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| **Council 2020 Geneva, 9-19 June 2020** |  |
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|  | **Document C20/INF/10-E** |
| **29 April 2020** |
| **English only** |
| Report by the Secretary-General | |
| STRENGTHENING THE REGIONAL PRESENCE | |

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| Summary  This information document contains the nine annexes to Document C20/25.  Action required  This document is submitted to the Council **for information**.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  References  [*Document C19/25*](http://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0025/en)*,* [*C20/25*](http://www.itu.int/md/S20-CL-C-0025/en) |

1. The purpose of this document is to provide additional information on the strengthening of the regional presence. It contains the following annexes:[[1]](#footnote-1)

[**Annex 1**](#Annex1): Key achievements by region for 2019

[**Annex 2**](#Annex2):Contribution to other Sectors and the General Secretariat

[**Annex 3**](#Annex3):Support activities towards empowering regional and area offices

[**Annex 4**](#Annex4)**:** Summary of the 2019 operational plan and projects implementation level and summary of the 2019 Regional and Area offices expenditure

[**Annex 5**](#Annex5)**:** 2019 operational plan implementation level by region and objective

[**Annex 6**](#Annex6)**:** Breakdown of the 2019 regional and area offices expenditure by category of expenditure

[**Annex 7**](#Annex7)**:** 2019 Fellowships awarded and recruited experts

[**Annex 8**](#Annex8)**:** Summary of staffing level by Regional and Area offices

[**Annex 9**](#Annex9)**:** Breakdown of staffing level by Regional and Area offices

ANNEX 1

Key achievements by region for 2019

1. **Africa region**

In 2019, BDT implemented project activities under 8 technical cooperation projects for a total amount of 1,435,000 USD in the Africa region, in collaboration with Member States. In addition, activities on 42 actions of the BDT Operational Plan were implemented for an amount of 568,000 CHF.

532 girls participated in coding workshops as part of the African Girls can Code Initiatives.

For the first time, the global celebration of Girls in ICT Day was taken “on the road” to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia when hundreds of girls were inspired to pursue studies and careers in the tech field.

The Smart Villages initiative was launched in Niger to digitally empower remote communities through tech and a “whole of government” approach.

The “Policy and Regulation Initiative for Digital Africa”, known as PRIDA, is a joint initiative of the African Union, the European Union and ITU to enable the African continent to reap the benefits of digitalization by addressing various dimensions of broadband demand and supply in Africa and building the capacities of AU Member States in the Internet Governance space.

1. **Americas region**

In 2019, BDT implemented project activities under 9 technical cooperation projects for an amount of 337,000 USD in the Americas region, in collaboration with Member States. In addition, activities under 28 actions of the BDT Operational Plan were implemented for a total amount of 603,000 CHF.

The Sixth Edition of Accessible Americas highlighted the importance of strategic cooperation to strengthen the full participation of all persons in society, creating more fair and equitable opportunities for all.

Representatives of indigenous communities were trained on the generation, development and maintenance of network technologies.

The Americas ICT Innovation Week, organized in cooperation with FAO, discussed the adoption and use of new technologies to create a sound and responsible agriculture sector in order to enable the development of future smart rural communities.

300 girls learnt to code, as part of the Americas Girls Can Code Initiative.

1. **Arab States region**

In 2019, BDT implemented project activities under 9 technical cooperation projects in the Arab States region for 858,000 USD, in collaboration with Member States. In addition, activities on 34 actions were implemented for an amount of 385,000 CHF.

The Arab Regional Cyber Drill brought together 17 countries from the region to ensure continued and collective efforts in mitigating cyber threats among the regions CIRTs.

For the first time, ITU partnered with Arab National Societies, including the Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross Organization (ARCO) to organize a multi-stakeholder workshop on the role of Telecommunication/ICTs for disaster risk reduction and management for the region.

Partnerships were established for the implementation of projects in the fields of innovation and entrepreneurship, environment and digital inclusion.

1. **Asia and the Pacific region**

In 2019, BDT implemented project activities under 14 technical cooperation projects for a total amount of 827,000 USD in the Asia and the Pacific region, in collaboration with Member States and partners. The projects were funded by Department of Communications and the Arts (Australia), National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (Thailand), Ministry of Science, ICT and Future Planning (Republic of Korea), Estonia, and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (ITSO). In addition, activities on 32 actions were implemented for an amount of 354,000 CHF.

Progress was made in the development of digital government services in Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu and digital agriculture services in Mongolia. Cross-sectoral publications were produced on e-agriculture, with FAO, and children (Digital Kids Asia-Pacific) with UNESCO.

National cybersecurity strategy frameworks were strengthened in Bhutan, Kiribati, and Solomon Islands, and CIRT frameworks through specialized country assistance in Tonga, Samoa, Papua New Guinea, and Vanuatu. Samoa, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, and Solomon Islands were assisted in developing National Emergency Telecommunication Plans through a project supported by DoCA (now DITRDC).

Several Pacific Islands were helped to develop their satellite communications capacity and emergency communications solutions. Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, PNG, Vanuatu, Tonga, and Tuvalu started connecting through Ku band Satellite connectivity equipment and the associated training through a project supported by ITU, ITSO, Intelsat, and Kacific.

1. **CIS region**

In 2019, BDT implemented a project activity under 1 technical cooperation project in the CIS for 62,000 USD, in collaboration with Member States. In addition, activities on 23 actions were implemented for an amount of 276,000 CHF.

Progress was made on project implementation and fundraising: new projects were signed with a total external contribution of over 250,000 CHF.

Internal coordination was leveraged to optimize costs and improve ITU’s value proposition to membership: activities were implemented jointly with other regional offices and with other Sectors.

Several partnerships were strengthened at the regional level, including with GSMA, World Bank and OSCE.

1. **Europe region**

In 2019, BDT implemented project activities under 2 technical cooperation projects for a total amount of 219,000 USD in the Europe region, in collaboration with Member States. In addition, activities on 29 actions were implemented for an amount of 242,000 CHF.

Direct assistance to countries included the development of the *National Plan for Broadband Development 2020-2025 in Albania*, a special policy paper on *ICT Infrastructure Development and Investment in North Macedonia Development,* the *National Strategy on Protecting Children and Young People Online in Ukraine, and* the *Digital Innovation Profile for Montenegro.*

Strategic partnerships were strengthened, including with the European Commission, resulting in scaling up the Accessible Europe platform and the establishment of the mHealth Hub for Europe.

A special consortium of partners including ITU, the World Bank, the European Investment Bank, was established to address potential needs of countries in the field of broadband mapping systems.

ANNEX 2

Contribution to other Sectors and the General Secretariat

Regional and area offices contributed to the implementation of ITU strategic plan and ITU-R, ITU-T, and the General Secretariat operational plans as follows:

1. **ITU-R**

Conference calls and face-to-face meetings were organized between the regional and area offices and the BR senior management, covering each time overviews, updates, and briefings of activities run in the various regions.

With the objective of informing and assisting the ITU membership on radiocommunication-related matters, in particular developing countries, BDT and BR continued to organize spectrum-related workshops, seminars, meetings, and capacity-building activities, with the support of the regional offices and in cooperation with the relevant international organizations and national authorities. During 2019, the following events were organized in that direction, among others:

* [Joint ITU-ITSO Training on Satellite Communication](https://academy.itu.int/index.php?option=com_joomdle&view=coursecategoryextended&cat_id=:&course_id=1659:itu-itso-training-on-satellite-communications&Itemid=476&lang=en), 1-5 April 2019, Minsk, Belarus;
* [3rd Annual CIS and CEE Spectrum Management Conference and ITU Workshop “How to achieve interference free communication at the current technological stage”, Minsk, Belarus](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/CIS/Pages/EVENTS/2019/04_Minsk/04_Minsk.aspx), 8-11 April 2019, Minsk, Belarus;
* [Pacific Radiocommunication Workshop 2019 (PRW-1**9)**](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/AsiaPacific/Pages/Events/2019/Apr-PRW19/main.aspx), **11-12 April 2019, Coral Coast, Fiji;**
* [ITU Regional Radiocommunication Seminar 2019 for Africa](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/seminars/rrs/2019-Africa/Pages/default.aspx), 13-17 May 2019, Johannesburg, South Africa;
* [**ITU ASP CoE F2F training course on Spectrum Management and IMT-2020 Radio Technology Application**](http://itu.int/go/SRMC_Harbin)**, 17-21 June 2019, Harbin, China;**
* [**ITU ASP CoE online training course on Spectrum Engineering and IMT-2020**](https://academy.itu.int/training-courses/full-catalogue/spectrum-engineering-and-imt2020), **1-19 July 2019, ONLINE;**
* [ITU Seminar on Radiocommunication Matters for Europe (SRME-19)](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/seminars/rrs/2019-Europe/Pages/default.aspx), 24-27 June 2019, Tirana, Albania;
* [ITU Regional Radiocommunication Seminar 2019 for CIS and neighbouring countries](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/seminars/rrs/2019-CIS/Pages/default.aspx), 10-14 June 2019, Tashkent, Uzbekistan;
* **ITU Satellite Symposium 2019, 25-27 September, Bariloche, Argentina;**
* **ITU Caribbean Regional Spectrum Management and Transition to Digital Broadcasting Workshop, December, Trinidad;**
* [ITU Regional Training Workshop on “Spectrum Management: Strategic Planning and Policies for Wireless Innovation”](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/ArabStates/Pages/Events/2019/SPP4WI/SPP4WI.aspx)**, 1-5 December 2019, Algiers-Algeria.**

The above events fostered human capacity building on the use of the radio-frequency spectrum and the satellite orbits, as well as the application of the provisions of the ITU Radio Regulations.

In addition, direct assistance was provided (upon demand) to several countries, including Central African Republic, Colombia, Gambia, Liberia, Paraguay, and Uganda, to support their national spectrum management activities, long-term frequency management for mobile broadband, as well as transition to digital broadcasting and the allocation of the digital dividend.

In addition, in 2019, the joint ITU-European Union (EU)-African Union (AU) programme Policy and Regulation Initiative for Digital Africa (PRIDA) started its activity. In the 42-month programme, ITU is responsible for the EUR 5.5 million component aimed at “Increasing wireless broadband penetration through improved and harmonized spectrum utilization and regulations”.

1. **ITU-T**

At the initiative of the TSB Director, conference calls and face-to-face meetings were organized on a regular basis between the regional and areas offices and the TSB senior management, covering each time overviews, updates, and briefings of activities organized by each TSB department in the various regions. These coordination activities, as well as the establishment of a TSB Focal Point for the Regions, were conducted keeping in mind the goal of improving coordination and increasing the efficiency of the overall operations, events and activities in the Standardization Sector in each of the Regions. The use of this coordination mechanism is a tool that has led to a significant improvement in the overall coordination with regional and areas offices in terms of events and activities, as well as enhancing the knowledge of the ITU-T standardization activities in each region.

A short overview of the activities run by the Regional Offices is presented below for each Region.

#### Africa

2.1 Contribution and coordination of Regional Offices in ITU-T events - Africa

**2.1.1 ITU-T events or joint events held in the Africa Region**

During the February – December 2019 time-frame, the Regional Office for Africa participated and contributed to the organization of the following regional events organized by ITU-T/TSB:

* The regional office supported and attended the TSBSG12AFRI activities held in Kigali Rwanda, 4-8 March and the TSBSG13 events held in Victoria Falls 4-14 March 2019.
* The Regional Office for Africa participated in and contributed to Africa Telecommunication Union (ATU) WTSA-20 Preparatory Meeting which took place in Rabat, Morocco, 4-7 March 2019. The African Preparatory Meeting (APM) continued the work of attaining the African Common Proposals for WTSA-20. The Regional Office worked on ensuring good participation from the African Administrations.
* The regional office also collaborated with TSB in organizing the Focus Group Meeting on Artificial Intelligence for Health (AI4H), in Zanzibar, 2-5 September 2019. The Focus Group collaborates with WHO to establish a standardized assessment framework for the evaluation of AI-based methods for health, diagnosis, triage or treatment decisions
* On 2-6 September and 4-8 November 2019, the Regional Office for Africa worked together with TSB in providing Conformity and interoperability training in SAR (Specific Absorption Rate), RF (Radio Frequency), EMF (Electromagnetic Fields) and DTT (Digital Terrestrial Television) to English-speaking and French-speaking countries respectively. TSB provided a partial fellowship in DSA for eligible participants while BDT paid for training and interpretation including interpretation equipment.
* On 5-6 September 2019, ITU co-organized the 14th Global Forum on Human Settlements with Global Forum on Human Settlements (GFHS), United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), World Urban Campaign (WUC), with ITU focusing on smart cities, with GFHS, Addis Ababa. The ROA represented ITU in the organization and participated actively.

**2.1.2 Other activities of the ITU Regional Office for Africa related to ITU-T**

TSB and the ROA organized the SG20 Regional Group for Africa (SG20RG-AFR), the SG5 Regional Group for Africa (SG5RG-AFR), and the [TSB Workshops on the first Digital African Week](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/Workshops-and-Seminars) in Abuja, Nigeria, from 27 to 30 August 2019. The Regional Office participated mainly in facilitating attendance of Member States.

The Area Office for Central Africa organized trainings on numbering plans in 2 countries, Burundi, 11-12 November and in DRC, 5 December 2019, with contributions from TSB.

**2.1.3 Specific collaboration - Regional Office for Africa and TSB**

The ROA, in partnership with TSB, mobilized African Countries to attend the [Interregional Standardization Forum on “Operational issues on numbering, emergency service and OTTs”](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/Workshops-and-Seminars/201910/Pages/default.aspx) and related events in Dubai, UAE, from 20 to 24 October 2019.

TSB assisted the Regional Office in identifying the best experts when need arose, in order to provide technical assistance to member states in areas of TSB competence

#### Americas

2.2 Contribution and coordination of Regional Offices in ITU-T events - Americas

* + 1. **ITU-T events or joint events held in the Americas Region**

During the February – December 2019 time-frame, the Regional Office for the Americas participated and contributed to the organization of the following regional events organized by ITU-T/TSB: in October 2019, the TSB and BDT would be collaborating to host the AI event in Bahamas 28-30 October in Freeport, Bahamas.

* + 1. **Other activities of the ITU Regional Office for the Americas related to ITU-T**

The TSB Director’s participation at the Latin American Telecommunications Congress (Cordoba, Argentina, July 1 to 5 2019) was coordinated, allowing his participation delivering the Opening Remarks at the Welcome Plenary Session, as well as presenting a Keynote Speech entitled “5G as a social infrastructure” at the Plenary.

Participation of ITU Counsellor in Session 3: ICT Accessibility and the role of Artificial Intelligence as a tool to improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities, during the Accessible Americas: ICTs for All event. The event was carried out in Ecuador, from 20 to 22 November 2019.

Participation in CITEL Meetings such as CCPI.

Support to countries in the preparation of WTSA-20 in CITEL and COMTELCA.

Joint implementation of the FIGI Project, mainly for national implementation in Mexico.

#### Arab States

#### 2.3 Contribution and coordination of Regional Offices in ITU-T events – Arab States

2.3.1 ITU-T events or joint events held in the Arab States

During the February – December 2019 timeframe, the Regional Office for the Arab States participated and contributed to the organization of the following regional events organized by ITU-T/TSB:

The ARO collaborated with TSB for the organization of the Regional Forum on Emerging Technologies, Tunis (Tunisia), 23-24 April 2019.

TSB arranged for the contributions of two speakers, including Mr Rim Belhassine, Vice-Chair, TSAG and ITU-T SG13, « ITU-T activities on 5G Standardization » and Mr Vishnu Ram OV, ITU-T SG13 Focus group on “Machine Learning for Future Networks”.

#### Asia and the Pacific

2.4 Contribution and coordination of Regional Offices in ITU-T events – Asia and the Pacific

2.4.1 ITU-T events or joint events held in the Asia and the Pacific Region

During the February - December 2019 time-frame, the Regional Office for the Asia and the Pacific participated and contributed to the organization of the following regional events organized by ITU-T/TSB:

Area Office, Jakarta helped with the ITU-T Study Group 12 event on QoS in Singapore,   
19-21 August 2019.

2.4.2 Other activities of the ITU Regional Office for the Asia and the Pacific related to ITU-T

Trainings (face-to-face and online) and workshops on issues such as Smart Sustainable Cities, IOT, Conformity and Interoperability, and others:

* Smart Sustainable Cities, ICT Applications and e-Government Workshop: Incorporating Data, Network and AI Technologies Towards more Efficient Cities, 15-18 July 2019: Face-to-face training in collaboration with COE in NIA, Jeju (Korea, Rep. of) in June 2019;
* The work of ITU-T SG20 was promoted during relevant sessions of the CoE trainings;
* ITU- T SG 17 work on security standards were promoted in several country missions and regional trainings;
* ITU-NBTC Training on “Building Distributed Ledger Technologies Project”   
  (5-8 November 2019) shared the outcomes of ITU-T Focus Group on Applications of DLT;
* Training on Spectrum Management and IMT-2020 Radio Technology Application held in Harbin (China) from 17-21 June 2019.

2.4.3 Specific collaboration - Regional Office for the Asia and the Pacific and TSB

Advice on numbering was requested by Tonga, which was provided with support from TSB;

FIGI country implementation in China and synergy between SIT working group and national implementation was coordinated by TSB and ASP-RO;

Cooperation between TSB and ASP-RO in delivering a workshop on e-waste in India in Q4, 2019;

Cooperation between TSB and ASP-RO in preparing for training on Artificial Intelligence.

Close collaboration with TSB is carried out in areas where ITU-T products can be deployed for development activities, e.g. Adoption of Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) was recommended during development of National Emergency Telecommunication Plans for countries in Pacific. TSB also supported the ASP-RO by providing content on Emergency Telecom issues especially the work of SG2 in the area.

ASP-RO also promoted areas of work of ITU-T and TSB in various missions and workshops to enhance the engagement of ITU Members in ITU-T activities. In particular, the work of SG5 on EMF issues was highlighted during the CoE event on [Human Exposure to Radio Frequency Electromagnetic Fields](https://academy.itu.int/training-courses/full-catalogue/human-exposure-radio-frequency-electromagnetic-fields). In addition, the summary of relevant -K.series recommendations of ITU-T were introduced to the participants.

#### Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)

2.5 Contribution and coordination of Regional Offices in ITU-T events – CIS

**2.5.1 ITU-T events or joint events held in the CIS Region**

During the February – December 2019 time-frame, the Regional Office for the CIS participated and contributed to the organization of the following regional events organized by ITU-T/TSB:

* ITU-UN-Habitat-UNDP Forum on “Smart sustainable cities: technological trends, success stories and future prospects”, 26-27 September 2019, Minsk (Belarus);
* ITU Training on “Key performance indicators for smart sustainable cities to achieve the SDGs”, 26-27 September 2019, Minsk (Belarus);
* Meeting of the ITU-T Study Group 20 Regional Group for Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Transcaucasia, 26-28 September 2019, Minsk (Belarus);
* Forum “Internet of Things: future applications and services. Perspective 2030”/4th Workshop on Network 2030, 21-23 May 2019, St. Petersburg (Russian Federation);
* Meetings of the ITU-T SG3RG-EECAT, ITU-T SG11RG-EECAT, ITU-T SG13RG-EECAT and ITU-T FG NET-2030, 21-23 May 2019, St. Petersburg (Russian Federation).

**2.5.2 Other activities of the ITU Regional Office for the CIS related to ITU-T**

Experts from TSB and ITU-T Study Groups participated in the following regional events organized by the ITU Regional Office for the CIS:

* ITU Workshop on Intelligent Transport Systems, 16-17 April 2019, Baku (Azerbaijan);
* ITU Workshop for Europe and CIS Regions “Using ICTs to save lives”, 24-26 April 2019, Odessa (Ukraine);
* ITU Workshop for Europe and CIS Regions “ICT Infrastructure as a Basis for Digital Economy”, 14-16 May 2019, Kiev (Ukraine);
* ITU Regional Economic Dialogue (RED) for Europe and CIS, 30-31 October 2019, Odessa (Ukraine).

**2.5.3 Specific collaboration – Regional Office for the CIS and TSB**

The ITU Regional Office for the CIS has been closely working with the TSB and U4SSC secretariat to explore potential opportunities for case studies and pilot projects in the region and to contribute to the implementation of the Regional Initiative CIS3 “Development and regulation of infocommunication infrastructure to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe and resilient”.

#### Europe

2.6 Contribution and coordination of Regional Offices in ITU-T events – Europe

2.6.1 Joint events held in Europe

During the February–December 2019 time-frame, the ITU Office for Europe jointly with TSB organized the following events:

* ITU Workshop on Enhancing Human Life Using e-Services, 25 March 2019, Geneva (Switzerland)
* Workshop on the Future of Television in Europe, 7 June 2019, Geneva (Switzerland)

**2.6.2 Other activities of the ITU Office for Europe related to ITU-T**

* ITU Forum on Innovative Digital Solutions for Accessible Europe (Part of the Zero Project Conference), 21 February 2019, Vienna (Austria)
* Vienna Cyber Security Week 2019, 11-15 March 2019, Vienna (Austria)
* United National Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for Europe and Central Asia, 21-22 March, Geneva (Switzerland)
* ITU Workshop for Europe and CIS Regions “Using ICTs to save lives”, 24-26 April 2019, Odessa (Ukraine)
* ITU Workshop for Europe and CIS Regions “ICT Infrastructure as a Basis for Digital Economy”, 14-16 May 2019, Kiev (Ukraine)
* ITU Regional Economic Dialogue on ICTs for Europe and CIS (RED-2019), 30-31 October 2019, Odessa (Ukraine)
* 5G Techritory for Baltic States Region, 27-29 November 2019, Riga (Estonia)
* Accessible Europe 2019, ITU-EC Regional Forum for Europe, 4-6 December 2019, St. Julian’s (Malta)
* Knowledge Exchange on “Artificial Intelligence: Fostering Start-ups Ecosystem”, 11 December 2019, Prague (Czech Republic)

**2.6.3 Specific collaboration - ITU Office for Europe and TSB**

ITU Office for Europe is closely working with the TSB on several issues, promoting activities carried out by the Sector. The Office facilitated contributions from and engagement of national or regional European organizations in the activities of ITU-T. The Office also followed the work of the Project Team on ITU-T of the CEPT.

1. **General Secretariat**

With the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which acknowledges the important role of ICTs as a critical enabler for advancing the globally agreed sustainable development goals (SDGs), cooperation between ITU regional and area offices with relevant regional and other international organizations dealing with development and financial matters has continued to grow.

Levering ITU membership in the UN development system, and as a financial contributor to the UN Resident Coordinator system, the ITU Regional and Area offices strengthened their efforts in engaging in the national and regional UN System.

Regular coordination calls between ITU Liaison Office in New York and the ITU Regional and Area Offices have been held and facilitated exchange of information as well as coherence of actions undertaken at the regional and national level. Regional Offices have been contributing to the process of ongoing UN Development System reform, drawing attention to the opportunities and challenges the non-resident specialized agencies may face under the new framework.

Continued efforts have been dedicated to draw attention to the importance of the ITUs work at the national and regional levels, including the work on the ITU Regional Initiatives. Moreover, Regional and Area Offices have been continuing advocacy for strengthening of ICT component in the new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework.

Council-16 resolved to use the WSIS framework as the foundation through which ITU helps to achieve the 2030 Agenda, within ITU’s mandate and within the allocated resources in the financial plan and biennial budget, noting the WSIS-SDG Matrix developed by UN Agencies.

With the aim of strengthening the implementation of the WSIS Outcomes at the regional level, ITU regional and area offices have continued to coordinate and collaborate at the regional level with the UN regional economic commissions and UN Regional Development Group, as well as all UN agencies (in particular those acting as facilitator for WSIS Action Lines) and other relevant regional organizations, especially in the field of telecommunication/ICT, with the aim of aligning WSIS and SDG processes and their implementation as requested by UNGA Resolution 70/125, developing partnerships for implementation of inter-agency and multistakeholder projects, advancing implementation of WSIS Action Lines and advancing achievement of SDGs and strengthening regional input to the WSIS Forum, WSIS Prizes and WSIS Stocktaking. Following TDAG advice, WSIS and SDG have been incorporated in the agendas of the ITU Regional Development Forums that serve as the mechanism for coordination on the implementation of the ITU Regional Initiatives and priorities.

ANNEX 3

Support activities towards empowering regional and area offices

A number of activities have been undertaken to further support and empower the regional and area offices. Regular town hall meetings are held with the regional staff as well as HQ to ensure all staff are briefed and information is widely shared.

A weekly activity report was initiated to gather inputs of HQ and all field offices and share amongst the staff. A programme HQ Focal Points began regular consultations with field staff on OP and project implementation.

A senior management retreat was held in the 1st Quarter of 2019 for all senior staff of regional and area offices together with the HQ colleagues.

Project management certification programme was implemented for a number of regional colleagues. A second cohort will take the program in 2020.

A Communications for Impact training, as well as training on the new Procurement Manuel was also offered. Further training is planned on communications as well as support to the websites and social media presence of the offices.

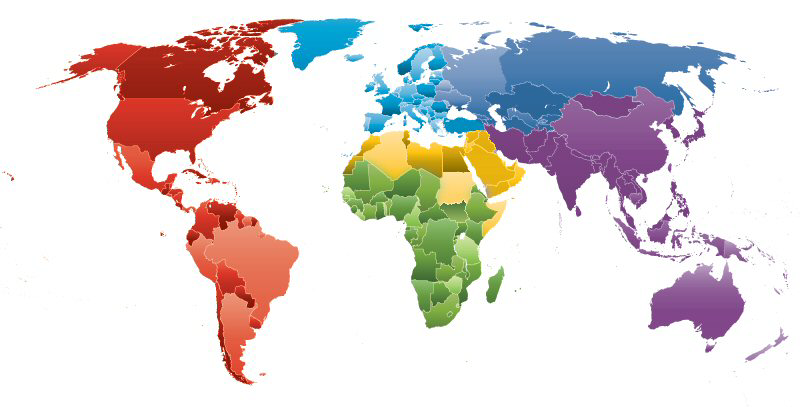
A call for change champions was launched. Ten staff from HQ and the field undertook a UN certified change management programme in 2019. These 10 colleagues are the “Change Champions” of the Bureau. 5 are from the field and 5 from HQ. These colleagues are helping drive forward a change agenda and help shape a Bureau that is fit for purpose.

An intensive results-based management exercise has been underway with the whole of BDT. A face to face training was done in Geneva with all senior managers (HQ and Field). Specific regional RBM sessions began in the 1st quarter 2020.

Electronic tools continue to be improved for planning, monitoring, and sharing of information and activities

All regional colleagues are now equipped with the ‘Security Communications And Analysis Network’ (SCAAN) app. SCAAN is a digital platform and mobile application network designed to provide more efficient communications and assistance to field staff especially during a crisis.

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|  |  |  | **Annex 4** |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Summary of the 2019 Regional and Area offices expenditure |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | by category of expenditure |  |  |  |







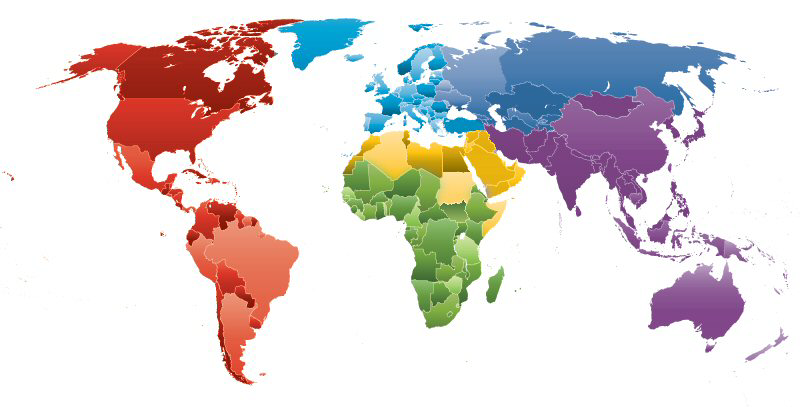
**ANNEX 5**

Implementation level = Actual expenditure figures after 2019 accounting closure

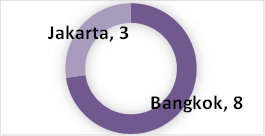
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|  |  | **ANNEX 6** | |  |  |
|  |  | Breakdown of the 2019 regional and area offices expenditures | |  |  |
|  |  | | by category of expenditure | | | |



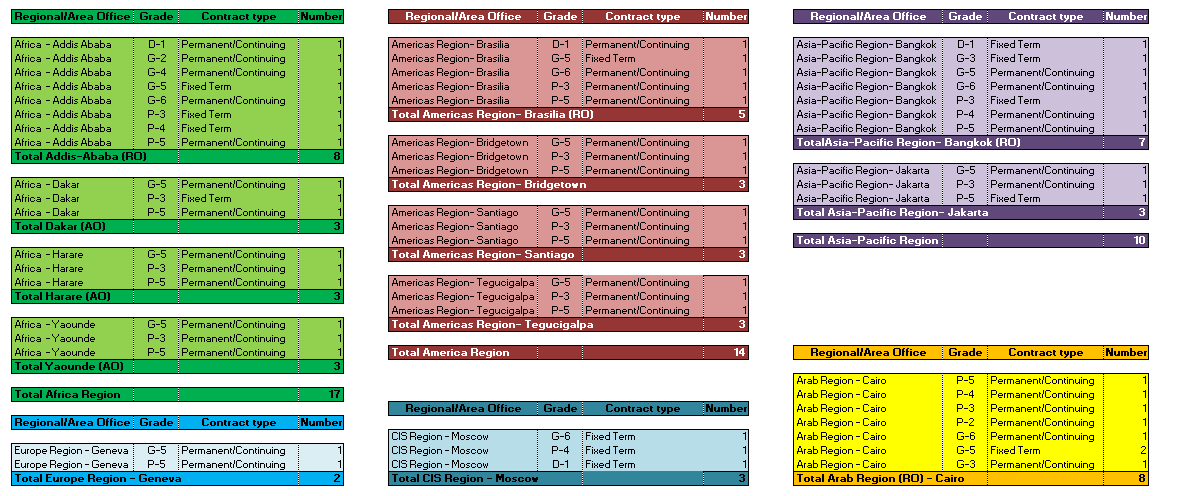
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|  |  | **ANNEX 7** |  |  |
| 2019 Fellowships awarded - Recruited experts | | | | |



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|  |  | **ANNEX 8** |  |  |
| Summary of staffing level by Regional and Area Offices | | | |



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| **ANNEX 9** | | | | | | |
| Breakdown of staffing level by Regional and Area offices | | | | | | |
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1. Expenditure figures in annexes have been updated in line with the 2019 accounting closure. Staffing figures are as of end 2019. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)