



Briefing to Ambassadors

Update on activities

ITU, Montbrillant Cafeteria
Geneva, Switzerland

Monday 22 January 2024

Agenda

- 16:00 Welcoming remarks and presentation
by Ms Doreen Bogdan-Martin, Secretary-General
- 16:45 Interactive discussion
- 16:55 Group photo
- 17:00 Cocktail reception





Digital is not just in the agenda,

Digital is THE agenda

**Imagine a world where
everyone is connected.**

IMPOSSIBLE IS POSSIBLE



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1. 2023 Highlights and Achievements for ITU
2. ITU strategic priorities for 2024
3. Bureaux plans for 2024 (activities)
 - Radiocommunications
 - Standardization
 - Development
4. Member States engagement
5. Open discussion



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Key achievements of 2023

Long-term impact

(vision for 2030)

Mid-term actions

(2024-26)

2023 priorities

First
100 days

- ✓ **Positioned ITU and strengthened strategic engagement agenda**
- ✓ **Council 2023: revamped, results-focussed**
- ✓ **ITU's transformation initiative adopted by C23**
(together with FRMD, HRMD and IT strategies)
- ✓ **ITU budget 2024-25 adopted**
- ✓ **Change Makers programme**
- ✓ **Strengthening regional presence:** New ITU Area office for South Asia and Innovation Center and move of Area Office for Central America
- ✓ **New ITU staff policies**
- ✓ **Growth of P2C platform**
- ✓ **WRC-23**
- ✓ **... and we won a new Emmy !**



What were the key achievements of 2023?





ITU year in review | Ready for tomorrow

The world experienced growing humanitarian crises and conflicts in 2023, combined with economic uncertainties that have deepened divides and inequalities. Digital transformation offered a ray of hope.

Over the course of a difficult year, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has kept stepping up landmark initiatives in pursuit of universal connectivity and sustainable digital transformation. As we take on more ambitious priorities, we also take pride in ITU's rejuvenation.

A word from the Secretary-General

Our 2024-2027 strategic plan sets out two overarching goals:

- **Universal connectivity** - bringing the last 2.6 billion people online and bridging socio-economic divides through meaningful, affordable digital access.
- **Sustainable digital transformation** - aligning innovative tech with sustainable development and global climate action, while fostering equitable, inclusive digital development for all.

In my first year as Secretary-General, we hit the ground running, putting us on track to create a fit-for-future organisation, as well as ramping up partnerships and pledges to create a better digital future.

Looking back over 2023, ITU has taken robust steps aimed at:

- **Driving digital impact** - emerging as an authoritative voice of digital transformation, offering vital perspectives on universal and meaningful connectivity, along with insights on digital solutions for some of the most pressing challenges of our time.
- **Connecting people and ideas** - boosting the visibility of digital, spurred action on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and laid key groundwork for the proposed Global Digital Compact.
- **Organizational excellence** - putting digital transformation into practice and becoming an exemplary UN agency committed to efficiency, innovation, inclusiveness, and engagement.

In this drive for renewal, I am grateful for the support of an outstanding leadership team. More than ever, ITU radiocommunication, standardization and development activities are helping connect the world inclusively and sustainably.

I invite you to explore what we've achieved in 2023.

Let's recommit to using digital technologies for the good of all humanity.



Doreen Bogdan-Martin
Secretary-General, ITU

- [Read her blog post](#)
- [Review ITU's milestones in 2023](#)

In 2024, the **Summit of the Future** offers a once-in-a-generation opportunity to address critical challenges, while ITU's World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-24) will highlight technical collaboration to make digital technologies safer, more accessible, more affordable, and more sustainable.



Driving digital impact



Connecting people and ideas



Organizational excellence

ITU year in review





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Strategic Priorities

Expected results by the end of the cycle

Long-term impact

(vision for 2030)

Mid-term actions

(2024-26)

2023 priorities

First 100 days

- ITU **Strategic Plan 2024-2027**
- ITU is **go to partner within the UN system** on digital issues
- ITU is the **convener of the world's experts** on **space, AI**, metaverse, robotics
- ITU uses **big data and data science** in our work
- **Sector Membership grows** by 10%; revenues increase by CHF1.5 million p/a
- **P2C hits USD100 billion**
- ITU **attracts and retains the best talent**

The long-term **vision:** A fit-for-future ITU

Long-term impact

(vision for 2030)

Mid-term actions

(2024-26)

2023 priorities

First
100 days

- **One ITU**
- **Open** and **transparent**
- **Innovative**
- **Trusted**
- **Results-based:** We deliver
- **Financially stable**
- **Thought leader**
- Cornerstone of the **space economy**
- **Partner of choice**
- Preferred **employer**

Internal priorities for 2024

- Advance the ITU's **transformation roadmap** to achieve Organizational Excellence
 - **Staff development** and HR transformation – UN 2.0 (Quintet of Change)
 - IT Transformation, emphasis on **Business Intelligence** and **data-driven decision** making
 - Modernizing **financial management**, and ensure better financial accountability on our Financial Regulations and Financial rules, advancing Results Based Management (**RBM**)
- **Resource mobilization** strategy
- ITU **Headquarters** Project
- ITU **Gender** Unit
- ITU **Youth** Task Force
- **Governance:** continue improvements in ITU Council

External priorities for 2024

- Thought **leadership**
- **AI** for **Good**
- **WTSA-24**
- **Industry & Academia** Engagement
- Foster **Youth** Engagement
- **G20**, **G7** and **G77**
- **UN** Engagement

UN engagement in 2024

- **Global Digital Compact**
- **CSW**
- **WSIS forum**
- High-Level Advisory Body on **Artificial Intelligence**
- **STI Forum** - 9-10 May 2024, New York
- **SIDS4** Conference, 27-30 May 2024, St John's, Antigua and Barbuda
- **LLDC3** Conference, 18-22 June 2024, Kigali, Rwanda
- **HLPF**, 8-17 July 2024, New York
- **Summit of the Future**, 22-23 September 2024, New York
 - Pact for the Future intergovernmental negotiations
 - SDG Digital 2024
- **UN GA** High Level Week (General Debate from 24 Sept)
- **COP29**



WSIS+20 Review Process

Multistakeholder Process

WSIS, as a multistakeholder process, has stood the test of time and the WSIS+20 Review Process would provide a guidance framework for all stakeholders, based on the WSIS Outcome Documents, on addressing opportunities and challenges posed by the current digital landscape, including on universal connectivity and sustainable digital transformation.

Strengthened Digital Collaboration

Close collaboration with ITU, UNESCO, UN CSTD, UN DESA, WSIS Action Lines Facilitators and other UN Agencies involved.

Alignment with GDC, Summit of the Future and other related activities.



20 Years of implementation of WSIS

- Take stock of the key trends, challenges and opportunities posed by the current digital landscape.
- Analysis of the achievement of WSIS in 20 years including WSIS+20 Country reports, WSIS+20 Action Line reports and WSIS+20 Stakeholder reports
- Assessment of the WSIS Action Lines and their framework in close collaboration with the UN Agencies involved

Outcome

Multistakeholder outcome

27-31 May 2024 : One Week, 3 Major Events

WSIS+20 High-Level Event

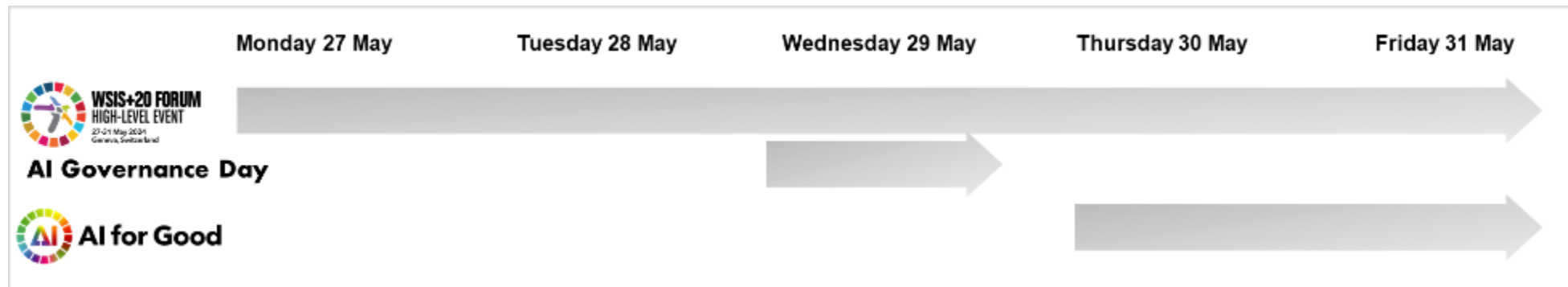
- Multistakeholder discussions on the progress made since the inception of WSIS and take stock of the achievements/success in 20 years
- Identifies the gaps, challenges, and opportunities in leveraging digital technologies, as well as information and knowledge societies, to bridge the digital divide and promote meaningful connectivity, both today and beyond 2025.
- Multistakeholder outcome to be submitted to the UNGA overall review in 2025

AI Governance Day

- A dedicated day centred around Digital Governance, with a particular emphasis on AI Governance, aimed at ensuring responsible design and deployment of AI technologies.

AI for Good Global Summit

- The leading UN platform for global and inclusive dialogue on AI
- Identifying practical applications of AI to accelerate progress towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- connecting AI innovators with decision-makers in the public and private sectors to help scale up AI solutions globally





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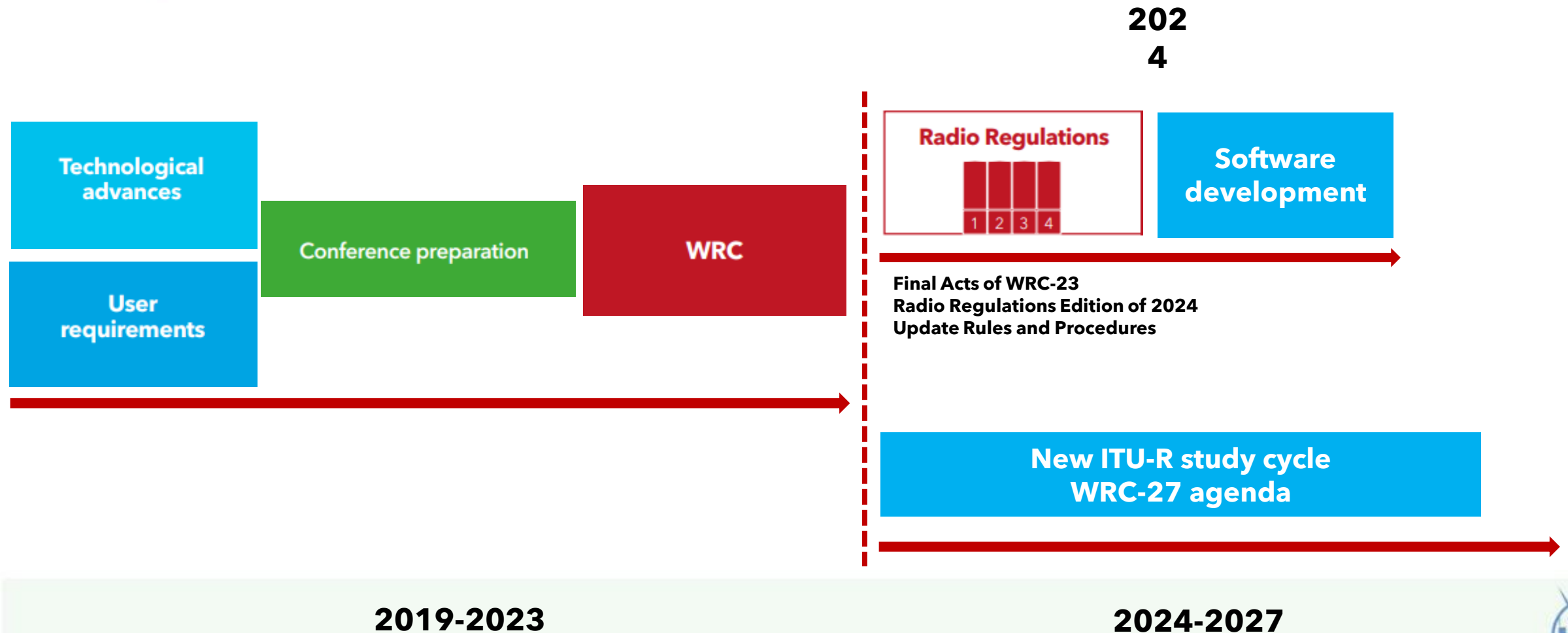
What are the key priorities for 2024?



Radiocommunications Bureau

Priorities in ITU-R

Radio Regulations, SW development & New ITU-R Study Cycle



Upcoming Meetings & Main Work Topics

Working Topics defined by WRC-27 Agenda and ITU-R Questions

Upcoming Meetings/Events

- Radio Regulations Board (RRB)
- Radiocommunication Advisory Group (RAG)
- World Radiocommunication Seminar 2024 (WRS-24)
- Regional Radiocommunication Seminars
- National Tables of Frequency Allocations Seminars
- ITU-R Study Group meetings

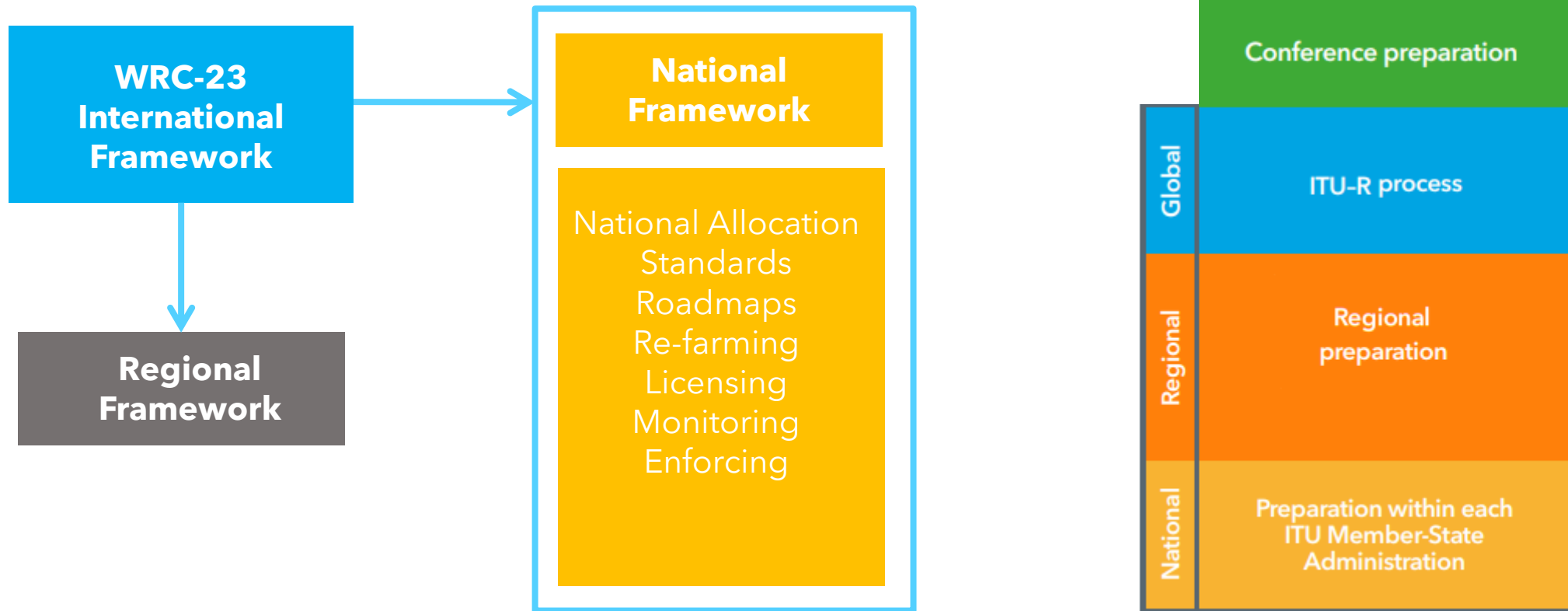
Topics of Work in ITU-R Study Groups

- Mobile Satellite Services (direct-to-device and IoT)
- Aeronautical and Maritime Earth Stations in Motion ESIMs communicating with NGSO and GSOs stations
- IMT frequency bands and IMT-2030 standardization
- Lunar communications
- Space weather sensors
- Protection of Earth Exploration Service and radio astronomy service



Priorities in Nationally and Regional levels

Incorporation of WRC-23 decisions & Organizing the new Study Cycle





Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

2024

30-31 May

14-24 Oct.



AI for Good Global Summit



ITU WTSA
NEW DELHI 2024



ITU GSS
NEW DELHI 2024

Study Groups

- SG2
- SG3
- SG5
- SG9
- SG11
- SG12
- SG13
- SG15
- SG16
- SG17
- SG20

Focus Groups

- FG-CD
- FG-MV
- FG-TBFxG
- FG-AI4A
- FG-AI4NDM
- FG-AN

Regional Groups

Webinar

AI for Good ITU Journal Digital Transformation

Global Initiative

GI-AI4H U4SSC

CxO Roundtable

WSC (with ISO/IEC)

TSAG



World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly

- First WTSA in Asia, 1'500++ participants expected
- Side events: Network of Women, Kaleidoscope, Expo, Indian Mobile Congress & UN Day



Global Standards Symposium

- Theme: Charting the Next Digital Wave: Emerging Technologies, Innovation, and International Standards
- High Level Segment: Ministers and CEOs





AI for Good | 2024 Summit Snapshot

- Over **1500** registrations for the Summit (30-31 May)
 - **40%** women
 - **117** countries, **34%** developing countries or LDC
 - **40+** speakers and demos already confirmed
- The Summit will be preceded by
 - Machine Learning workshops (27-29 May) and
 - Governance Day (29 May)
- Launch of AI for Good Impact Initiative
- **25,000+** Neural Network users (Active AI4G Community)
- **500+** online events produced since 2020
 - **40+** sessions in the pipeline so far for 2024



Outreach Worldwide

It's crucial to disseminate standards to every corner globally.

New BSG Program



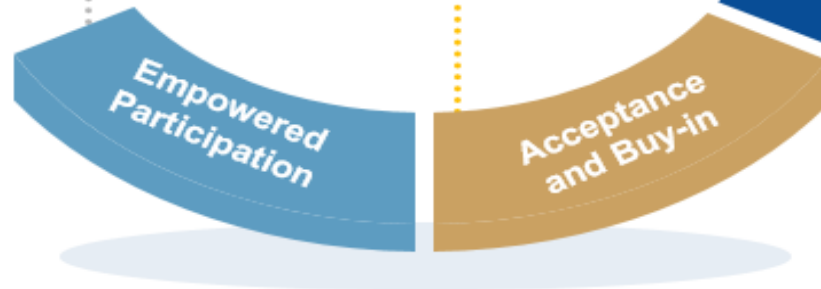
- ✓ Thematic initiatives in implementation of standards (DFS, U4SSC, CDCP, MLS etc.)
- ✓ Tools, Data Analytics & Survey/Quiz
- ✓ Strategic Events, Resource Mobilization & Outreaching

Empowering effective engagement in development of ITU-T standards through enhanced capacity building



- ✓ Updated BSG trainings
- ✓ Fellowship & Language/Interpretation

Enhancing adoption & implementation of ITU-T standards



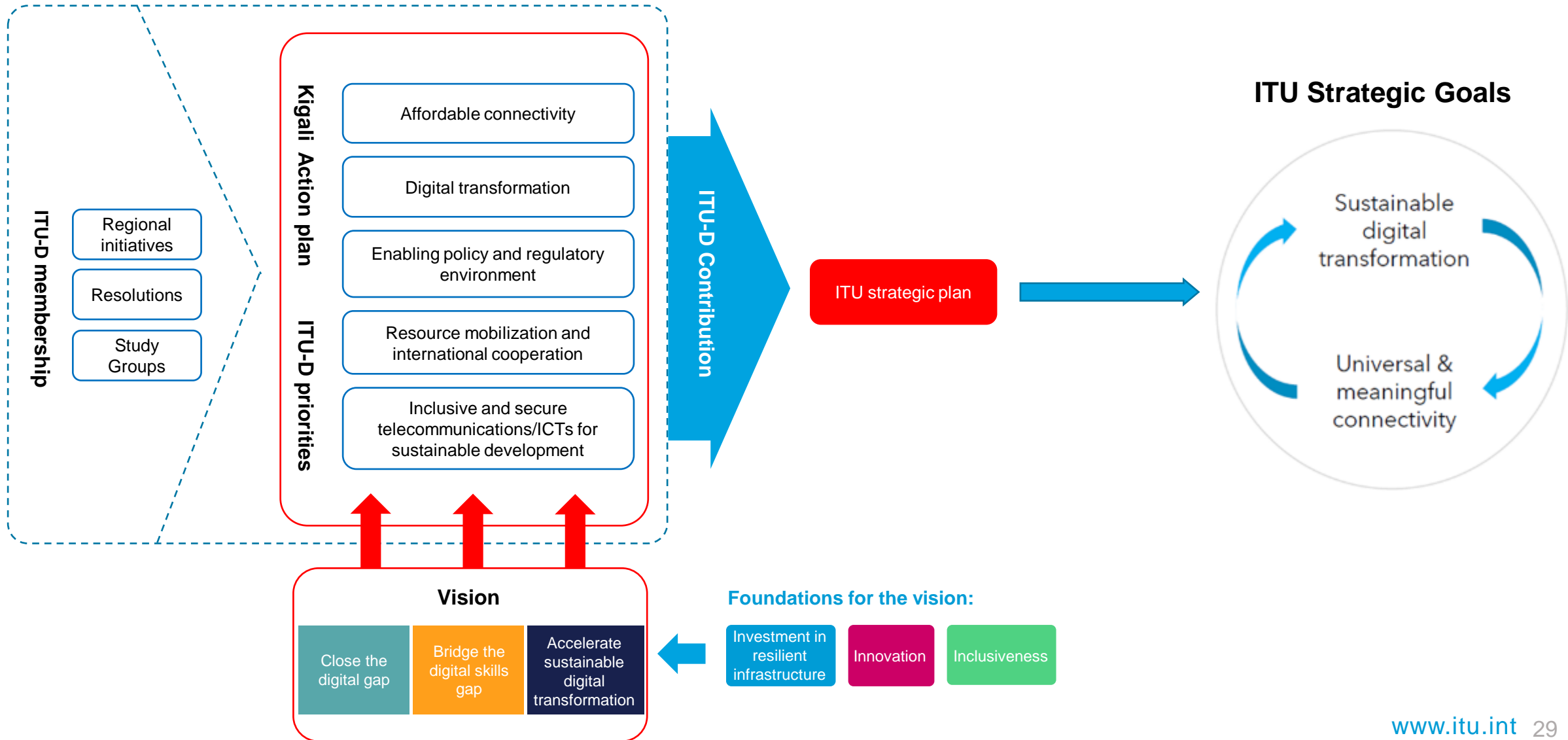
- ✓ Cooperation & Partnership
- ✓ Funding support

Bridging the Standardization Gap for meaningful connectivity & sustainable development through ITU-T standards



Telecommunication Development Bureau

Vision on the BDT4Impact Implementing the Kigali Action Plan



The Road to a BDT4IMPACT

Month 1: Begin journey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Listen to perspectives<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Engage staff○ Engage stakeholders<input type="checkbox"/> Undertake 2023 RBM Operational Planning (OP-23)<input type="checkbox"/> Share my vision with staff<input type="checkbox"/> Embark on resource mobilization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Emphasize work-life balance<input type="checkbox"/> Engage and empower regional offices<input type="checkbox"/> Inspire BDT staff to cultivate team spirit<input type="checkbox"/> Introduce work principles in BDT
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Month 2: Keep travelling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Continue listening tour<input type="checkbox"/> Codify strategy for organizational transformation in BDT<input type="checkbox"/> Hold retreat for senior management<input type="checkbox"/> Communicate direction to staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Start implementation of the Kigali Action Plan<input type="checkbox"/> Embark on staff skills development processes review<input type="checkbox"/> Craft a stakeholder engagement plan
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Month 3 and beyond: Full cruise towards implementation of the Kigali Action Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Continue listening tour<input type="checkbox"/> Socialize strategy with key stakeholders<input type="checkbox"/> Start implementing the strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Deliver impactful results<input type="checkbox"/> Position BDT as a premier development entity
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Towards WTDC-25 and beyond

A BDT that is:

- Agile
- Efficient
- Effective
- Innovative
- Adaptable
- Responsive

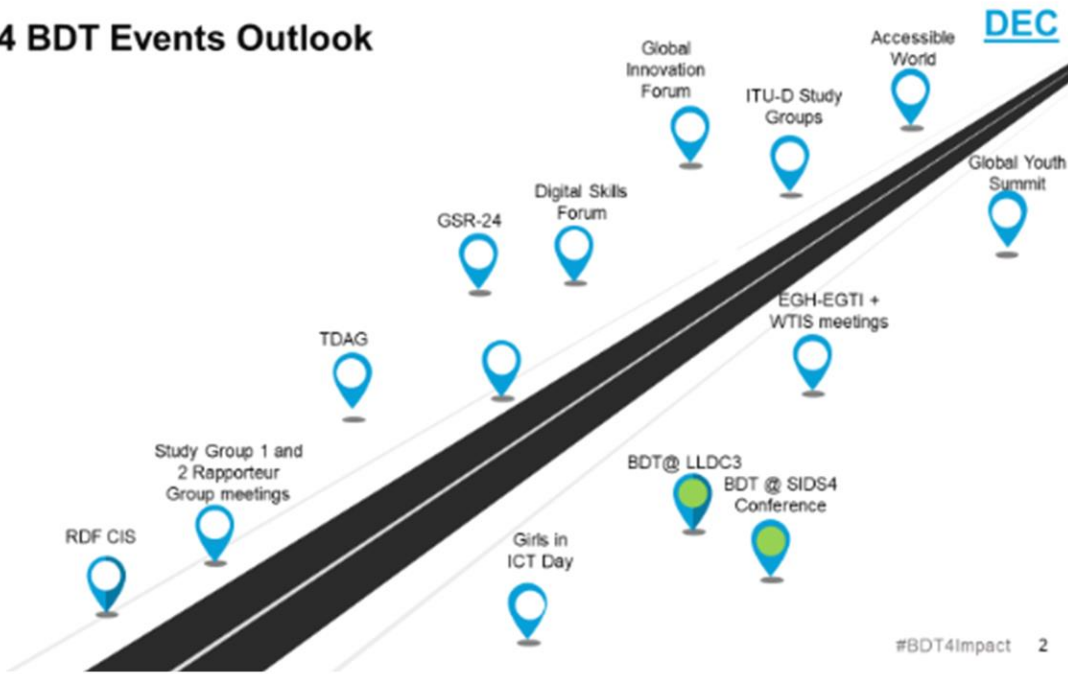
= **BDT4IMPACT**

A BDT that delivers results and impacts people's lives through digital development

2024 BDT Events Outlook

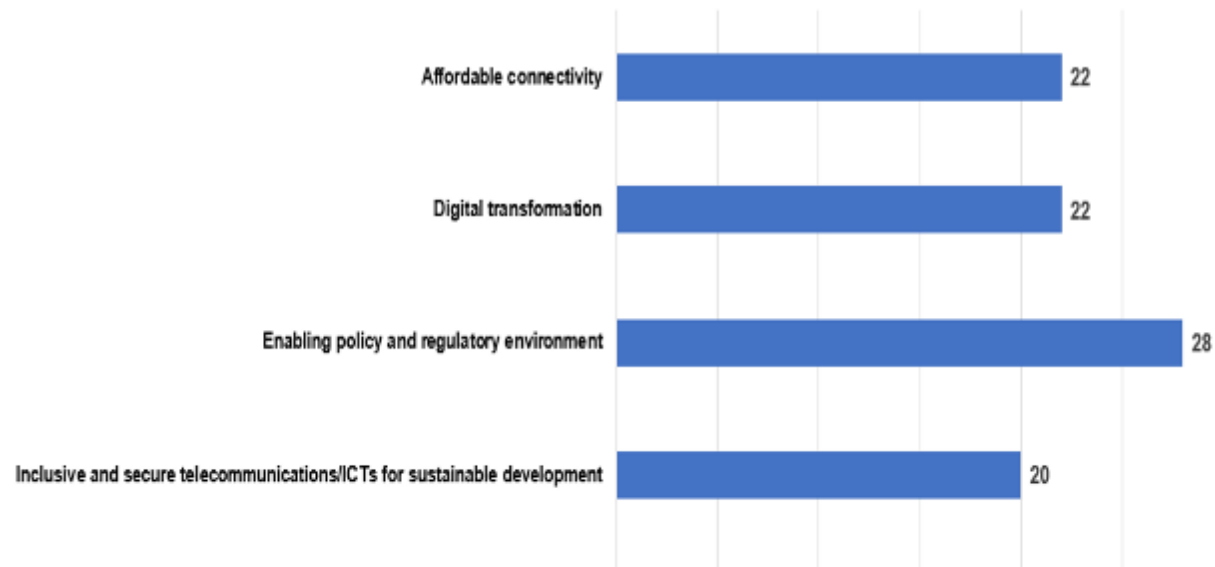
JAN

DEC



#BDT4Impact 2

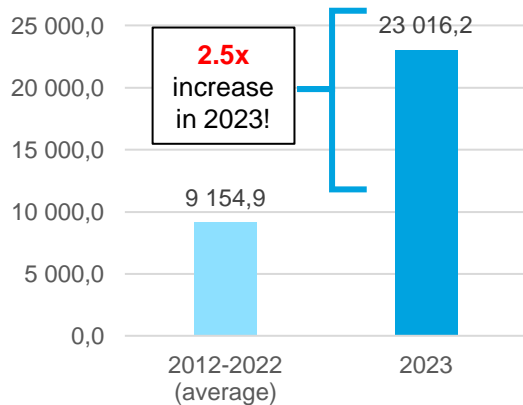
OP 24 Actions by ITU-D Priorities



Projects in 2024

Continuous resource mobilization and accelerate implementation

Funds mobilized in projects and Voluntary Contributions in 2023 (in Thousands)



Current portfolio of projects

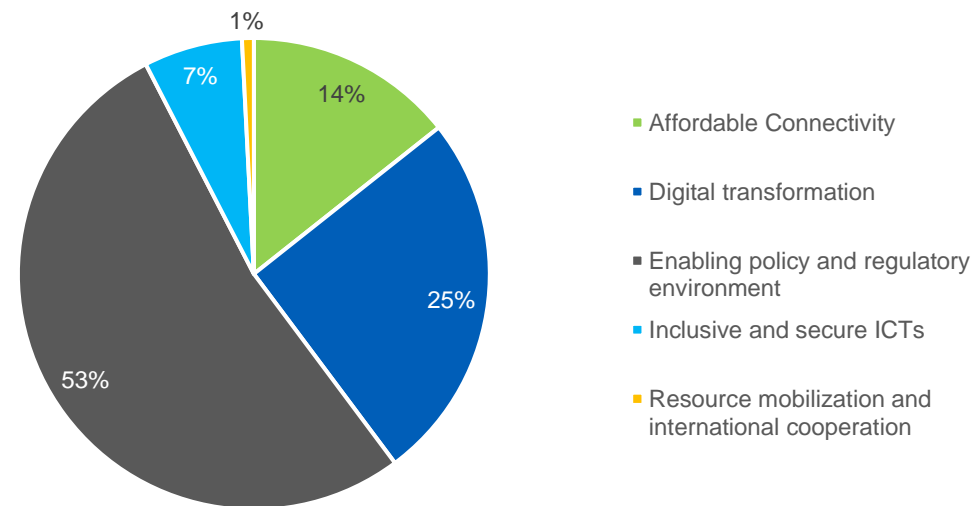
69 projects

CHF 67.0 M
project funding

CHF 3.0 M
funds to support
WTDC Regional Initiatives

Multi-regional, Regional
and National projects

Funds in projects per ITU-D priorities





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Strengthen engagement with ITU **Member States**

Continue the regular engagement with the Permanent missions through

- Regular **briefings for Ambassadors**
- Bi-annual **briefings for newly appointed diplomats**
- On demand **Demystifying Digital** briefings to demystify technology for a predominantly non-technical audience
- Meetings with **regional groups**

Upcoming Council working groups, expert groups, and Council meetings

COUNCIL WORKING GROUPS

<p>EG-DEC482 (Satellite network filing costs)</p> <p>CWG-COP Child online protection (PP Res. 179)</p>	<p>EG-DEC482 (Satellite network filing costs)</p> <p>CWG-LANG Use of the 6 official languages (PP Res. 154)</p>	<p>CWG-FHR Financial and human resources (Council D 563)</p>	<p>EG-ITRs Expert Group on the International Telecommunication Regulations (PP Res.146, Council R1379)</p>	<p>CWG-Internet International Internet-related public policy issues (Council R 1336)</p>	<p>CWG-WSIS & SDGs (Council Res. 1332 & 1334)</p>
OPEN TO	OPEN TO	OPEN TO	OPEN TO	OPEN TO	OPEN TO
MS, SM, ad-hoc experts and COP Partners	Member States	Member States, Sector Members	Member States, Sector Members	Member States	Member States, Sector Members
Monday and Tuesday, 22-23 January	Tuesday, 23 January	Wednesday to Friday, 24-25 January	Monday and Tuesday, 29-30 January	Wed-Thursday, 31 Jan - 1 Feb	Friday, 2 February

COUNCIL

COUNCIL 2024

OPEN TO

Council Members
Observers

4-14 JUNE 2024

Cluster of CWGs: 22 January – 2 February 2024 (Geneva):
[Working Groups - 2024 January Session \(itu.int\)](https://www.itu.int)

TSAG meeting: 22 – 26 January (Geneva)

Interactive discussion



Thanks for joining this briefing!



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