Partner2Connect.
Pledging to drive digital transformation in the hardest-to-connect communities

The Partner2Connect Digital Coalition

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). Developed by ITU in close cooperation with the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology, and the UN Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS), and in line with the UN Secretary-General's Roadmap for Digital Cooperation, P2C will serve as a leadership level platform to engage all stakeholders to mobilize and announce new resources, partnerships, and commitments to achieve universal and meaningful connectivity across four Focus Areas:

ACCESS
Connecting people everywhere

ADOPTION
Empowering communities

VALUE CREATION
Building Digital Ecosystems

ACCELERATE
Incentivizing investments

What is ITU's role in P2C?

As the UN's specialized agency for ICTs, ITU serves as a neutral and impartial platform to coordinate the development of the P2C **Focus Areas Action Framework.** ITU will play a significant role in the mobilization, tracking, and monitoring of commitments and pledges. The P2C Focus Areas Action Framework developed by the Working Groups and the Leaders of the P2C Digital Coalition with the support of BCG (P2C's Knowledge Partner) will help further identify the key issues driving change across each of the Focus Areas, define specific gaps, and propose high quality interventions, pledges, and policies to fill those gaps.

Why pledge?

P2C is built on the principles of **inclusion**, **partnership**, and **SDG-focused digital development**. It recognizes that progress can be achieved through multi-stakeholder collaboration, and that the direct leadership of governments, policy makers, and the regulatory community is essential to achieve meaningful and universal connectivity.

Partner2Connect is designed to be a game-changer opportunity for the ICT sector to finally take a **holistic approach**, to **pledge**, and to **mobilize** the resources needed to connect those who are still offline.

Criteria for a strong pledge

- **Addresses key issues** of the **four Focus Areas** of the P2C Digital Coalition:
  ACCESS: Connecting people everywhere; ADOPTION: Empowering communities; VALUE CREATION: Building digital ecosystems; ACCELERATE: Incentivizing investments.

- **Helps drive** transformational change towards **universal connectivity and the digital transformation of societies**.

- **Helps mobilize** resources across the four Focus Areas of P2C.

- **Brings together** multiple entities committed to endorse, implement, or scale the pledge.

- Can be easily **quantified**, **monitored and tracked**, and its **impact** can also be **measured and reported over time** and against the overall objective of achieving **universal connectivity**.

Types of pledges

We invite you to monitor our website in the upcoming months where we will announce the launch of the P2C's online pledging platform with more details about the types of pledges and concrete submission examples.

Financial
A financial pledge consists of an entity or groups of entities announcing a monetary contribution in line with the objectives of the P2C Digital Coalition and/or a specific P2C Focus Area.

Policy
A policy pledge is one where a legislative or regulatory reform or policy change is proposed or enacted to advance the objectives laid out by the P2C Digital Coalition and/or the P2C Action Framework.

Advocacy
An advocacy pledge is one where an entity or group of entities publicly supports, recommends, or promotes (e.g., through research, MOUs) the objectives laid out by the P2C Digital Coalition and/or the P2C Action Framework in their industry, network, events, or publications.

Programmatic
A programmatic pledge regards the creation or expansion of existing programs that are in line with the P2C Focus Areas.

Who can make a pledge?

To make a pledge, join the Coalition. The Coalition is open to the following type of entities:

1. Governments (including local governments and municipalities)

2. Private Sector (including philanthropic organizations)

3. UN Agencies and other international or regional organizations (including Multilateral Development Banks)

4. Civil Society

5. Academia and research associations

6. Youth Groups

7. Media and Entertainment organizations

Basic criteria to join the P2C Digital Coalition include:

- Evidence of commitment in the Focus Area i.e., through past work or through newly defined motivation.

- Readiness to make a major commitment or pledge to move the needle in the Focus Area.

- Commitment at the highest level of engagement including senior participation at the June 2022 Partner2Connect Digital Development Roundtable.

Participating in the Coalition allows entities and organizations to engage in the design of the Focus Areas Action Framework.

Where, how, and when to pledge?

The P2C Digital Coalition welcomes the submission of pledges at any point in time. The preliminary process opened in October 2021 via an Expression of Interest online form. At present the P2C Secretariat is developing an online pledging platform where pledges can be officially registered and, in the future, monitored, tracked and reported on. In the meantime, organizations interested in pledging towards P2C can register their interest by contacting partner2connect@itu.int.

Pledges registered between now and June 2022 will be made public at the **Partner2Connect Digital Development Roundtable**, which will take place at the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) in June 2022. This will be an opportunity for all Partner2Connect stakeholders to gather to boost support for the Coalition, present the recommendations of the four Working Groups and announce transformational pledges.

Moving forward, after June 2022, pledges can continue to be registered through the P2C online pledging platform.

The Partner2Connect Digital Coalition will foster **meaningful connectivity** and **digital transformation** in the hardest-to- connect communities. Our aim is to bring meaningful connectivity to everyone so that no one is left behind/ offline.

Join the Coalition, and pledge for P2C by visiting our website, and by contacting the Partner2Connect Secretariat at partner2connect@itu.int.