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| Logo, company name  Description automatically generated | **Telecommunication Development****Advisory Group (TDAG)****29th Meeting, Virtual, 8-12 November 2021** | A close up of a sign  Description automatically generated |
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|  | **Document TDAG-21/2/DT/12-E** |
| **10 November 2021**  |
| **Original:** **English**  |
| Chairman, Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) |
| Compilation of proposals and views for revision of ITU-D Thematic Priorities (WTDC)  |
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| **Summary:**This document is a compilation of proposals on ITU-D Thematic Priorities (WTDC) received for TDAG-21/2.**Action required:**TDAG is invited to examine, agree on suggested revisions and endorse the document as a TDAG output document on ITU-D Thematic Priorities (WTDC), which will serve as the basis for further proposals for revision and refinement by ITU Member State Administrations in the lead up to WTDC.**References:**n/a |

This document is a compilation of proposals on ITU-D Thematic Priorities (WTDC) received for TDAG-21/2 and has been produced as follows:

* The basis of this compilation is the **TDAG-WG-RDTP** **Chairman’s Proposal** **for ITU-D Thematic Priorities (WTDC),** which is the outcome of the discussions at the6th meeting of TDAG-WG-RDTP on 30 June 2021, as contained in [Document TDAG-21/2/31](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-TDAG29-C-0031/en).
* [Document TDAG-21/2/21](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-TDAG29-C-0021/en) presents the **APT View on Revised Proposal for ITU-D Thematic Priorities (WTDC)**, lending full support to the **Chairman’s Proposal** **for ITU-D Thematic Priorities (WTDC).**
* The compilation reflects the essence of [Document TDAG-21/2/26](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-TDAG29-C-0026/en), whichputs forward **Consideration of thematic priorities at the draft Addis-Ababa Action plan by the Russian Federation**.
* The compilation also reflects the essence of [Document TDAG/2/29](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-TDAG29-C-0029/en), which is a **Multi-country contribution to TDAG on ITU-D/WTDC Thematic Priorities** by eleven CEPT countries.
* The compilation includes revisions (in track changes) based on [Document TDAG-21/2/DT/3](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-TDAG29-211108-TD-0003/en) containing the **CITEL Proposal for updates to the Draft Thematic Priorities**.

This compilation is made available to support the work of the *ad hoc* drafting group on ITU-D Thematic Priorities convened on 9 November 2021 and facilitate the discussion on the TDAG output document on ITU-D Thematic Priorities.

**Thematic Priorities**

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| 1. **Connectivity:** The focus of this Thematic Priority is on the deployment of modern, available, secure, accessible, and affordable telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services and bridging the digital divides. This Thematic Priority seeks to foster the development of infrastructure and services by utilizing existing as well as new and emerging connectivity solutions and new business models. In doing so, providing assistance to Member States to **enhance and** **strengthen confidence and security in the use of telecommunications/ICTs which is of vital importance**.
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| **Examples of possible Supporting Components (please note that this section will be dealt with during discussions on the Action Plan and Strategic Plan):** * Deployment of Networks, including new Networking technologies;
* Connecting remote and rural areas and unserved and underserved communities;
* Resilient and Secure Digital Infrastructure (including EMF-related issues, availability, and reliability);
* Cybersecurity;
* Connectivity in support of Pandemics and Disaster mitigation; and
* Emergency Telecommunications.
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| 1. **Digital Transformation:** The focus of this Thematic Priority is on the development and use of telecommunications/ICTs and applications and services to support the digital transformation of society, close the Digital Divide and empower people and societies for sustainable development. This is of critical importance as societies adapt to changes, including those in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic and other global disasters in future. In so doing, there is a need to recognize the needs of marginalized groups (e.g., women, youth and persons with disabilities and persons with specific needs).
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| **Examples of possible Supporting Components (please note that this section will be dealt with during discussions on the Action Plan and Strategic Plan):** * Digital Services and Applications (leveraging telecommunications/ICTs for health, education, agriculture, public services, digital financial services, etc.);
* Digital Economy (foster the development and use of telecommunications/ICTs in support of developing countries’[[1]](#footnote-1) transition to the digital economy);
* Strategies to promote Digital Innovation Ecosystems; and
* Environment(climate change adaptation and mitigation, and e-waste).
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| 1. **Enabling Environment:** The focus of this Thematic Priority is on fostering an enabling policy and regulatory environment conducive to sustainable telecommunication/ICT development that encourages investment in infrastructure and ICTs and increased adoption of telecommunications/ICTs. This Thematic Priority comprises key enablers that underpin ITU’s work to deliver on the Connectivity and Digital Transformation priorities.
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| **Examples of possible Supporting Components (please note that this section will be dealt with during discussions on the Action Plan and Strategic Plan):*** Data and Market Analysis (statistics);
* Policy and Regulation;
* Digital Inclusion and Accessibility (gender issues, persons with disabilities and specific needs, financial inclusion, youth, and indigenous people);
* Adoption (affordability, relevant content, skills); Capacity and Digital Skills Development; and
* Internet Related Issues.
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| 1. **Resource Mobilization and International Cooperation:** The focus of this Thematic Priority is on mobilizing and attracting resources and fostering international cooperation on telecommunication/ICT development issues. This Thematic Priority is also cross cutting by providing resources and fostering international cooperation to deliver relevant global outcomes. The needs of developing countries, least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries, and countries with economies in transition as well as underserved and vulnerable populations should be prioritized and given due attention.
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| **Examples of possible Supporting Components (please note that this section will be dealt with during discussions on the Action Plan and Strategic Plan):** * Projects;
* Partnerships (B2G, B2B, etc.);
* Mainstreaming the needs of developing countries, least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries, and countries with economies in transition;
* WSIS and SDGs;
* Membership engagement for better impact; and
* ITU-D Study Groups.

**Note: *There is a broad consensus on the Four ITU-D Thematic Priorities as outlined above. APT, CEPT and CITEL support the option of having Four Thematic Priorities and integrating the work on cybersecurity capacity building and technical assistance under* TP1: Connectivity *in view of aligning ITU-D high-level priorities, while recognizing the importance of the cybersecurity work carried out in BDT.***  |

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| 1. **[Building confidence, trust and security in the use of ICTs:** the focus of this thematic priority is related to assisting member states on technical and organizational aspects on building confidence, trust and security in the use of ICTs.]
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**Note: *A Fifth, separate ITU-D Thematic Priority on Cybersecurity is supported by RCC (see*** [***Document TDAG-21/2/26***](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-TDAG29-C-0026/en) ***from the*** ***Russian Federation), the African Telecommunications Union (ATU) and the Arab Group.***

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1. Includes developing countries, least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries, and countries with economies in transition. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)