



International Telecommunication Union  
Arab Regional Office



Telecommunications Regulatory  
Commission, Jordan



United Nations Economic and Social  
Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)



## Accessible Arab Region 2025: ICT for ALL

29-30 April 2025, Amman – Jordan

### 1. Background

The event "Accessible Arab Region 2025: ICT for All" represents one of the key regional priorities for the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). It focuses on raising awareness, enhancing capacities, and developing resources in the field of digital accessibility, with the goal of promoting digital inclusion and empowerment through ICTs for all, regardless of age, gender, ability, or geographic location.

On December 2, 2021, the ITU, in collaboration with ESCWA, organized this event for the first time in the Arab region. The aim was to raise awareness of the importance of digital accessibility and to provide a platform for dialogue, sharing best practices, knowledge, and initiatives in this field. Approximately 100 participants attended the event, during which good practices in digital inclusion were presented and discussed. The goal was to encourage stakeholders to unify efforts and explore innovative solutions to eliminate barriers to ICT access, enhance human development, and develop and modernize digital accessibility policies that improve the quality of life for all individuals without discrimination, with a particular focus on persons with disabilities.

The second edition of this event was held on December 13, 2022, as the primary platform in the Arab region focusing on digital accessibility as a means to ensure inclusion and digital empowerment.

The third edition of "Accessible Arab Region: ICT for All" took place in the Kingdom of Morocco, graciously hosted by the Agency of Digital Development (ADD), from November 28 to 30, 2023.

Through this event, the ITU and ESCWA aim to invite all member states and stakeholders to promote and mainstream digital accessibility as a means to provide innovative and equitable solutions that ensure inclusion and empowerment for everyone, from an intersectional perspective (all people including, women, youth, remote and rural communities, persons with disabilities and elderly). The event also serves as a dialogue platform for participants to consider the best ways to ensure digital inclusion by empowering everyone—from youth to older generations—to access the digital world effectively and seamlessly, thereby enabling a suitable quality of life for all.

Furthermore, "Accessible Arab Region: ICT for All" aims to exchange and discuss projects and initiatives implemented to enhance and support the implementation of policies and strategies related to the inclusion of all individuals, including persons with disabilities, within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy, and other relevant global commitments.

The fourth edition of "Accessible Arab Region: ICT for All" will take place in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, will be graciously hosted by the Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (TRC), from April 29 to 30, 2025,

in Amman. The activities will span over two days, including capacity-building in digital accessibility. To overcome language barriers for participants in the Arab region, the event will be conducted in Arabic, English, and French, with sign language interpretation and captioning provided.

## 2. Beneficiaries

The event targets all member states and stakeholders, including policymakers from the public and private sectors, representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academia and research centres, organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs), and the elderly from the Arab region, in addition to several companies working in the development of digital accessibility solutions.

## 3. Objective

This event aims to provide a regional platform for knowledge development and open, informative discussions to engage all stakeholders interested in ICT/digital accessibility principles, requirements, policies and strategies to support and enhance efforts in implementing and mainstreaming these principles through the exchange of good practices, discussion of challenges, and leveraging available opportunities in the field of digital accessibility. It also aims to provide networking and partnership opportunities to facilitate the development of inclusive digital communities and environments in the Arab region, ensuring that no one is left behind.

The event focuses on raising awareness, exchanging lessons learned, and identifying trends to enhance capacities and strengthen communication among participants. It also includes a dedicated track for knowledge development and capacity building (for those interested). Best practices in launching national digital inclusion plans and initiatives will be presented at the event to encourage stakeholders to unify efforts in enhancing digital accessibility policies and initiatives that aim to improve the quality of life for all individuals, without discrimination, while leveraging lessons learned to avoid redundancy in efforts.

## 4. Design

The event "*Arab Region Digital Accessibility 2025*" offers several ways to share information and enhance cooperation among participants. These include:

- a) Discussion Panels:** These panels focus on various topics, including the role of policymakers, industry leaders, startups, and representatives from the education and healthcare sectors in designing, developing, and delivering digitally accessible products, services, and applications.
- b) Capacity Building Training on Ensuring Inclusive Digital Communities:** This event includes delivery of a knowledge development sessions and executive training on ICT accessibility topics for digital inclusion. The purpose is to enhance the knowledge and understanding of interested member states, stakeholders, and other participants on the subject, which may assist them in their related roles and activities to support the digital transformation implementation process in Arab region.
- c) Collaboration and Networking:** In addition to the discussion panels, designated spaces are provided to enhance collaboration and networking opportunities among event participants. This is critical in the context of ICT implementation and digital accessibility to facilitate dialogue among developers, suppliers, and end users, who can validate the accessibility standards for equipment, services, and solutions provided by the public and private sectors.