



**Regional Development Forum of the ITU for the Americas Region (RDF-AMS)
ICT④SDGs: Towards the implementation of the results of WTDC-17
Asunción, Paraguay, 30 September 2019**

The Regional Development Forum (RDF-AMS) aims to present the work of the BDT, as well as to expose the new challenges and opportunities to interested parties to contribute efficiently to the work of the ITU in the Americas. The RDF-AMS 2019 will report on the Buenos Aires Action Plan (BaAP), with special emphasis on the five Regional Initiatives for the Americas (AMS-RI) approved by the State Members. In this framework, partnership opportunities, proposals and recommendations will be strongly encouraged to contribute to the work of the BDT in the Americas region.

08:00 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:30	<p>Opening Session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oscar León, Executive Secretary, CITEL • Juan Carlos Duarte Duré, President, CONATEL, Paraguay • Doreen Bogdan-Martin, BDT Director, ITU • Alejandro Peralta Vierci, Minister, MITIC, Paraguay <p>VIDEO</p>
09:30 – 10:00	<p>Session 1 Keynote session: Why ICT are so relevant for the social and economic development in the Americas region?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alejandro Peralta Vierci, Minister, Information and Communication Technologies (MITIC), Paraguay
10:00 – 10:30	Group Photo and Coffee Break
10:30 – 11:30	<p>Session 2: Enabling the environment: the development of the Digital Economy in the Americas Region: Challenges and Opportunities. ICT Development. Agenda 2030.</p> <p>Moderator: Bruno Ramos, Director, ITU Americas Regional Office</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monica Desai, Head Director, Public Policy on Global Connectivity, Facebook • Sebastián Bellagamba, Regional Director, ISOC, Latam • Oscar Robles, Executive Director, LACNIC • Adela Goberna, Policy Advisor, ALAI
11:30 – 12:30	<p>Session 3: This session will focus on discussions on the importance of strategic alliances for a more sustainable and inclusive Americas. Bridging the Digital Divide.</p> <p>Moderator: Ana Veneroso, Programme Officer, ITU Americas Regional Office</p> <p>Equitable access and affordability are essential to provide equal access to ICT. The ITU in the Americas is working towards the empowerment of persons with specific needs, in particular women and girls, persons with disabilities and indigenous people. ITU in Americas is looking forward and seeking for new partnership opportunities in which Artificial Intelligence and other emerging technologies could play a significant role in this process.</p>

	<p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doreen Bogdan-Martin, BDT Director, ITU • Cristina Castro, CEO, Project GLORIA • Maryleana Mendez, General Secretary, ASIET • Ing. Oscar Zagarzazú, General Deputy Manager, Antel, Uruguay
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:30	<p>Session 4: This session is addressed to discussion on financing ICT activities in the Americas. The role of development banks in the development of ICT. Criteria to select projects, available funds, requirements to allocate funds, success stories.</p> <p>Moderator: Lorena Cristaldo Laug, International Relations Manager, CONATEL</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mauricio Agudelo, Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) • Fernando Perini, Regional Director, IDRC, Canada • Doyle Gallegos, Lead Digital Development Specialist, The World Bank • Antonio Garcia Zaballos, Lead Specialist, Telecommunications, IDB
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee Break
16:00 – 17:30	<p>Session 5: Keynote session: Looking forward: BDT and work to do in the Americas.</p> <p>This session is addressed to the presentation related to the implementation activities of the decisions adopted in the WTDC-17 and its projection for the next years. Activities implemented within the framework of the Buenos Aires Action Plan. Projects looking for partners. Links with WSIS and SDG objectives.</p> <p>Presenter and moderator: Bruno Ramos, Director, ITU Americas Regional Office</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nigel Cassimire, Telecommunications Specialist, CTU • Jorge Torres, Deputy Secretary, COMTELCA • Oscar León, Executive Secretary, CITEL
17:30 - 18:00	<p>Closing Session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doreen Bogdan-Martin, BDT Director, ITU • Juan Carlos Duarte Duré, President, CONATEL, Paraguay