



## **BDT MEMBER COMMUNIQUÉ**

### **Final reports of ITU-D Study Groups 1 and 2 for 2022-2025 study period approved**

**9 May 2025, Geneva, Switzerland** - The fourth and final meetings of Study Groups 1 and 2 in the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) for the 2022-2025 study period took place in Geneva, Switzerland from 28 April to 9 May 2025.

During the meetings, delegates approved 14 final reports for the 2022-2025 study period and one report revised from the previous study period, and concluded their discussions on future topics for the next study period (2026-2029).

“The final reports are the products of three years of sustained effort and collective dedication: they are a milestone of which we can all be proud of. We value the outcome of these reports, which will contribute to our work and to the impact we make.” said Dr Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava, Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau.

“The current cycle has seen the highest number of participants and contributions per meeting for each Study-Group. I would like to congratulate Ms Assoumou-Bessou, Chair of Study-Group 1, Dr Digham, Chair of Study Group 2 and all the vice-chairs, rapporteurs and vice-rapporteurs for the great work done, in addition to all the delegates from ITU-D Membership.”

#### **Outcomes of the fourth meetings of ITU-D Study Groups**

The fourth meetings for ITU-D Study Group 1, focusing on the theme *Enabling environment for meaningful connectivity*, took place from 28 April to 2 May, and for ITU-D Study Group 2 from 5 to 9 May, on the theme *Digital transformation*.

179 delegates from 52 countries attended Study Group 1 remotely and in-person, and shared 85 contributions for discussion. 167 delegates from 56 countries attended Study Group 2 remotely and in-person, and made 53 contributions for discussion.

14 final reports set out to answer the 14 Study Group Questions for the 2022-2025 study period.

The topics covered broadband deployment, digital broadcasting, disaster risk reduction and management, economic aspects, rural & remote connectivity, consumer protection, ICT accessibility, sustainable smart cities and communities, e-services and applications, cybersecurity, ICT equipment, digital skills, environment, and electromagnetic fields.

“I wish to commend the rapporteurs and vice rapporteurs for their dedication and resilience in preparing clear and coherent final output reports that address the Questions' terms of references agreed as part of the WTDC Action Plan in Kigali in 2022.” said Regina Fleur Assoumou-Bessou, Chair, of ITU-D Study Group 1. “They have produced high-quality work based on over 600 submissions from ITU-D membership,” said Regina Fleur Assoumou-Bessou, Chair, ITU-D Study Group 1.

“Digital transformation is a reality: plan for it efficiently, if not it will happen randomly,” said Fadel Digham, Chair, ITU-D Study Group 2.

The meetings were an opportunity to present an update on preparations for the Telecommunication Development Advisory Group (TDAG) and the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) in 2025.

Finally, delegates discussed possible future topics related to the current study Questions, and reviewed the venue and dates for the next ITU-D Study Group 1 and 2 meetings and rapporteur group meetings for the 2026-2029 study period.

During the closing ceremony of Study Group 1, the BDT Director presented Ms Assoumou-Bessou with a certificate of appreciation as outgoing Study Group 1 Chair and an e-book to commemorate her dedication and leadership as Study Group 1 Chair over two study periods. During the closing ceremony of Study Group 2, Dr Digham also received a certificate of appreciation from the BDT Director.

### **The final reports**

The final reports are as follows:

- Question 1/1 - Strategies and policies for the deployment of broadband in developing countries
- Question 2/1 - Strategies, policies, regulations and methods of migration to and adoption of digital technologies for broadcasting, including to provide new services for various environments
- Question 3/1 - The use of telecommunications/ICTs for disaster risk reduction and management
- Question 4/1 - Economic aspects of national telecommunications/ICTs
- Question 5/1 - Telecommunications/ICTs for rural and remote areas
- Question 6/1 - Consumer information, protection and rights
- Question 7/1 - Telecommunication/ICT accessibility to enable inclusive communication, especially for persons with disabilities

- Question 1/2 - Sustainable smart cities and communities
- Question 2/2 - Enabling technologies for e-services and applications, including e-health and e-education
- Question 3/2 - Securing information and communication networks: Best practices for developing a culture of cybersecurity
- Question 4/2 - Telecommunication/ICT equipment: Conformance and interoperability, combating counterfeiting and theft of mobile devices
- Question 5/2 - Adoption of telecommunications/ICTs and improving digital skills
- Question 6/2 - ICTs for the environment
- Question 7/2 - Recent progress on strategies and policies concerning human exposure to electromagnetic fields

In addition, the revised edition of 2018-2021 Question 4/1 - Economic policies and methods of determining the costs of services related to national telecommunication/ICT networks.

The reports will be available in summer 2025, published in the six UN languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish) on the ITU Hub free of charge to the public.

English language versions can be accessed for ITU Membership with a TIES account.

### **About ITU-D Study Groups**

The ITU-D Study Groups address 14 study Questions during the 2022-2025 study period as adopted at the 2022 World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-22).

ITU-D Study Groups allow ITU Members to share knowledge, experiences, and innovative ideas on how information and communication technologies (ICTs) can help meet the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The ITU-D Study Groups produce reports and guidelines to help countries, companies and other organizations implement telecommunication/ICT policies, strategies, projects and initiatives.

Resources and background information:

- [ITU-D Study Groups website](#)
- [Photos: ITU-D Study Group 1](#)
- [Photos: ITU-D Study Group 2](#)
- Approved reports for [Study Group 1](#) and [Study Group 2](#) (TIES protected)

For questions, please contact:

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### **About the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)**

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The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs), driving innovation in ICTs together with 194 Member States and a membership of over 900 companies, universities, and international and regional organizations. Established over 150 years ago, ITU is the intergovernmental body responsible for coordinating the shared global use of the radio spectrum, promoting international cooperation in assigning satellite orbits, improving communication infrastructure in the developing world, and establishing the worldwide standards that foster seamless interconnection of a vast range of communications systems. From broadband networks to cutting-edge wireless technologies, aeronautical and maritime navigation, radio astronomy, oceanographic and satellite-based earth monitoring as well as converging fixed-mobile phone, Internet, and broadcasting technologies, ITU is committed to connecting the world. For more information, visit: [www.itu.int](http://www.itu.int)