## **Digital applications**

Widespread availability of telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services has acted as a catalyst for uptake and innovation in related digital applications, improving people's lives and empowering society for sustainable digital transformation. Telecommunication/ICT applications and fostering their development through ICT entrepreneurship and increased ICT innovation in the ICT ecosystem have shown great promise in areas including, but not limited to, health care, education, banking and the provision of public services to citizens.

ITU contributes to increasing the availability, interoperability, scalability and impact of telecommunication/ICT applications, including in underserved areas, by developing digital strategies and international standards, by strengthening ICT-centric innovation ecosystems and entrepreneurship through development of strategies, initiatives and support for institutional and human capacity building, and by providing technical assistance to meet the needs and requirements of the ITU membership.

ITU's work under digital applications is expected to deliver the following outcomes:

- 1) Enhanced interoperability and performance of telecommunication/ICT applications.
- 2) Enhanced adoption and use of telecommunication/ICT applications, including for e-government.
- 3) Increased deployment of telecommunication/ICT networks and services needed for such applications.
- 4) Improved capacity to leverage telecommunication/ICT-centric innovation and entrepreneurship for sustainable development.