REGIONAL FORUM

ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE UNECE REGION

13-14 MARCH 2024 I PALAIS DES NATIONS I GENEVA

Promoting and Measuring Universal and Meaningful Connectivity

Round table on SDG 17 “Building Effective Partnerships for Digital Transformation”

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Universal and Meaningful Connectivity (UMC)

A policy imperative

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> The possibility for everyone to enjoy a safe, satisfying, enriching, productive, online experience at an affordable cost.

The two dimensions of connectivity

Measurement framework

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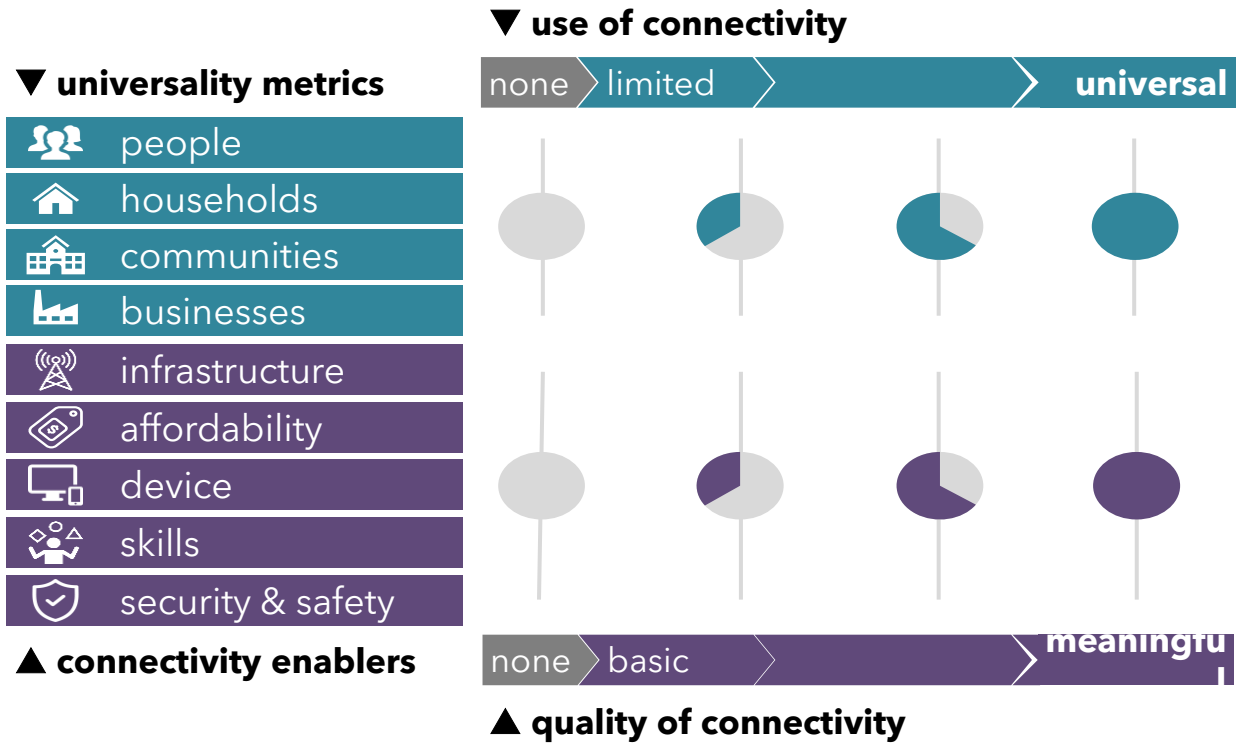
Framework for universal and meaningful connectivity

To what extent is connectivity universal and meaningful?



Out of scope

What are the **catalysts** and **levers** to improve use and quality of connectivity?

Out of scope

What are the **applications** and the **impacts** of connectivity?

Where are we in terms of UMC?

Measurement framework

UMC indicators	Target	Share of countries Achieved / with data (ref year)	
		Europe region	CIS region
share of population aged 15+ who uses the Internet	> 95%	7 / 19 (2021) 4 / 32 (2022)	4 / 4 (2021) 3 / 3 (2022)
gender parity score *The gender parity score is the share of women using the Internet among the female population aged 15+ divided by the share of men using the Internet among the male population aged 15+*	> 0.98	30 / 32 (2022)	2 / 3 (2021) 3 / 3 (2022)
share of households with Internet access	> 95%	7 / 33 (2022)	1 / 3 (2022)
share of businesses (with 10+ staff) that use the Internet	=100%	3 / 33 (2022)	0 / 1 (2017)
share of primary schools connected to the Internet	=100%	6 / 8 (2021) 1 / 1 (2022)	3 / 5 (2021)
share of secondary schools connected to the Internet	=100%	7 / 8 (2021) 1 / 1 (2022)	3 / 5 (2021)
share of population aged 15+ who owns a mobile phone	>95%	1 / 3 (2021) 5 / 7 (2022)	0 / 2 (2021) 2 / 3 (2022)
price of the fixed-broadband Internet price basket	< 2% of GNI per capita	55 / 55 (2022)	5 / 9 (2022)
price of the mobile-broadband Internet price basket	< 2% of GNI per capita	55 / 55 (2022)	8 / 9 (2022)

Figures in red : low data availabiliy

ITU-EU partnership for UMC

The UMC project

Universal and meaningful connectivity narrative is mainstreamed, and significant progress towards 2030 UMC targets achieved globally

Specific Objective 1.
"ADVOCACY"
Prioritization of Universal and meaningful connectivity (UMC) in policy agendas

Specific Objective 2.
"MEASUREMENT AND CAPACY BUILDING"
More and better data on UMC

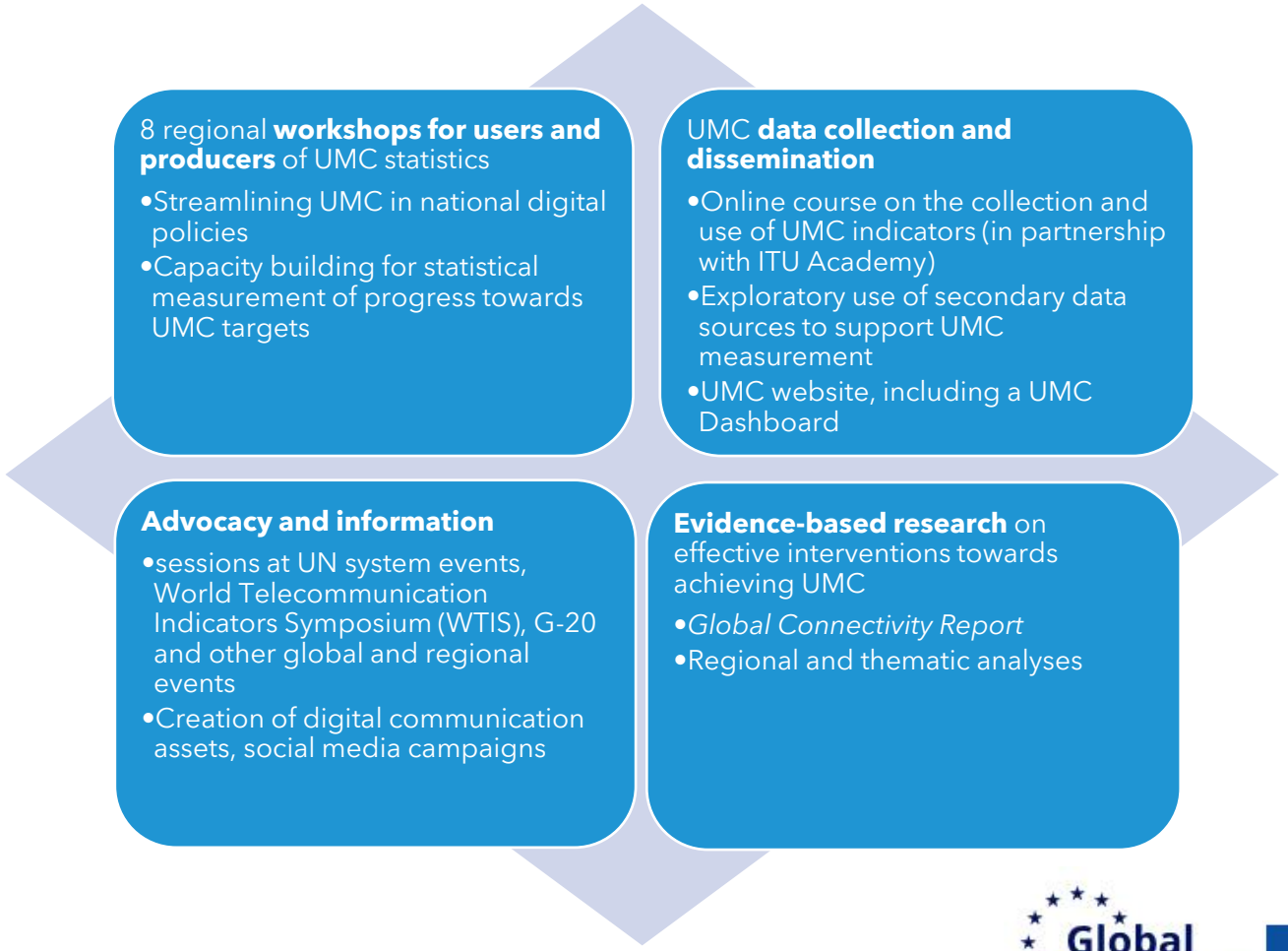
Specific Objective 3.
"RESEARCH"
Better policies for UMC

Global Gateway

Funded by the European Union

ITU-EU partnership for UMC

The UMC project



Take away messages

Better data for better policies

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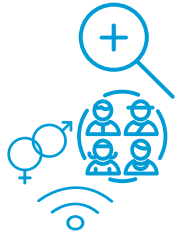
- Bridging the digital divides requires **detailed, accurate statistical information** for the design of targeted UMC policies
  - Who are the not connected (→ socio-demographic profiles)
  - Where are they (→ subnational data)
  - What are the barriers to access and use of ICT (→ barriers to access, barriers to use)



- Improving the **statistical capacity** of developing and transition countries to produce ICT statistics in a sustainable way
  - Household surveys (→ sustainable, sound sampling and data collection, foster use)
  - Administrative records from telecom operators (→ ensure collaboration between operators and statistics producers)
  - Innovative data sources (→ ensure access to privately held data)

- Strengthening the **dialogue between users and producers** of ICT statistics
  - To continuously improve the **relevance** of statistics (→ identify emerging information needs)
  - To increase the **statistical literacy** of policymakers in the area of UMC (→ train users, develop tools)
  - Identifying **experiences** of evidence-based digital inclusion policies

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Thank you!

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