



General Secretariat (GS)

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Ref.: **CL-24/4**

Contact: ITU Youth Team

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To:

- ITU Member States
- ITU Sector Members
- ITU Academia
- Associates

Subject: **Call for financial support for Young Professionals Program (ITU YPP): the next generation of Global ICT experts and leaders**

Dear Sir, Madam,

As you may recall, Plenipotentiary Resolution 198 ([Rev. Bucharest, 2022](#)) on “Empowerment of youth through telecommunication/information and communication technology” resolves to accord high priority to the incorporation of young professionals in the human resources and operations of ITU. In response to this Resolution, I was pleased to launch the ITU Young Professionals Programme and share [the letter](#) with our membership in January 2023, followed by a call for applications. I am delighted to inform you that ITU received over 3,500 applications, generating high interest from young experts worldwide.

The ITU YPP is a recruitment initiative for the next generation of global ICT experts and leaders to help shape the future of the tech sector – standards, policies, regulations and recommendations. Over this 2-year program, talented and qualified individuals will gain first-hand exposure to international technology, regulatory and policy issues and acquire practical insights into their functioning. Young experts will learn about bridging the digital divide and how to leverage technology for the benefit of society. The ITU YPP will support emerging talent to work across ITU’s three Sectors and the General Secretariat in our HQ and the field. Our first group of Young Professionals will join ITU in early 2024. More information about this initiative is available [here](#).

Key program features include: discovering tech: on-the-job learning; professional experience and talent development; research and innovation; mentoring and learning; and a global network.

To help ITU meet the incredible demand from young people to participate in this initiative, I invite ITU Members to make voluntary contributions so that we can engage as many qualified youth as possible. With contributions received so far, we can bring four youth into the programme. With your support, I hope to increase this total to 10 youth participating in YPP, so that we can broaden regional representation and impact of the initiative. I look forward to reporting significant results and our shared success for the future of ITU to PP26!

Yours faithfully,

[Original signed]

Doreen Bogdan-Martin
Secretary-General