

Programme 2

**Programme on cybersecurity, ICT applications and IP-based
network-related issues**

1 Background

In ICT for development initiatives, there has long been a realization that building information societies requires an *ecosystem approach*, supporting elements of which include an enabling environment, infrastructure build-out, capacity building and broad availability of information and communication technology (ICT) applications and services.

These elements create a virtuous circle for broadband infrastructure development, where new types of content and applications drive an ever-increasing need for more bandwidth.

2 Purpose

The main purpose of Programme 2 is to support the ITU membership, in particular developing countries, in addressing the issues identified above, namely:

2.1 Improving access to ICT applications and services contributes to economic and social development, especially in underserved and rural areas, and to attaining the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) targets.

2.2 Achieving trust and confidence in the use of ICTs, the Internet and next-generation networks (NGNs) is important for the deployment and use of broadband networks. Cybersecurity should be dealt with taking into consideration the global, transnational nature of cyberthreats and under certain circumstances cybercrime, and taking into account the framework of the ITU Global Cybersecurity Agenda (GCA).

2.3 Promoting fair and equitable access to critical Internet resources (CIRs), by enabling the adaptation of adequate national and/or regional policy processes, specifically for IP-based networks, including the transition from IPv4 and migration to/deployment of IPv6, domain names and their internationalized versions.

2.4 Capacity building, through enhancement of awareness of the use of critical Internet resources, in collaboration, when required, with relevant expert organizations.

3 Priority areas

3.1 ICT applications and services

Developing telecommunication infrastructures to support ICT applications as well as person-to-person voice communications is a key challenge for the ITU membership, particularly in developing countries.

With the number of mobile subscribers expected to surpass the 5 billion mark in 2010, most of them in developing countries, the untapped potential for mobile ICT applications to support socioeconomic development is enormous.

In the area of ICT applications, Programme 2 will focus on the following priority areas:

3.1.1 Elaboration of national strategic planning frameworks and associated toolkits for selected ICT applications and services in close collaboration with related UN specialized agencies and programmes, the private sector and other international organizations (e.g. World Bank, OECD) with expertise in these

domains. These frameworks and toolkits facilitate the elaboration of cross-sector national e-strategies and build capacity among the ITU membership to articulate national visions, objectives, strategies, action plans and performance indicators to support the implementation of large-scale ICT applications and services that leverage existing infrastructure more effectively. This will result in effective harnessing of ICTs to better serve socio-economic development.

3.1.2 Development of a cross-domain mobile application framework to improve the delivery of value-added services using mobile communications. This could start with high-potential services like mobile health and mobile banking applications, but subsequently extended to the development of other kinds of applications. Programme 2 will act as a catalyst, by launching appropriate partnership platforms – involving public and private partners – in order to foster the development of mobile-based ICT applications.

3.2 Cybersecurity

Major challenges remain ahead for ITU Member States – especially developing countries – in achieving cybersecurity. Programme 2 should support Member States with specific initiatives and activities related to legal measures, technical and procedural measures, organizational structures, capacity building and international cooperation as described in this section.

In the area of cybersecurity, Programme 2 will focus on the following priority areas:

3.2.1 Support ITU Member States in the development of their national and/or regional cybersecurity strategies, as an essential step towards building national capabilities for dealing with cyberthreats, and within the principles of international cooperation, taking into account the relevant UN General Assembly resolutions on cybersecurity, including 55/63, 56/121, 57/239, 58/199 and 64/211.

3.2.2 Support ITU Member States in their efforts to build capacity, by:

3.2.2.1 facilitating Member States' access to resources developed by other relevant international organizations that are working on national legislation to combat cybercrime;

3.2.2.2 supporting ITU Member States' national and regional efforts to build capacity to protect against cyberthreats/cybercrime, in collaboration with one another;

3.2.2.3 consistent with the national legislation of Member States referred to above, assisting Member States, in particular developing countries, in the elaboration of appropriate and workable legal measures relating to protection against cyberthreats at national, regional and international levels, taking into account the information referred to in 3.2.2.1 above;

3.2.2.4 establishing technical and procedural measures, aimed at securing national ICT infrastructures, taking into account the work of the relevant ITU-T study groups and, as appropriate, other relevant organizations;

3.2.2.5 establishing organizational structures, such as computer incident response teams (CIRTs), to identify, manage and respond to cyberthreats, and cooperation mechanisms at the regional and international level.

3.2.3 Contribute to the implementation of ITU's ongoing and future global initiatives to combat cyberthreats, with the support provided by the ITU membership as active partners/contributors.

3.2.4 Contribute also to the implementation of ITU's Child Online Protection initiative, with the cooperation and support of the ITU membership as active partners/contributors.

3.3 Critical Internet resources

Providing open and equitable access to critical Internet resources (CIRs) and ensuring that countries improve awareness on issues pertaining to Internet-related public policy, including Internet governance, are key issues for ITU Member States. With the ever-increasing migration to all-IPbased networks and the evolution of the current Internet governance arrangements, many developing countries need to build national capacity and improve their contribution and involvement in the management and effective governance of the Internet.

In the area of CIRs, Programme 2 will focus on the following priority areas:

3.3.1 Support ITU members with deployment/migration to IPv6-based networks and applications, in collaboration, when required, with relevant expert organizations.

3.3.2 Support ITU Member States in building capacity on the elaboration of national/regional policies and strategies in the management and use of domain names and internationalized domain names (IDNs) in order to foster development of and access to ICT content and applications compatible with national/regional needs, in collaboration, when required, with the relevant expert organizations.

3.3.3 Facilitate dialogue among the ITU membership on international public policy issues related to the Internet, including the organization of events, in order to facilitate capacity building and transfer of know-how.

4 Deliverables and means

For all of the above-mentioned priority areas, the anticipated deliverables fit within the following four categories: Creation of tools; Assistance to members; Information sharing; Partnerships. These categories are complementary and interlinked, as they contribute to the overall success of each of the priority areas identified above.

4.1 Creation of tools

Development of tools in the form of scoping documents, associated toolkits and guidelines and specific technical capabilities is essential for subject areas where the level of readiness is not mature and where BDT, in collaboration, when required, with relevant entities, will bring added value, and also address specific communities of need, such as children, youth, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities. Tools should leverage the expertise of other BDT programmes, ITU study groups and relevant stakeholders and expert organizations.

4.2 Assistance to members

Assistance to members can take the form of thematic workshops, meetings and seminars on the priority areas identified above, or the provision of specific expert assistance to elaborate a project for a specific Member State or group of Member States, in close collaboration with relevant experts or bodies. This assistance could be coordinated with ITU regional offices, relevant expert organizations and/or the projects division where assistance involves the elaboration of a project structure.

4.3 Information sharing

Seminars, workshops and appropriate tools and guidelines are an important information-sharing mechanism, but sustainable initiatives can be carried out through dedicated web-based platforms developed by ITU and relevant experts on thematic subjects, and presented in an interconnected manner to ensure synergies and good visibility of work undertaken.

4.4 Partnerships

ITU launched and continues to launch international partnerships on subjects which, to succeed, require international cooperation. For instance, subjects related to cybersecurity will likely continue to be candidates for such endeavours, due to the global and borderless nature of cyberthreats.

5 Relationship with other activities

5.1 Provide advice, expertise and support to ITU-D regional offices, ITU projects and ITU regional initiatives.

5.2 Collaborate closely with ITU-D programmes and initiatives, ITU-D study groups, as well as ITU-T, ITU-R and the General Secretariat.

5.3 Cooperate with other regional and international organizations on joint activities and projects.

5.4 Undertake activities related to relevant WTDC-10 resolutions: 45, 54, 63, 65, 66, 67, 69, 72 and 74.