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| **3rd Round of TDAG Web Dialogues**C:\Users\comas\AppData\Local\Temp\Rar$DRa0.735\jpg\ITU official logo_blue_RGB.jpg  **12-21 May 2020, Online** |
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| 3rd Round of TDAG Web Dialogues: **Partnerships for Digital Transformation: Engaging Stakeholders for Meaningful Impact**  Date: **21 May 2020**  Title: **Background document** |

**Background**

It is a fact that digital technologies have advanced more rapidly than any other innovation. Nevertheless, while digital technologies have the potential to drive us towards an inclusive and sustainable world, half of the world’s population is still offline. A **digital transformation** journey that embraces a “whole-of-society” approach for inclusive and meaningful connectivity calls for **building strategic partnerships**.

Through pooling complementary resources, partnerships have the potential to deliver far more than the sum of their parts and stakeholders particularly the private sector have a key role to play. Partnering does not come naturally and, in this regard, there is a need to build an enabling environment for the shared value of public-private collaboration aligned with countries’ development needs and with business and investment strategies.

With its diverse membership base and experience in partnerships and project delivery, BDT is a neutral convener of a wide range of stakeholders for effective collaboration, partnerships and for pooling resources and capabilities for the implementation of its development agenda and maximizing value creation towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

Within the three hours of this dialogue, panellists will share views on establishing innovative and effective partnerships with ITU that could lead to high impact projects that will be instrumental to the attainment of the SDGs.

Reacting to the insights shared by the Panellists, the session will proceed with an open segment where participating organizations are free to share ideas on how best ITU/BDT could strengthen partnerships leading to win-win co-financing partnerships with its Membership. Of interest is how Membership participation and contribution to development work could be enhance and enriched. In so doing, participating organizations are encouraged to share experiences, good practices, and ways to strengthen the relationship amongst ITU-D and its wide membership base for the delivery of impactful results.

Each panellist will have five minutes to share views based on the following questions:

* How could we foster a holistic multi-stakeholder approach to investing in digital technologies to achieve the SDGs?
* What are good examples of broad-based initiatives or mechanisms that are systematically catalysing partnerships in the ICT field?
* What types of investment and business models can drive meaningful and inclusive connectivity?
* What are the needed conditions for effective public-private partnerships that sustain digital transformation?
* What do Funding Agencies want to see in order to invest in development work through financing ICT projects?
* What can we do to align public-private sector donor funding expectations to national priorities?

A **summary report** of this Web Dialogue will be prepared reflecting key policy messages and recommendations.

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