

ITU-D activities related to human exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF)

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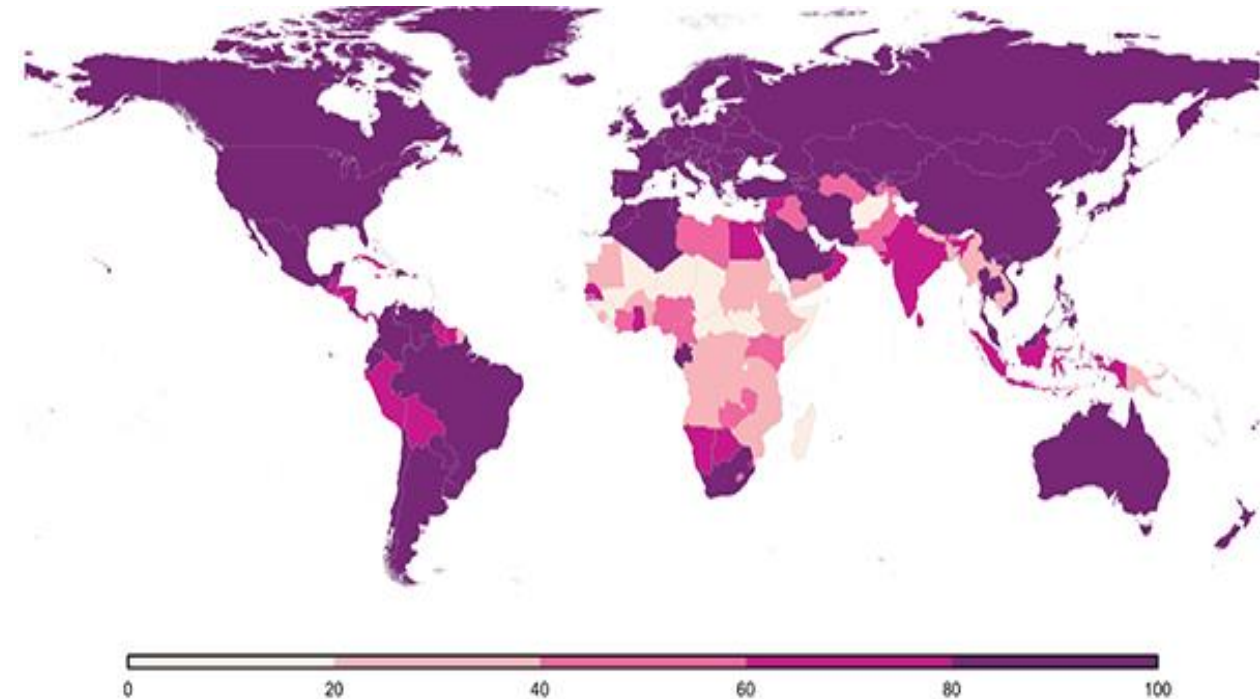
8th Green Standards Week, 9-12 April 2018

The ICT revolution

Proportion of youth (15-24) using the Internet, 2017*

By end 2017, it is estimated that they are;

- 7.74 billion people (more than 100 per cent of the global population own a mobile phone)- including cases of multiple ownerships
- ~95 per cent of the global population) live in an area that is covered by a mobile-cellular network
- ~ 4.2 billion mobile broadband users,
- More than half of them coming from the developing world
- Youth



Source: ITU, *The World in 2017: ICT Facts and Figures*
www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/statistics

The issue...

The electromagnetic fields
are unknown and
undetectable for people...

Lack of regulation
and/or
non-compliance...

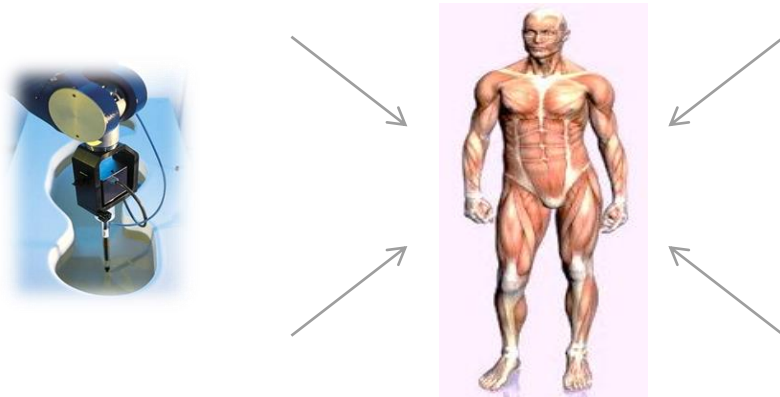
Lack of
communication and
information to citizens...

It can generate a lack of trust, which may become fear...

Regulation of non-ionizing radiations

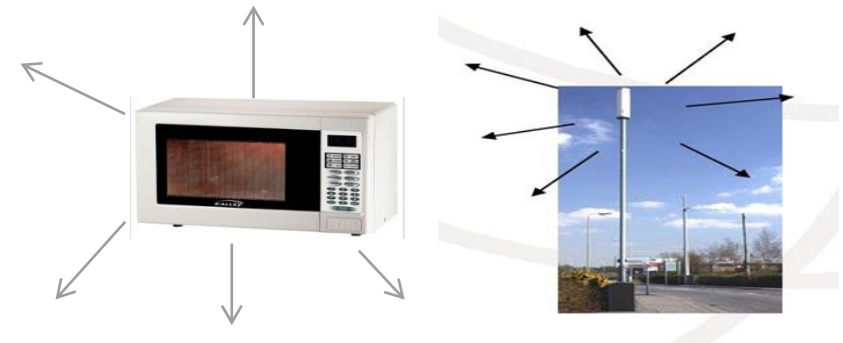
Exposure standards:

Specifications that limit the exposure of people to the Electromagnetic fields (EMF)



Emission standards:

Specifications that limit the emission of electromagnetic fields (EMF) from the devices



Global standards can help facilitate compliance with international standards, strengthen collaboration among stakeholders, ensure transparency, and promote communication with citizens.

Mandate

- Resolution 176 (Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, on human exposure to and measurement of electromagnetic fields (EMF)
 - Resolution 62 (Rev. Buenos Aires, WTDC 2017); Assessment and measurement of human exposure to electromagnetic fields
- ITU Strategic Plan/WTDC Obj. 2- Modern and secure telecommunication/ICT infrastructure: Foster the development of infrastructure and services, including building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs.

About ITU-D Study Groups

ITU-D study groups provide an opportunity for the membership to share experiences, present ideas, exchange views, and achieve consensus on strategies to address telecommunication/ICT priorities.

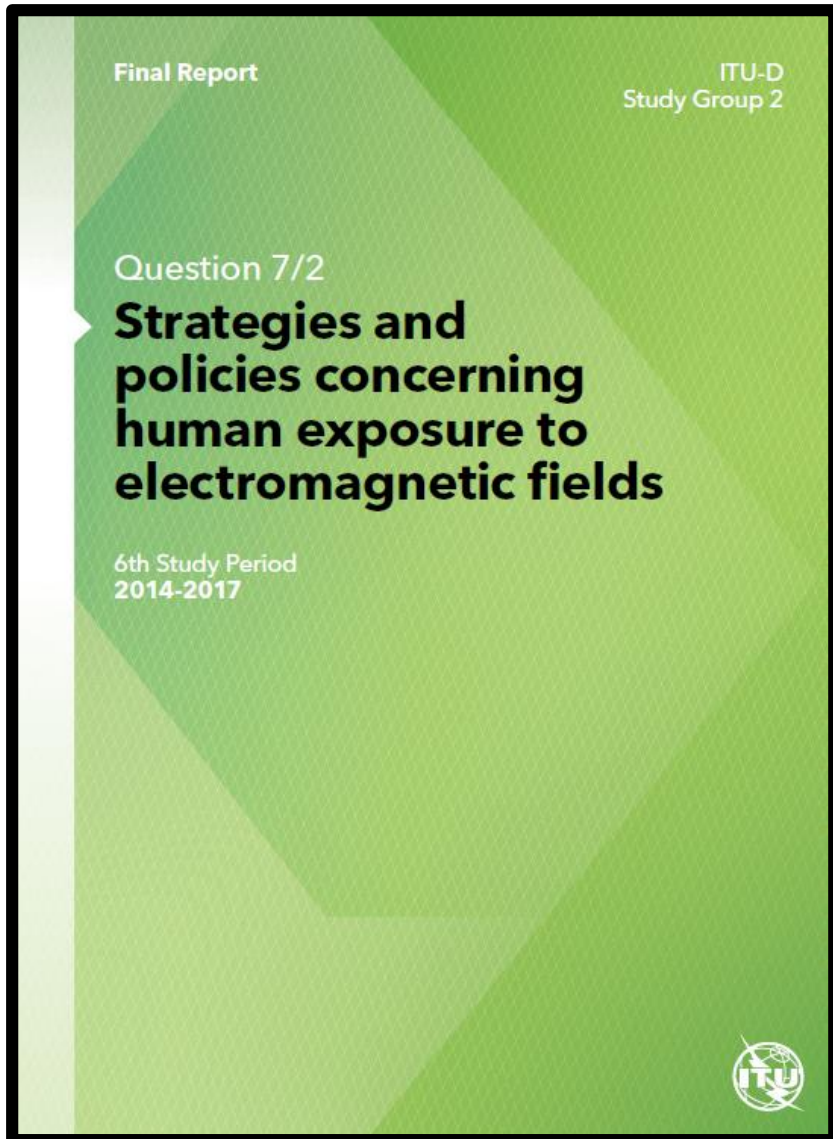
Main services:

- **Knowledge platform:** Study Group outputs serve as guidance for the implementation of policies, strategies, projects and specific telecommunication/ICT initiatives in Member States and assist in strengthening the shared knowledge base.
- **Information exchange:** Sharing and exchanging information on topics of common interest and dedicated topics of interest (study Questions) through face-to-face meetings, multilingual remote participation, online collaborative sites, etc. among members with the leadership of appointed chairmen, vice-chairmen, rapporteurs and vice-rapporteurs.

Key deliverables:

- **Reports, Guidelines, Best Practices and Recommendations** based on input gathered through contributions, case studies and surveys, which are made available to the membership through content management systems and web publication tools.

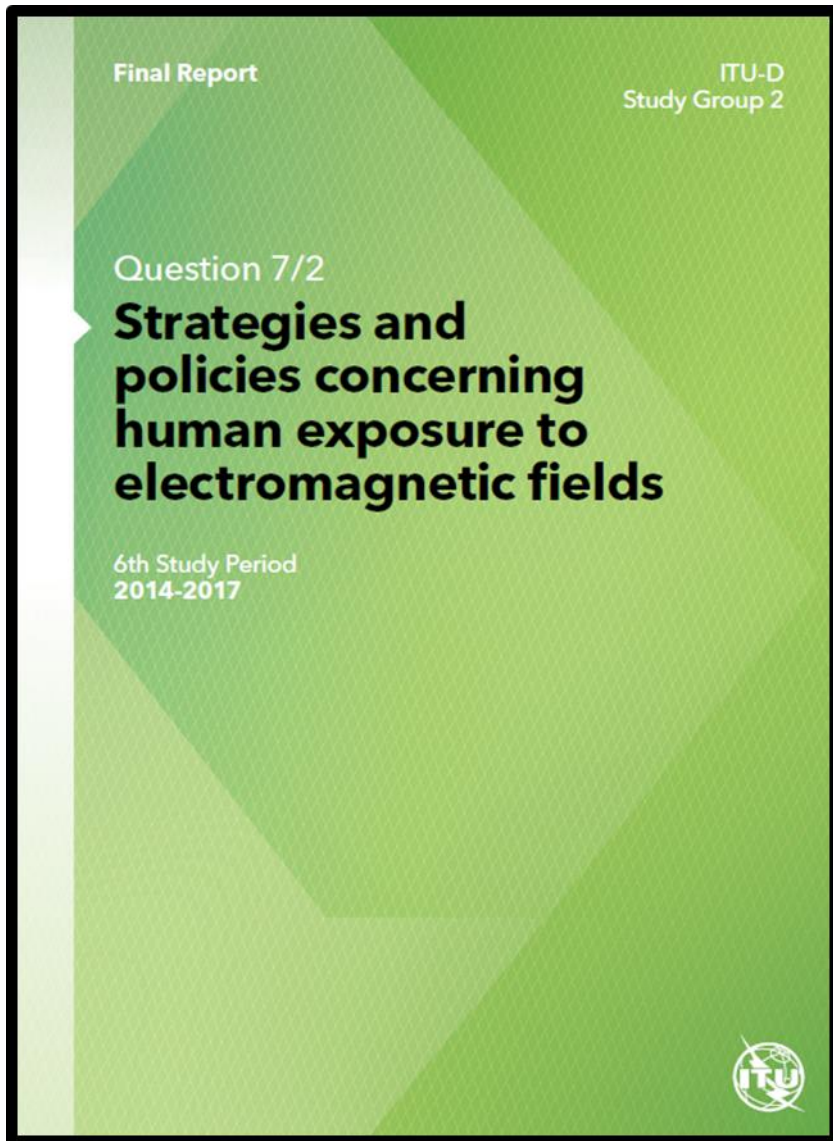
ITU-D Study Group reports for the 2014-17 study period related to EMF



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This **Question 7/2 report** collects and disseminates information concerning exposure to Radio Frequency (RF) and Electromagnetic Fields (EMF), in order to assist national Administrations, particularly in developing countries, to develop appropriate national regulations. The report is useful for Administrations, in order to listen and respond to the concerns of the public related to radiating antennas.



Content of the Report;

- Review of mandate and relevant ITU Resolutions
- EMF works within the ITU
- International EMF activities and exposure limits (WHO, ICNIRP 1998 Guideline)
- Regional, national and comparative exposure limits
- Case studies based on responses received to SG2/Q7 survey
- Comparison of exposure limits
- Field-strength around transmitters
- Stakeholder responsibilities and national practices
 - Roles for national authorities
 - National practices in some countries
 - Policies to limit human exposure to radiofrequency fields
 - Policies to reduce human exposure
 - Mitigation techniques to decrease the radiofrequency exposure level

ITU-D Study Group 1 and 2 : Questions under study (2018-2021)



WTDC-17 Question 7/2 on
Strategies and policies concerning human exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF) will work to:

- Compile and analyze regulatory policies concerning human exposure to EMF.
- Describe strategies for increasing knowledge/awareness of EMF.
- Propose guidelines and best practices, etc..

SG2: ICT services and applications for the promotion of sustainable development

| Study Question | Relevant SDG WSIS Action Line |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Q1/2: Creating smart cities and society: Employing ICTs for sustainable social and economic development | |
| Q2/2: Telecommunications/ICTs for e-health | |
| Q3/2: Securing information and communication networks: Best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity | |
| Q4/2: Assistance to developing countries for implementing conformance and interoperability (C&I) programmes and combating counterfeit ICT equipment and theft of mobile devices | |
| Q5/2: Utilizing telecommunications/ICTs for disaster risk reduction and management | |
| Q6/2: ICT and the environment | |
| Q7/2: Strategies and policies concerning human exposure to electromagnetic fields | |

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ITU-D study groups assist Member States in achieving their SDG targets and development goals

Major milestones for the 2018-21 study period

| Main meetings | | Main deliverables and progress reports |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| First SG1 and SG2 meetings | 30 April – 11 May 2018 | Appoint management team members, identify experts, distribute tasks, agree on work plans and methods of action, review initial contributions, reply to liaison statements received. Ensure that the team has a good understanding of tools and working methods to conduct the work. |
| Rapporteur Group meetings | September/ October 2018 | Review tables of content for Question deliverables, call for and review of detailed contributions, draft surveys. Case studies on the topics under study are appreciated. Prepare output reports to be put forward for approval at the annual meetings. |
| Second SG1 and SG2 meetings | March 2019 | Present progress reports, approve tables of content, first outline of report, approve and launch of surveys (if applicable). Annual progress reports and approval of annual deliverables and reports. |
| Rapporteur Group meetings | September/ October 2019 | Review contributions and input received through surveys, etc., chapter specific drafting/brainstorming groups. Case studies on the topics under study are appreciated. Prepare output reports to be put forward for approval at the annual meetings. |
| Third SG1 and SG2 meetings | February 2020 | Present progress reports, review draft reports, guidelines, Recommendations, identify/ discuss next steps to complete work on time and how to overcome challenges encountered. Initial discussion on future study Questions. Annual progress reports and approval of annual deliverables and reports. |
| Rapporteur Group meetings | September/ October 2020 | Finalize reports, finalize draft guidelines and Recommendations, propose/discuss possible study topics for the next period. |
| Fourth SG1 and SG2 meetings | March 2021 | Fine-tune and approve reports, guidelines and Recommendations. Propose/discuss possible study topics for the next period. Agreement on deliverables to WTDC-21. |
| WTDC | Q4 2021 | Study Group 1 and 2 Chairmen present results and deliverables to WTDC. |

- The SG1/SG2 Chairmen report annually to TDAG on progress made.
- Thematic workshops, courses and seminars are to be held throughout the study period in Geneva and **the regions based on proposals received.**

Additional Activities 2018-2020

Capacity Development

- Thematic workshops
- Courses
- seminars

To be held throughout the study period in Geneva and the regions based on proposals and requests received from Member states

Regional Offices

- Technical assistance to be extended to Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and or individual member states in developing Regional/national frameworks and guidelines for EMF

ITU-D Study Groups: Contact details

**More information on the ITU-D Study Groups
can be found at:**

www.itu.int/ITU-D/study-groups/

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More information on ITU Regional Offices can be found at:

<https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Africa/Pages/default.aspx>

<https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/ArabStates/Pages/default.aspx>

We look forward to hearing from you!