

Telecommunication Development Sector

Implementation report
January – March 2018

Implementation of the:
Strategic plan
Operational plan
Financial plan



ITU-D Mission

To foster international cooperation and solidarity in the delivery of technical assistance and in the creation, development and improvement of telecommunication/information and communication technology (ICT) equipment and networks in developing countries. ITU-D is required to discharge the Union's dual responsibility as a United Nations specialized agency and executing agency for implementing projects under the United Nations development system or other funding arrangements, so as to facilitate and enhance telecommunication/ ICT development by offering, organizing and coordinating technical cooperation and assistance activities.

Goal

The strategic goal of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) is threefold, and includes:

- To promote the availability of infrastructure and foster an enabling environment for telecommunication/ICT infrastructure development and its use in a safe and secure manner
- To provide assistance to developing countries in bridging the digital divide by achieving broader telecommunication/ICT-enabled socio-economic development
- To expand the benefits of the information society to the membership in cooperation with public and private stakeholders, and to promote the integration of the use of telecommunications/ICTs into the broader economy and society as drivers of development, innovation, well-being, growth and productivity globally.

Objectives

Objectives 1:

Foster international cooperation on telecommunication/ICT development issues

Objective 2:

Foster an enabling environment for ICT development and foster the development of telecommunication/ICT networks as well as relevant applications and services, including bridging the standardization gap

Objective 3:

Enhance confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, and roll-out of relevant applications and services

Objective 4:

Build human and institutional capacity, provide data and statistics, promote digital inclusion and provide concentrated assistance to countries in special need

Objective 5:

Enhance environmental protection, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and disaster management efforts through telecommunication/ICTs

Outputs

1.1 WTDC

1.2 Regional Preparatory Meetings (RPMs)

1.3 Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG)

1.4 Study Groups

2.1 Policy and regulatory frameworks

2.2 Telecommunications/ICT networks, including conformance and interoperability and BSG

2.3 Innovation and Partnership

3.1 Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs

3.2 ICT applications and services

4.1 Capacity building

4.2 Telecommunication/ICT statistics

4.3 Digital inclusion of people with specific needs

4.4 Concentrated assistance to LDCs, SIDSs and LLDCs

5.1 ICTs and Climate change adaptation and Mitigation

5.2 Emergency telecommunications

Activities

Creation of tools and guidelines

Handling of special needs

Project management and coordination

Financial, operational and strategic planning, control and reporting

Database and web site management

Documentation (preparation, writing and editing)

Assisting members and related tasks

Research and analysis

Sharing information and related tasks

Preparation and delivery of training

Overview of ITU-D Strategic and Operational Plan Implementation

The following is a summary of results achieved, for the period January to March 2018, on the overall implementation of the five objectives of the ITU-D Strategic and Operational Plan.



ITU's duties and responsibilities in the Telecommunication development sphere are consolidated in the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D)



Five ITU-D Objectives

Objective 1

"Foster international cooperation on telecommunication/ICT development issues"

The results achieved during the period of January to March 2018 are as follows:

1.1 World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC)

The next World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) will be held in 2021. The final report of the World Telecommunication Development Conference 2017 (WTDC-17), convened in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 9 to 20 October 2017, has been made available.

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| WTDC | <i>Resolutions 1, 2, 5, 30, 33, 37, 50, 53, 59, 81, 82</i> |
| PP Resolutions | <i>PP Decisions 5, 13 PP Resolutions 25, 71, 72, 77, 111, 131, 133, 135, 139, 140, 151, 154, 165, 167</i> |
| Council | <i>Resolution 1372</i> |
| WSIS Action Line | <i>WSIS Action Lines C1 and C11</i> |
| Contributing to SDG Targets | <i>SDGs: 1, 3, (target 3.d), 5, 10, 16 (targets 16.5, 16.6, 16.8), 17 (targets 17.9, 17.16, 17.17, 17.18, 17.19)</i> |

1.2 Regional preparatory meetings (RPMs)

- The next Regional Preparatory Meetings (RPMs) will be held in 2020 and 2021.
- With the aim of facilitating implementation of regional initiatives, a series of the Regional Development Forums have been scheduled for the first half of 2018 as follows:
 - ITU Regional Development Forum for Africa will take place on 19-20 July 2018 in Accra, Ghana.
 - ITU Regional Development Forum for the Arab States was held in Algiers, Algeria from 12 - 13 February 2018
 - ITU Regional Development Forum for the Americas Region, took place on 25 May 2018 in Lima, Peru.
 - ITU Regional Development Forum for the Asia and the Pacific Region took place on 21-22 May 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand.

- ITU Regional Development Forum for CIS: Dates and place to be determined
- ITU Regional Development Forum for Europe took place on 11 June, 2018 in Prague, Czech Republic.

1.3 Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG)

The 23rd meeting of the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) will take place from 9 to 11 April 2018 at ITU headquarters in Geneva.

The 23rd meeting of TDAG will have a broad agenda as it will mark the first TDAG meeting after the World Telecommunication Development Conference 2017 (WTDC-17). In particular, this meeting will discuss the following topics:

- Outcomes of WTDC-17 and their implications on the work of ITU-D, including TDAG’s scope of work, collaboration with the other Sectors and financial implications of the regional initiatives approved by WTDC-17
- Implementation of the ITU-D Strategic Plan and Operational Plan 2017 and ITU-D four-year rolling Operational Plan 2019-2022
- ITU-D contribution to the implementation of the WSIS outcomes and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- ITU-D Study Group-related matters
- Regional Development Forums (RDFs)
- Major ITU-D events and initiatives, including Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR), capacity building activities, World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium (WTIS) and innovation
- Membership, partnership and private sector-related matters
- Calendar of ITU-D events.

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| <i>WTDC</i> | <i>Resolutions 1, 5, 17, 24, 30, 33, 37, 50, 59, 61, 81</i> |
| <i>PP Resolutions</i> | <i>PP Decisions 5, 13</i> <i>PP Resolutions 25, 71, 135, 140, 151, 154, 165, 166, 167</i> |
| <i>Council</i> | <i>Resolution 1372</i> |
| <i>WSIS Action Line</i> | <i>WSIS Action Lines C1 and C11</i> |
| <i>Contributing to SDG Targets</i> | <i>SDGs: 1, 3, (target 3.d), 5, 10, 16 (targets 16.5, 16.6, 16.8), 17 (targets 17.9, 17.16, 17.17, 17.18, 17.19)</i> |

1.4 Study Groups

- The ITU-D study groups prepared for the first Study Group 1 and 2 meetings for the new 2018-2021 study period. ITU-D Study Group 1 with its seven Questions will meet from 30 April to 4 May, and ITU-D Study Group 2 with its seven Questions from 7 to 11 May. The invitation to the meetings was sent out to the membership in December 2018 (Circular [BDT/IP/CSTG-02](#)), following an invitation to the membership to nominate rapporteurs and vice-rapporteurs for the new study Questions (Circular [BDT/IP/CSTG-01](#)). The main purpose of the 2018 Study Group 1 and 2 meetings is to launch the work on the study Questions, appoint rapporteurs and vice-rapporteurs for the 14 Questions, agree on work plans with responsibilities and prepare a preliminary draft overview and table of content of the foreseen deliverables. The planning of the meetings has progressed according to plans.

- The two ITU-D study groups agreed to proceed with implementation of the Council 2017 initiated pilot project for participation of SMEs in ITU study groups (Circular [BDT/IP/CSTG-03](#)). A number of SMEs have shown interest in the pilot project with the support of their Administrations. An assessment of the pilot is expected for the Plenipotentiary Conference.

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| <i>WTDC</i> | <i>Resolutions 1, 2, 5, 9, 17, 21, 30, 33, 50, 59, 61, 80, 81</i> |
| <i>ITU-D</i> | <i>Recommendations 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22</i> |
| <i>PP Resolutions</i> | <i>PP Decisions 5, 13 PP Resolutions 25, 71, 133, 135, 140, 154, 165, 166, 167</i> |
| <i>Council</i> | <i>Resolution 1372</i> |
| <i>WSIS Action Line</i> | <i>WSIS Action Lines C1 and C11</i> |
| <i>Contributing to SDG Targets</i> | <i>SDGs: 1 (target 1.b), 3 (target 3.d), 5, 10, 16 (targets 16.5, 16.6, 16.10), 17 (targets 17.9, 17.16, 17.17, 17.18)</i> |

Objective 2

“Foster an enabling environment for ICT development and foster the development of telecommunication/ ICT networks as well as relevant applications and services, including bridging the standardization gap”

The results achieved during the period of January to March 2018 are as follows:

2.1 Policy and regulatory frameworks

- ITU-D continues to provide high-quality data, research and analysis, and tools to support the ITU membership in defining, elaborating, implementing and reviewing transparent, coherent and forward-looking strategies, policy, legal and regulatory frameworks as well as in moving towards evidence-based decision-making. The annual ITU-D questionnaire to membership has been sent to gather information on [regulatory and policy issues](#) and [tariff policy issues](#). 2016 data has been published on the ICT Regulatory Tracker, and the 2017 data will be published shortly.
- ITU intersectoral web portals have been published on [International Mobile Roaming \(IMR\) Resources](#), Quality of Service, and the Digital Ecosystem to bring together regulatory resources and ITU activities on such issues as well as activities and initiatives by regulatory associations, regional and international organizations and other stakeholders. It also highlights key findings from ITU publications, studies, research, ITU Study Groups, and data and analysis from the ITU ICT Eye. ITU organized a successful Interactive Session for WSIS Action Line C6 (Enabling Environment) on Sharing Collaborative Regulatory Approaches for Digital Transformation, highlighting cooperation at the international, regional and national level, and sharing experiences, best practices and tools for digital transformation.
- ITU-D is implementing a 3-year project to harness the potential of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) to strengthen Digital Financial Services (DFS) and Digital Financial Inclusion (DFI) in China, Egypt and Mexico. Within this context, ITU-D raised awareness on the enabling environment for Financial Inclusion in Egypt and Mexico through the preparation of a draft country assessment report on Digital Financial Inclusion as part of the Financial Inclusion Global Initiative.

- ITU-D raised awareness on the enabling environment for Financial Inclusion in Sudan and Mongolia through the development of a study titled “Digital Financial Services and Digital Financial Inclusion Ecosystem in Mongolia” and “Digital Financial Services and Digital Financial Inclusion Ecosystem in Sudan”.
- Enabling environment for ICT development, regulation & policy for Caribbean countries, including Update of National ICT Plans, Update of Broadband Plans, bSmart Project and Accessibility & Affordability. The following activities were coordinated during the first months of 2018:
 - Under the HIPCAR project (Enhancing Competitiveness in the Caribbean through the Harmonization of ICT Policies, Legislation and Regulatory Procedures), Jamaica sought and received assistance from ITU to provide a sensitization workshop to introduce the HIPCAR methodology and the HIPCAR model text and to discuss the potential impact of the introduction of Privacy and Data Protection Legislation in Jamaica. Recommendations and amendments were prepared based on the outcomes of the workshop and consultation with the Ministry. A draft of the proposed legislation and Draft Data Protection Act were prepared. Since then a Data Protection Bill (DPB) was prepared and tabled in the Houses of Parliament. The DPB contemplates the establishment of an Office of the Information Commissioner (OIC) to be responsible of ensuring compliance with the Data Protection Act and the Access to Information Act. An ITU expert is currently working on the OIC.
 - A bSmart project is under preparation for ITU to assist the government of the Bahamas. Through this project ITU will provide technical support, advice and guidance to contribute to the country’s agenda; diversification, improvement of public services, enhanced security, enhancement of the tourism industry, developing an advanced ICT infrastructure and improve quality of life of the citizens. The project document is expected to be signed by all parties by September 2018.
 - Preparations are in progress by the ITU to provide support to Antigua and Barbuda in reviewing the Telecommunications Act and to identify priority supporting Regulations consistent with the Act.
- Final delivery and approval of product developed in the framework of a technical cooperation project to assist the Brazilian Regulatory body Anatel in the implementation of its strategic projects.
- Case Study on the evolution of ICTs considering the economic perspective and the policy and regulation environment is under preparation for Ecuador.
- E-Agriculture forum on developing an e-agriculture strategy for the Americas: A Regional Capacity Development Workshop on national e-Agriculture strategies in the Caribbean is in progress.
- Schools on Digital Policies: The School of Digital Policies is the result of ITU partnership with both the Getulio Vargas and Diplo Foundations. Its main objective is to deliver short training on the Internet, from the governance standpoint and emphasize the importance of promoting the democratization of ICT access by means of digital public policies. Content for the pilot project is under preparation.
- Regional Economic and Financial Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean countries: ITU is preparing details for the Regional Economic and Financial Event on Telecommunications/ ICTs to be held in September in Mexico.

- During the first months of 2018, preparations were launched for a research project on the behaviour and practices of successful principals in Caribbean schools and the implications of ICTs as they are considering and/or continuing the introduction of ICTs, security and learnings in the curriculum. The project is expected to begin in July 2018.

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| <i>WTDC</i> | <i>Resolutions 1, 9, 17, 21, 23, 30, 32, 43, 48, 62</i> |
| <i>PP Resolutions</i> | <i>PP Decisions 5, 13 PP Resolutions 25, 71, 102, 135, 138, 154, 165</i> |
| <i>WCIT</i> | <i>Resolution 3</i> |
| <i>WSIS Action Line</i> | <i>WSIS Action Lines C6 of the Geneva Plan of Action and §§ 112-119 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society</i> |
| <i>Contributing to SDG Targets</i> | <i>SDGs: 1 (targets 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.a, 1.b), 2 (targets 2.3, 2.4, 2.c), 3 (targets 3.8, 3.d), 4 (targets 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.7, 4.c), 5 (targets 5.1, 5.b), 7 (targets 7.a, 7.b), 8 (targets 8.2, 8.3, 8.9, 8.10), 9 (targets 9.1, 9.3, 9.5, 9.a, 9.c), 10 (targets 10.3, 10.c), 11 (target 11.1), 12 (targets 12.8, 12.b), 13 (target 13.3), 16 (targets 16.6, 16.7, 16.8, 16.10, 16.b), 17 (targets 17.6, 17.8, 17.9, 17.14, 17.16, 17.17)</i> |

2.2 Telecommunication/ICT networks, including conformance and interoperability and bridging the standardization gap

- Basic National Spectrum Management System is to assist developing countries to establish basic structure of spectrum management system. Currently, projects for Comoros, Bolivia and Kyrgyzstan are ongoing. The results of the assistance will be the workplan for countries for implementing/updating their spectrum management structures and activities.
- Further developments to Spectrum Management System for Developing Countries (SMS4DC) software is under upgrade process in two parts, administrative function and radio communication function. Installation USB is available now for replacing/adding to CD.
- More than 5 countries were assisted in operation and installation of the software and on higher resolution map.
- PIRRC (Pacific ICT Regulatory Resource Centre) organized SMS4DC training in Pacific area for more than 10 countries; content and experiences have been agreed/discussed.
- Caribbean Spectrum Management Task Force (31 January to 2 February 2018): around 30 participants from Caribbean countries provided contributions on the relevant reports of the Task Force (digital broadcasting transition, cross-border frequency coordination, emergency communication, spectrum pricing).
- IPv6 and IoT (Internet of Things) Expertise Center: The Project document signed with MUST (Malaysia University of Science and Technology) to assist developing countries
- Assistance to Member States is ongoing with the development of a Guide on the implementation of IoT in the Immigration processes for developing countries.
- Broadband Wireless Network for Djibouti completed for Phase 2 and the maintenance contract finalized and signed by Djibouti Telecom.
- Analyzing the new access technology "Li-Fi" (Light Fidelity / Optical access Technology) evaluated for developing countries in particular on GigaHotspots (out / in Door). Li-Fi uses visible light, Ultraviolet and Infrared: The spectrum is very large as compared to the entire radio frequency spectrum.

- ITU-D continues to implement and update the ITU Interactive Terrestrial Transmission Maps with information obtained from operators and public sources (<http://itu.int/go/Maps>). At the time of this reporting, the Map presents information from 392 operator networks and 19,963 nodes worldwide. The research on the transmission links has reached 13,038,382 km of routes, representing 3,235,879 km of networks imported to the Map.
- As the sole facilitator of WSIS Action Line C2, BDT is leading activities on Information and Communication Infrastructure focusing on the achievements of the SDG 9 (infrastructure, industry and innovation). During the WSIS Forum 2018, 3 presentations were delivered for the Action Line C2 Facilitation Meeting.
- Digital broadcasting transition: A digital switch-over database was updated based on information from around 10 countries (see <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Spectrum-Broadcasting/Pages/DSO/Default.aspx>).
- Training on Conformance and Interoperability (C&I) for the Americas Region. Coordination ongoing with countries of the Americas region to achieve a final design on the activity to be implemented.
- Study on “Interconnectivity & Reduction of telecommunication service prices and Internet access cost” for South America country/countries. Ongoing coordination with ASETA and beneficiary countries for the development of the study, which is focused on the sub-region of Andean countries: Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia. This study is meant to determine the situation of international interconnectivity and to describe the reasons for the internet access cost in the sub-region. Additionally, it will foster international interconnectivity between the countries.
- Support Surinam to define the National IXP model. This activity is organized with the Telecommunicatie Autoriteit Suriname (TAS). During the first three months of 2018, the study was coordinated with national stakeholders. In May 2018, there will be the first mission to Surinam to start the process. It is planned to have the study finalized by August 2018.
- Support on Cross Border frequency coordination for Central America & Caribbean countries. Preparations for the 3rd meeting on Frequency Coordination to take place in Panama during the 2nd quarter have been ongoing between ITU, CITEL, COMTELCA and CTU, while information gathering for the iterations and the questionnaire as well as the results associated have continued.
- Guidelines for transition from Analogue to Digital Broadcasting in Americas’ countries. Coordination started in the first months of 2018 with a potential beneficiary country.
- Cyber-security and Disaster Reduction Programme: Further to the post-implementation review of the project on National CIRT Establishment in Barbados, ITU was requested and has agreed to provide support and assistance with the continuation of the project towards full operationalization of the Barbados National CIRT. The assistance is expected to be completed by 30 December 2018.
- Fruitful discussion on opportunities, benefits and challenges of the Emerging Technologies in the development of the ICT applications and services and related regulation issues. An excellent exchange of opinions and feedback between more than 100 delegates coming from 13 countries, the speakers and the representatives of the local, regional and international companies took place during the Regional Workshop on Emerging Technologies, Algiers, Algeria, 14-15 February 2018.

- Raised awareness on spectrum policy, spectrum regulation, spectrum pricing methodologies and spectrum management for staff of Sudan’s National Telecom and Postal Regulatory Authority during a national training workshop organized in Khartoum 9-13 of March. The workshop also validated the spectrum-pricing framework.
- Provided platform for the Administrations, Regulators, Broadcasters, and Industry to look at the progress that has been made with the allocation of the 700 and 800MHz bands across the region and the band plans that are emerging, and then look at the picture in the wider UHF band (including 600MHz).
- Increased capacity and facilitated knowledge exchange in the CIS on Mobile Number Portability, Conformance and Interoperability Testing of Telecom Equipment at the ITU Regional Workshop, held on 1-2 March in Moscow (jointly with the Central Science Research Telecommunication Institute (ZNIIS)).
- Discussion paper on the Future of Cable TV has been developed, and the ITU Workshop on The Future of Cable TV was jointly organized by BDT and TSB on 24-25 January 2018 in Geneva, Switzerland.

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| <i>WTDC</i> | <i>Resolutions 1, 9, 10, 11, 13, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 30, 32, 35, 37, 39, 43, 47, 48, 50, 51, 52, 57, 62, 63, 77, Recommendations 17, 19, 22</i> |
| <i>PP Resolutions</i> | <i>PP Decisions 5, 13 PP Resolutions: 25, 71, 101, 123, 176, 177, 178, 203</i> |
| <i>WRC</i> | <i>Resolutions 12, 55, 212, 223, 224, 238, 908 Recommendations 207</i> |
| <i>WTSA</i> | <i>Resolutions 17, 20, 29, 44, 64, 72</i> |
| <i>WCIT</i> | <i>Resolution 5</i> |
| <i>WSIS Action Line</i> | <i>WSIS Action Lines C2, C3, C7 and C9 of the Geneva Plan of Action and the section “Financial mechanism for meeting the challenges of ICT for development” of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society</i> |
| <i>Contributing to SDG Targets</i> | <i>SDGs: 1 (targets 1.a, 1.4), 4 (targets 4.4, 4.6, 4.a, 4.c), 6 (targets 6.5, 6.a, 6.b), 7 (targets 7.1, 7.b), 8 (targets 8.2, 8.5), 9 (targets 9.1, 9.4, 9.5, 9.a, 9.b, 9.c), 11 (targets 11.1, 11.5, 11.a, 11.b), 17 (targets 17.3, 17.5)</i> |

2.3 Innovation and partnership

- Partnership and resource mobilization enhanced through direct contacts, networking, conference calls and meetings. Between 1st January and 31 March 2018, 5 new partnership agreements have been signed with the following breakdown:
 - Thematic: 2 on capacity building, and 1 each on ICT applications, on infrastructure, and on multi-thematic.
 - Beneficiary regions: 2 in Asia-Pacific and 1 in The Americas, Europe and Global
- Sponsorship Opportunities: Since January 2018, 3 sponsorship opportunities have been opened for Study Group meetings, ICT@SDGs: ITU-Academia Partnership Platform and GSR-17. They have been posted on the BDT interactive sponsorship opportunities platform/webpage launched in 2017.
- A special Innovation track was held at WSIS Forum in March 2018, with the aim to share global knowledge and opportunities on ways to accelerate digital transformation through Building Digital Innovation Ecosystems, in four focused sessions, with over 300 participants

and 39 expert speakers, including a high level panel, and keynote speakers from industry, bilateral and multilateral development agencies, entrepreneurs, innovation experts, etc.

- To accelerate digital transformation in ITU-D membership, technical assistance was provided to Serbia and Bosnia Herzegovina to assess their digital transformation capabilities. As a result, two publications co-created with the concerned countries were launched during WSIS: Digital innovation profiles for Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Serbia. Digital Innovation Profiles (DIP) are part of the BDT's new series of information and communication technology (ICT)-focused innovation ecosystem snapshots, which offer a quick assessment of the existing capacity to accelerate digital transformation and an overview of opportunities and challenges facing the countries' ecosystems. It helps countries accelerate digital entrepreneurship and its digital innovation ecosystem.
- Technical assistance provided to the Republic of Moldova was concluded with the launch of the publication on the ICT-centric innovation ecosystem country review Republic of Moldova. This publication offers a comprehensive analysis with recommendation on how Moldova can upgrade its ICT policies with innovation and digital entrepreneurship policies, and thus accelerating digital transformation.
- To share knowledge and enhance membership capabilities to accelerate digital transformation, a new publication on the Good practices for developing, driving and accelerating ICT-centric innovation ecosystems in Europe was launched at WSIS Forum. This regional report on innovation aims to provide an overview of the many good practices in Europe, covering startups, government, academia, financing entities and more, towards accelerating digital transformation, which may serve as a basis for better policies in countries where gaps have been identified.
- To accelerate capacity building initiatives on innovation, the publication, "Bridging the digital innovation divide: A toolkit for strengthening ICT-centric ecosystems", was made available in all six official United Nations languages. Thus, ITU-D membership can have access to information in all UN languages about ITU's a scalable and multi-stakeholder driven framework for assessing, making context specific guidelines and recommendations to foster digital entrepreneurship and ICT innovation ecosystems.
- WSIS Panel design and delivery: An insight into "ICT-centric economic growth, innovation and job creation" (19 March 2018) within WSIS session on "Building Vibrant ICT Centric Innovation Ecosystems". The event served as a platform to further promote ITU's book on ICT4SDGs, showcase examples of successful PPPs (Public Private Partnerships) and enhanced engagement of Academia in ITU's work.
- Conceptualization and kick-off implementation the [Partnership Platform on ICT@SDGs](#): ICT-enabled Economic Growth, Innovation and Job Creation for Sustainable Development in partnership with leading academicians, public and private sectors. The related event will be held at London School of Economics in London, UK, 22-23 May 2018). Assisted the Arab Incubators and Technoparks Network (ARTECNET) to reach an agreement on the following projects to be initiated in the Arab Region:
 - Training Project for Incubator managers and entrepreneurs
 - Soft-landing + Acceleration Program
 - ARTECNET Award for Entrepreneurship
 - Website Development and online platform for the ARTECNET network
- With the aim of building partnerships across UN in the implementation of the ICT4SDG projects, ITU contributed to the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for UN Economic

Commission for Europe Region, 1-3 June, Geneva, Switzerland, where more than 400 delegates were briefed and encouraged to build partnerships with ITU in the implementation of the projects in Europe.

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| <i>WTDC</i> | <i>Resolutions 1, 5, 30, 33, 50, 59, 71, 157</i> |
| <i>PP Resolutions</i> | <i>PP Decisions 5, 13 PP Resolutions: 25, 71, 72</i> |
| <i>WSIS Action Line</i> | <i>WSIS Action Lines 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 of the Geneva Plan of Action and the section "Financial mechanism for meeting the challenges of ICT for development" of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society</i> |
| <i>Contributing to SDG Targets</i> | <i>SDGs: 1 (targets 1.a; 1.b), 2 (targets 2.a, 2.c), 3, 4 (targets 4.a, 4.b, 4.3, 4.7), 5 (targets 5.b, 5.6), 8 (target 8.2, 8.3, 8.6, 8.10, 8.b), 9 (targets 9.5, 9.b, 9.c), 10, 11 (targets 11.1, 11.4), 12, 13 (target 13.3), 16, 17 (targets 17.1, 17.3, 17.9, 17.14, 17.16, 17.17)</i> |

Objective 3

"Enhance confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, and roll-out of relevant applications and services"

The results achieved during the period of January to March 2018 are as follows:

3.1 Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs

- A coordination meeting was held in Washington and hosted by the World Bank from 26 to 27 February 2018 in order to set up a road map to finalize the development of the national cyber strategy toolkit that will represent a single resource for any country to gain a clear understanding of the purpose and content of a national cybersecurity strategy and how to develop one. This project is a multistakeholder effort facilitated by ITU and in partnership with the CCI, CTO, GCSP, GCSCC University of Oxford, Deloitte, Microsoft, NATO CCDCOE, Potomac Institute, RAND Europe, UNCTAD and World Bank.
- On 8 March, BDT has launched the 3rd iteration of the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) aimed at measuring the commitment of Member States of the ITU to cybersecurity.
- From 14 to 16 March 2018 BDT has undertaken technical assessments to evaluate the preparedness for the establishment of Computer Incident Response Teams (CIRTs) for Kyrgyzstan and Malawi.
- On 15 March 2018, BDT conducted a high-level simulation of Cyber-related Crisis Scenarios for Top-level Government Officers and critical infrastructure Operators in Mauritius, the purpose of this simulation was to raise awareness among high-level decision makers and familiarize them with the challenges of dealing with cyber-related crisis scenarios that require their involvement.
- Conducted meetings with representatives from Naif Arab University for Security Sciences and the Academy of Scientific Research to discuss how to get the academia more involved with cybersecurity and how to develop and integrate academic courses/workshops/handbooks on cybersecurity in the academic programs of engineering and computer sciences faculties. This is to meet the expected results associated to the Arab regional Initiative on Confidence and Security in the Use of Telecommunications/ICTs. Concrete actions will be done in the near future.

- Provided assistance to the Administrations of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan in preparing data for the 3rd iteration of the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI).

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| <i>WTDC</i> | <i>Resolutions 1, 5, 9, 15, 30, 33, 37, 45, 50, 59, 64, 67, 69, 78, 79</i> |
| <i>PP Resolutions</i> | <i>PP Decisions 5, 13 PP Resolutions 25, 71, 72, 130, 179, 181</i> |
| <i>WTSA</i> | <i>Resolutions 50, 52, 58</i> |
| <i>WSIS Action Line</i> | <i>WSIS Action Lines C5</i> |
| <i>Contributing to SDG Targets</i> | <i>SDGs: 1, 3 (target 3.5), 4 (target 4.a), 5 (targets 5.2, 5.3, 5.b), 7, 8, 9, 10 (target 10.2), 11, 16, 17</i> |

3.2 ICT applications and services

- A #HackAgainstHunger was organized in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to identify and support innovative solutions, aiming at addressing challenges in regards of food and agriculture. It included 3 local hackathons in Rwanda (Kigali), and in the Caribbeans (one event in Jamaica and another one in Trinidad & Tobago), as well as a Special Track Hackathon in Geneva during the WSIS Forum 2018. 80 participants coming from 33 different countries forming 13 teams have competed to develop innovative digital services to end hunger. Three teams were awarded based on the feasibility and potential impact of their innovation.
- ITU co-organized the Mobile Learning Week 2018 with UNESCO that focused on the challenges and strategies to offer digital skills development opportunities for all. The annual gathering featured a symposium, workshops on innovative projects and policies, strategy labs, as well as a policy forum on national educational initiatives with ministers of education, technology and communications to prepare for the digital economy.
- A project on Digital Identity for Development was launched to assist countries, particularly low and middle income countries (LMICs), to deploy digital identity initiatives that can enable value-added services in most digital economy areas including financial services, health, agriculture, education, etc. The project will take stock of existing digital identity initiatives and develop implementation toolkit to provide a Roadmap to deploy digital identity for Foundational or Functional Identification.
- A special Track within the AI for Good Summit on using Artificial Intelligence applications as a potential game changer to achieve Universal Health Coverage is organized to identify quick-win areas and types of AI applications that hold high-potential impact on health outcomes. IT also deals with how to address bottlenecks and challenges that prevent society from taking full advantage of them.
- Preparations are under way for several events, including a Digital Health Hub at the Transform Africa Summit (8-9 May 2018), two regional Digital Health Workshops in Africa in Q2/3 in Francophone and Anglophone Africa, and the regional e-Agriculture Strategy Development Regional Workshop for the Caribbean (July 2018).
- M and e-health initiative in the Americas: Nicaragua has been identified as a common priority country for ITU and PAHO. ITU will offer Nicaragua to apply the e-Health kit jointly developed by WHO and ITU in 2012.

- Within CIS RI1, content for the specialized multimedia courses focusing on the use of ICTs in healthcare, including telemedicine and courses for IT specialists on the maintenance of medical information systems were developed (jointly with Odessa National Academy of Telecommunications, Ukraine).

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| <i>WTDC</i> | <i>Resolutions: 1, 5, 30, 54</i> |
| <i>PP Resolutions</i> | <i>PP Decisions 5, 13 PP Resolutions 25, 71, 72, 139, 140, 183, 202</i> |
| <i>WSIS Action Line</i> | <i>WSIS Action Lines C7 of the Geneva Plan of Action</i> |
| <i>Contributing to SDG Targets</i> | <i>SDGs: 2, 3, 4 (targets 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7), 6, 7, 8 (targets 8.1, 8.3, 8.8), 9 (targets 9.1, 9.b), 11</i> |

Objective 4

“Build human and institutional capacity, provide data and statistics, promote digital inclusion and provide concentrated assistance to countries in special need”

The results achieved during the period of January to March 2018 are as follows:

4.1 Capacity building

- The 6th meeting of the Group on Capacity Building Initiatives (GCBI) was held successfully from 27 to 28 February 2018. The meeting reviewed the strategic capacity building developments that have taken place in the past year, discussed the capacity building-related outcomes of WTDC-17 and provided guidance on the implementation of the recommendations.
- The Central Evaluation and Accreditation Agency (ZEVA), a member of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education, has awarded the Spectrum Management Training Programme (SMTP) its quality label for higher education and recognition of the SMTP modules as equivalent to Master’s degree modules. With this award, the SMTP can be aligned to Master’s degree programmes internationally, making it easier for Universities to adopt the programme.
- All modules that make the basic level certificate of the SMTP have been translated into Spanish.
- The capacity building session for WSIS AL C4 was successfully facilitated on 9 March, under the theme “Building ICT skills for social entrepreneurs”. The session featured speakers from ILO, government of Mexico and social entrepreneurs. About 50 participants attended the session.
- Co-organized the 2018 mobile learning week with UNESCO under the theme “Skills for a connected world”. The event was held in Paris during the week of the 26-30 March. Contributions relating to capacity building in the digital economy were made to a number of sessions during the event.
- The review of the operational processes and procedures (OPP) document of the Centres of Excellence network has been completed. The revised OPP document is now being translated into the six UN official languages.
- The Centres of Excellence network delivered 12 courses, training 583 participants since January 2018.

- 21 participants have been enrolled for the online master of communications management (eMCM) course between January and February 2018.
- On-line indigenous training course and material development for a Training Program for Indigenous Technicians for Community Networks. ITU experts are working on the instructional material of two courses, one to be delivered in 2018 and the other in 2019. Instructional material for the course on Communication Innovative Tools for the strengthening of indigenous communities is under analysis and will be soon approved. The 10-week course is planned to start in July 2018. The instructional material for a training on communication networks is under preparation – this training will be partially delivered online and it is foreseen to have a 2-week hands-on in-site training.
- Capacity building to support ITU members in the definition of global ICT policy & regulation and business & management of technical issues:
 - Online training courses were delivered within the ITU network of Centres of Excellence within the Americas Region in Communication protocols for IoTs and Satellite Communication. Training courses in the field of Optical Networks, Spectrum Management, cybersecurity and Climate Change are ongoing.
 - An online training course on Smart Sustainable Cities was launched and will be delivered through the ITU Academy platform. This is an ITU initiative implemented in partnership with CITEL/OAS.
 - An online training course on Consumer Protection is under preparation. It will be a self-paced training course to be delivered through the ITU Academy platform. This is a direct assistance requested by the Brazilian Administration (ANATEL).
- Participants from Arab region were trained on the proper design of FTTx point-to-point and point-to-multipoint passive optical networks (PON) with home-run, centralized, and distributed topologies in a regional CoE Face to Face Training on “FTTx Outside Plant Design” organized in Tunis, Tunisia, 12- 16 March 2018. The training was attended by 9 participants.

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| <i>WTDC</i> | <i>Resolutions 1, 5, 9, 15, 20, 21, 22, 30, 32, 33, 36, 40, 50, 59, 73, 77</i> |
| <i>PP Resolutions</i> | <i>PP Decisions 5, 13 PP Resolutions 25, 71, 72, 137, 139, 140, 176, 188, 189, 197, 199, 202</i> |
| <i>Council</i> | <i>Resolution 1143</i> |
| <i>WTSA</i> | <i>Resolutions 54, 59, 72</i> |
| <i>WSIS Action Line</i> | <i>Action Line C4 of the Geneva Plan of Action and §§ 8, 22, 23a, 26g, 49, 51, 65, 72h, 86, 87, 90c, d, f, 95, 114b of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society</i> |
| <i>Contributing to SDG Targets</i> | <i>SDGs: 1 (target 1.b), 2 (target 2.3), 3 (targets 3.7, 3.b, 3.d), 4 (targets 4.4, 4.7), 5 (targets 5.5, 5.b), 6 (target 6.a), 8 (Target 8.2), 9 (targets 9.1, 9.b, 9.c), 12 (targets 12.7, 12.8, 12.a, 12.b), 13 (targets 13.2, 13.3, 13.b), 14 (target 14.a), 16 (target 16.a), 17 (target 17.9, 17.18)</i> |

4.2 Telecommunication/ICT statistics

- BDT enhanced information and knowledge of policy-makers and other stakeholders on current telecommunication/ICT trends and developments based on high-quality, internationally comparable telecommunication/ICT statistics and data analysis via the latest edition of the ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database, which was released in January 2018. The data will enable users to take informed decisions in the field of ICT, based on internationally comparable statistics.

- BDT increased capacity and skills of producers of telecommunication/ICT statistics to carry out data collections at the national level based on international standards and methodologies via the regional Workshop on ICT Statistics for the CIS region held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, on 31 January – 1 February 2018. The workshop was organized jointly the ICT Data and Statistics Division and the ITU Area Office for CIS, in cooperation with the Ministry of Information and Communication of the Republic of Kazakhstan and with the support of the Committee on Statistics of the Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The meeting was attended by 79 participants, including representatives from Azerbaijan, Belarus, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Also representatives from RCC attended the meeting. Seven experts participated remotely, including representatives from Armenia, Moldova and Ukraine.
- BDT increased capacity and skills of producers of telecommunication/ICT statistics to carry out data collections at the national level based on international standards and methodologies via the following events:
 - Regional Workshop on ICT Statistics for the Asia-Pacific region held in Manila, Philippines, on 14-16 March 2018. The workshop was organized by the ITU and was hosted by the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) Philippines. It was attended by 91 participants from 10 countries representing national statistics offices, national regulatory authorities and ministries of Fiji, India, Iran, Malaysia, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vanuatu. Representatives from an operator from India also participated.
 - Regional Workshop on ICT Statistics for the Africa region held in Lilongwe, Malawi on 20-21 March 2018. The regional workshop was attended by 69 participants representing 24 countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC, Gambia, Ghana, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome e Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe) and the ITU. The workshop was attended by representatives of communication administrations, regulators, national statistical offices and other interested stakeholders of the countries of the region, who are responsible for collecting and producing ICT statistics. The workshop was organized jointly by the ICT Data and Statistics Division and the ITU Area Office for the Africa, in cooperation with the Ministry of Information and Communication Technologies and the National Statistical Office (NSO) of Malawi with the support of the Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority (MACRA).
 - National Workshop on ICT Statistics for Benin held in Lilongwe, Malawi on 22 March 2018. The telecommunication indicators collected by Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority (MACRA) from operators were discussed in details, focusing on those indicators where MACRA or the operators have difficulties complying with the methodologies. The IDI results for Malawi were presented, as well as measurement of a number of emerging areas, such as M2M subscription, cyber security, children online and E-waste.
 - Regional Workshop on ICT Statistics for the Arab States held in Manama, Bahrain on 26–27 March 2018. The workshop was organized jointly by the ICT Data and Statistics Division and the ITU Area Office for the Arab States, in cooperation with the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications of Bahrain. The meeting was attended by 27 participants representing eight countries (Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and the United Arab Emirates), as well as three regional telecommunication operators (Mobile Company, Saudi Telecom and Emirates Telecommunication Corporation – Etisalat).

- Preparations are ongoing in collaboration with ECTEL (Eastern Caribbean Telecommunications Authority) and host country for the Regional Regulations and Policy Forum on 5G, IoT, m-Payment, Emerging Technologies and Eco-Systems: ECTEL to be held on 22-26 October.
- Spectrum management and digital transition for Caribbean countries. ITU direct assistance to Guyana through its National Frequency Management Unit (NFMU) in assessing and reviewing its Spectrum Assignments as part of its reform process.
- Americas Regional Development Forum (RDF). Ongoing coordination for the AMS RDF, which will take place in Lima, Peru, on 25 May hosted by the Ministry of Transports and Communications.
- Regional Training Workshop for the Americas on ITU Information and Communication Technology ICT Indicators. ITU, in partnership with TELCOR (Nicaraguan Institute of Telecommunications and Postal Services), is in the preparatory stage of conducting a Regional Training Workshop on Information and Communication Technology Indicators to be held on the 5th and 6th of June 2018, in Managua, Nicaragua.
- Built the capacities of ICT Statistics focal points in the Arab region through the organization of an Arab Regional ICT Statistics Workshop 26-27 March 2018 in Manama, Bahrain.

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| <i>WTDC</i> | <i>Resolutions 1, 5, 8, 30, 33, 37, 43, 50, 51, 52, 57, 59, 60</i> |
| <i>PP Resolutions</i> | <i>PP Decisions 5, 13 PP Resolutions 25, 71, 72, 137, 139, 140, 176, 188, 189, 197, 199, 202</i> |
| <i>WSIS Action Line</i> | <i>Telecommunication/ICT statistics are relevant to the monitoring of the implementation of all WSIS Action Lines of the Geneva Plan of Action and are referred to in paragraphs 112-119 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, as well as paragraphs 70 of the Outcome Document of the High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Overall Review of the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes</i> |
| <i>Contributing to SDG Targets</i> | <i>Telecommunication/ICT statistics are relevant to the monitoring of the implementation of all SDGs and are referred to in paragraphs 48, 57, 74-76, 83 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</i> |

4.3 Digital inclusion of people with specific needs

- **Youth**
 - BDT shared innovative strategies with all ITU members on building their national digital skills development strategies by publishing the ITU Digital Skills Toolkit on the ITU Publications website at <https://www.itu.int/pub/D-PHCB>. Awareness on the Digital Skills Toolkit was shared with 530 ITU members and other stakeholders during the WSIS High Level Dialogue on Digital Skills on 21 March and at Mobile Learning Week in Paris on 26-30 March, jointly organized by ITU and UNESCO.
- **Gender**
 - Outreach was conducted with ITU members and other stakeholders to encourage them to organize Girls in ICT Day events as part of the 2018 International Girls in ICT Day Campaign. To incentivize more stakeholders to take action, BDT developed an online map where stakeholders can post information and pictures about their Girls in ICT Day events. BDT conducted a "Put yourself on the map" campaign that proved to be very successful in incentivizing organizers to share information about their activities.

- BDT also raised awareness among students at the Webster University, Geneva in support of International Girls in ICT Day and encouraged young girls during an event organized at Webster University on 6 March to take on a career in ICT during the ITU-D presentation on “Empowering girls through technologies.”
- Awareness was raised by developing and publishing ITU News stories and sharing them on the Girls in ICT Portal, reflecting actions that countries like Pakistan and Thailand are taking to train girls and young women with digital skills for their economic empowerment.
- **ICT accessibility**
 - Awareness was raised among over 50 UN representatives and relevant participants on ITU-D activities on ICT accessibility that could apply for persons with age-related disabilities during the seminar “Basics on ageism” organized by UN in cooperation with WHO and ILO on 30 January 2018.
 - At the UN-CRPD (Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) held in Geneva on 14 February, around 100 representatives from all UN agencies and related stakeholders, including disabled persons organizations, were informed on the activities and resources of BDT that contributed to the global implementation of ICT Accessibility under Article 9 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The Committee recognized that ICTs cross-cut through all articles of the Convention and that ITU is a key partner in the process of implementation of the Convention.
 - Over 50 ITU members and other stakeholders participating in the 23 March WSIS workshop, “Practical applications of ICTs supporting digital inclusion and access to information, services and livelihood for PwDs”, were made aware of BDT work and resources to support ITU membership in the implementation process of ICT accessibility in their respective countries and related businesses.
 - Awareness was raised among nearly 700 participants from over 70 countries on the importance of implementing ICT Accessibility and key resources developed by BDT during the ITU Forum on ICT Accessibility organized within the Zero Project Conference in Vienna (Austria) on 21-23 February. At the Forum, BDT also announced the First Joint ITU-EU Accessible Europe event to take place in December 2018 and positioned BDT as a key partner in the implementation process.
 - A self-paced training course on “Enabling communication to ALL through ICT Accessibility” was developed jointly with the EU and ITU Academy. Two additional training courses are being developed.
 - Five scripts for video tutorials on Accessible Documents (General introduction; Word, Pdf, Excel, and PP) were developed in Spanish.
 - Regional Workshop Accessible Americas V: ICTs for ALL. The regional event will take place in Jamaica in November 2018. Coordination with host country was conducted during the first months of 2018 to set the date and venue and establish minimum requirements to make this an accessible event for persons with disabilities. All parallel activities such as the ITU-SAMSUNG mobile application contest, the regional assessment on ICT accessibility and the manual of good practices were initialized and are currently ongoing.
 - Raised awareness on ICT Accessibility Policies for stakeholders in Sudan as part of the assistance to formulate the national ICT Accessibility Policy of Sudan.

- **Indigenous Peoples**
 - Development of a revised 6 week online training course on “Indigenous Radio/ Networks” which will be delivered in Q3.
 - Development of the Terms of Reference for a new blended training programme for Indigenous people (online and hands-on/face-to-face training), to build the capacity of Indigenous technicians to ensure the self-sustainability of indigenous community-related networks.
- **Digital Inclusion – general**
 - 67 digital inclusion programmes and practices were shared on the Digital Inclusion Newslog from January-March 2018, with 1,800 views of the newslog posts during this time period. Awareness was raised and these best practices shared among ITU members through the weekly publication of innovative digital inclusion practices and strategies on the ITU-D Digital Inclusion newslog at: <http://digitalinclusionnewslog.itu.int/>.
 - Raised awareness on ICT Accessibility Policies for stakeholders in Sudan as part of the assistance to formulate the national ICT Accessibility Policy of Sudan.

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| <i>WTDC</i> | <i>Resolutions 1, 5, 9, 11, 15, 20, 21, 22, 23, 30, 32, 55, 58, 68, 76, 77</i> |
| <i>PP Resolutions</i> | <i>PP Decisions 5, 13 PP Resolutions 25, 30, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37, 64, 70, 71, 131, 139, 140, 175, 184, 198, 202</i> |
| <i>WTSA</i> | <i>Resolutions 55, 69</i> |
| <i>WSIS Action Line</i> | <i>Action Lines C2, C4 and C7 and C8 of the Geneva Plan of Action and § 90 of Tunis Agenda for the Information Society</i> |
| <i>Contributing to SDG Targets</i> | <i>SDGs: 1 (targets 1.2, 1.4, 1.a, 1.b), 4 (targets 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.a, 4.b), 5 (5.1, 5.5, 5.b, 5.c), 8 (targets 8.2, 8.3, 8.5, 8.6, 8.10, 8.b), 9 (target 9.c), 10 (targets 10.2, 10.3), 11 (targets 11.2, 11.7, 11.c), 16 (target 16.b), 17 (targets 17.6, 17.7, 17.8, 17.17)</i> |

4.4 Concentrated assistance to LDCs, SIDS and LLDCs

- BDT improved the capacity of LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDS, shared guidelines and best practices, and provided policy guidance through the report on ICTs, LDCs, and the SDGs – Achieving Universal and Affordable Internet in the LDCs. The report, which was produced in cooperation with the UN Office of the High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLs), focuses on ICT infrastructure and affordability developments (SDG 9, Target 9c). It offers a new, three-dimensional framework which classifies LDCs into three categories based on their overall performance across the areas of access, affordability and skills. This will help countries identify areas that are most pressing and where to direct policy and scarce financial and human resources.
- BDT enhanced capacity and expertise in Bolivia and Paraguay, two landlocked developing countries, by sharing guidelines and best practices, and providing policy guidance, through two separate country case study, one on Bolivia and one on Paraguay: Landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) in the Americas: Connectivity challenges and opportunities”.
- To improve access to information and best practices and build capacity, BDT, together with UNCTAD and the e-Trade for All initiative, organized the thematic workshop on ICT access and use in the LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS – Opportunities for sustainable development and trade.

The event, which was organized during the WSIS-18 Forum, highlighted constraints faced by LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS, and provided insights on how to make effective use of ICTs to foster sustainable development.

- BDT build national expertise in Sudan by developing the country's new Spectrum Pricing Policy Framework, and by training 15 staff from the Telecom and Postal Regulatory Authority (TPRA) on this new framework.
- Developed a Spectrum Pricing Policy Framework for Sudan to optimize and standardize the use of spectrum as national scarce resources. The framework validated during a national training workshop for Sudan organized in Khartoum during 9-13 of March.

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| <i>WTDC</i> | <i>Resolutions 16, 17, 18, 21, 25, 26, 30, 33, 36, 37, 50, 51, 52, 53, 57, 60</i> |
| <i>PP Resolutions</i> | <i>PP Decisions 5, 13 PP Resolutions 25, 30, 32, 33, 34, 36, 70, 71, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 135, 159, 160, 161, 193, 202</i> |
| <i>WRC</i> | <i>Resolution 12</i> |
| <i>WCIT</i> | <i>Resolution 1</i> |
| <i>WSIS Action Line</i> | <i>Action lines C4 and C7 of the Geneva Plan of Action and §§ 9, 23, 26, 49, 59, 87 and 95 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society</i> |
| <i>Contributing to SDG Targets</i> | <i>SDGs: 1 (target 1.4), 3, 4 (targets 4.3, 4.5, 4.6, 4.a, 4.b), 5 (target 5.b), 6, 8 (target 8.5), 9 (targets 9.1, 9.2, 9.5, 9.a, 9.c), 10 (targets 10.2, 10.b), 11 (targets 11.1, 11.2, 11.7), 12 (target 12.b), 13 (target 13.b), 14, 15, 16, 17 (targets 17.7, 17.8, 17.9, 17.18)</i> |

Objective 5

"Enhance environmental protection, climate change adaptation and mitigation and disaster management efforts through telecommunication/ICTs"

The results achieved during the period of January to March 2018 are as follows:

5.1 ICTs and climate-change adaptation and mitigation

- BDT raised awareness about the global e-waste challenges and contributed to the monitoring of e-waste by publishing the Global E-waste Monitor 2017. This report, which was published together with the United Nations University (UNU) and the Solid Waste Association (ISWA) and as part of the Global E-waste Statistics Partnership, provides the most comprehensive overview of global e-waste statistics and an unprecedented level of detail, including data by country and regions.
- BDT build capacity on e-waste when it organized a one day training workshop on E-waste statistics, during the ITU Green Standards Week. The training, which was attended by 80 participants, was organized in collaboration with the Global Partnership on E-waste Statistics. It focused on providing an overview of the current statistics on e-waste and the methods of producing electronic waste statistics at a national level to help more countries generate e-waste data.
- BDT raised awareness about the global e-waste challenge and built synergies with UN and public sector partners when during the WSIS Forum 2018 it organized a high level dialogue session on "Building the E-waste Coalition. This event was organized as part of ITU's role in the Environmental Management Group (EMG) and together with UN Environment. A letter of

Intent was signed by all the Heads of the participating UN entities to consider concrete action and wide coordination and collaboration on tackling e-waste.

- BDT built capacity and raised awareness on the topic of climate change, disaster management and the role of ICTs by organizing a session on “E-Environment: Multi-hazard Early Warning Systems and the Role of ICTs”. This event, which took place during the World Summit on the Information Society Forum 2018, was organized jointly with WMO. It highlighted the critical role that ICTs play as an integral component of multi-hazard early warning systems (MHEWS) to monitor the environment and to effectively disseminate alerting messages of different type of hazards to those at risk.
- BDT is finalizing the development of the Handbook for the development of a policy framework on ICT/e-waste to help build capacity and guide countries in developing e-waste policies. This handbook will provide guidance on the key aspects to be taken into account when designing, implementing and improving a legal, regulatory and policy framework on ICT/e-waste. The proposed framework is intended to facilitate the management of ICT/e-waste based on the concepts of sustainable development, green ICT and the circular economy.
- BDT is finalizing the establishment of the e-waste pilot plan project that is jointly developed by BDT and Universidad Nacional de La Plata in Argentina. The project is in its final phase of implementation and the e-waste pilot plant will soon be operational.
- BDT is finalizing the development of a report on Successful Electronic Waste Management Initiatives that will provide information of different e-waste management initiatives in 6 different countries around the world.
- The ITU is preparing the details for an Emergency Telecommunications Workshop in Antigua. We are discussing details with the intended host country with a mid-August Date in mind. Also, under this Action ITU is undertaking a study, “Assessment of Emergency Telecommunication plans and systems in the Caribbean Region for broadcasters.” This is a follow up from the study done earlier for telecommunications in the region. All these will be congruent to the Emergency Telecommunications WINLINK Project which addresses in large measure, “The use of ICTs for emergency and disaster situations in the Americas region”.

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| <i>WTDC</i> | <i>Resolutions 17, 21, 30, 32, 37, 50, 52, 53, 66</i> |
| <i>PP Resolutions</i> | <i>PP Decisions 5, 13 PP Resolutions 25, 71, 182</i> |
| <i>WTSA</i> | <i>Resolution 73</i> |
| <i>WSIS Action Line</i> | <i>Action Line C7 (e-environment) of the Geneva Action Plan is closely linked to Output D.5.1</i> |
| <i>Contributing to SDG Targets</i> | <i>SDGs: 3 (target 3.9), 5 (target 5b), 9, 11 (targets 11b), 13 (targets 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3), 14, 15</i> |

5.2 Emergency Telecommunications

- BDT built disaster preparedness in Zambia by completing the implementation of two early warning systems (EWS) in Mbeta Island and Kasaya Village in Zambia. The systems will be used to provide early warnings to population on flooding and mudslides.
- BDT strengthened the ability of countries to coordinate disaster relieve efforts and cope with the immediate effects of disasters by providing emergency telecommunication equipment to Tonga and Papua New Guinea. Emergency disaster response to Tonga followed the

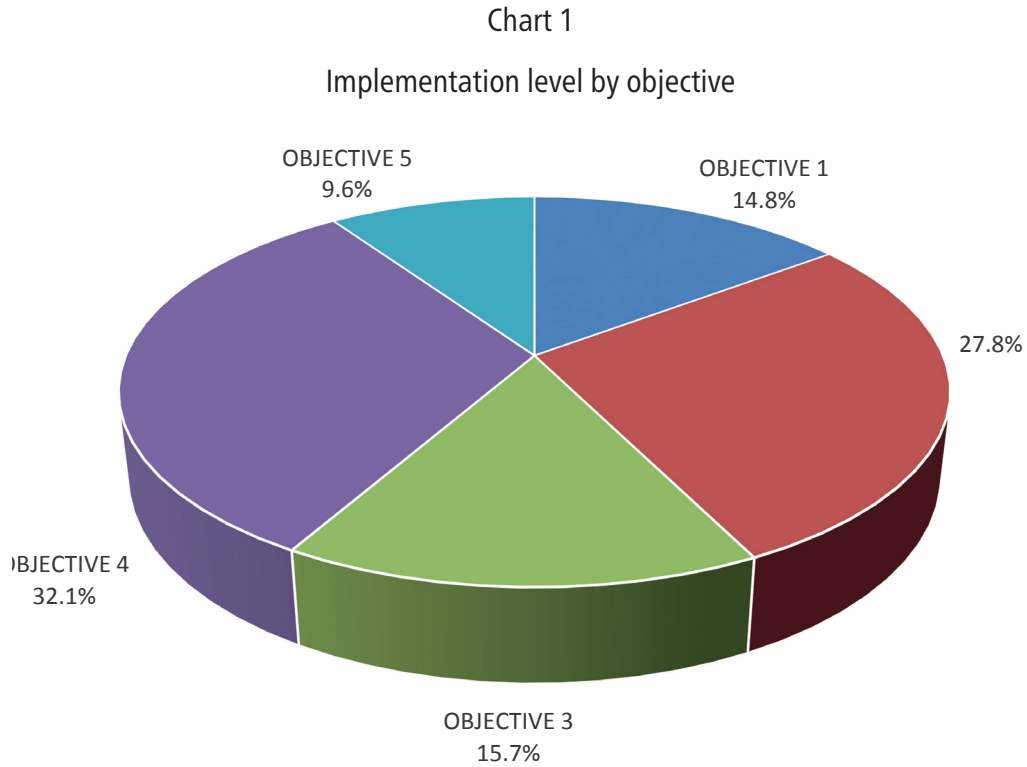
destruction caused by Tropical Cyclone Gita that hit the island in February. BDT also assisted Papua New Guinea after the devastation caused by a 7.5 magnitude earthquake that struck in February.

- BDT build capacity and raised awareness on the topic of climate change, disaster management and the role of ICTs by organizing a session on “E-Environment: Multi-hazard Early Warning Systems and the Role of ICTs”. This event, which took place during the World Summit on the Information Society Forum 2018, was organized jointly with WMO. It highlighted the critical role that ICTs play as an integral component of multi-hazard early warning systems (MHEWS) to monitor the environment and to effectively disseminate alerting messages of different type of hazards to those at risk. Participants had the opportunity to highlight some concrete solutions and discuss the importance of MHEWS checklist for a better collaboration among various stakeholders, including disaster risk management agencies, meteorological and geological services, ICT regulators, NGOs, UN entities and private ICT operators.
- BDT is increasing regional and national capacity by working on guidelines for the development of National Emergency Telecommunications Plans (NETP) to be shared with Member States as a guiding document for development and implementation of NETPs. BDT will also be providing technical assistance in the development of the NETPs.
- Emergency Communications for Central America countries, including communications equipment and the development of NEPTs. ITU is currently implementing the project “Proyecto piloto para el uso de las TIC para situaciones de emergencia y desastres en la región de las Américas” to assist and support Central American countries (Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua y and Panamá) in improving their capabilities of emergency telecommunications and to improve response to emergencies and disasters. In addition, the beneficiary countries will receive an emergency tool kit that will allow their integration into a regional network of emergency Winlink-based telecommunications. Winlink is a solution developed and administered by the radio amateur community. The technical specifications has been agreed with the cooperation of IARU and with the collaboration of COMTELCA. A similar project is being implemented to assist Caribbean countries.
- Emergency Telecommunication and climate change for Caribbean countries, including applications, equipment, early warning systems & e-waste activities. Ongoing coordination with host country for the organization of an Emergency Telecommunications Workshop in Antigua.
- ITU is undertaking a study, “Assessment of Emergency Telecommunication plans and systems in the Caribbean Region for broadcasters.” This is a follow up from the study done earlier for telecommunications in the region. All these activities are congruent to the Emergency Telecommunications WINLINK Project that is under implementation for the Caribbean (see above).

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| <i>WTDC</i> | <i>Resolutions 1, 5, 17, 21, 30, 32, 34, 37, 50, 52, 53, 69</i> |
| <i>PP Resolutions</i> | <i>PP Decisions 5, 13 PP Resolutions 25, 37, 71, 98, 136, 140, 182, 202</i> |
| <i>WRC</i> | <i>Resolutions 646, 647</i> |
| <i>WCIT</i> | <i>Resolution 2</i> |
| <i>WSIS Action Line</i> | <i>Action lines C7</i> |
| <i>Contributing to SDG Targets</i> | <i>SDGs: 3 (target 3.9), 5 (target 5b), 9, 11 (targets 11b), 13 (targets 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3), 14, 15</i> |

Implementation level by Objective (Result Based Management perspective*)

Chart 1 below provides a distribution of the actual use of the resources among the five objectives of the sector for the period of January to March 2018.



* Based on time allocation of staff members

Highlights of the operational plan implementation

This report highlights the results achieved as regards the implementation of the Operational Plan for the period 1 January to 31 March 2018 for the Telecommunication Development Sector. It also provides information by objectives and regions.

Overall implementation level



The operational plan framework provides a thorough view of the implementation level of the different objectives, outputs and actions



As at 31 March 2018, out of a total of 243 actions planned for 2018: 5

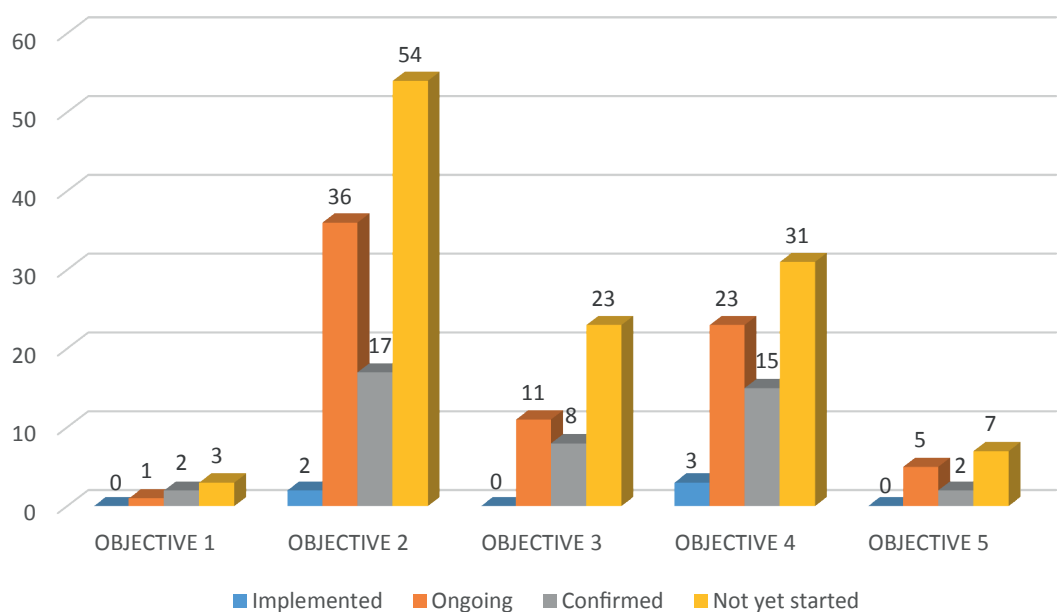
- 5 have been implemented
- 76 are ongoing (the activities have started and funds may have been activated)
- 44 are confirmed (the exact dates of the activities are known and funds may have been activated)
- 118 have not yet started (the budget has been approved but no date has been planned for the activities and no funds have been activated)

Implementation level by objective

Chart 1 below highlights, in terms of number, the status of actions (implemented, ongoing, confirmed, not yet started) by objective for period 1 January to 31 March 2018.

Chart 1

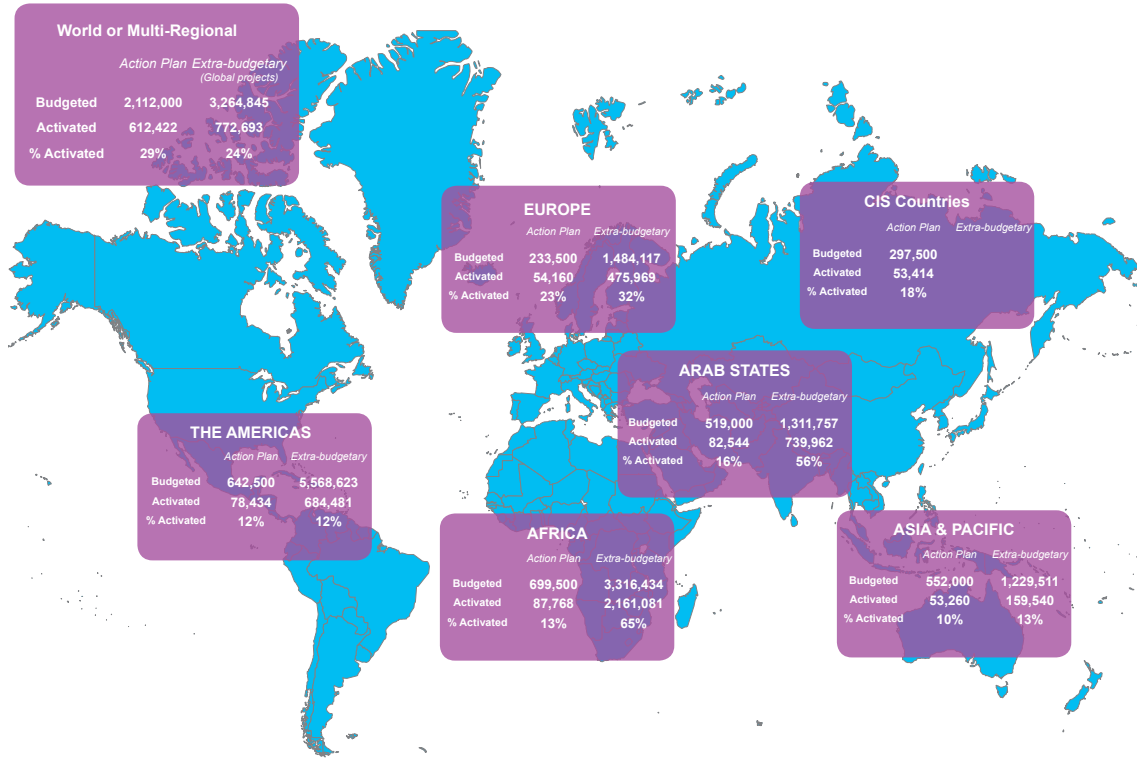
Status of actions by objective



Budget implementation level by regions (in Swiss francs)

Chart 2 below highlights the expenditure level by regions for the period of January to March 2018.

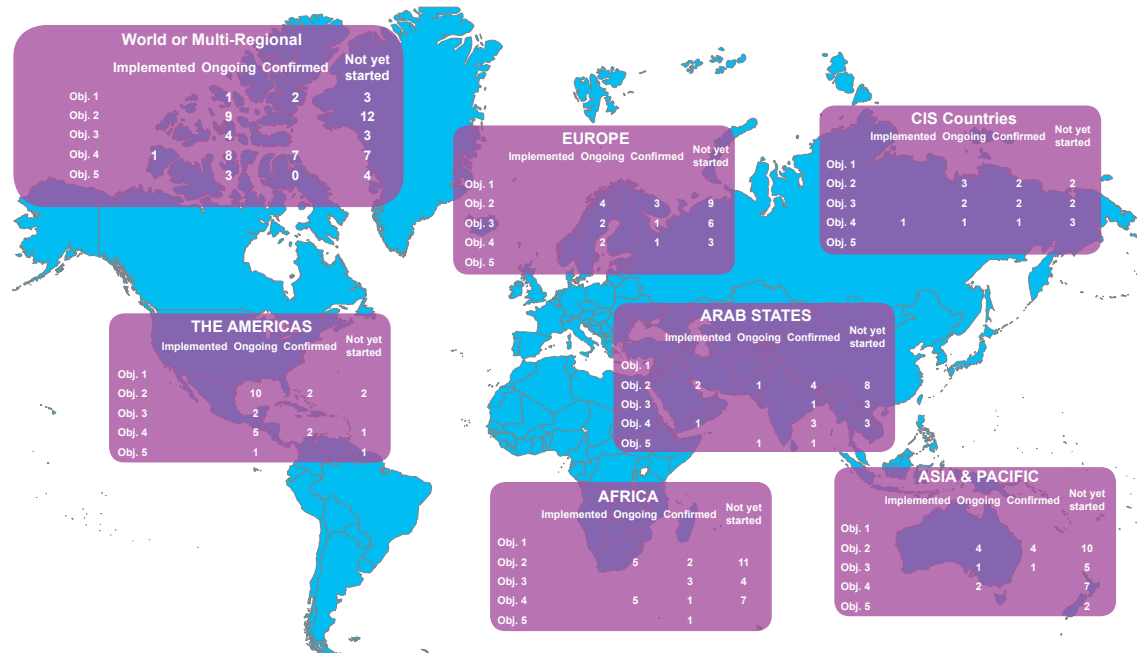
Chart 2



Implementation level by objectives and regions (number of actions)

Chart 3 below shows, in terms of number, the implementation level of actions by objectives and regions for the period of January to March 2018

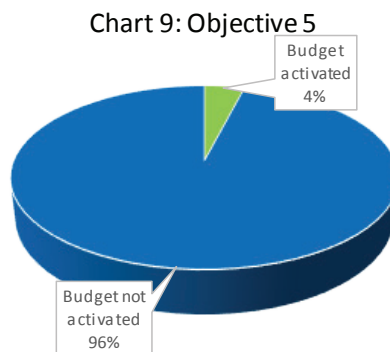
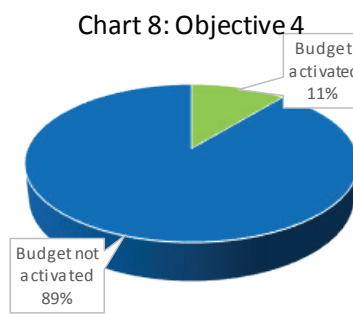
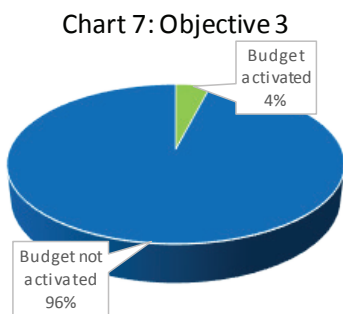
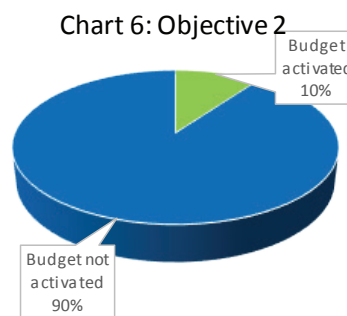
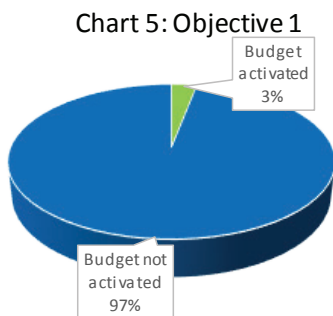
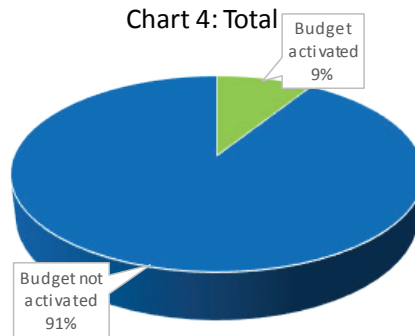
Chart 3



Budget implementation level by objectives

Chart 4 shows the global budget implementation level and charts 5 to 9 highlight the budget activated¹ for each objective to the end of March 2018.

Chart 4



¹ Budget activated: Amount of the budget of the action which has been committed and/or spent.

Highlights of the financial plan implementation

This report highlights the expenditure level as at 31 March 2018 for the Telecommunication Development Sector, including the Bureau (BDT). It also provides information by objectives and outputs.

Result-based budget statement by objectives

Table 1 below provides the expenditure level by objectives in a Result Based Budget perspective as at 31 March 2018.



The financial framework within which ITU-D operates requires rigorous forecast and management of the resources available



Table 1
(in thousands of Swiss francs)

| Strategic objectives | Budget | Actual | Balance | Level of implementation 03/2018 |
|---|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Objectives of ITU-D | | | | |
| D-1 Foster international cooperation on telecommunication/ICT development issues | 4,120 | 774 | 3,346 | 18.8% |
| D-2 Foster an enabling environment for ICT development and foster the development of | 7,738 | 1,624 | 6,114 | 21.0% |
| D-3 Enhance confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs, and roll-out of relevant applications and services | 4,370 | 838 | 3,532 | 19.2% |
| D-4 Build human and institutional capacity, provide data and statistics, promote digital inclusion and provide concentrated assistance to countries in special need | 8,935 | 1,823 | 7,112 | 20.4% |
| D-5 Enhance environmental protection, climate-change mitigation and adaptation, and disaster-management efforts | 2,672 | 509 | 2,163 | 19.0% |
| Costs of ITU-D Strategic Goal | 27,835 | 5,568 | 22,267 | 20.0% |

Financial statement for the Telecommunication Development Sector

Table 2 below shows by section the ITU-D expenditures as at 31 March 2018. As at 31 March 2018, expenditures amounted to CHF 5.6 million or 22.3 % of the ITU-D budget for 2018.

Table 2
(in thousands of Swiss francs)

| | | Budget | Expenditures as at 31/03/2018 | Balance | Level of implementation |
|--------------|--|---------------|-------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Section 5 | Telecommunication Development Advisory Group | 107 | 13 | 94 | 12.1% |
| Section 6 | Study Group | 349 | 0 | 349 | 0.0% |
| Section 7 | Activities and programmes | 4,600 | 412 | 4,188 | 9.0% |
| Section 9 | Bureau | 22,779 | 5,143 | 17,636 | 22.6% |
| TOTAL | | 27,835 | 5,568 | 22,267 | 20.0% |

Financial statement by objectives and outputs

Table 3 below shows the expenditures by ITU-D objectives and outputs as at 31 March 2018.

Table 3
(in thousands of Swiss francs)

| | | Budget | Expenditures | Balance | Level of implementation 03/2018 | Level of implementation 03/2017 |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Objective 1 | Foster Int. cooperation on Tel./ICT Dev. Issues | | | | | |
| | WTDC | | | | n/a | 3.8% |
| | RPM | | | | n/a | 81.7% |
| | TDAG | 107 | 13 | 94 | 12.1% | 0.0% |
| | STG | 349 | 0 | 349 | 0.0% | 53.6% |
| | Subtotal Objective 1 | 456 | 13 | 443 | 2.9% | 26.7% |
| Objective 2 | Foster an enabling env. for ICT dev. | 1,899 | 194 | 1,705 | 10.2% | 14.1% |
| Objective 3 | Enhance confidence and security | 788 | 31 | 757 | 3.9% | 7.6% |
| Objective 4 | institutional capacity | 1,553 | 172 | 1,381 | 11.1% | 12.2% |
| Objective 5 | protection, climate-change | 360 | 15 | 345 | 4.2% | 5.9% |
| Activities and prog. | Subtotal Objective 2 to 5 | 4,600 | 412 | 4,188 | 9.0% | 11.9% |
| Total ITU-D activities | Objective 1 to 5 | 5,056 | 425 | 4,631 | 8.4% | 16.2% |

Financial statement for the Telecommunication Development Bureau

Table 4 below highlights by category of expenditure the expenditures for the Telecommunications Development Bureau as at 31 March 2018. As at 31 March 2018, expenditures amounted to CHF 5.1 million or 22.6% of the Bureau budget.

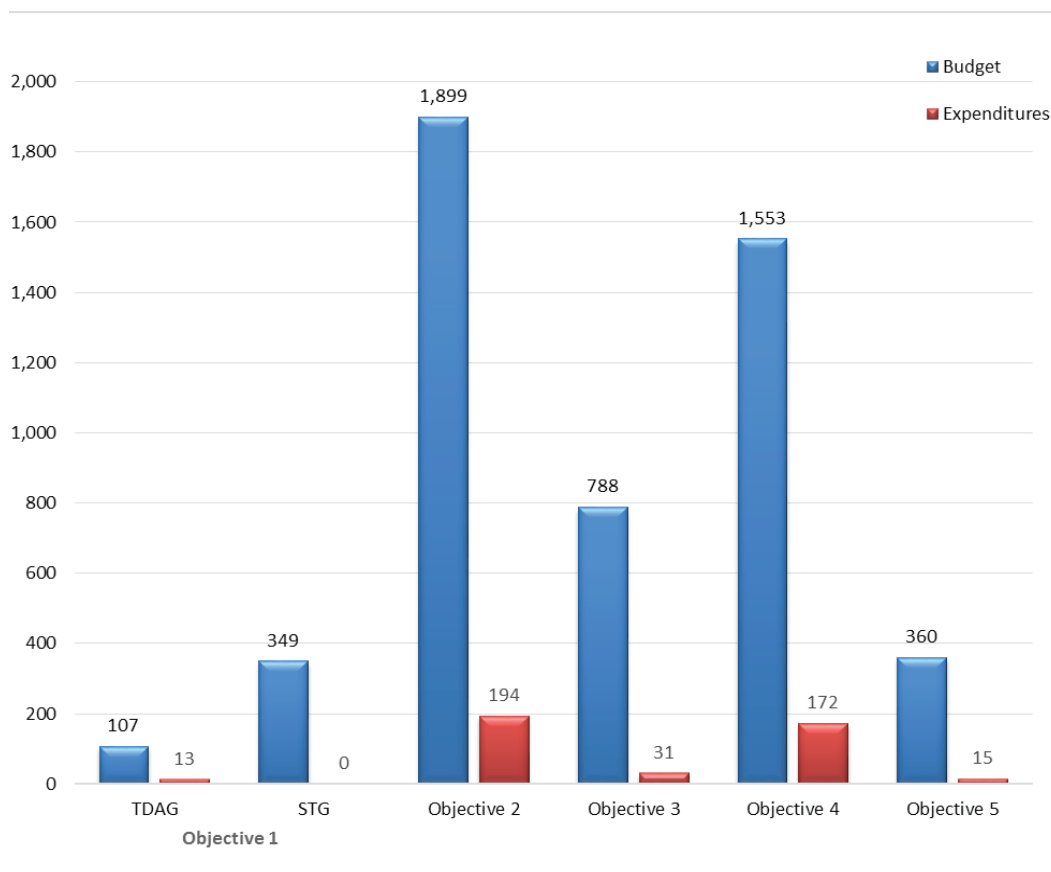
Table 4
(in thousands of Swiss francs)

| | Budget | Expenditures | Balance | Level of implementation 03/2018 | Level of implementation 03/2017 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>Categories</i> | | | | | |
| 1 Staff costs | 16,300 | 3,854 | 12,446 | 23.6% | 24.1% |
| 2 Other-staff costs | 5,366 | 1,013 | 4,353 | 18.9% | 21.1% |
| 3 Mission expenses | 450 | 192 | 258 | 42.7% | 12.8% |
| 4 Contractual serv. | 119 | 39 | 80 | 32.8% | 7.3% |
| 5 Rental & mainten. | 69 | 5 | 64 | 7.2% | 7.4% |
| 6 Purchase of equipmnt | 78 | 5 | 73 | 6.4% | 22.2% |
| 7 Acquisition, furnit. | 144 | 9 | 135 | 6.3% | 4.9% |
| 8 Utilities & services | 144 | 18 | 126 | 12.5% | 19.2% |
| 9 Auditing, inter-agenc. | 109 | 8 | 101 | 7.3% | 25.3% |
| TOTAL | 22,779 | 5,143 | 17,636 | 22.6% | 22.7% |

Level of implementation by objectives

The chart below shows the budget and expenditures for ITU-D activities by objectives as at the end of March 2018.

(in thousands of Swiss francs)



From Strategy to Execution

The progressive improvements of the Union's budgetary and financial structure reached a significant turning point with the introduction of the result-based budgeting and result based management.

In addition, the introduction of the re-structured operational plan of the Telecommunication Development Sector enhanced the integration between strategic planning, operational planning and financial planning.

The primary purpose of this performance report is to provide a quarterly assessment of the implementation of the BDT strategic, financial and operational plans using several facets and dimensions.

This report provides an assessment of the implementation of the strategic, operational and financial plan.

Strategic

The quarterly assessment of the strategic plan implementation provides a means for monitoring the implementation of the mission, objectives, outputs and priorities of the Telecommunication Development Sector.

Operational

The quarterly review of the operational plan puts emphasis on the outputs of the Sector as well as on the actions and activities undertaken by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) in connection with the implementation of these outputs.

It provides information regarding the implementation level of the outputs and actions as well as other pertinent operational data.

Financial

The financial quarterly reports highlight the financial elements of both the strategic and the operational plan.

It provides an overview of the budgetary performance for the period as well as the annual year end expenditure forecast which in turn may allow management to adjust its plans in order to achieve optimal budget performance and implementation of activities.

