Enabling environment

An enabling environment consists of a policy and regulatory environment conducive to sustainable telecommunication/ICT development that encourages innovation and investment in infrastructure and ICTs and that increases adoption of telecommunications/ICTs to reduce the digital divide and promote a more inclusive and equal society.

To foster an enabling environment, the Union will work to provide assistance to Member States on technical and organizational aspects in developing an innovative and meaningful environment, by establishing new partnerships and utilizing existing, as well as new and emerging, telecommunication/ICT services and technologies, connectivity solutions and new business models, with a focus on digital inclusion and environmental sustainability.

ITU's role in creating an enabling environment also entails the promotion of active participation of the membership, in particular developing countries, including least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing states (SIDS), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs), and countries with economies in transition; the definition and adoption of international telecommunication/ICT standards and regulations with a view to bridging the standardization gap; the fostering of equitable access to radio-frequency spectrum, satellite-orbit and other essential resources; and the development of best practices and capacity to close the digital divide.

ITU's work under enabling environment is expected to deliver the following outcomes:

1) Conducive policy and regulatory environment for innovation and investment to drive social and economic growth.
2) Digitally skilled users.
3) Enhanced digital inclusion2.
4) Enhanced ability of all countries, in particular developing countries, to develop and implement strategies, policies and practices for digital inclusion, access and use telecommunications/ICTs, implement, and participate in the development of, ITU's international standards, recommendations, best practices and regulations.
5) Enhanced adoption of policies and strategies for the environmentally sustainable use of telecommunications/ICTs.