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| **Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG)**  **31st Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland, 20-23 May 2024** | A close up of a sign  Description automatically generated |
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|  | **Document** **TDAG-2****4/48-E** |
|  | **8 May 2024** |
|  | **English only** |
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| Collaboration Project between Egypt and ITU for Promoting  the Development of SSCC Telecom Infrastructure in Egypt | |
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| **Summary:**  Within the implementation of the expected results of the ITU Arab Regional Initiative on developing digital infrastructure for smart sustainable cities and communities (SSCC), this collaboration project aims at creating and promoting an enabling environment to support the Government of Egypt’s efforts in establishing and developing SSCC through developing an evaluation framework and tool based on Egypt existing codes and ITU experience.  **Action required:**  Information.  **References:**  n/a | |

1. **Introduction**

The Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS) of Egypt Vision 2030 is a comprehensive roadmap for achieving inclusive development and prosperity for all Egyptians. The SDS covers three main dimensions including economic, social and environmental aspects. Egypt is making major improvements in the development of smart sustainable cities and communities (SSCC) which fundamentally has clear implications on the three main dimensions of its SDS.

Towards this objective, both Housing and ICT Sectors have been in close collaboration for efficient planning and consideration of both technical and policy perspectives for the development of new (Green) and existing (Brown) cities and communities. One example is the collaboration between both the National Telecom Regulatory Authority (NTRA) and the Housing and Building National Research Centre (HBRC) for the issuance of telecom infrastructure codes (for inside buildings and outside network and encompassing both green and brown cities).

1. **Problem Statement and Justification**

To capture this potential of Egypt’s ambitious plans, it is important to push forward sustainable urbanization policies that enable growth and at the same time create an urban development process that is able to cope with the challenges of the coming years. There are still some challenges hindering the sustainable urbanization and standardization of SSCC in Egypt such as:

* Lack of a unified and standardized code/guidelines for building SSCC);
* Need for supporting legislation requirements (policies and regulations around Smart Cities, for example, data availability, open data, data sharing, data collection);
* Need for smart cities developers, startups and SMEs on the local challenges with regard to their involvement in the design and development of SSCC;
* Open solutions or reference/framework implementations to enable smart cities;
* Need for a data driven innovation framework and supporting functions.

To address some of these challenges, an evaluation framework and methodology will be developed to support the Government of Egypt’s efforts in SSCC. It will also elaborate the main enablers for the smart ready infrastructure for cities and communities as guidance in incorporating smartness and sustainability elements in development phases.

1. **Project Objective and Impact**

The objective of the project is to promote standard innovation of SSCC in Egypt, specifically, standardizing the ICTs infrastructure requirements, while considering the aspects of smartness and sustainability based on ITU technical standards or Recommendations.

The project will encourage national stakeholders to promote development of smart sustainable cities telecom infrastructure readiness, as well as measure the impact of Smart City technologies to improve the health and well-being of citizens, while also providing new avenues for economic development.

1. **Expected Results**

The project is expected to deliver the following main outcomes across an estimated time of 18 months:

* SSCC Evaluation Framework and Methodology
* SSCC Assessment Computer-based Tool
* Training of national staff

1. **Conclusion**

Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) have become a vital component for development and sustainability in different sectors. In the current technology-based society, the use of ICT can, and should, play a key role for improving sustainability in cities. Smart and sustainable infrastructure is the main pillar for building/developing an advantageous city with readiness for economic sustainable development and environment protection responsibility, while offering high quality of life for all its citizens using ICTs. This objective can be efficiently achieved by building SSCC based on recommended framework and methodologies for both technical and policy-related aspects.

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