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**Trends in Telecommunication Reform:  
Promoting Universal Access to ICTs –  
Practical Tools for Regulators  
5th Edition, 2003**



via ITU Website

The fifth edition of *Trends in Telecommunication Reform* explores the tools regulators can use to promote universal access/service.

The report provides an overview of universal access/service, the role of sector reform, creation and operation of a universal service fund, the role of minimum-subsidy auction, how consumer tariffs and interconnection rates affect the viability of rural universal access/service projects, public access strategies including telecentres, and how regulators can foster entrepreneurial solutions to rural access. The report is structured into eight chapters.

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# **Trends in Telecommunication Reform: Promoting Universal Access to ICTs – Practical Tools for Regulators**

## **5th Edition, 2003**

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Globalization and rapid technological change have made information and knowledge critical determinants of competitiveness in the new world economy. To compete successfully, a country must have connectivity. In addition to economic development, connectivity fosters social development, including education, health and increased citizen participation in civil society. Universal access/service policies, regulations and procedures are central to countries' efforts to bridge the digital divide. The report provides an overview of universal access/service, the role of sector reform, creation and operation of a universal service fund, the role of minimum-subsidy auction, how consumer tariffs and interconnection rates affect the viability of rural universal access/service projects, public access strategies including telecentres, and how regulators can foster entrepreneurial solutions to rural access. The report is structured into eight chapters.

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