# Report of the ITU Regional Workshop on
# ICT Indicators and Measurements for Africa
## *Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 27-30 October 2015*

The ITU Regional Workshop on ICT Indicators and Measurements for Africa was organized by ITU in collaboration with the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia in the city of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 27 to 30 October 2015.
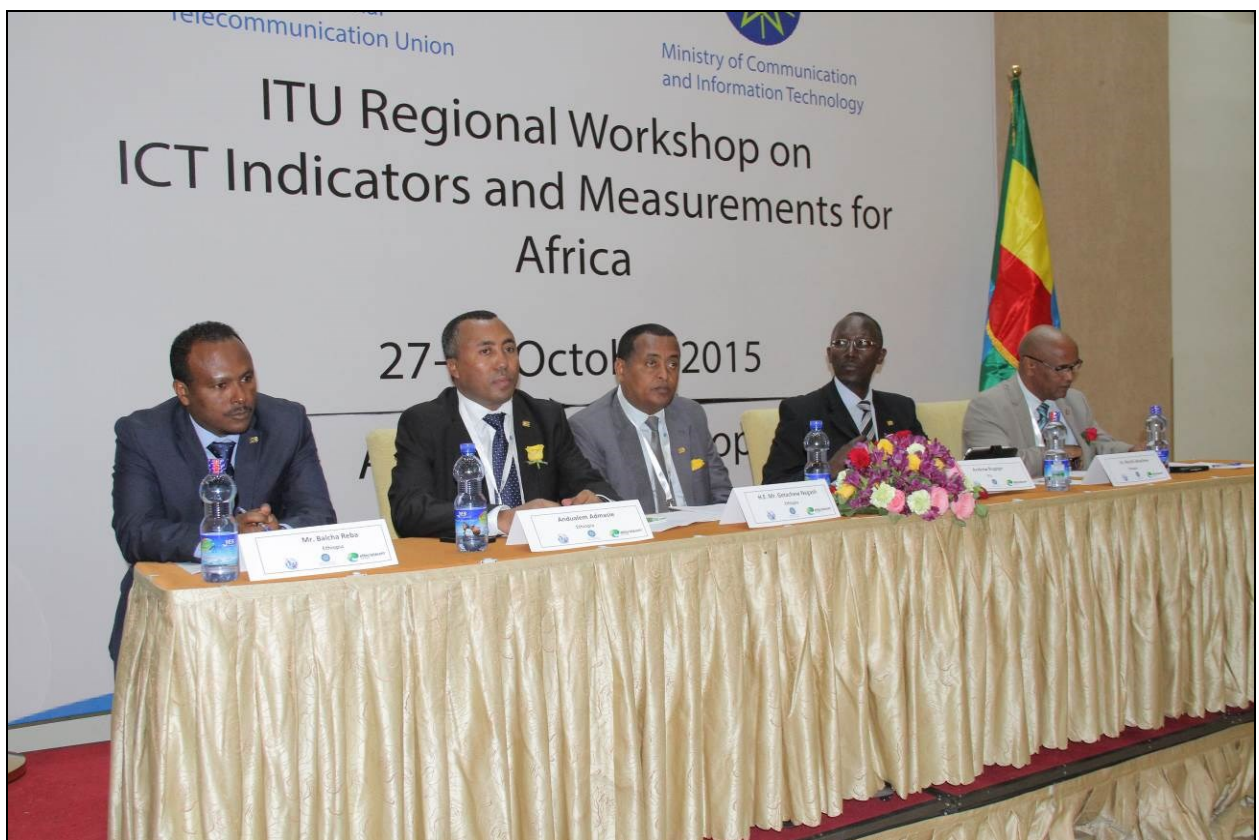
The workshop was attended by **140 participants** representing **14 African countries** (Burundi, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe), as well as the African Telecommunications Union, the East African Community, the East African Communications Organisation, Research ICT Africa (RIA), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).



**Group pictures of the workshop participants.**

The objective of the workshop was to strengthen the capacity of countries in the region to produce national statistics and indicators on telecommunications and ICT. The workshop was attended by representatives of Ministries, regulators, and national statistical offices (NSOs) of the countries of the region, who are responsible for collecting and producing ICT statistics.

The opening ceremony was chaired by **Dr Mesfin Belachew**, Technical Advisor to the Minister of Communications and Information Technology of Ethiopia. The workshop participants were welcomed on behalf of Ethio Telecom, by **Mr Andualem Admassie**, CEO of the company; on behalf of ITU, by **Mr Andrew Rugege**, Director of the ITU Regional Office for Africa; and on behalf of the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology of Ethiopia by **H.E. Getachew Negash**, State minister of Communication and Information Technology. The welcome speeches were received with an applause.


**Speakers of the opening session of the workshop.**

During the four days of the workshop, the participants, who listened to **17 presentations**, had the opportunity to discuss the main groups of telecommunications/ICT indicators, methodology of the ICT statistics collection, ICT measurement, ICT indicators dissemination, and harmonization at the international level. In addition, the workshop presented the methodologies used in the ICT Development Index (IDI) and the ICT Price Basket (IPB), and gave emphasis to the discussion of the ICT indicators included in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) monitoring framework.

**Ms Anne Rita N. Ssemboga**, ITU Area Office for Southern Africa, set the stage for the discussions by providing a presentation of the context and the objectives of the workshop. **Mr Ivan Vallejo**, ICT Data and Statistics Division, ITU/BDT, gave an overview of ITU work on ICT measurement, including the Measuring the Information Society Report and the ICT

Development Index, which was discussed with the participants. **Mr Mactar Seck,** United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, complemented the overview by presenting the work on ICT measurement carried out in the region.

**Mr Ivan Vallejo** also presented the work carried out to track global ICT targets, such as the SDGs, the ITU Connect 2020 Targets and the Broadband Commission Targets. This was complemented with two presentations on national ICT targets and the statistics needed to track them: the first one delivered by **Mr Balcha Reba**, CIT Standardization and Regulation, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology of Ethiopia; the second one, on South Africa's Broadband Policy, by **Ms Safia Khan**, Research ICT Africa.



**Presentations on the first day of the workshop.**

The second day was devoted to the discussion of telecommunication/ICT indicators collected from administrative data sources (i.e. data coming mostly form operators). **Mr. Seyoum Bereded**, President of the ICT Ethiopia Association, moderated the sessions in the morning, and **Mr Tewodros Mebrahtu**, Director of the Addis Ababa University ICT Center of Excellence, those in the afternoon. **Mr Ivan Vallejo** presented the ITU indicators on mobile-cellular, fixed-telephone, Internet services (including broadband) and bundles; as well as indicators on telecommunication revenue, investment, traffic and broadcasting. He also highlighted the availability of these indicators in African countries and their relevance for the IDI and the SDGs. Participants actively participated in the discussion of these indicators and shared their experience at the country level. A specific session was dedicated to the presentation of country examples on the data collection from telecommunication operators and featured presentation from the following experts: **Mr Umar Ssemakula**, Uganda Communications Commission; **Mr Matarr Touray**, The Gambia Public Utilities Regulatory Authority; and **Mr Bartholomew Marcel**, Tanzania Communication Regulatory Authority.

A specific session was devoted to the discussion of the indicators on telecommunication/ICT prices. **Mr Ivan Vallejo** presented the ITU ICT Price Baskets and data collection methodology, and **Ms Safia Khan** provided an overview of the work carried out by RIA on ICT price monitoring in Africa.

The third day of the workshop was devoted to the discussion of indicators on ICT household access and individual use. **Dr Mesfin Belachew**, Technical Advisor to the Minister of Communications and Information Technology of Ethiopia, moderated the sessions in the morning, and **Mr Yilikal abate**, ICT Ethiopia Association, those in the afternoon. **Ms Doris Olaya**, consultant to ITU, presented on the indicator definitions, survey vehicles and methodological issues, as well as on availability of these indicators in African countries and their relevance for the IDI and the SDGs. Ms Olaya's presentations were complemented with the country example of Zimbabwe concerning the recent data collection on ICT household access and individual use, which was presented by **Mr K. R. N. Shoniwa**, Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency. In addition, **Ms Safia Khan** presented the cost effective nationally representative survey methodologies developed by RIA for Africa.

A specific session was dedicated to the discussion of e-government indicators. **Mr Mactar Seck,** United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), presented on the e-government core indicators developed by UNECA in the context of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development.

National coordination for the production of ICT statistics was discussed on the last day of the workshop under the moderation of Mr Abebaw Degefu, Chief Executive Officer of CREDOKS. **Ms Doris Olaya**, consultant to ITU, delivered a presentation on the different mechanisms for the national coordination of ICT statistics. This was followed by a roundtable on the national experiences in the coordination of ICT statistics. During the roundtable, each of the countries attending the workshop took the floor to explain their experience on the coordination of the production and dissemination of ICT statistics, in particular between the Ministry, the regulator and the national statistical office, as well as with other administrations involved in some indicators, such as the central bank or the revenue authority.

The discussions were concluded with the presentation of the conclusions and recommendation of the workshop, delivered by **Ms Anne Rita N. Ssemboga**, ITU Area Office for Southern Africa.

The workshop was concluded with the closing remarks delivered by: **Mr Marcelino Tayob**, ITU Regional Office for Africa; on behalf of the host, Ethiopia, **Mr Balcha Reba**, CIT Standardization and Regulation, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology of Ethiopia; on behalf of the Minister of Communication and Information Technology of Ethiopia, **Dr Mesfin Belachew**, Technical Advisor to the Minister of Communications and Information Technology of Ethiopia.

The workshop participants extended thanks to the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, for the excellent hosting of the workshop, as well as to ITU and, in particular, to the ITU Regional Office for Africa and the ICT Data and Statistics Division.