



Media advisory

Mexico will be the seat of the main symposium on ITU statistics

Renowned speakers from around the world will debate on the potential of information and communications technologies as a cause for change in development

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Geneva, November 18th, 2013 - Mexico City is prepared to celebrate one of the ITU main conferences, which will welcome world-wide leading experts in economic development and public policies in order to discuss the strategies destined to take advantage of the power transformation of information and communications technologies (ICT) and lead the efforts toward socioeconomic development.

Co-organized by [ITU](#), the specialized United Nations agency for ICT and the Federal Telecommunications Institute (*Instituto Federal de Telecomunicaciones*, IFT), the new regulating body for telecommunications and broadcasting in Mexico, the [Telecommunications/ICT Indicators Symposium](#) (*Simposio Mundial sobre los Indicadores de Telecomunicaciones*, SMIT) has come at a right time for Mexico, as Mexico is presently undergoing a radical reform in its ITU market.

The expectation is that this event will attract approximately 300 experts and analysts from around the world. These invited experts work in areas that include data and statistics, elaboration of ICT policies and initiatives for development. They will explain how to take advantage of technology's unique potential in order to place essential services such as health care and education within poorly cared for or isolated communities.

In the interconnected economy of today, it is essential to hold exact data on penetration, ICT fixed prices and the access to both, not only for the ICT sector, but also for the growth of other enterprises and social sectors. ITU publishes the world-wide data base of the most used ICTs, as well as the unique annual report named [Measuring the Information Society](#).

SMIT will be inaugurated with three high level debates on fundamental priorities for the world-wide post MDG program, and the increasingly essential role of ICT statistics when defining and following-up national, regional and world-wide development goals.

Some of the speakers that have confirmed their participation include Mexican Government authorities such as Gerardo Ruiz Esparza, Minister of Communications and Transport and Gabriel Contreras Saldivar, President of the IFT; personalities of academia, such as [Professor Jeffrey Sachs](#) (Earth Institute, Columbia University & Millennium Villages project); and industry, such as [Carlos Slim Helú](#) (Carlos Slim Foundation) and the Secretary General of ITU Dr. Hamadoun I. Touré, among others.

We invite journalists to register now to attend the **First Day** of this fascinating international event. We request that you remember that due to security reasons, **advance enrollment is essential to be able to attend the event**. Pre enrollment ends on **Monday, December 2nd, at 18:00 CST**.

- Name:** [World-wide ITU Telecommunications/ICT](#) Indicators Symposium
- Date:** December 4-6, 2013.
Open to the media on December 4th only.
- Venue:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Plaza Juárez #20, Col. Centro, Cuauhtémoc, Mexico City
- Objective:** The opportunity to hear and interview outstanding speakers of the Mexican government and the private sector, and of the ICT world-wide community
- Speakers:** Experts of the world-wide ICT community, ICT analysts and ICT regulators, government leaders and politicians, private sector high-level executives and prominent personalities of the United Nations organizations.
- Media advisory** **Registration is essential** for media and industry analysts' participation *in situ*. Contact angelina.mejia@ift.org.mx for registration details.

Follow this event in Twitter at: #ITUdata.

For further information, visit [the event's Website](#) or contact:

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About ITU

ITU is the most important organization of the United Nations regarding information and communication technologies. For almost 150 years, the ITU has been coordinating the sharing of the radio electric spectrum on a world-wide scale, has promoted international cooperation for the allocation of satellite orbits, has made an effort to improve the infrastructure of telecommunications in the developing world, and has established the world-wide norms that guarantee the continuous interconnection of an ample range of communications systems. From broadband networks to state-of-the-art wireless technologies, aeronautical and marine navigation, radio astronomy, meteorology by satellite and convergent fixed and mobile telephony, Internet and broadcasting technologies, ITU is committed to connecting the world.

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