



Telecommunication  
Development Bureau (BDT)



Ref.: Circular BDT/DIR/110

Geneva, 18 October 2021

- ITU Member States
- ITU-D Sector Members
- Academia
- Regional/International Organisations
- UN Specialized Agencies

**Subject: Partner to Connect Digital Coalition – Expression of Interest**

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you to those who joined us at the [Road to Addis: Partner2Connect Meeting](#) which took place on 20 September on the occasion of the 76th UN General Assembly.

The event presented the key outcomes of the [Road to Addis Digital Development Series](#), initiated in 2020 to engage stakeholders from around the world, to discuss and debate the key enablers for meaningful connectivity and digital transformation in preparation for the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC). Also featured was the [Connectivity in the Least Developed Countries: Status Report 2021](#), a joint publication by ITU and the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLS).

In close cooperation with the [Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Technology](#), and in line with the [UN Secretary-General's Roadmap for Digital Cooperation](#), we also launched the **Partner2Connect Digital Coalition**. The Partner2Connect Digital Coalition will serve as a leadership level platform to engage all stakeholder to mobilize and announce new resources, partnerships, and commitments to achieve universal and meaningful connectivity by 2030.

I invite you to join the Coalition through engaging in one of its four Focus Areas:

- 1. Connecting People Everywhere**
- 2. Empowering Communities**
- 3. Building Digital Ecosystems**
- 4. Incentivizing Investments**

Over the course of the next few months, leading up to the **Partner2Connect Digital Development Roundtable** that will take place from 7 to 9 June 2022 at the WTDC, each Focus Area will convene virtually through working groups to develop the Focus Area Action Framework, identify partnership opportunities, make commitments, and support the implementation of the United Nations Secretary-General's Roadmap for Digital Cooperation.

Becoming a member of the Coalition will allow your organization to shape the global digital development agenda towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and join a UN-led global movement to implement solutions and projects that drive digital transformation in hardest-to-connect communities.

Progress in the Coalition will be featured in the second chapter of the *Road to Addis Digital Development Series* that will take place from December 2021 through May 2022.

For additional details, please visit the [Partner2Connect Digital Coalition](#) website, download the [Concept Note](#), and, if you wish to become a member of the Coalition, please complete the Expression of Interest [online form](#) by latest **31 October**. Once you have completed the online form, my team will reach out to you with further details on next steps and the calendar of events and activities.

If you have any questions on the Partner2Connect Digital Coalition, please email us at: [Partner2Connect@itu.int](mailto:Partner2Connect@itu.int).

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Doreen Bogdan-Martin  
Director