



COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES

# REGIONAL INITIATIVES

BUENOS AIRES ACTION PLAN

2018-2021



## REGIONAL INITIATIVES



Foreword .....	1
Introduction.....	2
<b>CIS REGIONAL INITIATIVES 2018-2021 .....</b>	<b>4</b>
CIS1: Development of e-health to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all, at all ages.....	6
CIS2: Use of telecommunications/information and communication technology to ensure inclusive, equitable, quality and safe education, including the enhancement of women's knowledge of information and communication technologies and e-government.....	14
CIS3: Development and regulation of infocommunication infrastructure to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe and resilient .....	24
CIS4: Monitoring the ecological status and the presence and rational use of natural resources .....	32
CIS5: Fostering innovative solutions and partnership for the implementation of Internet of Things technologies and their interaction in telecommunication networks, including 4G, IMT-2020 and next-generation networks, in the interests of sustainable development.....	40

## COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES - REGIONAL INITIATIVES

E-health, inclusiveness, smart cities, climate change and the Internet of Things are the five areas identified by the Commonwealth of Independent States as priorities on which ITU will focus in 2018-2021.



# Foreword

By Kirill Oparin, Head, ITU Regional Office for the CIS

The Regional Development Forum gives the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) each year an opportunity to present the work it has done and to decide, with its membership, the next steps to take. I invite you to accompany the work of ITU in the region, to comment constructively, to reach agreements, to cooperate and to approve the full range of activities that will support both your national and regional objectives.

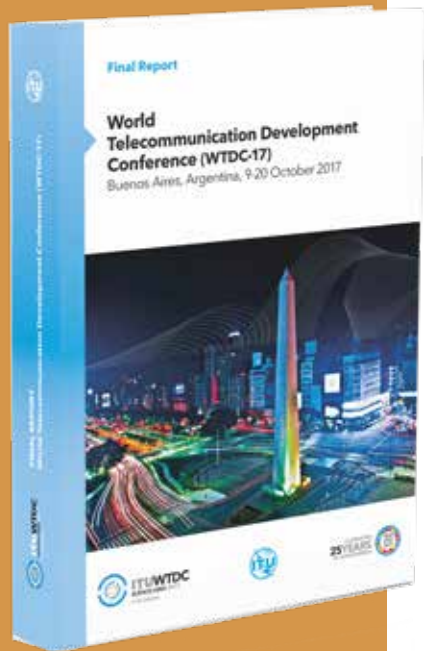
The five regional initiatives for the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) included in the Buenos Aires Action Plan adopted in October 2017 by the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17), indicate the direction that ITU will work towards in the coming years. They provide all stakeholders with a path for the development of information and communication technologies (ICTs), in agreement with governments. E-health, inclusiveness, smart cities, climate change and the Internet of Things are the five areas identified by the region as priorities on which ITU will focus.

Currently, ICTs are recognized as having a central role in efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). That role, however, cannot be assumed by a single entity or a single economic or social sector. BDT will therefore, through the regional offices, work together with all the interested parties to transform the intentions noted in the regional initiatives into realities reflected in the social and economic development of the inhabitants of this beautiful region.

The ITU Regional Office for the CIS is deeply committed to maintaining its determined efforts to implement these objectives as a means of achieving sustainable development in the region. We will continue building bridges to close the gaps that still divide our societies with regard to the use of ICTs, in our tireless pursuit of the goal of inclusion for all.



The final report of WTDC-17 is available here.



## Introduction

The mission of the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) is not just about connectivity for connectivity's sake, but is more about promoting innovative uses of telecommunications/ICTs that fundamentally improve people's lives. This mission is reiterated in the final report of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-17), which took place from 9 to 20 October 2017 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, under the theme of "ICT for Sustainable Development Goals" (ICT@SDGs).

In preparation for WTDC 17, ITU held six regional preparatory meetings (RPMs) around the world in 2016-2017: in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, for the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS); Kigali, Rwanda, for the Africa region; Khartoum, Sudan, for the Arab States; Asunción, Paraguay, for the Americas; Bali, Indonesia, for Asia and the Pacific; and Vilnius, Lithuania, for Europe. Each regional preparatory meeting was preceded by a one-day Regional Development Forum.

The regions articulated their specific priorities in 30 regional initiatives – five per region for each of the six regions (Africa, Americas, Arab States, Asia-Pacific, CIS and Europe). These regional initiatives were endorsed by WTDC-17 and are featured in the Buenos Aires Action Plan. Regional initiatives are intended to address specific telecommunication/ICT priority areas, through partnerships and resource mobilization to implement projects. Under each regional initiative, projects are developed and implemented to meet the region's needs.

Reflecting the outcomes of the six regional preparatory meetings, WTDC-17 endorsed the following four objectives for ITU-D as the main focus of its work for the years 2018-2021:

### Objective



**Coordination:** Foster international cooperation and agreement on telecommunication/ICT development issues

### Objective



**Modern and secure telecommunication/ ICT infrastructure:** Foster the development of infrastructure and services, including building confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs

### Objective



**Enabling environment:** Foster an enabling policy and regulatory environment conducive to sustainable telecommunication/ICT development

### Objective



**Inclusive digital society:** Foster the development and use of telecommunications/ICTs and applications to empower people and societies for sustainable development.

WTDC-17 also adopted the Buenos Aires Declaration reinforcing the political support for ITU's development mission and strategic objectives. As noted in this declaration, implementation of regional initiatives deserves high priority on the part of ITU-D. The declaration underlines how universally accessible, secure and affordable telecommunications/ICTs are a fundamental contribution towards the achievement of the action lines of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the development of the global information society and digital economy.

Through the four objectives above and the regional initiatives, ITU-D will adapt and reinforce the existing links between the WSIS action lines and the SDGs to continue to support global development.

2018-2021

*Commonwealth of Independent States  
- Regional Initiatives*



COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES - REGIONAL INITIATIVES



Regional initiative

1

Development of e-health to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all, at all ages





## OBJECTIVE

To assist the ITU Member States in the region with the development of regulatory texts, technical solutions and specialized training programmes in the field of e-health (including telemedicine), with the aim of providing the public with improved medical services through the use of infocommunications.

### EXPECTED RESULTS

..... 1 .....

Provision of more complete information to the representatives of telecommunication administrations, government healthcare authorities, medical institutions and the private sector regarding the current legal/regulatory and organizational/technical frameworks in the area of e-health.

..... 2 .....

Establishment of pilot telemedicine stations with a guaranteed electricity supply derived from solar energy.

..... 3 .....

Development of technical solutions in the field of e-health, including telemedicine, the processing of digital medical data, personalized medical-service records, the electronic outpatient card, the electronic patient health record, and so on.

..... 4 .....

Recommendations on the application of modern technical solutions in the design of e-health systems, including telemedicine networks.

..... 5 .....

Courses focusing on the training of medical students, and enhancing the skills of practising medical staff, in the use of ICTs in healthcare, including telemedicine, as well as courses for IT specialists on the maintenance of medical information systems.



## PROJECT PROPOSALS

### ..... 1 .....

To assist the ITU Member States in the region with the development of regulatory texts, technical solutions and specialized training programmes in the field of e-health.

### ..... 2 .....

To provide citizens with improved medical services through the use of ICTs.

# PROPOSED PROJECT

# 1

Regulatory texts, technical solutions and specialized training programmes in the field of e-health



## 2018 ACTIVITIES

Specialized multimedia training courses on e-health for medical students, medical staff and IT professionals



Estimated budget

USD 150 000



Potential partners

ICT ministries, health ministries, regulators, WHO, academia, providers of health services and equipment



Country or countries involved

All CIS countries

2019  
ACTIVITIES

Recommendations on the application of modern technical solutions in the design of e-health systems, including telemedicine networks

2020  
ACTIVITIES

Assist selected countries in implementing e-health solutions on a national scale

2021  
ACTIVITIES

Capacity building and awareness raising

# PROPOSED PROJECT

# 2

Improved medical services  
through the use of ICT



## 2019 ACTIVITIES

Development of technical solutions in the field of e-health, including telemedicine, the processing of digital medical data, personalized medical-service records, electronic outpatient cards, electronic patient health records





Estimated budget

USD 250 000



Potential partners

ICT ministries, health ministries, WHO, academia, providers of health services and equipment



Country or countries involved

All CIS countries

2020  
ACTIVITIES

Establishment of pilot telemedicine stations with a guaranteed electricity supply derived from solar energy

2021  
ACTIVITIES

Follow-up, status reporting, dissemination of best practices and replication of successful solutions throughout the region

Regional initiative

2

Use of telecommunications/information and communication technology to ensure inclusive, equitable, quality and safe education, including the enhancement of women's knowledge of information and communication technologies and e-government



## OBJECTIVE

To provide ITU Member States in the region with centralized consultative and technical assistance in the various aspects of the use of telecommunications/information and communication technology (ICT) in education, as well as in regard to raising the level of people's ICT literacy, in the interests of human capacity development and of ensuring gender and social equality.

## EXPECTED RESULTS

..... 1 .....

Provision of consultative and technical support to representatives of educational establishments with regard to current progress in the use of telecommunications/ICTs in education.

..... 2 .....

Establishment of training centres for enhancing women's knowledge of ICTs and e-government.

..... 3 .....

Development of educational technologies and methods using telecommunications/ICTs.

..... 4 .....

Development of systems for providing pupils, parents and teachers with information on the safe use of Internet resources.

..... 5 .....

Further training courses, training sessions and seminars on introducing telecommunications/ICTs into education and human capacity development, including in rural areas, and also for persons with disabilities.



## PROJECT PROPOSALS

..... 1 .....

To provide ITU Member States in the region with centralized consultative and technical assistance in the various aspects of the use of ICTs in education.

..... 2 .....

To increase digital literacy and bridge gender and social divides in the use of ICTs.

..... 3 .....

Development of educational technologies and methods using telecommunications/ICTs.

# PROPOSED PROJECT

# 1

Centralized consultative and technical assistance in the various aspects of the use of ICT in education



2019  
ACTIVITIES

Establishment of training centres and knowledge bases on e-government



2020  
ACTIVITIES

Assist selected countries in the creation of an e-learning ecosystem to enhance digital literacy in rural areas

2021  
ACTIVITIES

Capacity building and awareness raising



Estimated budget

USD 150 000



Potential partners

ICT ministries, e-government institutions, academia, UNDESA



Country or countries involved

All CIS countries

# PROPOSED PROJECT

# 2

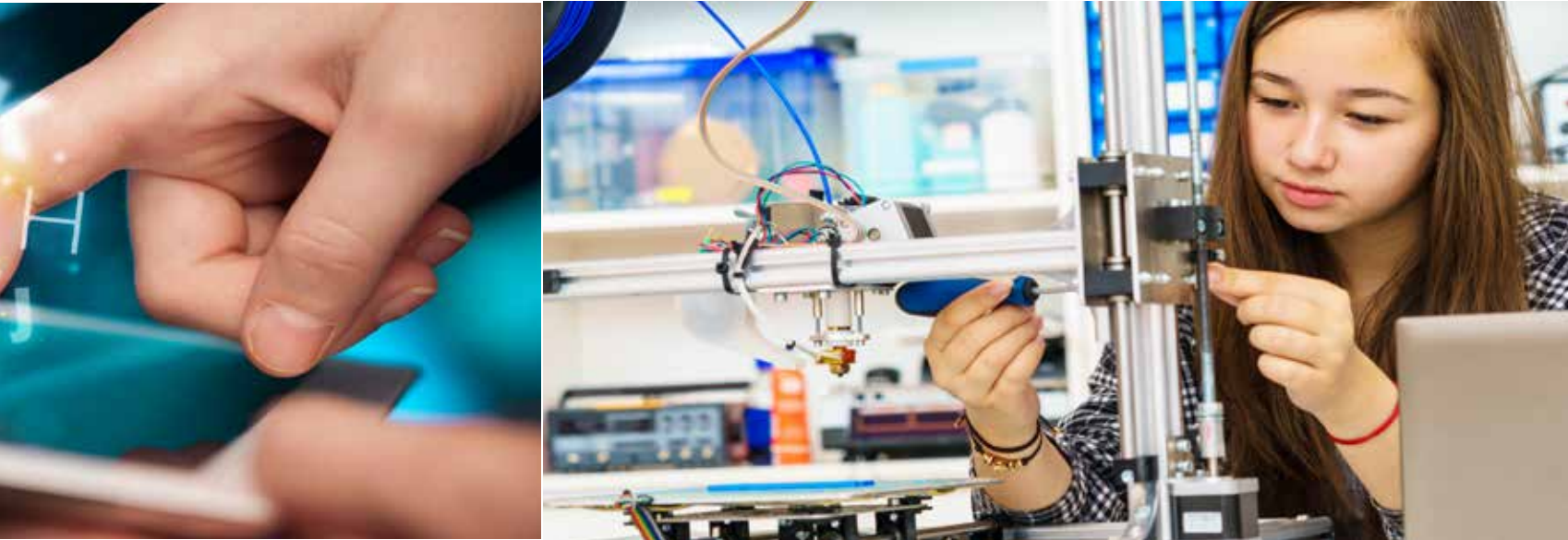
To increase digital literacy and bridge gender and social divides in the use of ICT



## 2019 ACTIVITIES

Establishment of training centres for enhancing women's knowledge of ICTs





2020  
ACTIVITIES

Professional training for teachers in rural  
and remote areas

2021  
ACTIVITIES

Establishment of training centres for persons with  
disabilities



Estimated budget

USD 300 000



Potential partners

ICT ministries, academia, UNESCO IITE,  
UNWOMEN, ISOC, mobile operators



Country or countries involved

All CIS countries

# PROPOSED PROJECT

# 3

Development of educational technologies and methods using telecommunications/ICTs



## 2019 ACTIVITIES

Establishment of smart training centres for ICT students on new technologies, including IoT, green ICT, smart energy, IP-telephony  
Capacity building on Radiocommunication Bureau International Frequency Information Circular (BR IFIC) notifications



2020  
ACTIVITIES

Development of tools and guidelines to promote ICT education

2021  
ACTIVITIES

Capacity-building and awareness-raising activities



Estimated budget

USD 150 000



Potential partners

ICT ministries, education ministries, academia



Country or countries involved

All CIS countries

**Regional initiative**

**3**

Development and regulation of  
infocommunication infrastructure to  
make cities and human settlements  
inclusive, safe and resilient



## OBJECTIVE

To assist ITU Member States in the region in developing regulatory instruments and technical solutions aimed at creating an enabling environment for the development of infocommunication infrastructure in cities and human settlements, including the use of smart devices.

## EXPECTED RESULTS

..... 1 .....

Recommendations on the development of infocommunication infrastructure, including the use of telecommunications and other connective media to support and facilitate the sustainable development of smart cities in developing countries.

..... 2 .....

Recommendations on development of the regulatory and legal framework governing the process of building and servicing infocommunication infrastructure in facilities of diverse ownership, including the use of smart devices for developing urban infrastructure.

..... 3 .....

Implementation of pilot projects for the introduction of smart devices in the interests of road-traffic safety, control of street lighting, energy saving, water-supply management, etc.

..... 4 .....

Greater awareness on the part of telecommunication administrations, regulatory bodies and telecommunication equipment developers, manufacturers and suppliers as to the strategies to be adopted for the construction of smart cities and implementation of the smart city vision in the CIS countries.

..... 5 .....

Further training courses, training sessions and seminars on the infrastructure of cities and human settlements.



## PROJECT PROPOSALS

### ..... 1 .....

To assist ITU Member States in the region in developing regulatory instruments and technical solutions aimed at creating an enabling environment for the development of infocommunication infrastructure in cities and human settlements.

### ..... 2 .....

To build confidence and security in the use of smart city technologies.

# PROPOSED PROJECT

# 1

To create an enabling environment for the development of infocommunication infrastructure in cities and human settlements



## 2019 ACTIVITIES

Creation of knowledge-sharing networks  
among municipalities of the region





2020  
ACTIVITIES

Development of recommendations on a regulatory and legal framework governing the process of building and servicing infocommunication infrastructure in facilities of diverse ownership, including the use of smart devices for developing urban infrastructure

2021  
ACTIVITIES

Implementation of pilot projects for the introduction of smart devices in the interests of road-traffic safety, control of street lighting, energy saving, water-supply management



Estimated budget

USD 200 000



Potential partners

ICT ministries, regulators, municipalities, providers of smart city solutions



Country or countries involved

All CIS countries

# PROPOSED PROJECT

# 2

To build confidence and security in the use of smart city technologies



## 2019 ACTIVITIES

Establishment of CIRTs in selected countries  
Assistance to selected countries in creating and maintaining  
IMEI databases





2019  
ACTIVITIES  
(CONT'D)

Assistance to selected countries in creating cybersecurity legislative frameworks  
Establishment of training centres for preschool and junior schoolchildren on safe use of ICTs

2020  
ACTIVITIES

Assistance to selected countries in implementing secure smart city technologies

2021  
ACTIVITIES

Capacity building and awareness raising



Estimated budget

USD 400 000



Potential partners

ICT ministries, municipalities, CIRTs, providers of smart city solutions



Country or countries involved

All CIS countries

**Regional initiative**

**4**

Monitoring the ecological status and the presence and rational use of natural resources



## OBJECTIVE

To assist ITU Member States in the region in monitoring the ecological status and the presence and rational use of natural resources.

### EXPECTED RESULTS

..... 1 .....

Development of information systems to support decision-making in regard to monitoring of the ecological status and the presence and rational use of natural resources, including the creation of a spatial data infrastructure.

..... 2 .....

Creation of repositories of metadata relating to the results of studies on the ecological status of the region's natural resources.

..... 3 .....

Providing the governmental authorities responsible for the conservation of natural resources with high-quality, well-organized and harmonized spatial information for use in analysing and forecasting the state of the environment.

..... 4 .....

Further training courses, training sessions and seminars on monitoring the ecological status and the presence and rational use of natural resources.



## PROJECT PROPOSALS

..... 1 .....

To develop technical solutions to monitor ecological status and ensure rational use of natural resources.

..... 2 .....

To provide policy advice and capacity building on green technologies.

# PROPOSED PROJECT

# 1

To develop technical solutions to monitor ecological status and ensure rational use of natural resources



## 2019 ACTIVITIES

Creation of repositories of metadata relating to the results of studies on the ecological status of the region's natural resources





2020  
ACTIVITIES

Development of an information system to support decision making in regard to monitoring of the ecological status and the presence and rational use of natural resources, including the creation of a spatial data infrastructure

2021  
ACTIVITIES

Follow-up, status reporting, dissemination of best practices and replication of successful solutions throughout the region



Estimated budget

USD 150 000



Potential partners

ICT ministries, environmental ministries, academia



Country or countries involved

All CIS countries

# PROPOSED PROJECT

# 2

To provide policy advice  
and capacity building on  
green technologies



## 2019 ACTIVITIES

Provide assistance to selected countries on  
implementing green technologies



2020  
ACTIVITIES

Provide assistance to selected countries on implementing green technologies

2021  
ACTIVITIES

Capacity building and awareness raising



Estimated budget

USD 100 000



Potential partners

ICT ministries, environmental ministries, academia



Country or countries involved

All CIS countries

**Regional initiative**

**5**

Fostering innovative solutions and partnership for the implementation of Internet of Things technologies and their interaction in telecommunication networks, including 4G, IMT-2020 and next-generation networks, in the interests of sustainable development



## OBJECTIVE

To assist ITU Member States in the region with harmonious transformation of the telecommunication market and transition of telecommunication operators to the provision of innovative services to users, ensuring the stability and enhanced performance of telecommunication networks, including 4G, IMT-2020 and next-generation networks (hereinafter "telecommunication networks") within a context of ubiquitous implementation of the Internet of Things (IoT) concept and technologies.

## EXPECTED RESULTS

..... 1 .....

Development of recommendations on the use of modern technologies and advanced concepts for the operation of the telecommunication market, including principles for telecommunication network interworking, tariff-setting for services, numbering, addressing and identification, as well as issues relating to service quality, security and reliability and traffic management, including aspects of net neutrality.

..... 2 .....

Increased interoperability among telecommunication networks, services and devices through implementation of the IoT concept, including the industrial IoT.

..... 3 .....

Help in ensuring the required level of confidence and security when implementing the large-scale transformation of telecommunication networks within the context of introduction of the IoT concept, including the industrial IoT.

..... 4 .....

Establishment of a single toolkit and a set of specifications for the testing of devices, telecommunication networks and their components within the framework of the IoT concept, including the industrial IoT, on the basis of regional laboratories.

..... 5 .....

Development of recommendations relating to the establishment and operation of regional IoT laboratories, in the interests of sustainable development



## PROJECT PROPOSALS

..... 1 .....

To facilitate harmonized IoT implementation in the region.

..... 2 .....

To support administrations in arranging and updating national radio spectrum plans based on the ITU Radio Regulations, including decisions adopted at WRC-19.

..... 3 .....

To provide policy advice and capacity building on new technologies.

# PROPOSED PROJECT

# 1

To facilitate harmonized IoT implementation in the region



2018  
ACTIVITIES

Establishment of IoT test labs





2019  
ACTIVITIES

Further development of IoT test labs

2020  
ACTIVITIES

Creation of a regional network  
of IoT test labs

2021  
ACTIVITIES

Capacity building and  
awareness raising



Estimated budget

USD 800 000



Potential partners

ICT ministries, regulators, telecom operators,  
academia, providers of IoT equipment and  
services, test labs



Country or countries involved

All CIS countries

# PROPOSED PROJECT

# 2

To support administrations in arranging and updating national radio spectrum plans based on the ITU Radio Regulations, including decisions adopted at WRC-19



## 2018 ACTIVITIES

Provide assistance to selected countries on arranging and updating national radio spectrum plans



2019  
ACTIVITIES

Annual Forum on spectrum management and WRC-19 preparations

2020  
ACTIVITIES

Annual Forum on spectrum management and WRC-19 results

2021  
ACTIVITIES

Provide assistance to selected countries on arranging and updating national radio spectrum plans



Estimated budget

USD 150 000



Potential partners

ICT ministries, regulators, academia, telecom operators, telecom vendors, global forums, GSMA



Country or countries involved

All CIS countries

# PROPOSED PROJECT

# 3

To provide policy advice  
and capacity building on  
green technologies



## 2019 ACTIVITIES

Development of an online knowledge database and  
toolkit to assist regulators and operators in  
calculating tariffs for ICT services



2019  
ACTIVITIES  
(CONT'D)

Further development of broadband technologies,  
assistance in network planning and deployment

Research on digital economy development in  
the countries of the region

2020  
ACTIVITIES

Capacity-building and awareness-raising  
activities



Estimated budget

USD 300 000



Potential partners

ICT ministries, telecom operators,  
academia



Country or countries involved

All CIS countries







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