ITU Regional Development Forum for Europe (RDF-EUR)

Information and Communication Technologies for Attaining Sustainable Development Goals

Tuesday 26 May 2020 | 11:00 – 15:30 | Remote Meeting

https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/Europe/Pages/Events/2020/RDF/Remote.aspx

CONTRIBUTION BY AMA – ADMINISTRATIVE MODERNIZATION AGENCY / PORTUGAL

TITLE: Accessible Europe 2021

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Europe Regional Initiative: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

- ☐ EUR1: Broadband infrastructure, broadcasting and spectrum management
- ☐ EUR2: A citizen-centric approach to building services for national administrations

x EUR3: Accessibility, affordability and skills development for all to ensure digital inclusion and sustainable development

- ☐ EUR4: Enhancing trust and confidence in the use of information and communication technologies
- ☐ EUR5: ICT-centric innovation ecosystems

Year(s) of implementation: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

- ☐ 2019
- ☐ 2020

x 2021

Background [max 300 words]

Taking into account ongoing regional integration in relation to an European digital society, there continues to be a great need for the harmonization of ICT accessibility throughout the region to leave no one behind in the digital age. In order to achieve this goal, there is a need to create a truly sustainable accessibility-oriented ICT-centric ecosystem. As the world population continues to grow, parallel to the exponential growth rate in ICT use, ICT accessibility is inarguably a requisite for creating a truly inclusive digital society. In Europe alone, one in five individuals, roughly 80 million people, has some form of disability. In Portugal, according to censos 2011, this means 18% of the population what represents around 2 million persons.

Proposal [max 400 words]

The Government of Portugal has proposed to operate with ITU to support the enhancement of ICT accessibility across Europe. In order to do so, the Portuguese Government will host the newest edition of Accessible Europe to take place in 2021. Parallel to this, the Portuguese Government proposes to ensure outcomes from Accessible Europe are effectively used in Portugal, mainly throughout public administration. We also invite all state administrations and relevant stakeholders to join forces in ICT accessibility for the Accessible Europe Initiative.