling policy and regulatory environment			
☐ Resource mobilization and international cooperation			



☐ 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

	\square Spectrum use for space and terrestrial services		
	☐ International telecommunication numbering resources		
	☐ Inclusive and secure telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services		
	X Digital applications		
	☐ Enabling environment		
Please find more information on the ITU Priorities, as defined by PP-22, <u>here</u>			
RELATED WSIS ACTION LINE: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]			
	$\ oxed{oxed}$ 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 10: Reduced Inequalities	
	☐ SDG 2: Zero Hunger	☐ SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities☐ SDG 11:	
	☐ SDG 3: Good Health and Well- being	Sustainable Cities and Communities	
	SDG 4: Quality Education	☐ SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	
	SDG 5: Gender Equality	☐ SDG 13: Climate Action	
	☐ SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	☐ SDG 14: Life Below Water	
	☐ SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	☐ SDG 15: Life on Land	



































International Telecommunication Union



SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

☐ SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

☑ SDG 17: Partnerships for the SDGs