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Registration information

Trends in communications sector reform and regulation for the digital economy

Organized by:

UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND JOHANNESBURG

Training details

Modality: Online instructor led
Dates: *02 Mar 2026 - 30 Mar 2026*
Training fees: $500.00
Language: English
Application deadline: 24 Feb 2026
Payment methods: bank_transfer, credit_card, Bank transfer, Credit card
Training code: 26OI500392MUL-E-D
Contact: nokhanyo.yolwa@wits.ac.za

Training description

The course highlights the shifts in telecoms regulation, regulation for e-commerce and digital government, regulation for cybersecurity, and skills requirements for regulatory professionals and leaders. In 2026, technology trends in 5G, artificial intelligence applications, cloud computing and Internet of Things are key areas of interest as they reshape economic sectors like agriculture and digital trade, and social sectors like public health and education. This reshaping places new requirements for future oriented regulation. These focus areas are each extensive fields in their own right, hence each of the sessions tackles a distinct topic, highlighting key issues. Participants are offered a short list of relevant materials as essential reading, in addition to interactive lectures. The reading material provides the foundation for accessing ”state of the art” content and deriving benefit from the sessions.

About the instructors

Prof Andrew Barendse

Dr Andrew Barendse is a public policy expert and regulatory professional, Board director and adept industry practitioner, with 20 years academic teaching and supervision experience at postgraduate level. His major focus for the past two decades has been to foster the quality of industry regulatory responses based on his positioning as Managing Executive for regulation.

Prof Luci Abrahams

Prof Abrahams has held the position of Head of the LINK Centre since 2002. Her academic and research record includes international recognition, serving as an external examiner at Strathmore University (Nairobi), as a CyberBRICS scholar and on the ICT and Energy Infrastructure Working Group for the Public Relations and Leadership University to be established in Abuja. She has published extensively in academic journals, books and working papers.

Prof Ewan Sutherland

Prof Sutherland is a powerful contributor to research as a scholar and author working in the field of ICT governance, policy and regulation, in which the LINK Centre is active. He has published extensively, counting 54 peer-reviewed journal articles and 12 book chapters or contributions to monographs, including in the journals Telecommunications Policy and Digital Policy, Regulation and Governance, key journals in the field.

For more information about the training objectives, target population, entry requirements, methodology, evaluation and content, consult the page here.

How to apply

In order to register for the training, applicants should:

1. Create an ITU Academy account here
2. Apply for the course here
3. The selection of participants for the course will be made by the course coordinators, based on the course's entry requirements, selection criteria and available number of seats. If selected, you will receive a notification by email.

How to pay for the training

This course is organized by University of the Witwatersrand (WITS), an ITU Academy Training Centre, which will collect the training fees directly.

You will find details about the payment process of this Centre at the following link or alternatively in your ITU Academy account under My courses.

Kindly note that payment must be made by 01 Mar 2026

Group registration and payment

Registration and payment for multiple people from an organization is possible through institutional contacts.

To become an institutional contact:

1. Go to your profile page by clicking on the “My account” button in the user menu and click on the “Apply to be an Institutional Contact” button
2. Fill in the required information and click “continue”, a request will be created.
3. An ITU Academy manager will manually review this request and accept or deny it accordingly.
4. If accepted, you will find a new menu tab “Institutional Contact” appearing in the top bar. You can now request multiple seats in a course and assign them to people from your group. Kindly note, each individual must create an ITU Academy account.



The ITU Academy is the International Telecommunication Union leading platform for capacity development initiatives.

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