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| Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau |
| ITU-D PARTNERSHIP AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION  |

**Summary:**

The importance of partnership and resource mobilization was highlighted by WTDC‑14. In this framework, BDT has carried out various activities, initiatives and projects to enhance partnership and resource mobilization. This document presents an overview of the outcomes on ITU-D partnership and resource mobilization at regional and global levels.

**Action required:**

TDAG is invited to note this document and to provide guidance as deemed appropriate.

**References:**

WTDC-14 Dubai Declaration; WTDC-14 Goal 4; WTDC-14 Output 2.3;

WTDC Resolution 17 (Rev. Dubai, 2014); and WTDC Resolution 71 (Rev. Dubai, 2014)

1. Background

Strengthening partnerships and mobilizing extra-budgetary resources is becoming increasingly important to BDT given its mandate, in particular the growing volume and variety of its initiatives including the Regional Initiatives, projects and activities to implement. Therefore, BDT has been developing tools and strategies to enhance partnerships and resource mobilization to support activities, initiatives and project implementation at global and regional levels.

1. Regional actions and outcomes
	1. Africa

Cyber security maturity review has been performed for Sierra Leone and Madagascar in partnership with the Global Cyber Security Capacity Centre of the University of Oxford.

With regard to broadband, the following was implemented: a) Burundi: a broadband strategy delivered and an institutional reform partnership with ITU extended for a new Digital Economy framework; b) Madagascar: efforts deployed to mobilize resources for a wireless broadband project; c) Burkina Faso: broadband wireless network project covered 10 locations - connectivity for schools, hospitals and public administration buildings through the deployment of local area networks to be implemented in 2017; and d) Mali: similar project under preparation.

IPv6 testbeds are being deployed in various countries (Uganda, Zimbabwe and Cameroon). These test beds were funded one-third by ITU and two-thirds by the beneficiary countries.

Assistance was provided to Sierra Leone in the form of human capacity building in particular through workshops organized in partnership with NATCOM. This concerned operators of business efficiency, competition and market, pricing and costing, spectrum management and telecommunication law.

Several projects related to the health sector are being implemented such as:

* mDiabetes project[[1]](#footnote-1) in Senegal in partnership with the Ministry of Health, ASSAD (National diabetics association), Nokia, MNC Orange, SONATEL, Expresso and Tigo (under the ITU-WHO Initiative « Be He@lthy, Be Mobile »). To date, about 55 000 people have been registered in the mDiabete project. The project team is working on integrating a mHTA (high blood pressure) component in the second phase of the project, as diabetes and high blood pressure are closely related.
* MCervical Cancer project in Zambia (launch in October 2016) with technical support from a WHO-ITU initiative which aims to increase knowledge of cervical cancer among women in the screening age interval (25-59) years, resulting in more women accessing cervical cancer screening services.
* Telemedicine Project in Zimbabwe, funded by ITU, UNDP and the Government of Zimbabwe aiming at providing connectivity between hospitals in the country with ICTS to improve medical service delivery.

As co-Chairman of the Steering Committee and a member of the Smart Africa Board, ITU fostered collaboration with and provided technical assistance to Smart Africa and hosted both governance meetings. At their meeting in June 2016 on the side-line of the African Union Summit, the Smart Africa Board endorsed the One Africa Network, which eliminates international roaming charges among the Smart Africa Alliance countries. The One Africa Network initiative was launched by the Presidents of Rwanda and Gabon to remove roaming charges between the two countries. The Smart Africa Scholarship Fund initially seed-funded by ITU with USD 200 000 from ICT Development Fund (ICT-DF) and launched in 2015, has grown to USD 1 200 000. As of February 2017, Smart Africa has sponsored 17 students, 6 of whom are women, to attend Carnegie Mellon University in Rwanda.

* 1. Americas

Following the success of the project with the Argentine Administration promoting the integration of more than 20 universities as Academia members in ITU activities, ITU Regional and Area Offices are coordinating with other Administrations of the region, such as Colombia, to replicate it.

Projects have been developed and implemented in cooperation with stakeholders from the public and private sector: e.g., a technical cooperation project with Anatel aiming at strengthening the Brazilian Regulatory Agency; Spectrum Allocation with MINCIT in Colombia. Roadmaps for the transition from analogue to digital terrestrial television broadcasting, through the use of ITU Guidelines, as well as interactive maps of worldwide long distance terrestrial and submarine optical fibre systems have been developed by ITU in cooperation with national and regional stakeholders. Studies on the formal independence of the regulatory authorities have been developed for Peru, Bolivia and Panama which will be published in 2017.

In the framework of cooperation with ITU centres of excellence (CoE) in the Americas region and through the ITU Academy platform, online training courses were delivered in the field of advanced communication networks, spectrum management, ICT application and services, satellite systems and wireless networks. Courses on the use of ICT for information and communication tools, development of digital content, virtual education and e-commerce were provided by ITU and the Indigenous Development Fund for Latin America and the Caribbean to 221 indigenous peoples.

Training materials have been developed in cooperation with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) on “Economics of Broadband and ICTs” and on “ICT network Deployment and Operation”, to be delivered by CEABAD, a training centre established by the IDB in Nicaragua.

Several forums and workshops were organized in partnership with Administrations (Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay) as well as with international, regional, and sub-regional organizations (e.g., ASIET, CITEL, CTU, COMTELCA, LACNIC, OAS).

* 1. Arab States

Various workshops, forums and expert meetings (e.g. Public-private partnerships (PPP) and ICT4D applications, enabling environment for ICT applications development, over-the-top (OTT) services, child online protection, conformance and interoperability, cloud computing, smart learning, smart and sustainable development, ICT accessibility, new technologies for development, VSAT and satellite systems, IPv6, etc.) were organized by the ITU regional office for the Arab States in cooperation with various stakeholders (World Bank, ITSO, UNESCWA, ARTECNET, AREGNET, ARCC, Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of the United Arab Emirates, NTC of Sudan, SUDACAD-Sudan, Ministry of Communication and Information of Egypt, UMA, ALECSO, UNESCO, Universities in Tunis, Mohamed Bin Rashid Smart Learning Programme, etc.).

In addition, since 2013, two important annual cybersecurity events (the Regional Cybersecurity Summit and the Regional Cyber Drill) are being organized by the ITU regional office for the Arab States in partnership with the ITU-ARCC.

In 2016, ITU signed two cooperation agreements with MCIT Egypt, one to establish a regional centre for ICT accessibility for persons with disabilities and one to implement a project on smart groundwater management in Egypt. Also, a cooperation agreement was signed with the Mohamed Bin Rashid Smart Learning Programme and the Telecommunication Regulatory Authority of the United Arab Emirates to conduct capacity building programmes in the field of smart learning for countries in the Arab Region.

* 1. Asia and the Pacific

ITU regional and area offices for the Asia-Pacific region continued working with several partners in various areas, including e-agriculture with FAO, m-Health with WHO, IPv6 and Internet exchange points (IXPs) with APNIC, broadcasting with ABU and AIBD, human capacity building with Asia Pacific Telecommunity, and through centres of excellence and associated partners.

The regional and area offices addressed telecommunication/ICT indicators and statistics needs in six ASEAN Member States, cyber incidence handling and cyber security strategy, including coding boot camp with MICT, Philippines.

Girls in ICT Day was co-organized by the regional and area offices in association with CISCO in Bangkok and with CISCO and other partners in Manila, Philippines and Yogjakarta, Indonesia.

The regional and area offices also organized several forums and meetings (e.g., telecommunication/ICT, e-Government, smart cities and digital societies for sustainable development, spectrum management and monitoring, child online protection) with various partners, among others: the Department of Communications and the Arts (DoCA), Australia; Ministry of Digital Economy and Society (MDES), Thailand; Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning (MSIP), Republic of Korea; NIA, WeGO, and the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Additionally, the regional offices and area offices organized the GSMA-ITU Digital Societies Policy Forum 2016 in partnership with MDES, Thailand and the ITU Regional Development Forum for Asia-Pacific Region (RDF-ASP2016) with the Ministry of ICT, Philippines.

* 1. CIS

By the end of 2016, four out of five WTDC-14 CIS Regional Initiatives (CIS-RIs) were fully implemented. Major outputs of CIS-RI1 in 2016 included the creation of a database for storing data on technical solutions for child online protection and software for choosing optimal technical solutions (<https://contentfiltering.info)> and an automated distribution system of unsafe and safe lists of Internet resources (<http://bwld.online)>.

The ITU Area Office for CIS also continued CIS-RI2 implementation by creating an Internet access and training centre for users with motor and speech disabilities in Republic Sakha, Russian Federation (10 working places) and for persons with hearing disabilities in Minsk, Republic of Belarus (10 working places). Other important outputs include the development of software for the diagnosis of human susceptibility to one or more channels of information perception and methodological requirements to e-learning resources (CIS-RI3) and a report on the current situation in the CIS on building confidence and security in the use of ICTs (CIS-RI5).

Following demand from ITU membership in the CIS, areas of technical cooperation, capacity building activities and regional discussion in 2016 included digital switchover, implementation of WRC-15 outcomes, mobile number portability, 4G/5G, cybersecurity, applications and rural connectivity. Throughout the year, 11 workshops, seminars and trainings were organized, attracting more than 500 participants in total from more than 15 countries.

* 1. Europe

The proposed bottom-up working method of programming the activities to be carried out under the Regional Initiatives for Europe (EUR-RIs) strongly focus on mobilization of resources, building of partnerships and engaging potential new members of ITU. In this framework, the Regional Development Forum for Europe on “Broadband for Sustainable Development”, which took place in Romania, aimed to attract new partners interested in joining forces with BDT to implement EUR RI and to establish an implementation plan for 2015-2017, based on partners’ commitments. New entities were identified and became partners for the implementation of EUR-RI. Efforts were also made to engage other UN agencies. In this context, ITU hosted a meeting of the UN Regional Coordination Mechanism for Europe and Central Asia and a meeting of the ECA Regional UNDG Team. Coordination has been carried out to ensure integration of the ICT component in UNDAF in Europe, taking into account the new priorities set up by the SDG Summit.

Significant efforts have been dedicated, at all levels, towards strengthening collaboration with the European Commission to carry out joint actions in the region. Discussions were also held with other key European institutions including the European Investment Bank (EIB), European Bank for Rebuilding and Reconstruction (EBRD), EC Joint Research Centre, European Broadcasting Union (EBU), ENISA, etc. which resulted in concrete joint activities in the region.

Coordination with ITU Member States was carried out to seek their support in engaging Academia members in ITU activities. Key Academia networks were identified to strengthen outreach. As a result, ITU has been invited to support the regional meeting for Europe of the International Telecommunication Society that was held in September 2016.

A Central European Conference on Public-Private Dialogue Platforms was held to strengthen public-private dialogue and partnership building in cybersecurity to be reiterated in 2016.

1. Global Actions and Outcomes
	1. Partnership and Resource Mobilization Products and Tools

BDT has created various internal and external tools aiming at supporting BDT efforts in partnership and resource mobilization for [ITU-D projects](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Projects/Pages/default.aspx) and initiative implementation, such as:

* ***The funding partners’ database***: about 110 profiles of existing and potential partners from administrations, multi-/bilateral agencies, development banks, foundations, and private-sector companies.
* ***The partnership agreements’ database***: around 930 Agreements signed by ITU/BDT with various stakeholders related to national, regional and global activities, initiatives and projects.
* ***The*** [***partnership opportunities website***](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Partners/pages/call4partners/partnerships.aspx): provision of information on BDT projects and initiatives for consideration by potential partners for initiate discussion and further development of more complete proposals[[2]](#footnote-2).
* ***The*** [***sponsorship opportunities website***](http://www.itu.int/go/en/itudsponsorships)***:*** a newly developed interactive sponsorship platform, available in the six ITU official languages, proposes opportunities for entities to enhance visibility, promote brands, and showcase ICT products and solutions via side and social activities of global or regional events organized by BDT. Current sponsorship packages are proposed for side and/or social activities at the occasion of GSR-17, WTDC-17, and the ITU-D 25th Anniversary. Discounts are offered to ITU-D membership for open events/meetings as well as for multiple sponsored activities. All resources mobilized will be used to organize activities sponsored and to implement activities, projects, and initiatives, including the Regional Initiatives, in the framework of the WTDC-14 Action Plan [[3]](#footnote-3).
	1. Global partnerships

While BDT pays particular attention at nurturing relationship with existing partners and engaging them in a lasting relationship, BDT also recognizes the importance of widening and diversifying its partner base through outreaching activities towards nontraditional partners.

Thus, in a convergent ICT ecosystem, BDT is putting special efforts into reaching out to entities operating in other sectors such as the health/pharmaceutical, finance or agriculture sectors (e.g. in 2016, partnerships signed with WHO, Norwegian Directorate of Health (NDH), Sanofi Avantis Group, Alliance for Financial Inclusion (AFI), FAO) to support implementation of its projects.

1. Results

As a result of BDT efforts in partnership and resource mobilization, some 174 new agreements and 67 addenda/amendments with an estimated value of USD 32.6 million have been signed between 2013 and 2016. *More information is available in Document* [*INF/2.*](https://www.itu.int/md/D14-TDAG21-INF-0006/en)

***Charts: Analysis of new agreements signed between 2013 and 2016***[[4]](#footnote-4)

1. **Way forward**

BDT will continue to develop and enhance its resource mobilization products and tools as well as work with traditional and non-traditional partners for the implementation of global, regional and national projects and initiatives, including the Regional Initiatives.

ITU membership is invited to partner with BDT for the implementation of WTDC-14 and PP-14 outcomes, WSIS goals as well as to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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1. On the operational level, the project is organized in four independent sections each chaired by a Professor of medicine: a) m-Sensitization (aims at sensitizing populations for their good awareness on how to care for diabetes primarily for those who are already diabetic and on prevention for those who are not), b) m-Training: aims at training physicians and healthcare specialists in general on how to treat diabetics, c) m-Education of patients: aims at educating patients on how to deal with their diabetes issues and d) m-Follow up: consists of following up on patients and subscribers in general on their diabetes issues. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Partners/pages/call4partners/partnerships.aspx [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. www.itu.int/go/en/itudsponsorships [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. In 2015, 28 agreements were signed for implementation of the “Joint Capacity-Building Activities under the ITU Academy Centres of Excellence” [↑](#footnote-ref-4)