

Accelerate International Connectivity: Global Connect launch



Global Connect is a U.S.-led multi-stakeholder initiative launched by State to make Internet access fundamental to development efforts and connect at least another 1.5 billion people by 2020.

Why Global Connectivity Priority?

- Unlock Talent and Innovation for Economic and Social Development
- Stabilization, Security, Opportunity, Prosperity, Collaboration

“It Takes A Network to Build a Network”

1. Help **development institutions** **prioritize digital access** lending and projects in development strategies
2. Encourage **countries** (finance ministers and other leaders) to prioritize connectivity and adopt policies that **will unlock digital growth**, foster an **open/accessible Internet**. Support countries to commit to **integrating connectivity** as a key part of national development strategies on all topics.
3. Support engagement of **experienced network technical talent** to **capacity** building local talent for **best practices**. Develop **advanced reference network designs** in **collaboration with regional partners**.



April 13 Working Group Event : IEEE, World Bank, State and others convened 160 **technical, regulatory, country experts** who identified: (1) current projects, (2) project regulatory recommendations, (3) best practices and potential action items in each region, and (4) regional working groups.

High Level Event: Secretary Kerry, World Bank President Kim, US Treasury, FCC, State convened **finance ministers, development institutions and industry** to **prioritize connectivity, announce commitments and discuss concrete ways forward for Global Connect**.



Accomplishments

- **Prioritizing Connectivity**: 40+ Countries, and major tech industry/nonprofits/development banks committed to: (1) prioritizing connectivity, (2) fostering an open and accessible Internet, and (3) implementing dig once/cross-sectoral policies that promote access.
- **Financial Commitments**: 65 new/ongoing initiatives valued at more than **\$20 billion**.
- **Working Groups**: Kicked off regional WGs to continue recommending and pushing region-specific solutions, including IEEE engagement.
- **Capacity Building**: Development organizations hiring network tech talent.