



Telecommunication  
Development Bureau (BDT)



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Geneva, 2 March 2021

To:

ITU D Sector Members  
Academia

**Subject: Launch of TECH TALKS- Interactive Information Sharing Sessions with ITU-D Membership**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to inform you that the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has this year launched the **TECH TALKS** Series of events. TECH TALKS are an engagement dialogue platform for ITU-D Sector Members with the BDT staff in the Field Offices and at Headquarters aimed at exchanging and building a closer relationship. Through these series of events with industry peers we intend to share current and planned digital development initiatives contributing to the establishment of digital connectivity for all. ITU-D have been segmented into seven categories (**Annex:1**). The 1<sup>st</sup> TECH TALK event was virtually held on **18 February 2021 (13:00 to 15:00 CET)** with the **Recognized Operating Agencies (ROA) community**. The Concept Note of TECH TALKS is attached as **Annex 2**.

The TECH TALKS series, run by industry, private sector entities, academia, and other entities among our ITU-D Membership, aims to give ITU-D members based on manifestation of interest, opportunities to present technological trends in their areas, and their work in the space of ICT development, as well as the chance to explore partnership opportunities with ITU in projects and initiatives. In turn, we will share opportunities for partnerships and participation in our current and planned activities, projects, and initiatives.

This is a unique time for us to strengthen dialogue, information sharing and partnerships with ITU-D Membership and its communities. Through these TECH TALKS, your innovative approaches and new models of collaboration for connectivity and digital solutions can help shape the agenda of the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-21) to be held from 8 to 19 November 2021, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

TECH TALKS are being programmed throughout the year as closed sessions on a community-by-community basis. Invitations to each participating community will be sent out well in advance. Should you have any questions regarding this, please write to: [membershipitud@itu.int](mailto:membershipitud@itu.int).

I look forward to welcoming you all to your respective community events.

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Doreen Bogdan-Martin  
Director

Annexes: 2

### Annex 1: ITU-D TECH TALKS Communities

Target Group	Description
Community One	<b>Recognized Operating Agencies (ROA)</b> – Mobile Operators, Service Providers
Community Two	<b>Scientific Industrial Organizations (SIO)</b> – Hardware and Software, Manufacturers
Community Three	<b>Satellite Companies and Intergovernmental Organizations Operating Satellite Systems (SATORG)</b>
Community Four	<b>Regional and other International Organizations (REGINTORG), Regional Telecommunication Organizations (REGORG)</b>
Community Five	<b>Regulators</b>
Community Six	<b>Other Entity</b> – Agencies, Foundations, Institutes, Consultants
Community Seven	<b>Academia</b>



## Annex 2: TECH TALKS SERIES: CONCEPT NOTE

### Interactive Information sharing sessions with ITU-D Sector Members

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#### Background:

As part of our efforts to constantly build value and opportunities for our Sector Members, the Telecommunication Development Bureau is launching the **TECH TALKS Series** which is a new initiative that provides industry, private sector, and other entities among our ITU-D Membership with an opportunity to share information with the staff of the Telecommunication Development Bureau at headquarters and in the field.

#### Objective:

The **TECH TALKS Series** was conceptualized as an engagement dialogue platform for ITU-D Sector Membership to:

- provide ITU-D members an opportunity to present technological trends in their areas.
- share best practices and innovative approaches they have used in their work in the space of telecommunication/ICT development.
- explore partnership opportunities in existing and new ITU projects on digital connectivity.
- network with BDT staff at headquarters and in our field offices across all the regions and with respective industry and private sector members.

In turn, ITU will share current and future partnership opportunities in our projects, activities, and initiatives.

These sessions will be open to all ITU-D Members, who will be openly or individually invited to express interest to share their offerings and ongoing or planned projects in telecommunication/ICT development. ITU-D Members will have an opportunity to interact with staff and have a better understanding of what ITU-D is doing and planning and how they could contribute through impactful partnerships.

#### Session Format:

This TECH TALKS series of events will be run for **2 hours** per event as follows:

- BDT Director welcoming remarks outlining key ongoing initiatives and planned initiatives.
- Presentations by a panel drawn from the selected ITU-D Sector community participating in a particular TECH Talk series.
- Question and answer session.
- Closing of the session.