

SUMMARY

The COVID-19 crisis has not only highlighted the critical role of information and communication technologies (ICTs) for continued functioning of societies but has also brought to the fore the startling digital inequalities between and within countries and has highlighted the urgency of accelerating digital transformation and advancing the goals and targets of the Connect 2030 Agenda . Globally, the pandemic shows no sign of easing, with the virus devastating country after country. The current situation in India is a bleak reminder that none of us will be safe until everyone is safe. Role of the telecom sector in this situation is critical.

WTISD 2021 is an opportunity for all of us to continue to push for digital transformation by promoting strategies for ICT development, smart policies to encourage investments, cooperation, and partnership to jointly fight this pandemic.

In commemorating the theme of WTISD 2021, "Accelerating Digital Transformation in challenging times", ITU-APT Foundation is hosting a short virtual discussion on how the telecom sector is responding to the crisis and to mark this day on Monday 17th May 2021 at 11AM India time.