

ITU Telecommunication Development (ITU-D) Sector

Connecting the unconnected



What is ITU?

The International Telecommunication Union (**ITU**) is the **United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs)**, driving innovation in ICTs together with 193 Member States and a membership of over 900 companies, universities, and international and regional organizations.

ITU has three Sectors which work through conferences and meetings.



ITU-R

ITU Radiocommunication Sector

Plays a vital role in the global management of the radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbit resources, and develops international standards for radiocommunication systems.



ITU-T

ITU Standardization Sector

Assembles experts from around the world to develop international standards known as ITU-T recommendations, which act as defining elements of the global infrastructure of information and communication technologies.



ITU-D

ITU Development Sector

Strives to spread equitable and affordable access to telecommunications, as a means of stimulating broader social and economic development.



Discover ITU-D

ITU-D works to **close the digital divide** and **drive digital transformation** to leverage the power of ICTs. It fosters international cooperation and solidarity in the delivery of technical assistance and in the creation, development and improvement of telecommunication and ICT equipment and networks in developing countries. ITU-D's work prioritizes those most in need – from people living in the world's Least Developed Countries to marginalized communities everywhere.

WE PROVIDE



A neutral platform for knowledge sharing, expertise and facilitating ICT-centric innovation.

A unique ecosystem connecting governments, industry, academia, regional & international organizations, and UN agencies.

Multistakeholder partnerships working for an inclusive smart society.

WE ARE HOME TO



+300

Sector Members
& Associates



+160

Academia
Members

Our membership is comprised of: Recognized Operating Agencies, Scientific and Industrial Organizations, Academia and Research Institutions, Regional Telecommunications Organizations, Regional and other International Organizations, Intergovernmental Organizations Operating Satellite Systems, Financial and Development Institutions, Other Entities including Regulators.

Membership benefits



Networking with governments and other entities on ICT policies, strategies and technologies.



Interacting with and advising policy-makers, ICT regulators and experts from industry and academia.



Contributing to ITU-D Study Groups by sharing knowledge, experiences and innovative ideas.



Joining members-only global and regional conferences and debates to contribute to international development agenda.



Accessing membership-driven events such as the Study Groups, the Industry Advisory Group on Development Issues and TECH TALKS.



Co-creating and fostering innovative public-private partnerships and projects that prioritize connectivity and the SDGs.



Gaining access to world-leading ICT statistics, studies and other members-only information.



Expanding visibility on your brands/solutions on the international scene.

Key events

ITUWTDC

World Telecommunication
Development Conference

WTDC brings the world together to address the digital development challenges and accelerate the digital transformation by putting together an **Action Plan** based on all the constitutive **contributions from Members**. They have an opportunity to influence the **direction and strategies of the future ICT domain**.

ITUTDAG

Telecommunication
Development Advisory Group

It **reviews priorities, strategies, operations, and financial matters** of ITU-D. **All members** are invited to present their contributions and advise on the implementation of the WTDC Action Plan.

ITU-D Study Groups

An opportunity for membership to share knowledge, experiences, and innovative ideas on ICT for the achievement of the SDGs. **Members' contributions** are to be **compiled and reported** as recommendations and lessons learned for the **telecommunication/ICT policies, strategies, projects and initiatives** around the world.

ITUGSR

Global Symposium for
Regulators

Provides a **unique platform for ICT regulators and stakeholders** to share experiences, knowledge, and identify means to bring affordable, safe, secure, trusted connectivity, online access and use to people everywhere.

ITU-D IAGDI-CRO

Industry Advisory Group on
Development Issues and Private
Sector Chief Regulatory Officers'
Meeting

Brings together **senior executives and leaders** from the industry and private sector to discuss common issues and share **best practices and proposals for regulatory reform** to boost investment in ICT infrastructure and services.

ITU-D Tech Talks

An event run by **industry, private sector entities**, and other entities among ITU-D Membership to provide an opportunity for the members to present on **technological trends** and their work in **digital development**, as well as the chance to partner in ITU projects.

 [Check our calendar of events](#)

Partner2Connect Digital Coalition

Pledging to drive digital transformation in the hardest-to-connect communities

The Partner2Connect Digital Coalition (P2C) is a multistakeholder alliance to foster meaningful connectivity and digital transformation globally, with a focus on but not limited to hardest-to-connect communities in Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS).



Four Focus Areas of Partner2Connect

ACCESS
Connecting people everywhere

ADOPTION
Empowering communities

VALUE CREATION
Building digital ecosystems

ACCELERATE
Incentivizing investments

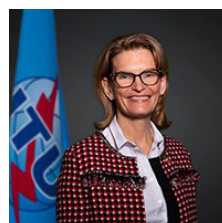
Types of pledges

- Financial**
- Advocacy**
- Policy**
- Programmatic**

Who can make a pledge?

Governments (including local governments and municipalities), private sector (including philanthropic organizations), UN agencies and other international or regional organizations (including multilateral development banks), civil society, academia and research associations, youth groups, media and entertainment organizations.

“The Partner2Connect Digital Coalition is a game-changing opportunity to take a holistic approach, catalyze new partnerships, and mobilize the resources needed to connect those who are still offline. P2C will open new avenues for stakeholders who understand that collaboration is the only way through which we will ever tackle a challenge of this scale and magnitude. I am calling on all players and partners to join P2C and work together so we can achieve our goal of meaningfully connecting those 2.9 billion people who are still offline.”



Doreen Bogdan-Martin
ITU Secretary-General

Impact partnerships

Partnerships have always played a catalytic role in the development work. International cooperation on digital technology is essential to achieve the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**.



Generation Connect

Aims to engage and encourage global youth as equal partners alongside the leaders of today's digital change.



Giga

A global initiative to connect every school to the internet and every young person to information, and opportunity.



Connect2Recover

A global initiative to reinforce the digital infrastructure and provide means of utilization to support COVID-19 recovery efforts.



GovStack

An initiative to assist national governments in establishing IT infrastructure for their national development goals.



UN E-Waste Coalition

Paving the way for greater collaboration in the area of e-waste management.



EQUALS

A platform for practitioners to leverage and strengthen current efforts to reverse the gender digital divide.



Digital Capacity Development

A database of existing digital skills trainings to support the matching of demand to suppliers.



PRIDA

Enables the African continent to benefit from digitalization by addressing broadband demand and supply in Africa.



Smart Villages

An integrated approach model to increase last-mile access and make sure that the right digital solutions reach the people.



[Find out more about our partnerships](#)

For more information, please contact the partnership team: bdtpartners@itu.int

Thematic priorities

ICTs now form the backbone of today's digital economy. As an **ITU-D** member, you can partner with member states, local partners and academia, **maximizing our unique contributions to the SDGs.**



CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Develop skills and knowledge to become a competent digital citizen



CYBERSECURITY

Facilitating a trusted cyberspace for all



DIGITAL INCLUSION

Ensuring inclusive, equal access and use of ICTs for all



DIGITAL INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS

Unlock the potential to accelerate digital transformation of society



DIGITAL SERVICES AND APPLICATIONS

Delivering digital solutions to improve well-being and catalyze development



EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Disaster-resilient ICT infrastructure for saving lives and reducing damages



ENVIRONMENT

Creating a Circular Economy for Electronics through the Management of E-waste



NETWORK AND DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Reliable Connectivity to Everyone



POLICY AND REGULATION

Enabling policy and regulatory frameworks for digital development



STATISTICS

Data and analytics: taking the pulse of the information society

Click below to know more about our **Regional Initiatives**

- > [Africa](#)
- > [Americas](#)
- > [Arab states](#)
- > [Asia and the Pacific](#)
- > [Commonwealth of Independent States](#)
- > [Europe](#)



Which type of membership suits you best?

Apply now and influence decisions that will impact your business or organization as well as the broader economy and society. Join a unique membership community of public and private organizations ranging from governments, regulators, international and regional organizations, to operators, consulting firms, service providers, manufacturers, professional associations, education and research institutions.



SECTOR MEMBER

For companies / organizations

Participate in **all** ITU-D activities, such as conferences, seminars, study groups, workshops, specialized studies and working groups pertinent to your business.

Annual membership fees:

CHF 7,950 For entities in developed countries

CHF 3,975 For entities in developing countries & LDCs



ASSOCIATES

For companies / organizations

Join as an Associate and take part in the work of a **single** study group of your choice and other ITU-D activities.

Annual membership fees:

CHF 3,975 For entities in developed countries

CHF 1,987.50 For entities in developing countries & LDCs



ACADEMIA

For universities and research institutes

If you are a University, an academia or an associated research establishment, you are welcome to participate in **all** activities of the three ITU Sectors.

Annual membership fees:

CHF 3,975 For entities in developed countries

CHF 1,987.50 For entities in developing countries & LDCs



Ready to apply? Fill in an online application form [here](#).

Additional questions? Schedule a call with us by writing to membershipitu@itu.int



Subscribe to The UNconnected newsletter!

The UNconnected newsletter brings you updates on our initiatives to connect the unconnected. Please [sign up here](#)



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For any further questions, please contact membershipitud@itu.int