



# ***Connect Africa***

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**ITU**



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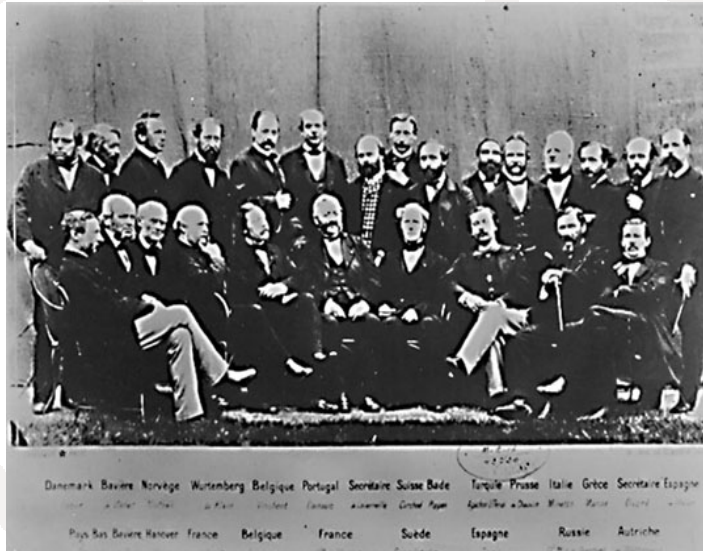
*Committed to connecting the world*

# ITU in brief

Committed to Connecting the World



✓ Founded on 17 May 1865



- ✓ 191 Member States,  
> 720 Sector Members & Associates
- ✓ 750 staff / 70 nationalities
- ✓ Annual budget = \$140,000,000

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# Structure



**Radiocommunications**  
**- regulations**  
**- standards**



**Standardization**

**Development**



# Key priorities

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- radio spectrum
- international standards
- emergency communications & climate change
- digital divide
- cybersecurity



NEXT GENERATION NETWORK



# Connect the World

- Mobilize partners to achieve WSIS connectivity goals by 2015 and support the Regional Initiatives adopted by Member States at the ITU WTDC in 2006.
- Leverage partners' efforts, build on regional actions
- Global, multistakeholder initiative
- Summit in each region:
  - Bring together leaders from industry, development banks, governments, international and regional organizations
  - Focus on concrete projects to realize common goals



# Connect Africa

- 1<sup>st</sup> Regional Summit, held in Rwanda, October 2007
- \$55 Billion committed at Summit
- Leaders set ambitious goals:
  - Connecting capitals with broadband by **2012**,
  - rural communities by **2015**, plus enabling environment, capacity building, applications and services

# Connect Africa Follow-up

- President Kagame of Rwanda to champion efforts across Africa
- ITU focused on supporting the implementation of commitments
- GSMA on track for \$50B in mobile network investments – 90% population by 2012
- Satellite industry announced doubling of capacity between now and 2012 + training
- World Bank/AFDB financing infrastructure

# Connect Africa Follow-up-1

- The World Bank together with ITU and AFDB are working on the Central African Backbone (CAB);
- The World Bank Regional Infrastructure Programme is going well in other countries of Eastern and Southern Africa;
- The GSM industry is continuing a solid pace of investment despite the global financial difficulties;
- ITU and AFDB are working on the East-African-Community Broadband infrastructure network. Consultancy firms have already been shortlisted for the pre-investment analysis funded by AFDB;



# Connect Africa Follow-up-2

- ITU and AFDB are working on the ECOWAS Broadband infrastructure network to speed up the establishment of the missing links;
- ITU is facilitating a joint project Guinea-Liberia and Sierra Leone for their connection to the submarine optical fiber and their national backbone infrastructure;
- ITU is facilitating a meeting between Ministers of Ghana, Burkina Faso, Benin and Togo to close the broadband infrastructure missing links between these countries;
- ITU and European Commission are implementing a 6 million US dollar project on the harmonization of policy and regulation in Sub Saharan Africa;

# Connect Africa Follow-up-3

- ITU has put particular emphasis on mobilizing resources for the rural and remote areas. We have secured US\$ 4 million from Craig and Susan McCaw Foundation which is being combined with US\$2.4 million from ITU to start wireless broadband projects;
- ITU is implementing a centre of excellence project for Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries of Africa, a project jointly funded by the Governments of Spain and Portugal.

# Next Steps

- Connect the World series to continue into other regions
  - Asia and the Pacific region,
  - Arab States,
  - CIS region, and
  - the Americas
  
- Partnerships to be developed in the lead up to and post-event.



# ITU Global View

- Developed with Microsoft and IDV Solutions
- Help track progress on WSIS goals
- Support efforts of all partners
- Share information on projects & stats to target efforts, reduce overlap and stimulate collaboration
- <http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/connect/gblview/africa.html>

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***Questions ?***



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