

## Contact:

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## Profession

Telecommunications,  
Internet Governance,  
Digital Economy,  
Regulator, Policy maker,  
Strategist

## Passion

Making the life of People  
better by using ICTs



## Contributing Roles

**Head of Telecom  
Regulatory Body**

**Technical Head of  
Telecommunications  
Division (Ministry)**

**Board Member in  
several companies and  
organizations**

**Technology Expert**

**Renowned Panelist**

**Keynote Speaker**

**International Consultant**

Dr. S. Ismail Shah is a renowned ICT professional, with expertise and experience spanning cellular, NGN, internet and digital technologies. With an extensive background in technology implementation, ICT policy-making and regulations, Dr. Shah is serving as the Chairman of the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) since 2013 and has led some of the most high-profile undertakings in Pakistan's ICT. These undertakings include several spectrum auctions and launch of HSPA+ and LTE services and subsequent growth in the number of Internet users and digital economy in one of the world's most competitive and price-sensitive markets. This has been recognized by the GSMA in the shape of the Spectrum for Mobile Broadband Award 2015 given to Pakistan. He was one of the major contributors towards the Telecommunication Policy 2015 that has been awarded with a Leadership award by GSMA in 2017. He was also given the additional charge of the CEO of the National ICT R&D Fund Company from January to December 2016, where he worked on many projects related to the Digital Economy and towards the establishment of the first National Incubation Center and bringing Pakistani startups to the 4YFN (Four Years From Now) program at the MWC 2017. He actively participates in the Internet Governance Forums and has been a speaker at the many Internet governance related issues in events organized by ISOC and other organizations. He is a vocal supporter for the rights of access to the Internet for all, specially Persons with Disabilities and Women. He has been an active member of the board of directors of the Universal Services Fund Company (USF), National ICT R&D Fund Company, KPK IT Board, Frequency Allocation Board, the largest Landline company in Pakistan the Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited and its subsidiary company offering cellular mobile services known as Ufone and Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority.

Dr. Shah is also the Vice-President of the General Assembly of the Asia Pacific Telecommunity (APT) and, over the years, has been a keynote speaker and a sought-after panelist on major global events like the ITU Telecom World Forum, MENA Spectrum Management Conference, MWC GSMA, ISOC's event at Chatham House, Regulatory Round Tables and Regional Development Forums sharing his insights on spectrum management, technical capacity-building, regulations, broadband policy, universal service and the proliferation of digital services and applications.

With a rich research and teaching background, Dr. Shah has provided extensive consultation to the communications industry as well as different government agencies. As the Executive Director of Central Asian Cellular Forum, Dr. Shah led technical audits of CDMA, UMTS/WCDMA and LTE trainings in various countries of Central Asia, South Asia, Middle East and the United States and has undertaken assignments on spectrum, universal service and related policy subjects.

Prior to becoming the Chairman of PTA, Dr. S. Ismail Shah served at the highest technical management position in the Pakistan's Ministry of IT & Telecommunications as Member Telecom. He is experienced in handling major national-level administrative and security issues related to the highly volatile market dynamics, online content, low-cost end-user terminals and impact of digitalization on the economy, deployment of optical fiber to guarantee connectivity to rural areas, and licensing.

Dr. Shah is a strong proponent of using ICT to create smarter societies. Combination of his very strong intellectual and technical rigor with his leadership roles, has given him unique and un-paralleled perspective to become a global ambassador for unleashing the power of ICTs. He has also worked on many initiatives for Persons with Disabilities, Women Empowerment, Big data analytics, Internet of Things, Shared Economy and Digital Entrepreneurship. He believes in multi-stakeholder approach in policy making and has among other areas certifications in NGN, Cloud Computing and Internet Governance.

Dr. Shah holds a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh, USA. He is a registered professional Engineer and is also a Senior Member of IEEE, USA and Member of the Institute of Electronics Information and Communication Engineers, Japan and has more than 100 technical publications.