



Innovation Alliance

RDF-CIS

September 2026 Update

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Navigating a VUCA world

Regions today are navigating an increasingly volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous (VUCA) global environment marked by rapid change.

Rapid technological advancement, shifting geopolitical and economic conditions, evolving development priorities, and changing funding ecosystems are reshaping how regional agendas must be conceived and delivered.

VUCA

Volatile

The environment demands you react quickly to ongoing changes that are unpredictable and out of your control

Uncertain

The environment requires you to take action without certainty

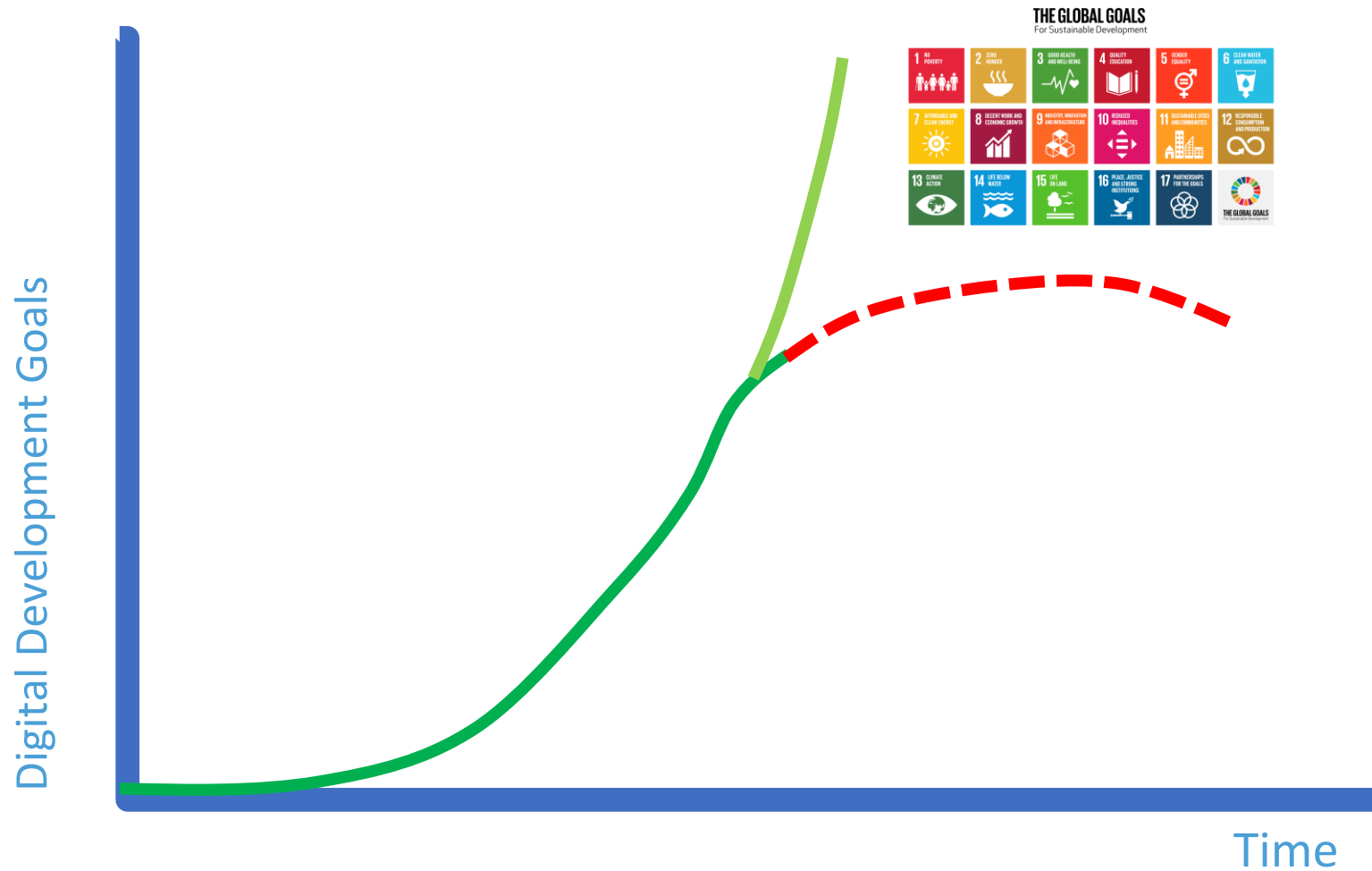
Complex

The environment is dynamic, with many interdependencies

Ambiguous

The environment is unfamiliar, outside of your expertise

Rethinking development approaches





The big picture: A global Alliance to build innovation capabilities



The Innovation and Entrepreneurship Alliance for Digital Development (**the Alliance**) is a global initiative spearheaded by the Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

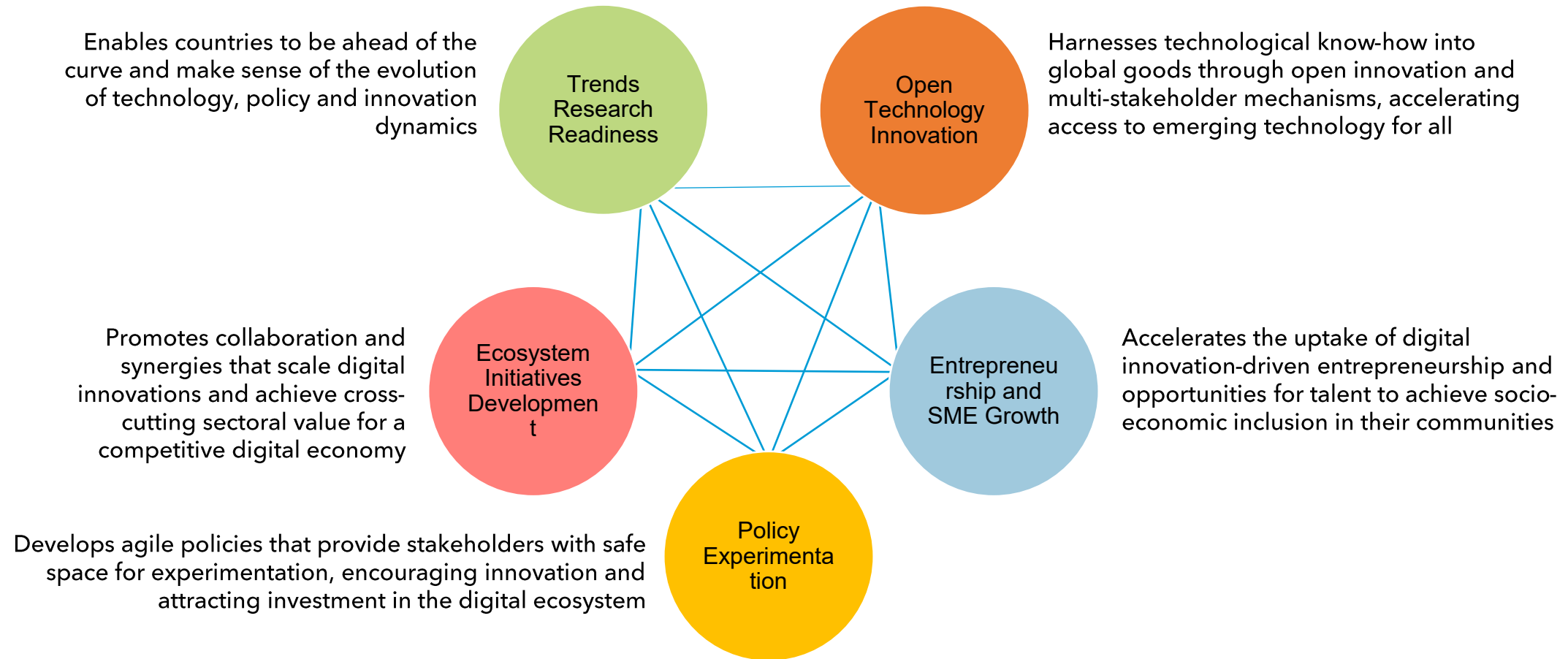
Launched in 2023, the creation of the Alliance responds directly to pressing and unmet innovation needs identified by ITU Member States, recognized at the World Telecommunication Development Conference 2022 (WTDC-22) in Kigali, reinforced at WTDC-25 in Baku, and further supported in the outcomes of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2022 (PP-22).



Mandate

- **PP Resolution 205 (Rev. Bucharest,, 2022)**, on ITU's role in fostering telecommunication/information and communication technology-centric innovation to support the digital economy and society
- **WTDC Resolution 90 (Rev. Baku , 2025)**, on Fostering telecommunication/information and communication technology-centric entrepreneurship and digital innovation ecosystems for sustainable digital development
- **WTDC Resolution 17 (Rev Baku, 2025)** on Resource mobilization, implementation and cooperation for approved regional initiatives
- **WTDC Resolution 92 (Baku , 2025)** on Strengthening the role of ITU regional offices in accelerating digital transformation and leveraging partnership
- **ITU Regional Initiatives directly related from WTDC-25**
 - **AFR1, AFR2, AFR4,**
 - **AMS3,**
 - **ARB4, ARB5,**
 - **ASP4,**
 - **EUR5.**

Strategic Objectives of the Alliance





**Innovation and Entrepreneurship
Alliance for Digital Development**

The three vehicles of the Alliance to deliver impact as one



**36 Board
Members**

Digital Innovation Board

Provides strategic guidance, ensuring the Alliance remains aligned with ITU-D Priorities and Action Plans.



Digital Transformation Lab

Is a virtual facility for building innovation capabilities.



**14+
Centres**

Network of ITU Acceleration
Centres

Enhances global, regional, and national innovation ecosystems.



**100+ experts in
CoP**

Global Expert Network

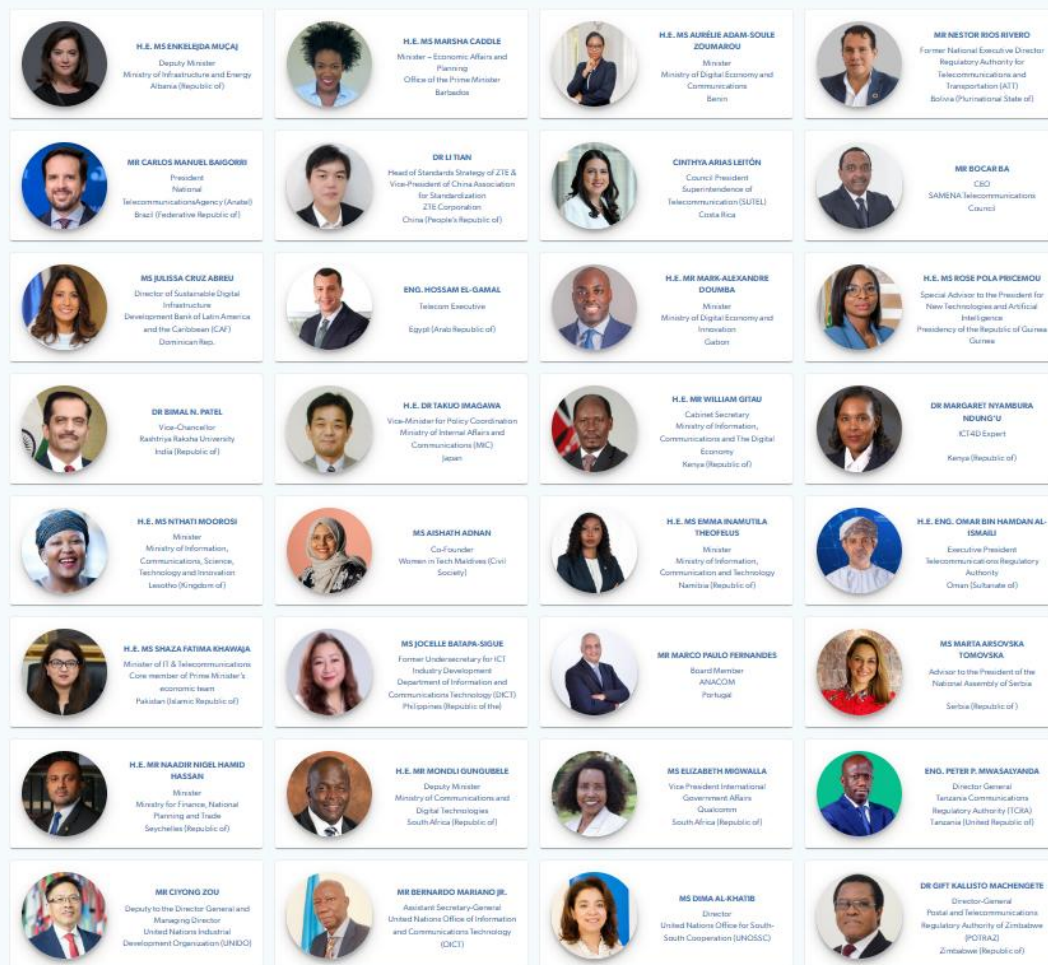


Innovation and Entrepreneurship Alliance for Digital Development

Digital Innovation Board



Board Members



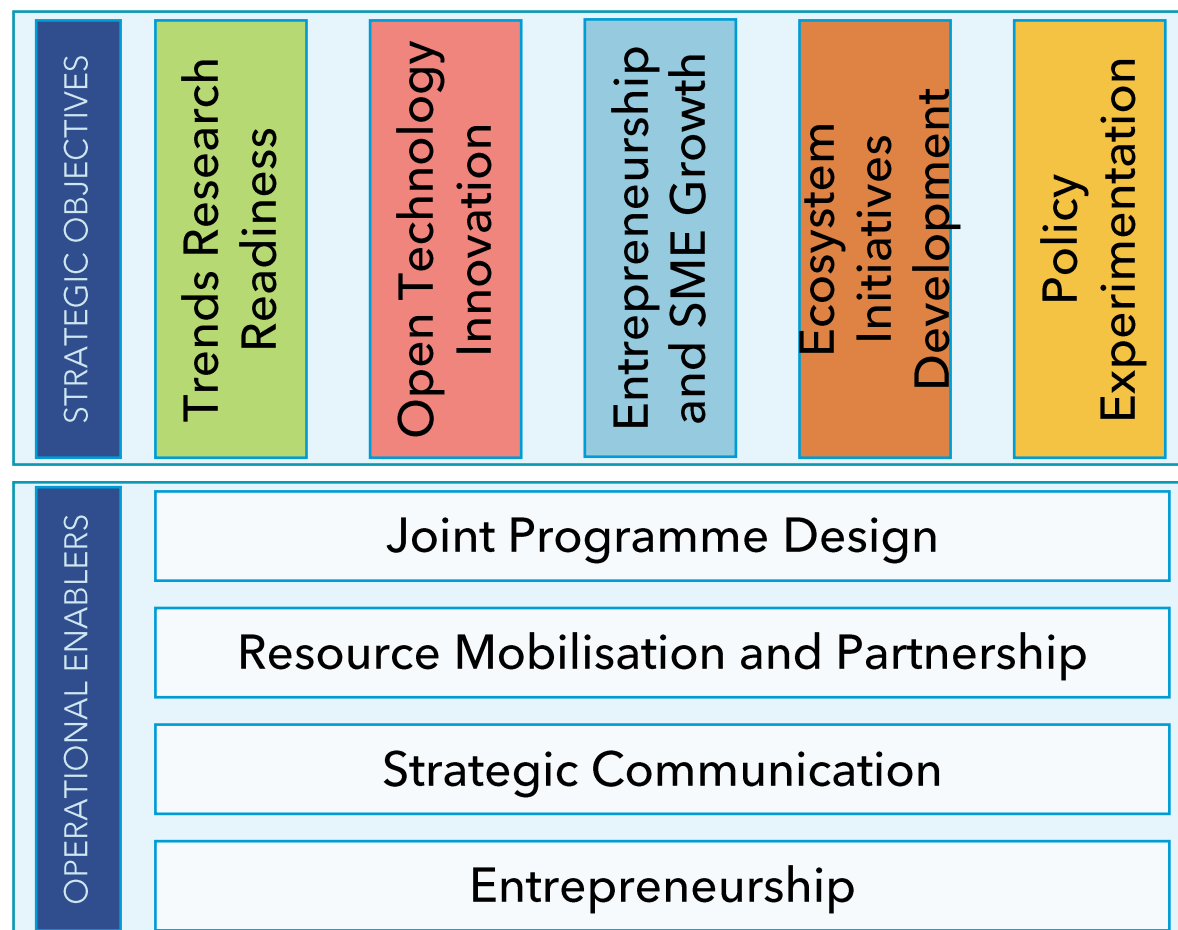
Board engages in high-level advocacy and tracks progress across key areas, while championing global dialogue and partnerships to foster inclusive digital innovation and entrepreneurship



DT Lab - Delivering value through a portfolio of ITU Frameworks

The DT Lab develops knowledge programmes, designs innovation frameworks and supports the design and capacitation of ITU Acceleration Centres

Playbooks



Regional Initiative Accelerator



Accelerator is launching in Q4 for the new ITU Regional initiative



Centres- Locally anchored but globally connected Network

An ITU acceleration centre supports countries in leveraging technology, policy, and flagship initiatives while integrating ICT innovation into national development agendas and fostering entrepreneurship that accelerate digital transformation



Each ITU Acceleration Centre is **nationally owned and aligned with national development priorities**. Its strategic focus is shaped by its local context, available resources, and ecosystem needs.

While some centres may choose to specialise in a particular thematic area, others may remain sector or technology-agnostic in their service delivery to remain flexible and responsive.

The ITU Acceleration Centres **act as conveners, bringing together stakeholders to connect, align efforts, and co-create solutions that advance ecosystem goals**. Their core mandate is to identify and address systemic gaps within innovation ecosystems, thereby strengthening collective capacity for digital development.



Centres - A growing network of Acceleration

Africa

Gabon, [Ministère de la Communication, de l'Économie numérique et de la Poste](#)

Kenya, [Communications Authority of Kenya](#).

Malawi, [Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority](#).

Tanzania, [Ministry of Information, Communication, and Information Technology](#).

Zimbabwe, [Postal & Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of Zimbabwe](#).

South Africa, [Department of communications and Digital Technologies](#)

Americas

Dominican Republic, [Government Office of Information and Communication Technologies](#).

Asia and Pacific

China, [China Academy of Information and Communications Technology](#).

China, [China Branch of BRICS Institute of Future Networks](#).

Pakistan, [Ignite – Ministry of IT & Telecom](#).

Arab region

Egypt, [National Telecom Regulatory Authority](#).

Europe

Albania, [Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy of Albania](#)

CIS

Azerbaijan, [Innovation & Digital Development Agency](#).

Kazakhstan - Upcoming

Uzbekistan - Upcoming

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