International Telecommunication Union

Creating Digital Opportunities:
the mission of ITU/BDT
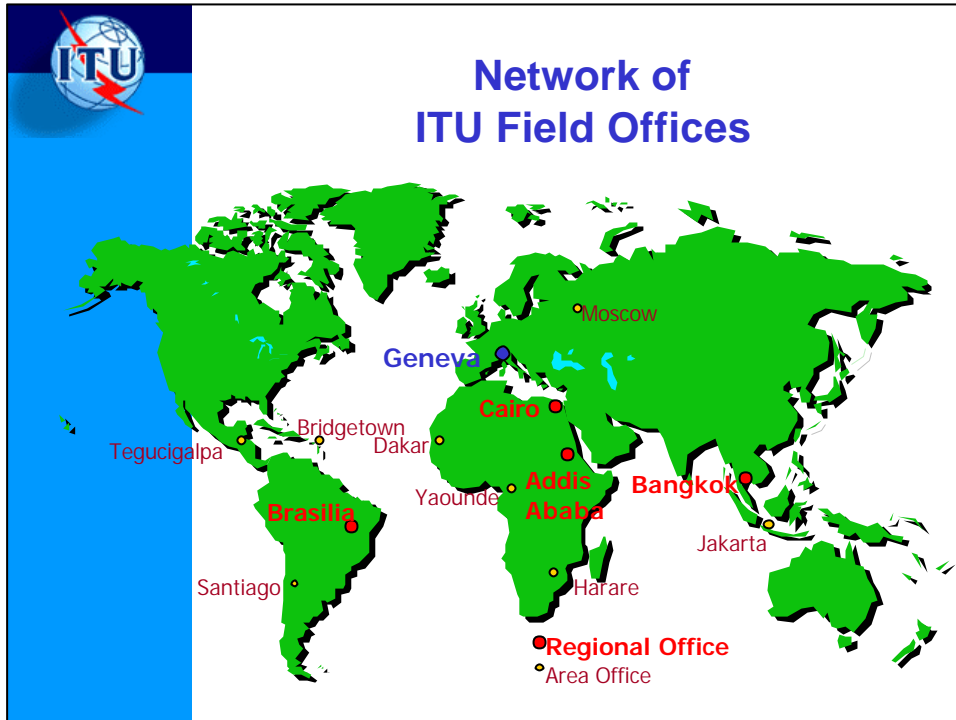
Presented by Nenad Stankovic
Head, EUR & CIS Unit

Ljubljana, December 1, 2003

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

o **UN Specialized Agency for telecommunications**
o **Oldest inter-governmental organization (established in 1865 and part of the UN family since 1947)**
o **Global organization with broad membership**
   • **189 Member States and**
   • **600+ sector members**
o **Triple global mandate**
   1. **Coordinate use of radio-communications resources (frequencies, satellite orbits, etc.)**
   2. **Establish global telecom standards**
   3. **Promote the development of ICT sector worldwide**

Network of ITU Field Offices

Moscow

Geneva

Cairo

Bridgetown
Tegucigalpa
Dakar
Addis Ababa
Bangkok
Yaounde
Jakarta
Brasilia
Santiago
Harare

● **Regional Office**
○ Area Office

International Telecommunication Union

ITU-D Action Plans

The world's only cross-regional telecommunication development programmes defined by World Telecommunication Development Conferences (WTDCs) every four years

1. **Buenos Aires Action Plan (1995-1998)**
2. **Valletta Action Plan (1999-2002)**
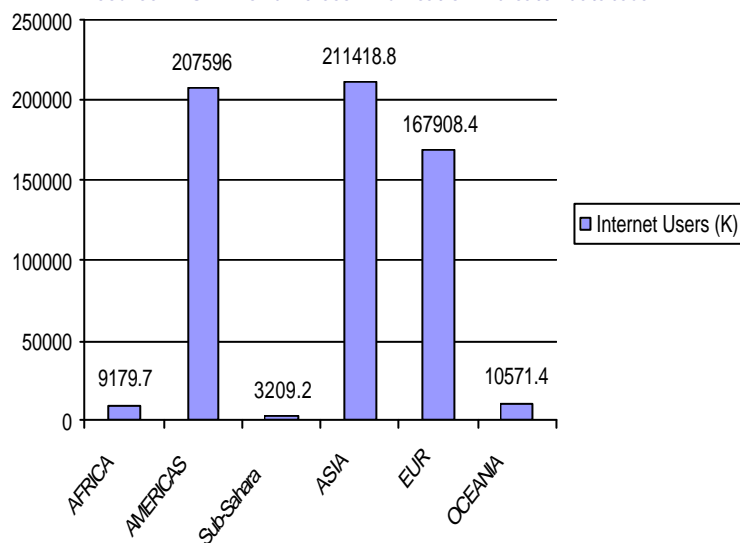3. **Istanbul Action Plan (2003-2006)**

WTDC-02 Results

o **Istanbul Declaration**
o **ITU-D Strategic Plan**
o **Istanbul Action Plan (IsAP)**
  - **IsAP Development Actions**
    - 6 Programmes & 6 Initiatives
  - **International Cooperation & Regional Initiatives (eg., RCC, CEPT, EC)**
  - **38 Resolutions and 5 Recommendations including:**
    - Res. 30 Role of ITU-D in WSIS preparation
    - Res. 33 Rebuilding Serbia & Montenegro public broadcasting & telecommunication systems
    - Res. 37 Role of ITU-D in bridging Digital Divide
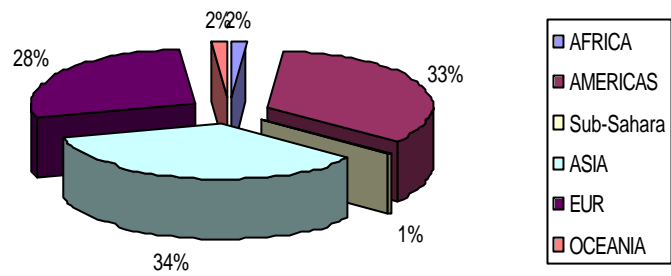
Internet Users (K) in 2002

Source: ITU-D World Telecommunication Indicator database
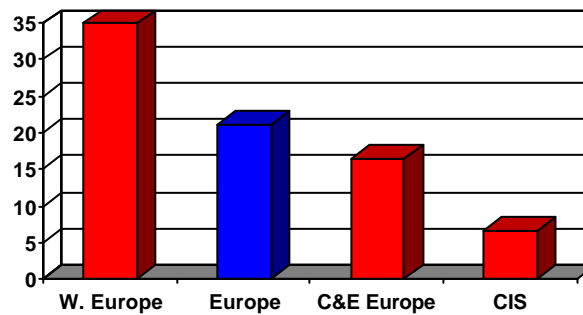

Region	Internet Users (K)
AFRICA	9179.7
AMERICAS	207596
Sub-Sahara	3209.2
ASIA	211418.8
EUR	167908.4
OCEANIA	10571.4

Internet Users (K) in 2002

Source: ITU-D World Telecommunication Indicator database

Pie chart labels: 28%, 2%, 2%, 33%, 34%, 1%

Legend:
- AFRICA
- AMERICAS
- Sub-Sahara
- ASIA
- EUR
- OCEANIA

Example of Digital Divide in Europe
Source: **ITU-D World Telecommunication Indicator database**

Estimated PCs per 100 inhabitants, 2002

Bar chart with y-axis from 0 to 35 (increments of 5).

Categories: W. Europe, Europe, C&E Europe, CIS

Istanbul Action Plan (IsAP)
SIX PROGRAMMES

Prog 2
Technologies and Networks

Prog 1
Regulatory Reform

Prog 3
E-Strategies and E-services

Prog 4
Economics and Finance

Prog 5
Human Capacity Building

Prog 6
Least Developed Countries

Stimulate Effective Regulation

o Trends in Telecommunication Reform
o Regulatory Models
o Online Library and resource centre (T-REG)
o International & regional workshops/seminars
   • Global Symposium for Regulators
o Training through CoEs for capacity building
Online discussion for regulators and policy-makers (GREX)
o Direct Assistance and support to regional regulatory associations

GLOBAL SYMPOSIUM FOR REGULATORS (GSR 2002)

Promote Network Readiness

o Network Planning
o Spectrum Management
o Transitioning strategies and implementation
  • Analogue to digital broadcasting
  • 2G to IMT-2000
  • Circuit-switching to IP infrastructure & telephony
o Technical Assistance in Planning and Operations

Grow the E-Economy

o Internet Protocol
o Value-added Applications
  • E-government
  • E-health
  • E-education
  • E-business
  • E-agriculture

Support in Economics and Finance matters

- o Software COSITU
- o Publications such as Trends in Economics and Finance
- o Development of studies, methodologies and databases on tariff policies, tariff models and calculation methods
- o Development of databases on financial institutions and private sources of financing telecom development
- o Direct assistance to countries on financial matters

Build Human Capacity

- o **Regional Know-How and Training**
  - • Centers of Excellence
- o **Distance Training on Demand**
  - • E-Learning Platform (Virtual Training Centre)
- o **Continuous Online Education**
  - • Global Telecom University (degree program)
  - • Global Telecom Training Institute
- o **Management Development for Telecoms**
  - • Training for Senior Managers
- o **IP technology training**
  - • Internet Training Centers: 55 by Oct 2003

Integrate Poorest Countries

UN General Assembly counts 49 Least Developed Countries

(GDP of under $900 per capita)

Concentrated Assistance to LDCs

and

Countries in Special Need

Istanbul Action Plan (IsAP)
SIX INITIATIVES

- Youth
- Women
- Indigenous People
- Statistics and Information
- Partnerships and Promotion
- Private Sector Initiatives

What ITU/BDT is doing to Create Digital Opportunities in Europe & CIS

o **Sub-regional support**
  - ITU Area Office in Moscow

o **Information and Knowledge support**
  - Seminars and Workshops
  - Centre of Excellence and Internet Training Centers (Cisco Academies)

o **Resources and Infrastructure support**
  - Direct Assistance, Project Development and Bilateral Cooperation

Current Initiatives and Projects to Create Digital Opportunities

o **Moldova**: national numbering plan, interconnection regulation and spectrum management

o **Kazakhstan**: network infrastructure plan

o **Kyrgyzstan**: E-agriculture project

o **Azerbaijan**: E-business and E-govt policy

o **Georgia**: E-govt and E-commerce platform

o **Albania**: ICT strategy implementation and interconnection regulation

o **Serbia & Montenegro**: implementation of the Resolution 33 (WTDC-02, Istanbul)

Forthcoming Digital Opportunities (2004-2007)

o **Regional Project on ICT Strategies for Enabling Environments for E-applications**
  - **Support Projects in Bosnia & Herzegovina and Turkey**
o **Regional Project on Telecommunication Sector Regulation and Practices**
  - **Support Projects in Albania and Romania**
o **Regional Activities on Spectrum Management and Digital Broadcasting**
  - **Support Projects in Bulgaria and Slovakia**

WSIS: Global Platform for Digital Opportunities

o **Under the high patronage of UN Secretary-General, with ITU taking the lead role, in cooperation with other UN agencies**
o **Presence of more than 60 Heads of State and Government, Executive Heads of UN agencies, industry leaders, NGOs, media and civil society in a single high-level event**
o **Coordination of roles of the various partners in practical establishment of the information society around the globe**
o **Geneva 2003: Phase 1, 10-12 December - will adopt Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action**
o **Tunis 2005: Phase 2, 16-18 November - assess progress and adopt any further Plan of Action**

ITU and WSIS
Summit side events in Geneva

o **ITU High-Level Dialogue:** making the information society a reality for all (9 December)
o **Statistical workshop on Monitoring the Information Society:** Data, Measurements and Methods (8-9 December)
o **CTO Meeting:** vision statement by chief technology officers (8 December)
o **Global Symposium for Regulators:** theme of universal access (8-9 December)
o **ITU Membership Stand:** Halls 2 and 4 at Palexpo (9-12 December)

http://www.itu.int/osg/cec/wsis2003

Partnership with ITU in Creating Digital Opportunities

o **ITU's role in contributing towards building a global information society and closing the digital divide can only be fully achieved through partnership and collaboration with other players**
o **ITU's broad mandate, experience and large membership, which includes both public and private sector, are unique features that would facilitate the transformation from digital divide to digital opportunities for all**
o **ITU continues to provide a time-tested framework for establishing partnerships and a WIN-WIN opportunity through strong synergies amongst the parties**

International Telecommunication Union

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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