



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: Lenovo EMEA

FOCAL POINT: Gianluca Diana, Senior Manager Government Relations EMEA, gdiana@lenovo.com, +32471873101

TITLE: Strengthening Digital Inclusion in Africa Through Device Reuse, Skills Development, and Community Partnerships

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION:

Lenovo proposes a multi-country initiative to support digital inclusion across Africa by expanding device reuse, strengthening digital literacy, and deepening community partnerships. This action builds on Lenovo's ongoing work in Africa and aligns with the strategic priorities set by Lenovo's new Executive Vice President for the Middle East & Africa, who has emphasized inclusive access, sustainability, and regional collaboration.

The initiative focuses on three non-financial, high-impact pillars:

1. Scaling Device Reuse and Refurbishment Lenovo will work with local NGOs, schools, and community organizations to expand the reuse of end-of-lease and underutilized Lenovo devices. These devices will be securely refurbished and redistributed to educational and community settings. This approach extends device lifecycles, reduces e-waste, and increases access to reliable technology for underserved groups, particularly youth and women.

2. Supporting Digital Literacy Through Local Capacity Building Lenovo will provide technical guidance and training-of-trainers (ToT) modules to local partners. These modules will use open educational resources and focus on: Basic digital skills, Safe and responsible device use; Introductory maintenance and troubleshooting, Practical digital tools for education and employability.

Training will be delivered through local institutions to ensure sustainability and cultural relevance.

3. Knowledge Sharing and Community Engagement Lenovo will convene regional roundtables and virtual sessions with ministries, NGOs, and community leaders to exchange best practices on digital inclusion, device lifecycle management, and community-led innovation. These engagements will support the Baku Action Plan's emphasis on collaboration and capacity building.

This action does **not** involve financial contributions, infrastructure investments, or commercial commitments. It leverages Lenovo's existing expertise, partnerships, and sustainability programs already active in Africa —

including device donations, refurbishment collaborations, and digital literacy support in countries such as South Africa, Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana, and Uganda.

By expanding access to devices, strengthening local skills, and promoting sustainable technology use, this initiative contributes directly to universal, meaningful, and affordable connectivity across Africa and supports the ITU Regional Initiatives for 2026–2029.

COUNTRIES in FOCUS: Kenya, Nigeria, Egypt, Ghana, Morocco, Uganda (Additional countries may be included based on ITU and government priorities.)

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]

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| ☐ SDG 1: No Poverty | ☐ SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities |
| ☐ SDG 2: Zero Hunger | ☒ SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities |
| ☐ SDG 3: Good Health and Well- being | ☐ SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities |
| ☒ SDG 4: Quality Education | ☒ SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production |
| ☒ SDG 5: Gender Equality | ☐ SDG 13: Climate Action |
| ☐ SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation | ☐ SDG 14: Life Below Water |
| ☐ SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy | ☐ SDG 15: Life on Land |
| ☒ SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth | ☐ SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions |
| ☒ SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure | ☒ SDG 17: Partnerships for the SDGs |