ITU TELECOM WORLD 2016
POST EVENT REPORT

THE GLOBAL ICT INNOVATION EVENT FOR SMEs, CORPORATES AND GOVERNMENTS
ITU Telecom World 2016 took place from 14–17 November in Bangkok, Thailand. As the global platform for accelerating ICT innovation for social good, it brought together governments, corporates and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) from emerging and developed markets around the world. It combined an exhibition for digital solutions, a forum for sharing knowledge, an Awards programme recognizing excellence and innovation in ICT solutions with social impact and was a networking hub between nations, organizations and individuals. The event focused on the importance of collaboration across the ICT ecosystem to grow the digital economy, and the vital role of SMEs. By accelerating ICT innovation to improve lives faster, ITU Telecom World 2016 aimed to make the world better, sooner.

2016 IN NUMBERS

- Over 8,800 participants
- 250 exhibitors, including 107 exhibiting SMEs, 60 partners & sponsors from 37 countries
- 337 leaders from 90 countries, split between public and private sectors
- 173 speakers from 56 countries in the Leadership Summit and Forum
- 8 agreements/contracts signed at ITU Telecom World 2016 between governments, regulatory bodies and private entities
- 187 accredited media from 12 countries

From its high-level Forum debates to the activities on the showfloor, ITU Telecom World has this week successfully moved towards becoming the truly inclusive international platform connecting tech SMEs with global governments and industry leaders.

ITU Secretary-General, Houlin Zhao
ITU Telecom World 2016 welcomed guests at the highest level, including H.R.H Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, Kingdom of Thailand, H.E. Chan-o-cha Prayut, Prime Minister, Kingdom of Thailand, Crown Prince Tupouto’a Ulukalala of the Kingdom of Tonga, H.E. Xavier Bettel, Prime Minister, Luxembourg, H.E. Charlot Salwai Tabimasmas, Prime Minister and Minister responsible for ICT and Telecommunications, Vanuatu.

Over 330 participating leaders spanned ministers and regulators, CEOs and CTOs of major ICT players, heads of international organizations and UN agencies, academics and SMEs from around the world, plus top-level representatives from Hungary and the Republic of Korea – past and future ITU Telecom World host countries.
EXHIBITION

250 exhibitors from 37 countries demonstrated innovation, talent and investment opportunities including National Pavilions, world famous tech-brands and SMEs from around the world.

The Exhibition featured the latest digital technologies from 5G and cloud to smart devices, smart city solutions or national broadband plans, as well as investment and partnership opportunities.

Leading exhibitors included AIS, DTAC, Huawei, Intel, KT, LS telcom, Rohde & Schwarz and True. Must-see National Pavilions featured on the showfloor came from Azerbaijan, China, Ghana, Iran, Japan, Kenya, Korea, Malaysia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Thailand and Zimbabwe, including first-time participation from Algeria, Bangladesh, Madagascar and Pakistan.

Thematic Pavilions joining the event included ITU-T Standards for Global ICTs, China SME Pavilion and K-Champ - Korea Telecom, showcasing innovative solutions, products and applications from SMEs active in sectors as diverse as healthcare, agriculture, IoT devices for manufacturing and smart locking systems.

Over 550 leading representatives from top global operators joined the event including China Mobile, China Unicom, DTAC, KT, True, MTN, Airtel, Etisalat, NIGCOMSAT, Liquid Telecom, Sonatel-Orange, NetOne and Expresso, showcasing innovative technologies and joining in Forum debates.

It is extremely useful to be here because it is one-stop shop to meet our customers, our partners, the industry. There is value in what we do and there is value in the history. When you have been doing the same thing for 20 years and it works, I think it is a good idea to continue doing it.

Jean-Paul Chaib, LS telcom

It is a great chance to see and talk to many people involved in the business, ITU people, government, carriers, service providers, new companies, to talk to them and present our new solutions.

Shinichiro Nakamura, Deputy Division Director of Global Business Division, Internet Initiative Japan

Read more success stories
List of 2016 exhibitors and sponsors
LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

The Leadership Summit convened highest level public and private sector participants to tackle key questions around building collaboration in the growing digital economy. Government and industry leaders shared insights on working together in the changing ICT ecosystem and explored the challenges and opportunities that lay ahead.

Speakers debated ideal forms of collaboration, how to best reach the digitally disenfranchised, and current and future challenges, such as tackling cybersecurity or questioning the integrity of data, as well as discussing the new opportunities offered by new technologies across all vertical industries. The Leadership Summit was sponsored by TRA, UAE, and moderated by Jeremy Wilks of Euronews, Leadership Summit media partner.

World-class speakers:

- H.E. Air Chief Marshal Prajin Juntong, Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister of Digital Economy and Society, Thailand
- Mukhisa Kituyi, Secretary-General, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
- R.S. Sharma, Chairman, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), India
- Kathy Brown, President & CEO, Internet Society
- Maria de Fátima Henriques da Silva Barros Bertoldi, Chair of ANACOM Board of Directors, Portugal
- Suphachai Chearavanont, President, Telecommunications Association of Thailand
- Fadi Chehadé, Senior Adviser to Executive Chairman, Digital Governance, World Economic Forum
- Anne Jellemse, Chief Executive Officer, World Wide Web Foundation
- Ari Sarker, Co-President, Asia Pacific, MasterCard Worldwide
- Joy Tan, President, Corporate Communications, Huawei
Key policy makers, regulators, ICT leaders, representatives from different industry verticals, SMEs and innovators came together in Forum sessions, providing unique perspectives and analysis from across the ICT industry, a range of verticals, public and private sectors from around the world. Under the theme “Collaborating the digital economy”, discussions explored critical topics such as AI, how ICTs can meet the SDGs, the connected car, digital financial inclusion, and fiscal incentives and taxation in the industry.

Other debate highlights included:
- B2G and B2B dialogues
- Ministerial Roundtable on the crucial role of governments in advancing digital economy
- Economic and Industry Roundtable
- Asia Pacific Exchange on Broadband Regulation and Policy

Key topics in sponsored sessions
ITU Telecom World 2016 featured sponsored sessions from Key players including Huawei, KT, Japan’s MIAC, GTI, China Mobile and TDIA, Intel, Mastercard, GSMA/GSA, Nigeria & MEF. Topics spanned 5G, reaching the next billion, digital financial services, the key to a digital Nigeria and enabling third network services for the digital economy.

View the full programme of debate [here](#), read more in the [daily highlights](#) or catch up on Forum sessions and revisit your favourites with our [Session Videos](#).

World-class speakers
- [H.E. Xavier Bettel](#), Prime Minister, Luxembourg
- [H.E. Charlot Salwai Tabimasmas](#), Prime Minister and Minister responsible for ICT and Telecommunications, Vanuatu
- [Philip Metzger](#), Director General, Federal Office of Communications (OFCOM), Switzerland
- [Michele Franci](#), Chief Technology Officer, Inmarsat
- [Ola Jo Tandre](#), Director and Head of Social Responsibility, Telenor ASA, Norway
- [Lawrence Yanovitch](#), President of the GSMA Foundation, GSMA, United Kingdom
- [John Galvin](#), Vice President, Government and Education, Intel
- [Stephen Ibaraki](#), Founding Chair, Global Industry Council & Vice-chair, IFIP Board, International Federation for Information Processing, Canada
- [David Manset](#), CEO, Gnúbila, France
- [Carlos Cornejo](#), Senior Vice President / Group Head New Consumers, Public Sector & Humanitarian Products, MasterCard Worldwide

You need to look to opportunities such as this to really form your network.

John Galvin VP Government and education, Intel at B2B dialogue
As the international platform connecting ICT SMEs with corporations and governments, it was no surprise that high-level participants used the opportunities and influential audience that the event offered to conclude many important agreements between business and business (B2B), business and governments (B2G) and business and governments to UN, as well as launching new reports, including:

- An MOC (Memorandum of Cooperation) between the Thailand and Japan governments was signed by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Digital Economy and Society (Thailand) and Vice-Minister of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communication. This signing was witnessed by H.E the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Digital Economy and Society of Thailand and H.E. the Ambassador of Japan to Thailand.

- A contract was signed between Thailand’s CAT Buzz TV and DSPONE Korea for smart city project.

- A joint business /ITU whitepaper was launched between ITU-D and Huawei. This was launched during the Asia Pacific Regional Exchange Forum session.

- The Host Country Agreement was signed by ITU Secretary-General, Houlin Zhao with the Bahamas for the hosting of ITU’s Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR), from 11-14 July, 2017.

- Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Republic of Korea’s Cobaltray and Iran’s Ariana Gostar Spadana in the domain of smart advertisement and sales solutions.

- MoU was signed by ITU and Republic of Belarus’s Ministry of Communications and Informatization.

- The ITU’s Emerge Report, exploring ICT SMEs and how their entrepreneurial spirit can be harnessed for a sustainable development, was launched during the B2G dialogue.

- Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Republic of Korea’s Cobaltray and Bangladesh’s Protonic in the domain of mobile payment systems.

- In the context of ITU Telecom World 2016, an MoU was signed between The Kingdom of Thailand’s NBTC and Bhutan’s BICMA.

- At their business matchmaking event, hosted by KT, K-Champ pavilion members signed contracts worth US$5m with a number of international partners.

We are able to share the Kenyan experience, to showcase our innovations and compare what is happening globally, and have the opportunity to identify key collaborators that can work with the government to help develop the ICT agenda in Kenya.

Sammy Itemere, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Information and Communications
ITU Telecom World was enriched by perspectives from across ITU and its membership and partners, who used the international platform which the event provides in order to hold a series of important **co-hosted events**. A series of closed meetings took place a day before the official opening. These were the advisory boards meetings of the **Smart Sustainable Development Model Initiative (SSDM)** and **m-Powering Development Initiative**, 7th **Private Sector Chief Regulatory Officers (CRO) meeting**, 8th **Chief Technology Officers (CTO) Meeting**.

For the first time this year, the event proposed an extensive program engaging with academia in the global debate. Activities included the **ITU Secretary General Academia Consultation**, 2nd Brainstorming Meeting of Impact Study on ICT4SDGs, **ITU Kaleidoscope Academic Conference 2016**, **World Standards Cooperation Academic Roundtable**, organized in cooperation with the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC).

Important side-events working on technical standards included the 4th APT and ITU Conformance and Interoperability (C&I) event — IPTV Testing, **Third ITU Test Event** on Compatibility of Mobile Phones and Vehicle Hands-Free Terminals, and showcasing of the implementation of recommendation ITU-T X.1255 promoting interoperability of heterogeneous systems via digital labelling. A strong gender equality agenda focused events, such as **EQUALS**: the Inaugural Meeting of the Global Partnership for **Gender Equality in the Digital Age**, **Mentorship Sessions: Promoting Women’s Digital Entrepreneurship**, and the **Gender Equality and Mainstreaming in Technology (GEM-TECH) Awards**, a joint ITU/UN Women prize recognizing outstanding efforts in using the power of information and communication technology (ICT) to empower women and girls was conferred during a prestigious ceremony at the event.
The second edition of the prestigious ITU Telecom World Awards recognized excellence and innovation in ICT solutions with social impact. Open to all exhibitors and sponsors at ITU Telecom World, awards were selected by an expert jury and presented in four different categories:

- **The Global SME Award**, recognising the most promising innovative solution from an SME.

- **Thematic Awards** — open to SMEs and large corporations — for the most promising innovative solutions with social impact in eEducation, eHealth, eGovernment and disaster prevention/communications.

- **Host Country SME Award** for the best solution chosen by Thailand.

- **Recognition of Excellence** for the best innovative solution within each National Pavilion.

**ITU Telecom World 2016 Award winners and Recognition of Excellence Certificates:**

- **Global SME Award Winner**: BRCK, Kenya, represented by Alex Masika

- **Thematic Award Winner eHealth**: Neofect, Korea, represented by Kyuhee Lee

- **Thematic Award Winner eEducation**: Academic Bridge, Rwanda, represented by Mariam M. Muganga

- **Thematic Award Winner eGovernment**: Nile Center for Technology Research — E15 Project, Sudan, represented by Elwaleed Bashir Ahmed

- **Thematic Award Winner Disaster Recovery/Prevention**: MasterCard, USA, represented by Umar Hashmi

- **Host Country Award Winner**: ServisHero Co., Ltd, Thailand, represented by Khun Noppol Toochinda

**Recognition of Excellence Certificates were awarded to:**

- Bangabandhu Satellite Launching Project, Bangladesh, represented by H.E. Begun Tarana Halim, Minister for Posts & Telecommunications

- 3D Factory Co., Ltd, Korea, represented by Sang Hyun Park

- Academic Bridge, Rwanda, represented by Mariam M. Muganga

- BESTCOMP GROUP, Azerbaijan, represented by Najafova

- Bisa, Ghana, represented by Dennis Addo

- BRCK, Kenya, represented by Alex Masika

- Fedirronics Intelligent Metering Company, Nigeria, represented by Emmanuel Ifediya Ugochukwu

- Ministry of Transport, Thailand

- Protonics, Zimbabwe, represented by Chingore

- NexTech, Japan, represented by Kento Takahashi

- Potevio Company Limited, China, Luo Lin

- Telecommunications Infrastructure Company, Iran, represented by Susan Ayerman

“We are making education accessible to all children around the world and I am happy that the impact we are making has been recognized.”

— Alex Masika, head of business development at BRCK and winner, ITU Telecom World 2016’s Global SME Award
Networking was at the heart of ITU Telecom World 2016. Panel lunches hosted by the SMART Africa Alliance and CITRA helped facilitate networking and discussion, along with high-profile networking occasions such as the Leaders Lunch, Welcome Reception, and Korea Night with MSIP of the Republic of Korea, hosts of ITU Telecom World 2017.

Networking breaks sponsored by Rohde & Schwarz and URCA of the Bahamas made sure conversations continued between Forum sessions. And delegates, speakers, exhibitors and sponsors all took to the Event App to connect, share content, check out the programme, exhibition and plan their event journey.

The value is the networking, the ability to connect to so many different entities in one location and understand different perspectives. This really helps us in making connections with all the different players.

Saj Kumar, SAP

“Participating in ITU is really great leverage for us to introduce our technology to a global market.”

Sung Yoonju, Ripplebuds
ITU Telecom World 2016 was hosted by the government of the Kingdom of Thailand in Bangkok, one of Asia’s most cosmopolitan cities.

A regional hub for commerce, tourism and transportation, Bangkok offers first-class conference and business facilities with world-renowned charm and hospitality. A fascinating mix of traditional and modern culture, historical highlights and dynamic urban environment, the city truly has something for everyone.

With highest-level participation from VVIPs from the Kingdom of Thailand at the Event Opening and in key Forum sessions, the Thai Pavilion at the event showcased top names from Thailand’s dynamic ICT sector, highlighting Thailand’s digital economy. Leading Thai players including H.E. Air Chief Marshal Prajin Juntong, Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister of Digital Economy and Society, as well as other top government and corporate experts together with representatives from international and regional organizations based in Thailand and many SMEs also joined Forum debates on key areas including collaboration, growing the digital economy, fostering SMEs and entrepreneurs in the region, and major technology trends. Thailand also used the international platform provided by the event to showcase national initiatives such as the Young Entrepreneur Assembly Hub (YEAH) in the edutainment workshop.

The event has been extremely useful in showcasing Thailand’s thriving digital economy and society and, importantly, demonstrating innovations and entrepreneurship which are key drivers for national development today.

H.E Air Chief Marshal Prajin Juntong, Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister of Digital Economy and Society
187 global media accredited from 12 countries to speak to senior government figures, SMEs and industry figureheads, along with some 40 media and association partners, representing international trade, media and telecoms press. Major global media such as AFP, Euronews and Xinhua were present at the event, along with leading telecoms and trade publications.

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Images from ITU Telecom World 2016

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Join us in Busan for ITU Telecom World 2017!

Focusing on the creative digital economy and fostering SME growth, ITU Telecom World 2017 will take place from 25–28 September. ITU warmly invites Member States, regulators, and heads of international organizations, global media, digital experts and visionaries, leading ICT corporations and cutting-edge tech-SMEs from the region and across the globe to join the event! Sign up to join the event before 15 February and benefit from a 5% discount! Contact us to find out more!

Register your interest today