

ITUEvents

Regional Cybersecurity Summit for Africa

20-23 November 2023
Kampala, Uganda

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REGIONAL CYBERSECURITY SUMMIT FOR AFRICA

Bridging the Standardization Gap (BSG)

An Introduction to ITU, ITU-T SG 17 Security, and the Regional Group for Africa

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ITU

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20-23 November 2023

Kampala, Uganda



About the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)



ITU is the **United Nations specialized agency** for information and communication technologies (ICTs)

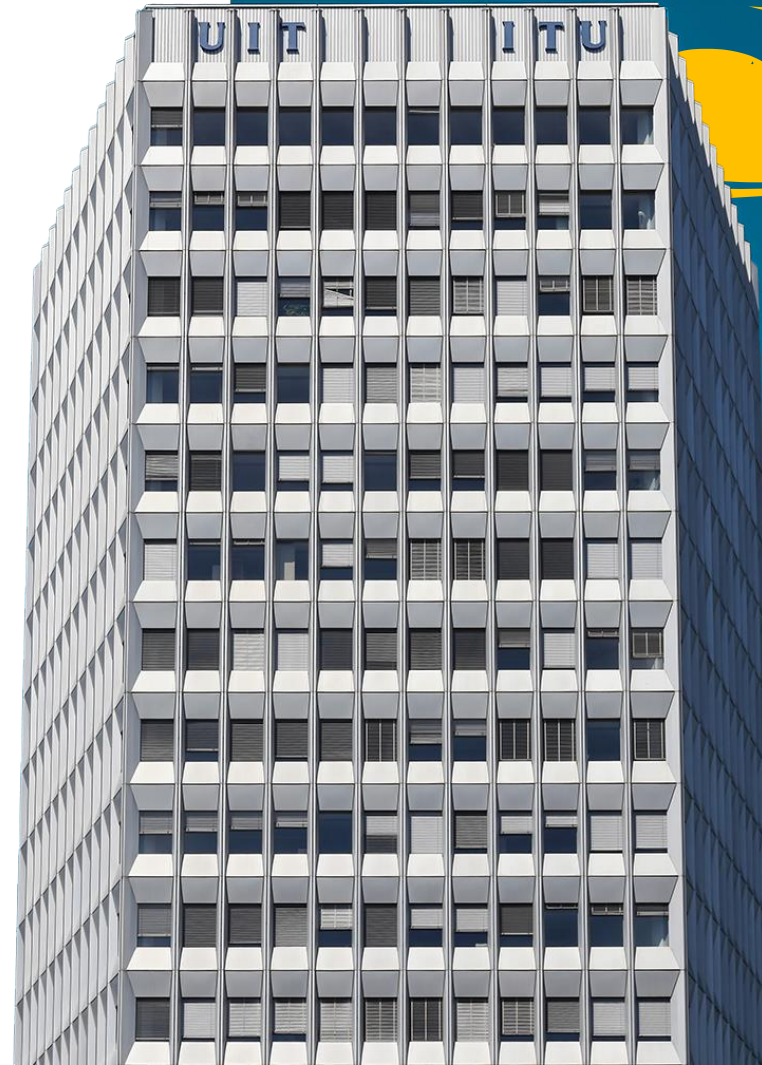


International Telecommunication Union

- UN specialized agency
- Headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland

Oldest agency in the UN family

- Established in 1865
- Connecting the world since the dawn of the telegraph



We are our members



ITU regional presence

Regional offices

- . Brasilia
- . Addis Ababa
- . Cairo
- . Geneva
- . Moscow
- . Bangkok

Area offices

- . Tegucigalpa
- . Santiago
- . Bridgetown
- . Dakar
- . Yaounde
- . Harare
- . Jakarta
- . New Delhi

UN office

- . New York

Headquarters

- . Geneva



Why ITU matters

New and emerging technologies can advance **progress, prosperity and well-being** for people and the planet

ITU puts technology at the **service of humanity:**

- Promoting sustainable digital transformation and universal connectivity
- Supporting UN Sustainable Development Goals
- Leaving no one behind



What we do

ITU works to bring digital connectivity to everyone

Providing a **trusted multilateral platform** to:

- Broker international agreements and standards
- Share knowledge and build capacity
- Work with members and partners to spread access to technology around the world



Our work spans **three areas**, or *Sectors*:



Radiocommunication



Standardization



Development

Radiocommunication

- Developing and updating international regulations and regional agreements on the use of **spectrum** and associated **orbits**
- Applying these regulations
- Developing **standards and best practices** on the use of spectrum
- Disseminating information on these regulations, standards and best practices



Standardization

- Developing **technical standards** for the interconnection and interoperability of digital technologies
- Bridging the **standardization gap** between developed and developing countries
- Fostering cooperation among national, regional and international **standards bodies**



Development

- Working to **close the digital divide** and drive digital transformation:
 - Leveraging the power of ICTs
 - For:
 - economic prosperity
 - job creation
 - digital skills development
 - gender equality and diversity
 - sustainable and circular economies
 - To save lives
 - Prioritizing those **most in need**:
 - People in developing countries
 - Marginalized communities everywhere



Fostering sustainable **digital transformation**

- Supporting policy and regulatory reform
- Providing technical assistance
- Working to ensure the provision of reliable connectivity
- Promoting digital skills and policy guidelines
- Ensuring inclusive, equal access and use of ICTs for all

Providing **global statistics**

- Measuring digital divides
- Tracking digital transformation

Helping ITU Member States **mitigate risks**

- Facilitating emergency response preparedness
- Strengthening cybersecurity
- Helping manage e-waste sustainably





**Plenipotentiary
Conference**



Council



**Sector conferences
and advisory bodies**

Plenipotentiary Conference

- ITU's highest policy-making body
- Sets strategic direction every four years

Next edition

- **2026 edition** Doha, Qatar



ITUCOUNCIL

- 48 Member States representing all six **ITU world regions**
- Governing body between plenipotentiary conferences
- Operates through Council Working Groups and Expert Groups



Sectoral governing bodies

Radiocommunication

- **World Radiocommunication Conference**
 - *Next edition:* [WRC-23](#), Dubai
- Radiocommunication Assembly
- Radiocommunication Advisory Group
- Radio Regulations Board

Standardization

- **World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly**
 - WTSA-24, India
- Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group

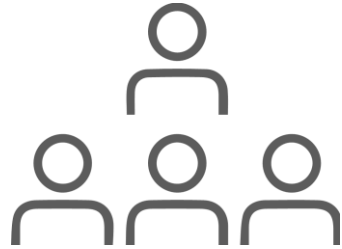
Development

- **World Telecommunication Development Conference**
 - WTDC-25, Thailand
- Telecommunication Development Advisory Group



Introduction to the ITU-T





Study Groups

Membership-driven
Study Groups develop
international standards.



Focus Groups

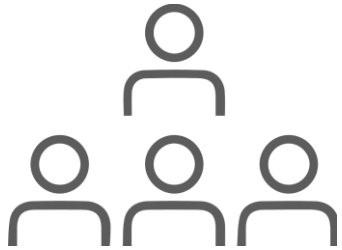
Open to all interested
parties, Focus Groups
define new directions
in ITU standardization.



Workshops and symposia

Open-to-all events analyze
emerging trends and
encourage peer-learning

 Reduced ITU membership fees available for academia, start-ups and SMEs,
and companies of all sizes in developing countries



Study Groups

Membership-driven
Study Groups develop
international standards.

Contribution-led, consensus-based approach to standards development in which all members can participate in the development of international standards.

ITU-T standards have **non-mandatory status** until they are adopted in national laws.

ITU-T standards can be **downloaded free of charge**.

ITU-T Study Groups

Study Groups



SG2: Operational aspects



SG3: Economic and policy issues



SG5: Environment, EMF and circular economy



SG9: Broadband cable and TV



SG11: Protocols, testing & combating counterfeiting



SG12: Performance, QoS and QoE



SG13: Future networks



SG15: Transport, access and home



SG16: Multimedia & digital technologies



SG17: Security



SG20: IoT, smart cities & communities



Focus Groups

Open to all interested parties, Focus Groups define new directions in ITU standardization.

Provide an **additional working environment for the quick development of specifications** in new areas.

Used to **address industry needs as they emerge**, and when they are not covered within an existing Study Group.

Outputs are informative and feed into the work of Study Groups.

ITU-T Focus Groups

Focus Groups



Autonomous Networks
([FG-AN](#)) / SG13



Testbeds
Federations for
IMT-2020 & beyond
([FG-TBFxG](#)) /
SG11



Cost models for
affordable data services
([FG-CD](#)) / SG3



AI for Health
([FG-AI4H](#)) / SG16



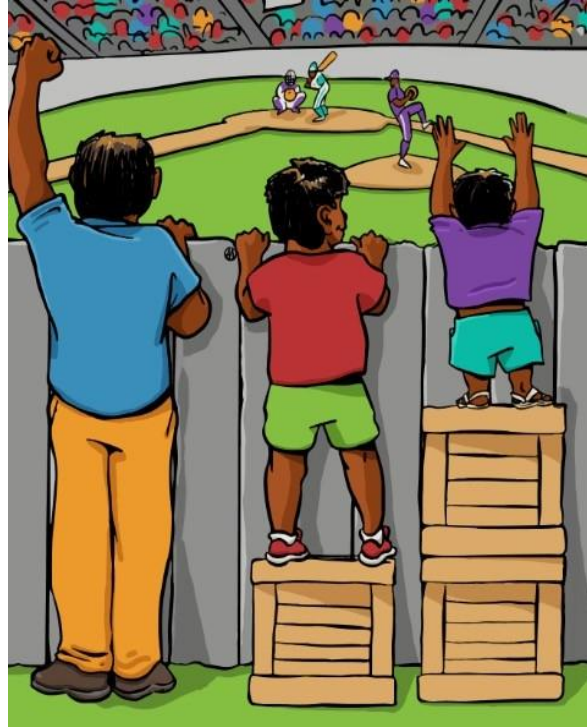
AI for Natural
Disaster
Management
([FG-AI4NDM](#)) /
SG2



Metaverse
([FG-MV](#)) / TSAG



AI & IoT for
Agriculture
([FG-AI4A](#)) / SG20



Since 2016, more than



Why BSG?

- Fostering inclusivity** in standards development.
- Build skills** for efficient participation in ITU standardization
- Create standards that are **relevant to everyone** through participation in regional groups
- Promote **inclusive participation** in ITU-T activities.

DFS Security Lab

Provides a standard methodology to conduct security audit for mobile payment apps (USSD, Android and iOS) and address systemic vulnerabilities and verify compliance against security best practices and standards.

Website: <https://figi.itu.int/figi-resources/dfs-security-lab/>

WTSA Resolution 54 (Rev. Geneva, 2022) resolves to support the creation of regional groups of the study groups.



Africa Region



Americas
Region



Arab
Region



Asia & Pacific
region



EECAT
Region

ITU-T Study Groups

Study Groups



SG2: Operational aspects



SG3: Economic and policy issues



SG5: Environment, EMF and circular economy



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SG17: Security



SG20: IoT, smart cities & communities

International Telecommunications Union (ITU) – An unofficial view

Outputs

ITU	Plenipotentiary Conference (PP)			Resolutions
	Council [makes Decisions]			
Sectors (have conferences)	Radio Communications	Development	Telecommunications Standardization	Resolutions
	RR Board (RRB)	TD Bureau (BDT)	TS Bureau (TSB)	
Study Groups	Spectrum, Satellite, Terrestrial, Broadcasting, etc	Enabling environment for connectivity, Digital transformation, etc	Operations, Economic & Policy Issues, Security, Multimedia, Future Networks, Performance, QoS & QoE, Transport, Multimedia	Projects, publications and documents (e.g. Recommendations or standards)
Working Parties			In security, parties work on topics like IoT, network security, combating spam	Work items
Regional Groups			In Security, Regional Group for Africa on security	Support of developing countries

ITU-T SG 17 Structure

	Working Party 1	Working Party 2	Working Party 3	Working Party 4	Working Party 5
	Security strategy and coordination	5G, IoT and ITS security	Cybersecurity and management	Service and application security	Fundamental security technologies
Questions (or topics)	Security standardization strategy and coordination	Security architecture and network security	Telecommunication information security management and security services	Secure application services	Identity management and telebiometrics architecture and mechanisms
	Security for/by emerging technologies including quantum-based security	Security for telecommunication services and Internet of Things	Cybersecurity and countering spam	Cloud computing and Big data infrastructure security	Generic technologies (such as Directory, PKI, Formal languages, Object Identifiers) to support secure applications
		Intelligent transport system (ITS) security		Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT) security	



ITU-T SG 17 Regional Group for Africa Objectives and Terms of Reference

Objectives:

The main objective of the Regional Group is to encourage national authorities and operators from countries in Africa to work together and better contribute to ITU-T SG17 activities in general and in line with the SG17 mandate.

Terms of Reference (**Purpose**):

For Africans (member states and sector members)

- Encourage and **facilitate participation**
- Disseminate and **share relevant information and knowledge** on security
- **Identify priorities** (and training needs)
- **Strengthen standards making** with Africa
- Assist Africans in **implementation of recommendations**

Within Africa

- **Collaborate with ATU** and other regional organizations in Africa
- **Liaise between African** administrators, operators and regulators on ICT Security Standards



ITU-T SG 17 Meetings and Other Meetings

Full Meetings

Twice a year

All member states, invited experts, etc

Gathering of Regional Group of Africa

Twice a year (a session during ITU-T SG 17 Full Meeting)

Members from Africa, Other members or stakeholders including ITU

Regional Group Meeting

Once a year (collaborating with others such as AfricaCERT)

Members from Africa, Other members and stakeholders, invited experts

Other meetings where you may see ITU (AfricaCERT, FIRST)

ITU Cyberevents (e.g. ITU Cyberdrills)

Resources and Products

Recommendations ([ITU-T Recommendations under SG-17](#))

Data networks, open system communications and security, Languages and general software aspects for telecommunication systems, telephony, etc

[ITU-T Security Manual](#) , (Introduction to Security work of ITU-T, response to global cybersecurity challenges with international standards and recommendations)

Technical Reports, guidance documents and outreach initiatives.

[ITU-T Technical Report on successful use of security standards](#) (examples of ITU-T recommendations used to protect networks, people, data and critical infrastructure, offering guidance of particular value to security practitioners in developing countries)

Events and Workshops (e.g. Cybersecurity Summit, 5G Security and Beyond, Zero Trust), Tutorials (Introduction to Study Group, Standardization, Processes and Procedures)



Study Group Roles

Study Group Roles

Management team and membership:

- Study-group chairmen (and vice-chairmen)
- Working-party chairmen (and vice-chairmen)
- Rapporteurs (and associate rapporteurs)
- Liaison Rapporteurs
- Editors
- Delegates

Secretariat:

- Counsellor/Advisor/Engineer/Project Officer/Assistant

SG 17 Management

Chairman	Mr Heung Youl YOUM	Korea (Republic of)
Vice- Chairmen	Mr Samir ABDELGAWAD	Egypt
	Ms Laial ALMANSOURY	Kuwait
	Ms Afnan ALROMI	Saudi Arabia
	Mr Abdenour BOURENNANE	Algeria
	Mr. Francisco Javier DIAZ	Argentina
	Mr Gökhan EVREN	Turkey
	Mr Yutaka MIYAKE	Japan
	Mr Kwadwo OSAFO-MAAFO	Ghana
	Mr Greg RATTA	United States
	Mr Pushendra Kumar SINGH	India
	Mr Arnaud TADDEI	United Kingdom
	Ms Wala TURKI LATROUS	Tunisia
	Mr Liang WEI	China

Supported by Secretariat:

- **Xiaoya Yang**, SG17 Counsellor
- **Gillian Makamara**, Project Officer
- **Joumana Bilani**, SG17 Assistant

ITU-T SG 17 RG Africa Leadership

Chairman

Kwadwo Gyamfi
Osafo-Mafo

ITU-T SG 17 Vice-
Chairman, Ghana



Vice Chairpersons

Racky Seye

Ministère de l'Economie
numérique et des
Télécommunications,
Senegal



Samir Abdelgawad

ITU-T SG 17 Vice-
Chairman,
NTRA, Egypt.



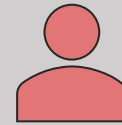
ITU-T SG 17 Meetings and Other Meetings

Full Meetings	Twice a year	All member states, invited experts, etc
Gathering of Regional Group of Africa	Twice a year (a session during ITU-T SG 17 Full Meeting)	Members from Africa, Other members or stakeholders including ITU
Regional Group Meeting	Once a year (collaborating with others such as AfricaCERT, countries)	Members from Africa, Other members and stakeholders, invited experts
AfricaCERT Meetings		
FIRST Meetings		
ITU-D SG 2 Q3/3		

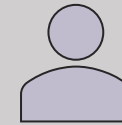
ITU-T SG 17 RG Africa Regional Initiatives



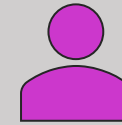
Champions for Sub-region



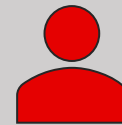
Central Africa



Eastern Africa



Northern Africa



Southern Africa

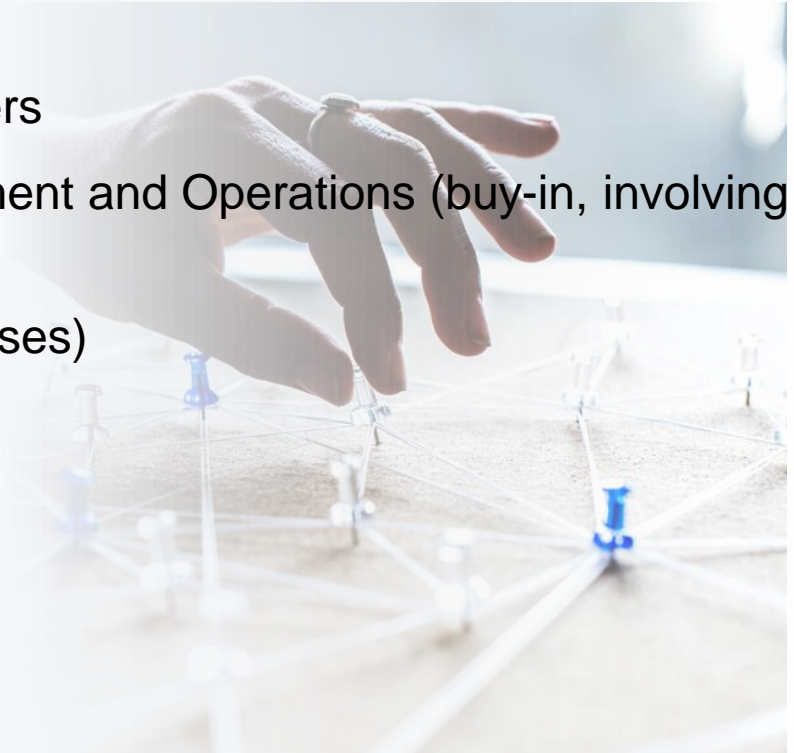


Western Africa



Lessons and Challenges

- Plan, Try, and Do: Consistency of effort
- Communication (awareness) and engagement of stakeholders
- Organizational Strategy, Objectives, Performance, Management and Operations (buy-in, involving others, support for Activities)
- Integration (e.g. organization, management systems, processes)
- Collaborations and Coordination
- Participation and utilization(virtual or physical)
- Resources (making use of resources, making time, etc)
- Perception and impact



Benefits

- Capacity Development
 - Meetings, Discussions
 - Workshops, Tutorials and Events
- Learning, sharing and benchmarking
- Network and Community (Mentorship)
- Standards, recommendations and other resources





Committed to connecting the world

Thank you

Follow our work

