



2026 ITU Regional Development Forum for Africa (RDF-AFR)

*Universal, meaningful, and affordable connectivity for
an inclusive and sustainable digital future*

25-26 May 2026

Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Event website: <http://itu.int/go/RDF-AFR-26>

CONTRIBUTION FORM

This form is intended to collect inputs from stakeholders contributing to the implementation of the Baku Action Plan and the ITU Regional Initiatives for Africa (2026–2029)

ORGANIZATION: General Authority for Communications and Informatics (GACI), Libya

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TITLE: Strengthening National Cybersecurity Resilience through AI-Driven Capacity Building and Infrastructure Protection (2026-2029)

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION:

This contribution proposes the development of a comprehensive regional framework aimed at enhancing national and sub-regional cybersecurity resilience, in alignment with the ITU Regional Initiative AFR3. The proposed approach supports coordinated action between 2026 and 2029 through a structured cooperation model addressing institutional capacity development, digital trust, consumer protection, and inclusive adoption of emerging technologies.

Across Africa, digital transformation is progressing rapidly as countries expand connectivity, deploy digital government services, and explore opportunities offered by artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies. While these developments foster innovation and economic growth, they also introduce evolving policy, regulatory, and institutional challenges related to cybersecurity resilience, consumer protection, and equitable access to digital services.

Many administrations share similar needs in strengthening institutional preparedness, enhancing technical competencies, and fostering trusted digital environments capable of supporting sustainable development. Addressing these challenges increasingly requires cooperative approaches that enable countries to exchange experiences, align practices, and jointly develop solutions adapted to regional realities.

In this context, a collaborative regional framework is envisioned to support African countries in advancing digital trust, reinforcing capacity development efforts, and promoting inclusive digital transformation. Rather than relying on isolated initiatives, the approach emphasizes structured regional cooperation, peer learning, and the progressive development of practical tools adaptable at national levels.

The initiative aims to assist administrations and stakeholders in enhancing policy readiness for artificial intelligence and digital technologies while reinforcing user confidence in digital ecosystems. Attention is given to consumer empowerment, accessibility of ICT and telecommunication services, and the integration

of inclusive design principles to ensure that digital transformation benefits all communities, including persons with disabilities and underserved populations.

The framework would facilitate knowledge exchange, institutional collaboration, and coordinated capacity-building activities among participating countries. Through voluntary cooperation and shared contributions, administrations may collectively develop guidance materials, implementation experiences, and capacity-development resources addressing emerging technology governance, cybersecurity awareness, and trusted digital service delivery.

Initial activities may include consultations, collection of national experiences, and collaborative identification of common priorities, followed by pilot cooperation initiatives among interested partners. Over time, these efforts could evolve into a sustainable regional cooperation mechanism supporting continuous learning while complementing existing international digital development programmes.

This collaborative effort aligns with global digital development objectives and ongoing international discussions on inclusive digital transformation, emerging technology governance, and trusted digital ecosystems. By fostering cooperation, strengthening institutional capacities, and encouraging shared ownership of outcomes, the initiative seeks to contribute to a resilient and people-centred digital future across Africa.

Administrations, sector members, and partners are invited to participate in this cooperative effort and contribute their experiences and perspectives toward shaping a practical and inclusive regional approach supporting secure, trusted, and accessible digital transformation.

COUNTRIES in FOCUS: Libya, Egypt, Tunisia, and Sudan

YEARS of IMPLEMENTATION: [Tick the relevant boxes]

☒ 2026

☒ 2027

☒ 2028

☒ 2029

RELEVANT ITU REGIONAL INITIATIVE: [Tick the relevant boxes]

☐ AFR1: Resilient digital infrastructure and universal, meaningful and affordable connectivity for sustainable development

☐ AFR2: Developing an inclusive, trustworthy artificial intelligence ecosystem in Africa for socio-economic development

☒ AFR3: Building trust, safety and security in the use of telecommunications/ information and communication technologies

☐ AFR4: Development of digital applications, micro, small and medium enterprises and digital innovation ecosystems

☐ AFR5: Sustainable funding mechanisms for Africa's digital transformation

Please find more information on the ITU Regional Initiatives 2026-2029, as defined by WTDC-25, [here](#).

RELATED ITU-D PRIORITIES AS DEFINED BY THE ITU WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE 2025 [Tick the relevant boxes]

☐ Affordable connectivity

☒ Digital Transformation

☒ Enabling policy and regulatory environment

- ☐ Resource mobilization and international cooperation
- ☒ Inclusive and secure telecommunications/ICTs for sustainable development

Please find more information on the ITU-D Priorities, as defined by WTDC-25, [here](#).

RELATED PARTNER2CONNECT FOCUS AREAS [Tick the relevant boxes]

- ☐ Focus Area 1 – ACCESS: Connecting people everywhere
- ☒ Focus Area 2 – ADOPTION: Empowering communities
- ☒ Focus Area 3 – VALUE CREATION: Building digital ecosystems
- ☒ Focus Area 4 – ACCELERATE: Incentivizing investments

Please find more information on the Partner2Connect Focus Areas Action Framework [here](#).

RELATED WSIS ACTION LINE: [Tick the relevant boxes]

- ☐ C1: The role of governments and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development
- ☐ C2: Information and communication infrastructure
- ☐ C3: Access to information and knowledge
- ☒ C4: Capacity building
- ☒ C5: Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs
- ☒ C6: Enabling environment
- ☐ C7: ICT applications
- ☐ C8: Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content
- ☐ C9: Media
- ☐ C10: Ethical dimensions the Information Society
- ☒ C11: International and regional cooperation

RELATED GLOBAL DIGITAL COMPACT: [Tick the relevant boxes]

- ☐ 1: Close all digital divides and accelerate progress across the Sustainable Development Goals
- ☐ 2: Expand inclusion in and benefits from the digital economy for all
- ☒ 3: Foster an inclusive, open, safe and secure digital space that respects, protects and promote human rights
- ☐ 4: Advance responsible, equitable and interoperable data governance approaches
- ☒ 5: Enhance international governance of artificial intelligence for the benefit of humanity

RELATED SDG: [Tick the relevant boxes]

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ SDG 1: No Poverty | ☒ SDG 4: Quality Education |
| ☐ SDG 2: Zero Hunger | ☐ SDG 5: Gender Equality |
| ☐ SDG 3: Good Health and Well- being | ☐ SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation |

☐ SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

☐ SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

☒ SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

☐ SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

☐ SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

☐ SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

☐ SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

☐ SDG 13: Climate Action

☐ SDG 14: Life Below Water

☐ SDG 15: Life on Land

☒ SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

☒ SDG 17: Partnerships for the SDGs