

ITU Regional Development Forum for Americas (RDF-AMS) 2026

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

16-17 June 2026
Cartagena de Indias, Colombia

Meeting organized by the International Telecommunication Union in cooperation with and hosted by the Communications Regulation Commission of Colombia.

RDF-AMS 2026 is held back-to-back with the ITU Regional Workshop on Regulatory Innovation and Sandbox.

PROGRAMME

DAY 1

Tuesday, 16 June 2026

8:00 - 9:00

Registration

9:00 - 10:00

OPENING CEREMONY

- **Mr Felipe Diaz**, Commissioner and Executive Director at Communications Regulation Commission (CRC)
- **Mr Oscar Leon**, Secretary General of CITELE
- **H.E. Ms Patricia Perdomo**, Vice Minister of ICT of Colombia
- **Dr Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava**, Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau

Appointment of the Chair of the ITU Regional Development Forum for Americas: Mr Felipe Diaz, Commissioner and Director of CRC



**10:00 - 10:45**

Official Photo
Networking Coffee

10:45- 11:45

ROUNDTABLE ONE: State of Digital Development and Trends - Challenges and opportunities.

Setting the stage and Moderation: Mr. Bruno Ramos, Regional Director of the ITU Regional Office for Americas

- **Mr Javier Gutierrez**, Communications Commissioner, CRC, Colombia
- **H.E Mr Andrés Ehrler**, Minister of Tourism, Honduras
- **Mr Dean Molina**, Public Utilities Commission (PUC) of Belize
- **Ms Maryleana Mendez**, Secretary General of ASIET
- **Mr Alkin Saucedo**, National Director of Telecommunications of ASEP, Panama
- **Mr Sergio Sotomayor**, General Director National Agency of Spectrum ANE, Colombia

11:45- 12:00

Special Announcement: Collaboration Protocol ITU-COMTELCA

12:00 - 14:00**Lunch**

ROUNDTABLE TWO: Building upon the outcomes of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-25) in Americas Region

Setting the stage and Moderation: Mr Miguel Alcaine, ITU Representative for Central America

14:00- 15:30

- **Mr Nicolás Silva Cortés**, Deputy Director National Agency of Spectrum Colombia (TBC)
- **Mr Luis Soto**, Coordinator National Plan of Connectivity of Guatemala
- **Mr Cesar Caceres**, Commissioner, National Commission of Telecommunication, Honduras (CONATEL)
- **Mr Edwin Castillo**, Deputy National Director of Telecommunication, ASEP, Panama
- **H.E Mr Dominic Smith**, Minister of Public Administration and Artificial Intelligence of Trinidad and Tobago
- **Ms Ledenika Mendez**, Commissioner of the Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (CRT) of Mexico

15:30- 16:00

Networking Coffee

16:00-17:15

ROUNDTABLE THREE: Roundtable on the implementation of the ITU Regional Initiatives (RIs) for the Americas

Moderation and setting the context: Mr Sergio Scarabino, ITU Representative for South America

Presentation on the implementation of RIs

- **Mr Oscar Leon**, Secretary General of CITEL
- **Mr Rodney Taylor**, Secretary General of CTU
- **Ms Angeles Ayala**, Executive Secretary of COMTELCA
- **Ms Julissa Cruz**, Director of Digital Infrastructure / Latin America Development Bank CAF
- **Mr Christian Oflaherty**, Vice-president, ISOC
- **Mr Mark Reynolds**, Board of Directors Member of CANTO

18:00 - 20:00

Cocktail offered by Government of Colombia



Note: The programme will be updated as additional contributions and confirmations are received.

DAY 2

Wednesday 17 June 2026

ROUNDTABLE FOUR: P2C Matchmaking/ Regional Initiative contributions

This round table will continue the presentation of the countries' contributions to the fulfilment of the ITU's regional initiatives in the Americas.

Presentation: **Smart Villages. By Atsuko Okuda, Regional Director ITU Asia Pacific**

Moderation: **Ms Angeles Ayala**, Executive Secretary COMTELCA, introducing the contributions by Member States.

8:30- 9:30

- **Ms Maria José Franco**, Advisor International Telecommunication Policies DINATEL MIEM ,Uruguay;
- **Mr Matteo Banti**, Head of Cooperation of European Union Delegation for Costa Rica, Panama, and Central America
- **Mr Daniel Araujo**, Chief of Cabinet ANATEL Brasil
- **Ms Christa Medford**, Universal Service Fund Administrator, NTRC Grenada
- **Ms Leidy Guillen Cordero**, Public Policy Manager MICITT Costa Rica
- **Manuel Reyes Valdez**, Chief of Spectrum SIT Guatemala

ROUNDTABLE FIVE: P2C Matching the countries and regional needs with the stakeholders' interests to support digital development across the Americas

9:30- 10:30

This roundtable will serve as a dynamic platform to facilitate meaningful collaboration and strategic partnerships aimed at skills development across the Americas Region.

Presentation: **Partner2Connect, by Paul Demba, Project Manager BDT, ITU**



Moderation and setting the context: Mr Cleveland Thomas,
ITU Representative for the Caribbean

- **Mr German Dario Arias**, Senior Director Regulation and Government SBA
- **Mr Cesar Diaz**, Telecommunications Affairs Lead of LACNIC
- **Mr Alberto Menguini**, Head of Cooperation European Union in Colombia
- **Ms Cristina Cardenas**, Director of Government Affairs, Coursera/Udemy
- **Mr Antonio Pulido**, Head of Social Advocacy and Public Policy, Fundación Cibervoluntarios

10:30- 11:00

Networking Coffee

ROUNDTABLE SIX: Governance and enabling regulatory frameworks for sustainable digital transformation

Moderation and setting the context: Ms Claudia Bustamante
Commissioner, Communication Regulation Commission of Colombia

11:00 - 12:00

- **Ms Mariana Gomez**, Executive Director of OMR (Regulatory Improvement Organization of El Salvador).
- **Mr Juan José Pimiento**, Director Emerging Technologies of SENACYT, Panama
- **Mr Dustin Santos**, Director of Regulation CONATEL, Honduras
- **Mr Jose Gutierrez Salazar**, Senior Director of Legal and Regulatory, Liberty
- **Ms Mercedes Aramendia**, Executive Director, Dig.ia-lac

12:00- 14:00

Lunch

Special Session: Regulatory Experimentation Pilots:

14:00 - 15:30

This interactive and dynamic session will present the proposals for the Regulatory Experimentation Pilot Project in Central America and the Dominican Republic within the framework of the Project implemented by the ITU and supported by the European Union (5 minutes per intervention). During this session the document: “Designing Regulatory Experimentation: A Practical Guide for the Public Sector” will be presented



Opening remarks: Dr Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava, Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau

Remarks European Union: H.E Mr Francois Roudie, Ambassador of the European Union in Colombia

Moderation: Carlos Lugo Silva, ITU Regional Office for Americas

Roundtable 1:

- **Mr Luis Scheker**, Regulation Director, INDOTEL, Dominican Republic
- **Mr Leo Van Troi Mercedes**, Director of Institutional Relations OGTIC Dominican Republic
- **Mr Alkin Saucedo**, Telecommunication Director of ASEP, Panama
- **Mr Juan José Pimiento**, Emerging Technologies Director, SENACYT, Panama
- **Mr Carlos Victor Hugo Alvarado**, Advisor, Superintendency of Telecommunications (SIT), Guatemala
- **Mr Cesar Caceres**, Commissioner of CONATEL, Honduras

Roundtable 2: Moderator, Willy Carvajal, Regional Officer European Union Delegation, Costa Rica

- **Mr Abraham Teck**, Director of Regulation at PUC, Belize
- **Ms Deryahn Munoz**, Representative, SUTEL Costa Rica
- **Mr Alvaro Calderon**, Chief of Engineering and Management of Spectrum, SIGET, El Salvador
- **Ms Mariana Gomez**, Executive Director OMR, El Salvador
- **H.E. Mr Andrés Ehrler**, Minister of Tourism, Honduras

CLOSING CEREMONY

15:30 – 16:00

- **Mr. Felipe Diaz**, Commissioner and Director of CRC (Chairman of RDF)
- **Ms Patricia Perdomo**, Vice Minister ICT of Colombia
- **Dr Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava**, Director of the ITU's Telecommunication Development Bureau



Thursday, 18 June 2026

- **REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON REGULATORY INNOVATION**
- **SANDBOX**
- *Advisory Committee Project on Regulatory Innovation for Central America and Dominican Republic*

8:00 - 9:00	Registration
9:00 - 9:30	OPENING CEREMONY - Mr Felipe Diaz, Commissioner and Director of CRC - Mr Matteo Banti, Head of Cooperation of European Union Delegation for Costa Rica, Panama, and Central America - Dr Bruno Ramos, Regional Director ITU for The Americas Moderator: Mr Carlos Lugo Silva, ITU Regional Office for The Americas Workshop, certified by ITU Academy

9:30- 11:00 **Keynote Speech:** Impact of Regulatory Experimentation Mechanisms on Entrepreneurship and Innovation
Professor Christian Fieseler PhD.



11:00- 12:30

INTERACTIVE PANEL: Advancing regulatory innovation for the Americas

Moderator: Carlos Lugo Silva PhD. ITU Americas Regional Office

1st round

- **Mr Oscar Leon**, Executive Secretary CITEL
- **Ms Angeles Ayala**, Executive Secretary COMTELCA
- **Ms Claudia Bustamante**, Communications Commissioner, CRC, Colombia
- **Mr Carlos Tellez**, Regulatory Director of TIGO

2nd round

- **Ms Maryleana Mendez**, Secretary General ASIET
- **Ms Julissa Cruz**, Director of Digital Infrastructure
- **Ledenika Mendez**, Commissioner CRT

Open MIC. (According to the request for the floor, participants will be given the possibility of 3-minute interventions.)

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12:30- 14:00

Lunch. Invitation by European Union



14:30- 15:30

Keynote “Designing Regulatory Experimentation: A Practical Guide for the Public Sector”
Professor Armando Guio,

15:30-16:00

Coffee Break

16:00- 17:00

Conclusions and Closing remarks, Carlos Lugo Silva,
ITU Regional Office for The Americas

