

February 2025

Title: **Climate Change and Circular Economy Intern**

Bureau/Dept/Unit: BDT-DNE-CET

Supervision: Head CET Division

Duration: 11 months

Location: ITU Headquarters

ITU is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies – ICTs.

We allocate global radio spectrum and satellite orbits, develop the technical standards that ensure networks and technologies seamlessly interconnect, and strive to improve access to ICTs to underserved communities worldwide.

ITU is committed to connecting all the world's people – wherever they live and whatever their means. Through our work, we protect and support everyone's fundamental right to communicate.

Today, ICTs underpin everything we do. They help manage and control emergency services, water supplies, power networks and food distribution chains. They support health care, education, government services, financial markets, transportation systems, e-commerce platforms and environmental management. And they allow people to communicate with colleagues, friends and family anytime, and almost anywhere.

With the help of our global membership, ITU brings the benefits of modern communication technologies to people everywhere in an efficient, safe, easy and affordable manner.

ITU membership reads like a Who's Who of the ICT sector. We're unique among UN agencies in having both public and private sector membership. In addition to our 194 Member States, ITU membership includes ICT regulators, many leading academic institutions and some 700 tech companies.

In an increasingly interconnected world, ITU is the single global organization embracing all players in this dynamic and fast-growing sector.

1. **Organizational Unit**:

The Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) is responsible for the organization and coordination of the work of the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) of the Union which deals mainly with ICT-focused development policies, strategies and programmes, as well as technical cooperation activities, to promote digital inclusion and drive digital transformation at community, country and regional levels. To effectively and efficiently serve the needs of ITU members, BDT is organized into four functional areas:

* Operations Coordination Department
* Projects, Partnership and Digital Skills Department
* Digital Networks & Environment Department
* Digital Knowledge Society Department

The Digital Networks & Environment Department is responsible for coordinating the work of BDT on cybersecurity, digital innovation and services, digital inclusion, environment, emergency telecommunications and network and digital infrastructure. The department is also responsible for supporting ITU Member States in their transition to digital societies by providing tools and guidelines to address environmental challenges (in particular, climate change and e-waste), and for promoting innovation, ICT applications/services, digital inclusion and ecosystems, with the goal to 'leave no one behind'.

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| 1. **Organizational context:**   Under the supervision of the Head of the Climate Change and Emergency Telecommunications (CET) Division and in close cooperation with members of the CET team, the Intern will: |

## **Terms of Reference / Internship Objective:**

* Assist with projects aiming at developing electronic waste regulation, with a particular focus on the transition to a circular economy for electronics, in least developed countries and emerging markets.
* Cooperate closely with regional presence of ITU during support for the implementation of electronic waste regulation projects, with the ITU offices in Africa, the Americas, and Asia and the Pacific.
* Support the maintenance and updating of ITU databases on the global coverage of e-waste regulation to support the tracking of performance against ITU’s targets.
* Support with the preparation of presentations, briefing notes and official letters as part of the projects, reports and events related to climate change and circular economy.
* Participate in meetings and workshops with public and private sector stakeholders in person and online, as part of the consultative process undertaken to develop e-waste regulation.
* Assist with the preparation and the implementation of ITU projects, trainings and research publications related to climate change, in the areas of greenhouse gas emissions data collection and climate resilient digital infrastructure.
* Support the annual update of the Greening Digital data visualization dashboard to track the climate footprint and climate commitments of the digital sector.
* Assist in coordinating the Early Warning for All Initiative Artificial Intelligence Sub-Group, including engaging members and organizing sessions at global climate and AI events.
* Assist with the preparation of communications and awareness materials, related to the implementation of ITU projects, reports and events on climate change and circular economy, including through ArcGIS StoryMaps.

1. **Competencies**

**Technical Competencies**

* Knowledge of environmental issues, particularly relating to circular economy and climate change.
* Familiarity or willingness to learn how to use online applications and social media.
* Ability to draft clear and concise documentation with good written and oral language skills.
* Good interpersonal skills, willingness to work collaboratively with colleagues and ask questions to clarify work.

1. **Qualifications required**
2. **Education**:

University degree (or completing an advanced University degree) in the areas of global environmental governance and sustainable development or environmental studies, or an equivalent level of education and specialization in a relevant field.

1. **Work experience**:

No work experience is required.

1. **Languages:**

Proven fluency in oral and written English is a requirement. Knowledge of French and/or Spanish is an additional advantage.

1. **Training and Learning Elements:**

The intern will acquire excellent knowledge and experience of:

* The circular economy principles and their application in the development and implementation of regulation, especially for the electronic waste stream.
* The methodologies used to collect data and to measure and monitor the greenhouse gas emissions and the e-waste generated from the ICT sector globally.
* Interpersonal and communication skills between and international organization and national governments and ICT sector and electronics industry players.

1. **Additional information**

Candidates with experience and knowledge in practical areas related to environmental issues would be preferred but the same in communication and awareness around environmental issues would also be considered.