PRIDA: An AU-EU-ITU project fostering universally accessible and affordable broadband across the African continent

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UbuntuNet-Connect 2020. 18-20 November 2020

Context

- For any digital transformation to take off, broadband connectivity is a requisite.

- Africa still lags behind in terms of availability and affordability of broadband Internet access.

- For broadband wireless connectivity to be a reality in Africa, the right policies and regulations need to be in place first.

What is PRIDA

The "Policy and Regulation Initiative for Digital Africa" (PRIDA) is an ongoing joint initiative of the African Union (AU), the European Union (EU) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

PRIDA's overall objective is to foster universally accessible and affordable broadband across the continent to unlock future benefits of internet based services.

Component	Budget	Implemented by
1. Efficient and harmonised spectrum utilization (T1).	5.500.000 €	ITU
2. Harmonisation of measurable ICT/Telecommunications policy, legal and regulatory frameworks (T2).	2.500.000 €	African Union
3. African decision makers' active participation in the global internet governance debate (T3).		

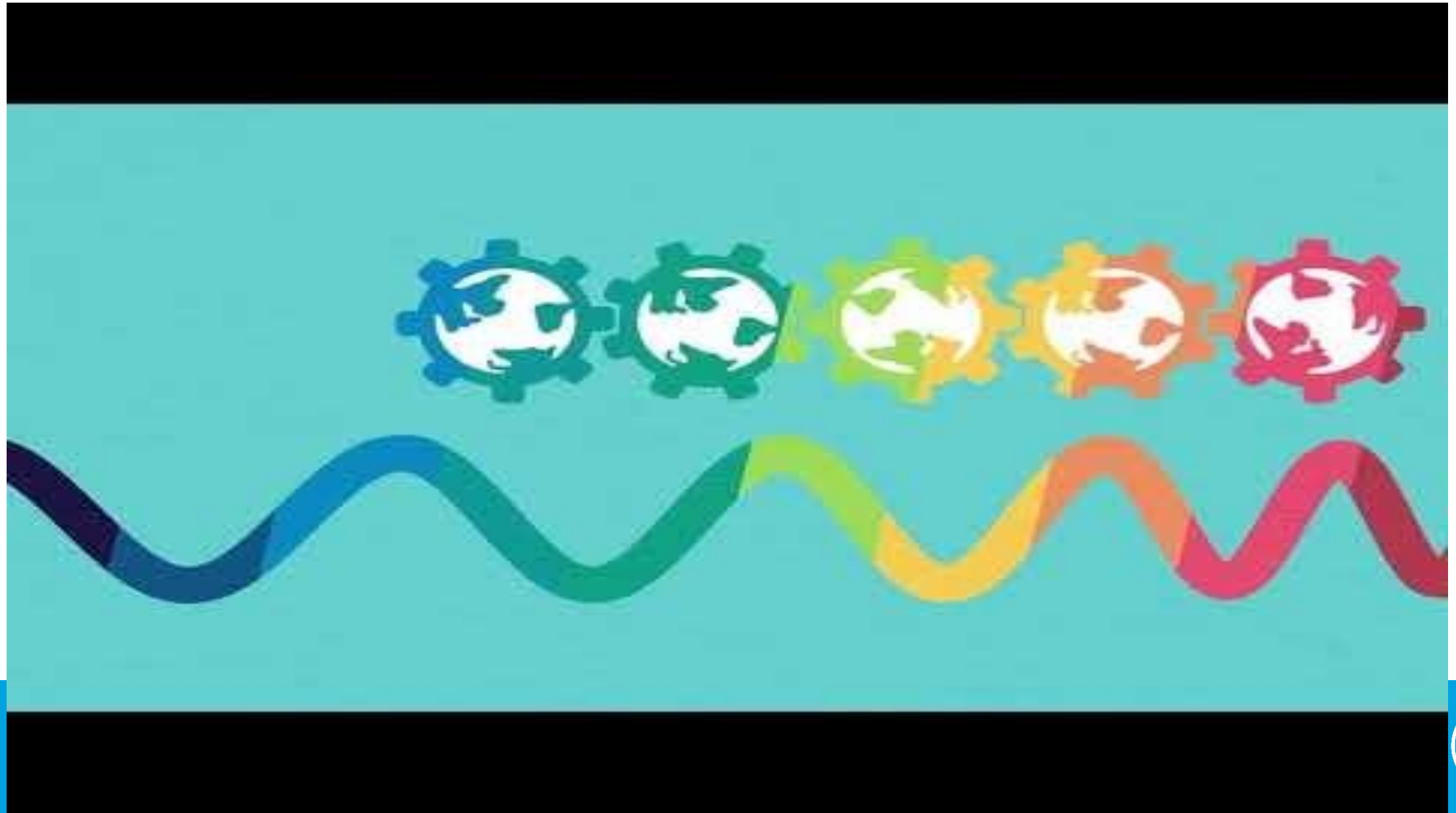
Collaboration

This pan African project not only joins the AU-EU-ITU, but also interacts with:

1. All African Regulatory Authorities
2. African ICT Ministries and policy makers
3. Regional Associations of Regulators
4. All African Regional Economic Communities
5. ATU
6. Operators and service providers

Animated video on T1

All PRIDA Videos (EN & FR versions) are available here



What is PRIDA T1

The specific objective is to create a more harmonised and enabling legal and regulatory framework for the use of ICT for social and economic development, with an emphasis on boosting the spectrum market across Africa.

PRIDA fosters harmonization efforts at Pan-African level of the four core functions:

- spectrum licensing
- spectrum pricing
- spectrum refarming
- cross border frequency coordination

What is PRIDA T1

PRIDA T1 contains 26 Actions grouped in 5 outputs:

- **Output 1:** *Spectrum allocation based on international best practices is improved*: harmonizing spectrum utilization in Africa, particularly spectrum utilization for wireless broadband access.
- **Output 2:** *Terms and conditions for spectrum licensing are improved as well as spectrum pricing predictability and alignment on international best practice.*
- **Output 3:** *Cooperation related to the treatment of harmful interference is strengthened via cross-border frequency coordination agreements*.
- **Output 4:** *Awareness and acceptance of the concept and economic models of Internet of Things (IoT) is increased*.
- **Output 5:** *Capacity building*. Train the staff of national regulatory agencies.

Work Programme, T1

1. Analysis of the current legislative and regulatory framework and the usage of spectrum as of today as well as in the foreseeable future
2. Developing Guidelines on radio frequency regulation based on ITU Radio Regulations, ITU-R Recommendations, Reports and Handbooks, regional harmonization frameworks, case studies, country experiences and regional consultations.
3. Developing Guidelines for national radio frequency spectrum coordination including refarming methods.
4. Collect information on the availability of the backhaul links (incl. fiber).
5. Based on the Guidelines above propose improvements of national radio spectrum regulations.
6. Based on the Guidelines above propose harmonized refarming plans for the usage of frequency bands identified for wireless broadband.
7. Based on the Guidelines above propose roadmap and priorities for wireless broadband deployment in Africa.
8. Providing technical assistance for national spectrum entities to transpose these roadmaps.
9. Preparing Guidelines for radio frequency spectrum licensing for wireless broadband
10. Preparing Guidelines for pricing
11. Preparing Guidelines for usage
12. Preparing Guidelines for HCM4A
13. Assessing the HCM4A agreement for sub-Saharan Africa and make assessment on current cross border frequency coordination agreements
14. Updating the number of countries interested in implementation of the HCM4A
15. Updating HCM4A agreement taking into account the results of the assessments and the updated version of the HCM Europe
16. Organizing workshops to validate the updated cross border frequency coordination agreement and developing the HCM4A software
17. Providing support to the implementation of the updated HCM4A agreement and the software in Sub Sahara Africa and to North Africa
18. On request assisting countries in specific cases for cross border frequency coordination and providing technical assistance for the resolution of critical situation
19. Providing policy outreach on concept and business models of IoT.
20. Providing overview on the ITU activities and ensuring participation in relevant ITU meetings.
21. Developing guidelines and associated case studies regarding type approval regulations
22. Developing guidelines and associated case studies regarding EMF and EMC for IoT
23. Organizing workshops on digital technologies and relevant frequency issues in relation to IoT.
24. Organizing capacity building workshops.
25. Organizing a 5G annual African Continental Conference -PRIDA focus-
26. Provide direct technical assistance to countries (on demand), on: a) The transposal of our Guidelines for pricing; b) Digital Migration; c) Implementation of modern spectrum management regulatory framework; d) Updating national allocation tables; e) Others (as requested by countries)

Fostering agreements

Drafting Guidelines and roadmaps

Awareness raising among policy makers

Providing Direct Technical Assistance

Capacity building

Mapping infrastructure

PRIDA T1 Events 2019-2021

No.	Event	Dates	Location
1	PRIDA [EN]: Workshop on Cross Border frequency coordination	30-31 May 2019	Botswana
2	PRIDA [EN]: Workshop on notification and training in Spectrum management (SMS4DC)	16-20 September 2019	Liberia
3	PRIDA [FR]: Workshop on notification and training in Spectrum management (SMS4DC)	30 Sept – 4 Oct 2019	Congo
4	PRIDA [EN+FR]: First Focal Point continental gathering + TechComm	17-19 December 2019	Ethiopia
5	PRIDA [EN]: East + South Africa regional capacity building workshop. Modern spectrum management + Spectrum Mgmt. Software (SMS4DC)	2-6 March 2020	Tanzania
6	PRIDA [EN]: Capacity building workshop. Modern spectrum management + Spectrum Mgmt. Software (SMS4DC).	20 April – 1 May 2020	On-line
7	PRIDA [FR]: Capacity building workshop. Modern spectrum management + Spectrum Mgmt. Software (SMS4DC).	11-22 May 2020	On-line
8	PRIDA [EN]: Workshop on digital technologies and relevant frequency issues related to IoT	24-28 August	On-line
9	PRIDA [FR]: Workshop on digital technologies and relevant frequency issues related to IoT	7-11 September	On-line
10	PRIDA [EN+FR]: Knowledge sharing workshop (EN)	7-11 December	On-line
11	PRIDA [EN+FR]: Knowledge sharing workshop (FR)	14-18 December	On-line
12	PRIDA [EN+FR]: Workshop on spectrum auctioning (EN)	11-13 January 2021	On-line
13	PRIDA [EN+FR]: Workshop on spectrum auctioning (FR)	18-20 January 2021	On-line
14	PRIDA workshop: direct technical assistance on Digital Migration (EN)	February 2021	On-line
15	PRIDA workshop: direct technical assistance on Digital Migration (FR)	February 2021	On-line
16	PRIDA workshop: direct technical assistance on updating national allocation tables [EN]	March 2021	On-line
17	PRIDA workshop: direct technical assistance on updating national allocation tables [FR]	March 2021	On-line
18	PRIDA workshop: direct technical assistance on implementation of modern spectrum management regulatory framework [EN]	April 2021	On-line
19	PRIDA workshop: direct technical assistance on implementation of modern spectrum management regulatory framework [FR]	March 2021	On-line
20	PRIDA focal points meeting [EN + FR] + TechComm [EN]	June 2021	Face to face, TBC
21	PRIDA workshop: direct technical assistance on pricing guidelines and spectrum auctions [EN]	September 2021	Face to face, TBC
22	PRIDA workshop: direct technical assistance on pricing guidelines and spectrum auctions [FR]	September 2021	Face to face, TBC
23	5G African Continental Conference, with ATU [EN + FR]	Q3 2021	Face to face, TBC

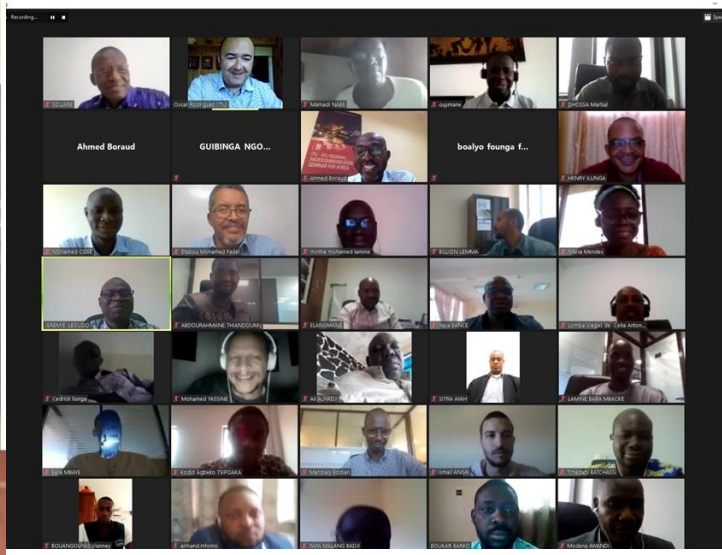
PRIDA T1 Guidelines and Roadmaps

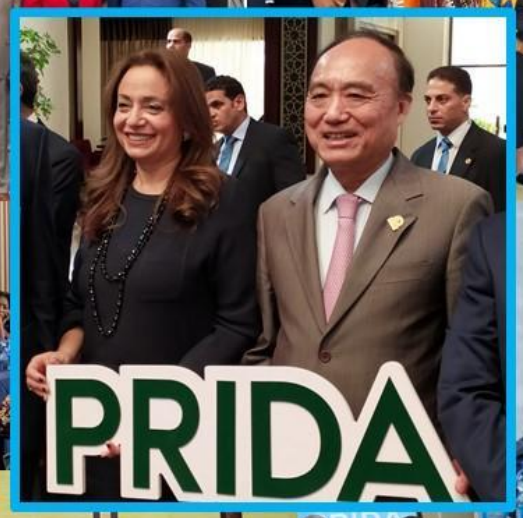
- Continental and regional guidelines with associated case studies created through a consultative process with relevant continental, regional and national focal points and stakeholders.
- Regional harmonized roadmaps for the adaptation of the current legislative and regulatory framework.
- The Guidelines and Roadmaps will serve as references to develop policy and regulation related to:
  - Technology and standards policies, licensing regimes, frequency management;
  - Consumer aspects and business planning;
  - Harmonization of the utilization of the Digital Dividend taking into account the relevant outputs of the ITU-R and the ITU-D;
  - Cross-border frequency coordination
- Guidelines and roadmaps' adoption/endorsement: the validated draft Guidelines and Roadmaps will be transferred to the Regional Economic Communities/Regional Organizations (RECs/ROs) for consideration.
- National transposition of regional Guidelines
  - Technical direct assistance to requesting beneficiary countries in transposing them at the national level.
  - It will depend on the specific situation of each country to ensure compliance with existing national legislation.

PRIDA T1 deliverables so far

Deliverable	Type	
• PRIDA PMP (Project Management Plan)	Project Management	✓
• Analysis of the current legislative and regulatory framework and the usage of spectrum as of today as well as in the foreseeable future.	Technical Report	✓
• Guidelines on radio frequency regulation based on ITU Radio Regulations, ITU-R Recommendations, Reports and Handbooks, regional harmonization frameworks, case studies, country experiences and regional consultations. **235 pages.**	Technical Report	✓
• Spectrum Management Guidelines for the Introduction of IMT in Africa. **256 pages.**	Technical Report	✓
• REPORT ON THE ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT CROSS-BORDER COORDINATION AGREEMENTS IN AFRICA.	Technical Report	✓
• REPORT ON THE ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT VERSION OF THE HARMONIZED CALCULATION METHOD FOR AFRICA (HCM4A).	Technical Report	✓
• A Gender Sensitivity Review of the PRIDA Project.	Technical Report	✓
• 8 capacity building workshops	Capacity building	✓
• Global PRIDA website	Communication	✓
• 4 PRIDA videos	Communication	✓
• PRIDA ITU web page	Communication	✓
• Communication gadgets (500 bags, umbrellas, pens, caps)	Communication	✓

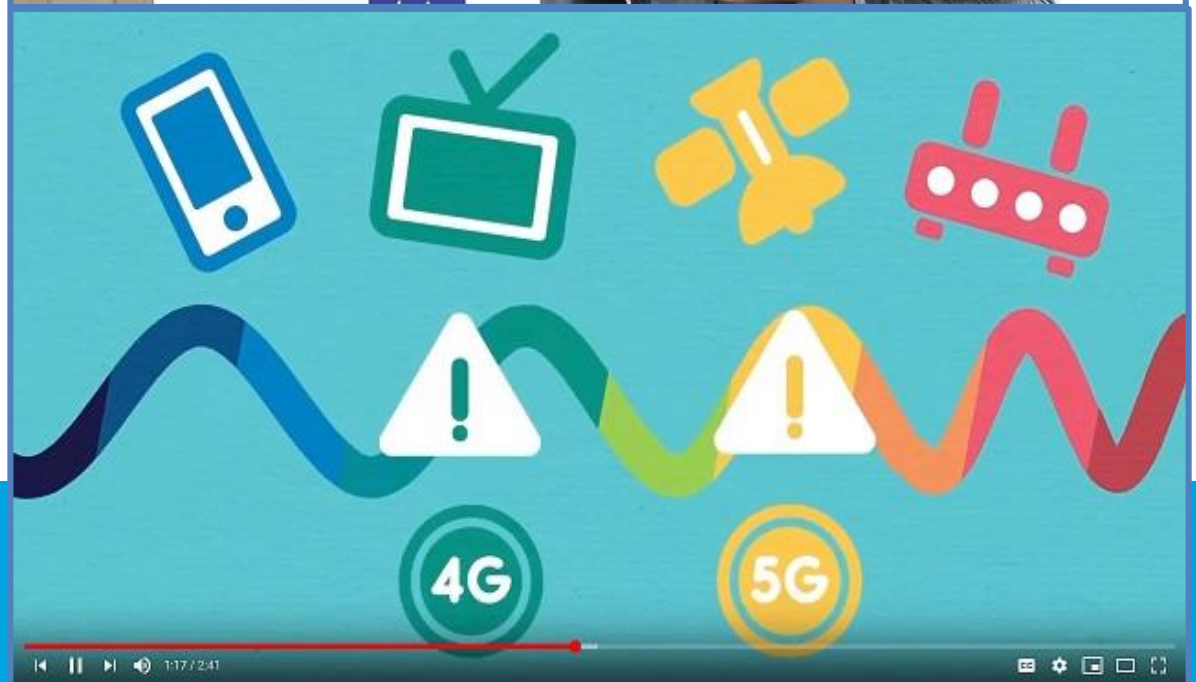
PRIDA T1 Events 2019-2020. Some photos





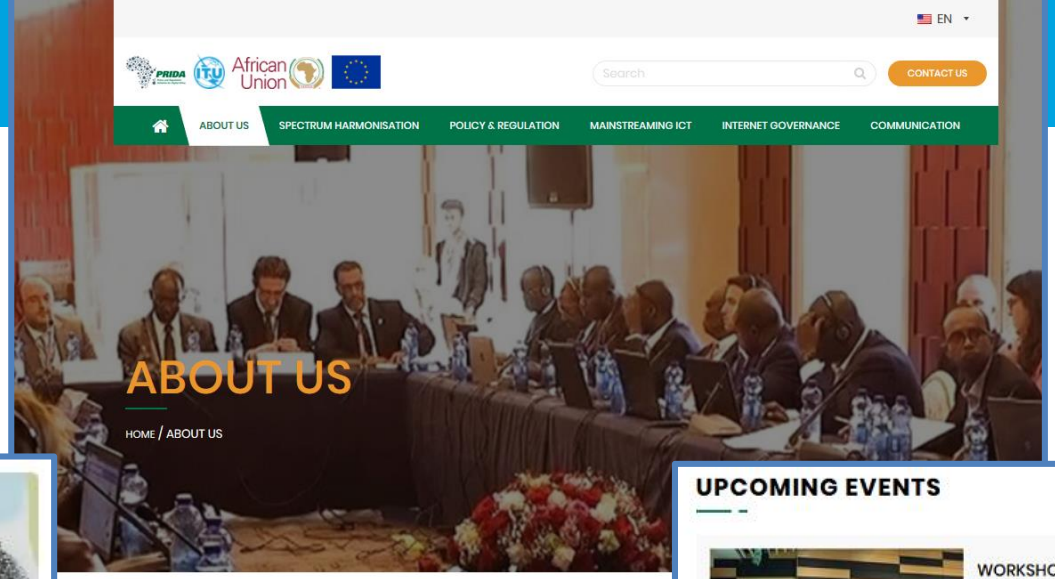
Communication - Videos

All four PRIDA Videos are available [here]



Communication - Website

www.onePRIDA.Africa



The "Policy and Regulation Initiative for Digital Africa" (PRIDA) is a joint initiative of the Af
International Telecommunication Union (ITU), that enables the African continent to rea
various dimensions of broadband demand and supply in Africa and building the capa
Governance space.

It is supported by the EU-funded Pan African Programme.

The PRIDA has three tracks:

ITU is responsible for ensuring efficient and harmonized spectrum utilization across tha

COMMUNICATION KIT ON SPECTRUM

COMMUNICATION KIT ON POLICY & REGULATION

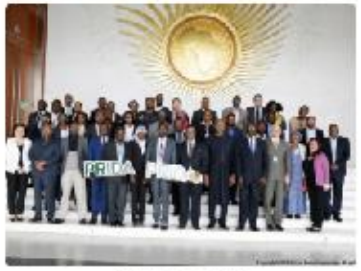
COMMUNICATION KIT ON INTERNET GOVERNANCE

DIGITAL PLATFORM

African Union

PRIDA VIDEOS

EVENTS



EVENT GALLERY

PRESS RELEASES

PRIDA global site

UPCOMING EVENTS

VIEW ALL

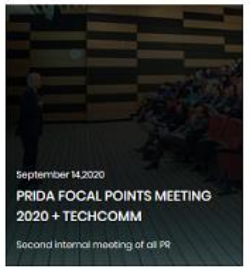
WORKSHOP ON BROADBAND TECHNOLOGIES AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES AND RELEVANT FREQUENCY ISSUES RELATED TO IOT – IN ENGLISH

On broadband technologies + digital technologies and relevant frequency issues related to IoT.

Online

June 29,2020

READ MORE →



A JOINT INITIATIVE BY

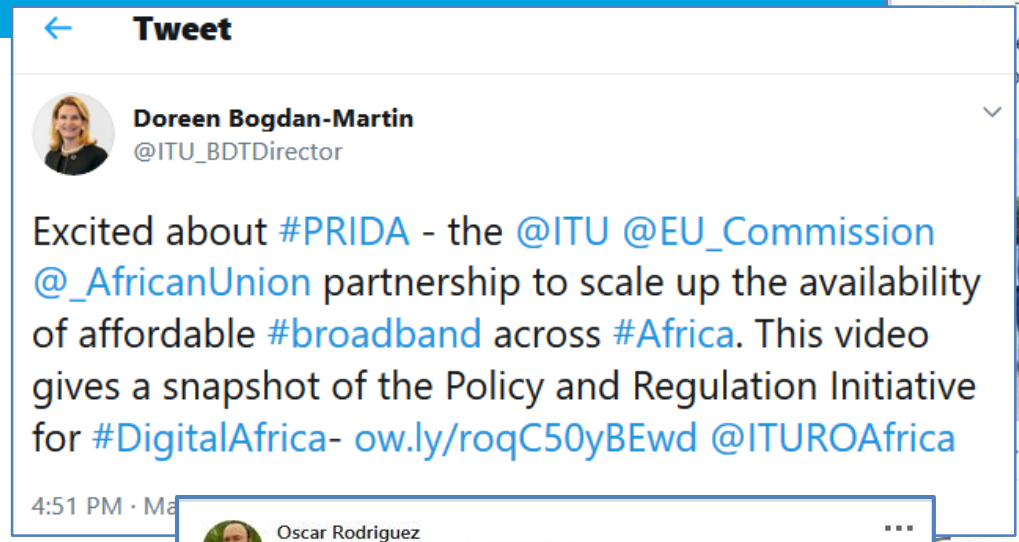
A joint initiative of the AU, EU and ITU

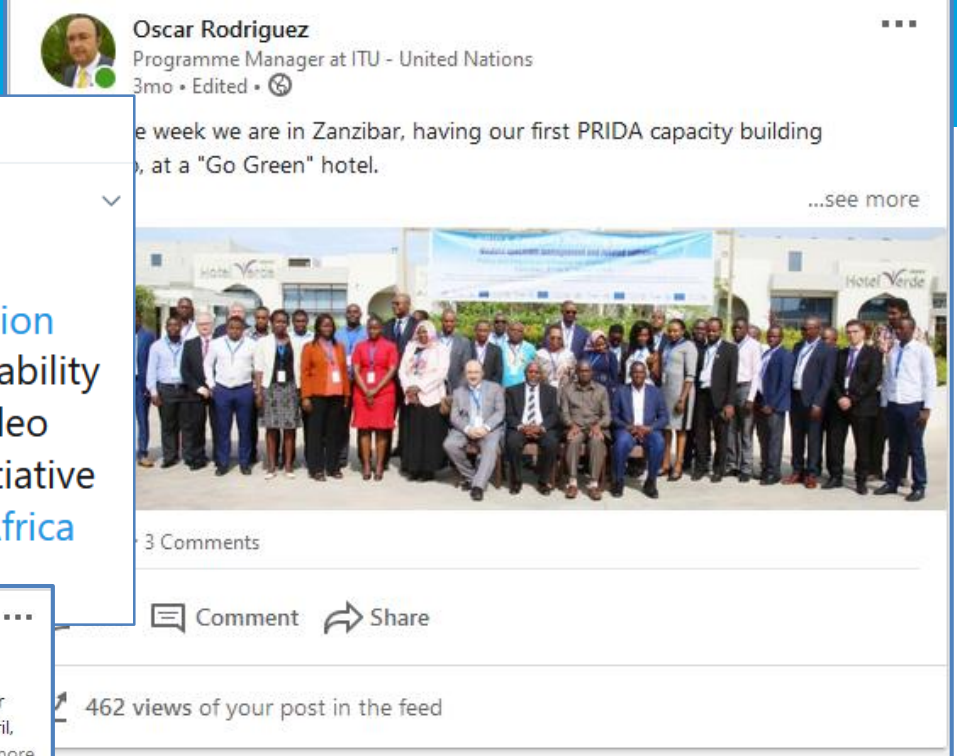
African Union

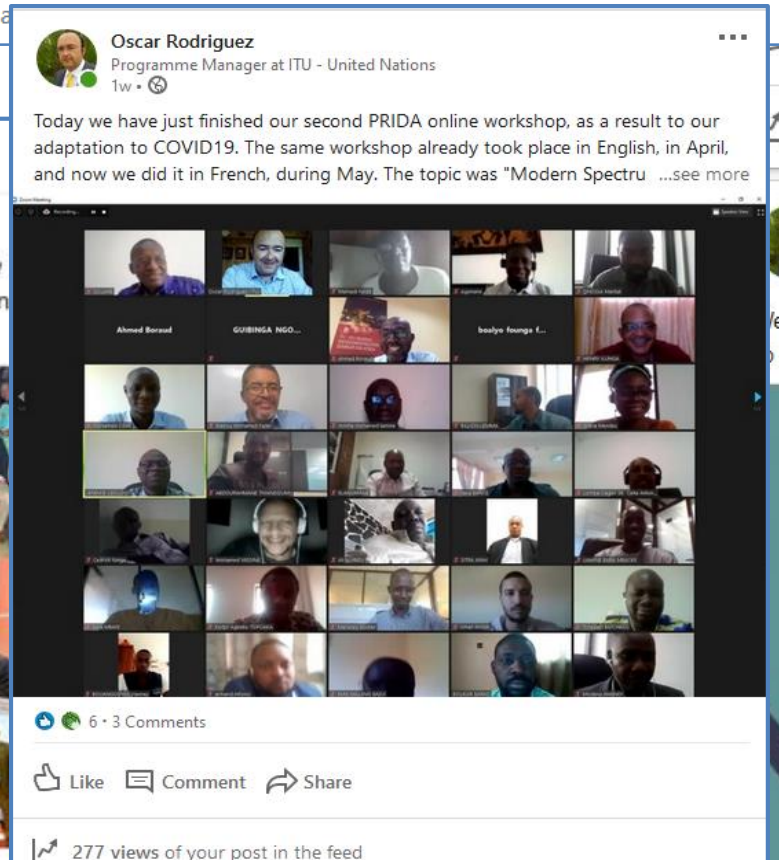
ITU

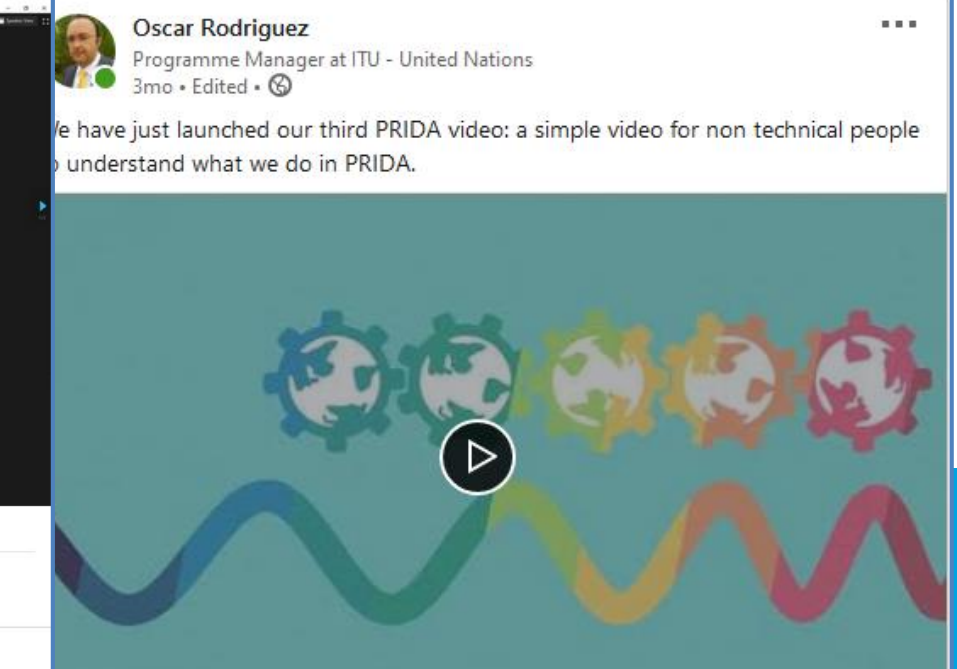
Communication – Social Media

No PRIDA social media accounts, by agreement with AUC.









Communication – Gadgets

A good entry point into our website

Useful Links

- PRIDA global site (EN, FR): https://oneprida.africa/
- PRIDA ITU pages (EN, FR, ES): https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Projects/ITU-EC-ACP/PRIDA/Pages/default.aspx
- PRIDA videos (EN, FR): https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLpoIPNlF8P2OPyQ3PehxzdTlONOpVgIk9
- African Union Commission: https://au.int/en/commission
- European Union (EEAS): https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage_en

Thank you!

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PRIDA
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