



**Telecommunication  
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Geneva, 28 February 2014

European Telecommunication Administrations

**Subject** Request for Information: Terrestrial Fiber Optic Transmission Networks and Broadband Transmission Capacity Indicators

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have the pleasure in notifying you of a new project "ITU Interactive Terrestrial (Optical Fibers and Microwaves) Transmission Maps" that the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) is implementing. In this respect I would like to ask for your assistance in collecting required information for this project.

One of the outcomes of the Expert Group on Telecommunication/ICT Indicators (EGTI) and the World Telecommunication Indicators Meeting (WTIM) held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 25 to 27 September 2012 (<http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/wtim12/index.html>) was the request to develop an interactive web map of regional transmission networks and a new set of broadband transmission capacity indicators.

In addition, one of the final recommendations adopted by the WTIM was: *"The meeting welcomes the ITU pilot project to collect indicators to measure backbone terrestrial transmission capacity. These include transmission network length (route kms), node locations, equipment type of terrestrial transmission network, network capacity (bit rate), number of optical fibers within the cable, operational status of the transmission network, and population within reach of transmission networks. The data, which will be collected by ITU through an external consultant, will be shared with and verified by national authorities. The aim of the project is to meet the demand for transmission capacity data and to develop an interactive online transmission map."*

The list of the seven Indicators to be collected for building the Transmission Maps, as endorsed by the last WTIM, is herewith attached. All information on this project is posted at: <http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/tech/InteractiveMaps/index.html>. It will be updated regularly as appropriate.

The implementation of this project in the Europe region is scheduled for 2014, while it is advancing already in the Arab, Americas, Asia Pacific, and Africa regions, and the CIS Countries. To this end you are requested to kindly assist in helping BDT to collect the source material in your country. We are looking for maps or diagrams of operators' terrestrial optical fibers as well as microwave transmission networks, which will be inserted into a GIS mapping system. This will then be used to produce a regional transmission map for the Europe Region.

Please find attached some useful examples of source material which is used to produce the regional map; you may already have something similar or be in a position to ask operators if they are able to provide similar information. Please note that we are looking for maps or diagrams of long-haul national and regional terrestrial transmission networks (rather than metro or street level access networks), and are not looking for any information which is regarded as confidential by the operator/s.

The collected data, which will be used for building the interactive transmission Maps, to be hosted on the ITU website, will be held in a password protected directory (ITU TIES) <https://www.itu.int/itu-d/tnd-map/> while waiting for validation of data by the concerned stakeholders. It should be noted also that all concerned Administrations/Regulators will be notified when the map for your country becomes available on the website.

Therefore, I would like to present the external consultants, Mr Paul Hamilton and Mr Chris Emberson, who have been appointed by the ITU to process the information into the regional transmission map, and produce the indicators outlined above. Once the interactive web transmission map is ready, we will send you details of how to access it. The web map will be password protected so that authorities, regulators and operators will have the opportunity to verify and validate the information related to their respective country. After this validation stage, the intention is to disclose the collected information in a public version of the regional map and summary indicators at: <http://www.itu.int/itu-d/tnd-map-public/>

We would appreciate if you could provide us with the needed information as well as the names and coordinates of the Focal Point in your Administration/Company.

Yours faithfully,

Brahima Sanou  
Director

Annexes:

1. The list of the 7 Indicators to be collected for building the transmission Maps;
2. Some useful examples of source material which is used to produce the regional map.