Training course outline

Title	Universal service financing efficiency toolkit
Modality	Online self-paced
Course level	Introductory
Dates	17 January 2023 – 31 December 2023
Duration	Self-paced
Registration deadline	20 December 2023
Training fees	free
Description	The Universal Service Financing Efficiency Toolkit is a practical guide for impactful and sustainable universal access and service implementation. It provides analytical tools, examples, and templates that are grounded in practical experience and designed to help policy-makers, regulators and universal service fund administrators to navigate common questions and challenges they face when using public funds to design, implement and finance programmes and projects that facilitate access to digital technologies and communication infrastructure. This training provides concrete guidance on each of the four parts of the toolkit. This toolkit helps to navigate the multitude of business models that need financial support in order to have a local, municipal and national impact, as well as to meet the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets related to and facilitated by digitalization. The ITU Universal Service Financing Efficiency Toolkit and training modules were developed by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) with the support of Government of the United Kingdom Digital Access Programme (DAP) to promote effective regulation, greater investment, and innovative models for school connectivity in unserved communities and for broader digital inclusion.
Code	23OS100129MUL-E

1.LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this course is for participants to better understand and apply the analytical tools, examples and templates provided in the toolkit to navigate common questions and challenges faced when using public funds to design, implement and finance programmes and projects that facilitate access to digital technologies and communication infrastructure.

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to:

- Understand the financing tools available as part of the toolkit
- Be able to assess the impact of digital and UAS strategies, and the performance of the Universal Access and Service Fund.
- Be able to design a roadmap to develop projects with monitoring and evaluation
- Be able to use tools to support project selection and implementation
- Be able to apply these tools to finance, design and assess school connectivity
- Be able to identify good practices

3.TARGET POPULATION

The target audience for this course is policy makers, regulators and Fund administrators.

4.ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

No prior knowledge or qualifications are required, however it recommended for participants to be working for a regulator, ministry or in the telecom/ICT sector and understand the digital regulatory environment and policies.

5.TRAINING COURSE CONTENTS

This course contains 4 modules:

- Training Module 1 unpacks the digital financing toolbox.

- Training Module 2 is aimed at assisting learners to assess the impact of digital and UAS strategies, and the performance of the Universal Access and Service Fund.

- Training Module 3 is focused on implementation. It considers projects from conceptualisation to evaluation and reporting and covers project development, design, award and implementation with impact, monitoring and evaluation in mind.

- Training Module 4 provides a detailed guide to support the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of school connectivity programmes, among other connectivity projects.

6.TRAINING COURSE SCHEDULE

Module	Activities	Duration
Module 1: Digital universal service and access financing toolbox	Interactive material Knowledge check	60 to 75 minutes

Module 2: Evolving the universal service fund to fund 2.0	Interactive material Knowledge check	60 to 75 minutes
Module 3: Funding universal service and access projects	Interactive material Knowledge check	60 to 75 minutes
Module 4: Monitoring and evaluating universal service and access projects, with a focus on school connectivity projects	Interactive material Knowledge check	60 to 75 minutes

6. METHODOLOGY (Didactic approach)

The course is delivered using Rise modules with interactive activities like quizzes, drag and drop exercises, flipcards, etc.

7. EVALUATION AND GRADING

Final quiz (100%)
Total score higher than 70% is required to obtain the ITU digital badge.

8. TRAINING COURSE COORDINATION

ITU coordinators:
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