



Telecommunication
Development Bureau (BDT)



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- Administrations of ITU Member States in the PALOP
- ITU-D Sector Members and Academia in the PALOP
- Regional organisations in the PALOP
- National Regulatory Authorities in the PALOP
- National Statistics Offices (NSOs) in the PALOP
- WTI and HH contacts the PALOP
- United Nations Funds, Programmes, and Specialized agencies

Subject: ITU Subregional workshop for Portuguese-speaking African Countries on promoting and measuring universal and meaningful connectivity (UMC), 5-7 November 2025, São Tomé and Príncipe

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to invite your Administration/Organization to participate in the ITU Subregional workshop for Portuguese-speaking African Countries on promoting and measuring universal and meaningful connectivity (UMC), organized by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), in collaboration with Agência Geral de Regulação (AGER), São Tomé and Príncipe. This workshop will be held from **5 to 7 November 2025** in São Tomé. The working language will be Portuguese.

This workshop is part of the project “Promoting and measuring universal and meaningful connectivity” funded by the European Union.

The workshop is intended for policymakers in charge of national policies and strategies for digital connectivity, and statisticians responsible for the measurement of telecom/ICT development from ministries, national statistics offices (NSOs), regulators, telecom operators, research institutions, and other relevant organizations from the Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa (*Países Africanos de Língua Oficial Portuguesa*, PALOP): Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, and São Tomé and Príncipe.

This workshop will cover the following topics:

- Embracing universal and meaningful connectivity: the new policy imperative (day 1)
- Data-driven decision making: enhancing statistician-policymaker collaboration (day 2)
- Tracking UMC: strategies for overcoming measurement challenges (day 3)

Those wishing to attend must register to this workshop via the link <https://www.itu.int/net4/CRM/xreg/web/Registration.aspx?Event=C-00015829>, by signing in with their existing ITU user account or creating a new one by following these [instructions](#). If any assistance is needed with the registration process, they may contact directly servicedesk@itu.int or the ITU focal point mentioned below.

There is no participation fee for this workshop. However, all expenses related to travel, accommodation and insurance should be covered by the participants.

To encourage in-person participation from [developing countries](#), up to two full fellowships per country may be granted, covering air ticket (one return economy class ticket by the most direct/economical route from the country of origin to São Tomé) and appropriate daily subsistence allowance intended to cover accommodation, meals and incidental expenses. One fellowship may be granted to the national statistical office, and another fellowship may be granted to the policymaking institution (ministry or regulator) per country.

To apply for fellowships, candidates must complete this [fellowship application form](#) also available at <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=12TKl-YEh0uRPCS9iSGf0yfCYUSJUFIMrVoJXfKru0IUODdJTVNKMjBTUE1EN1ZJUjJaUFJZU0FHOC4u&origin=lprLink&route=shorturl>, by **23 September, 2025**. Anyone applying for a fellowship must complete both the registration and the fellowship application form. Due to limited funding, it might not be possible to accommodate all requests for fellowships. Selected fellowship applicants will be contacted separately with further instructions, and a notification will be sent to non-selected candidates.

Selections for fellowships are carried out by ITU, based on the information provided in the fellowship application form. In awarding a fellowship, account shall be taken of: the candidate's professional background; current position and the practical use the beneficiary intends to make of the knowledge and experience to be gained; and contributions a candidate may make to the work of the event. In line with the relevant provisions of Resolution 213 (Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, the fellowship selection shall also consider gender balance and inclusion of persons with disabilities and with specific needs.

Before the workshop, participants from national statistical offices and other institutions that collect data on ICT are encouraged to complete the two following self-paced courses available through the [ITU Academy](#): “[Measuring digital development: ICT access and use by households and individuals](#)” (also available here <https://academy.itu.int/training-courses/full-catalogue/measuring-digital-development-ict-access-and-use-households-and-individuals-2>) and “[Measuring digital development: Telecommunication / ICT indicators](#)” (also available here <https://academy.itu.int/training-courses/full-catalogue/measuring-digital-development-telecommunication-ict-indicators-2>).

All participants will receive further guidance on the possibility of preparing a short contribution to present during the sessions. Detailed information about content and logistics, as well as all the hyperlinks mentioned above are available on the workshop webpage, or https://www.itu.int/itu-d/sites/projectumc/2025/08/26/umc_ws_pt_africa/.

For questions related to visa entry to São Tomé and Príncipe, please contact Ms. Preciosa Freitas at preciosa.freitas@ager.st. For all other questions, please contact Mr. José L. Cervera-Ferri, Senior Project Manager, ICT Data & Analytics Division at ITU (jose.cervera@itu.int) and Ms. Cynthia Poullain, Project Assistant, ICT Data & Analytics Division at ITU (cynthia.poullain@itu.int).

I look forward to your registration and your active participation in this subregional workshop.

Yours faithfully,



Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava
Director