

## Commonwealth Telecommunication Organisation

Today access to ICTs is considered a basic right of every human being, in view of the central role ICTs play in socio-economic development. Impact of ICTs is being felt in all spheres of life, society and governance. Sustainable Development Goals adopted in 2015 recognise the central role of ICTs in socio-economic development. Thus all the programmes developed by the CTO under this Fellowship would relate to the priority theme of technology. Indeed, the work programmes developed by the CTO under this Fellowship will focus on specific areas which are critical for leveraging the potentials of ICTs. All these programmes relate to the goals of the CTO's Strategic Plan for 2016-20, not only enabling the outcomes of the Fellowships to be utilised for the benefit of the home countries of the Fellows, but also having a catalytic effect on the entire CTO membership across the Commonwealth.

### Eligibility

Applicants would be:

- from a Full Member Country of the CTO (other than the UK) listed at <http://www.cto.int/membership/our-members/full-member-countries/>
- mid-career professionals with at least five years' relevant work experience in the field to which the selected work programme belongs
- The CTO champions diversity in the workplace, and applicants from people from all backgrounds living in Full Member Countries of the CTO (other than the UK) are welcome to apply.

### Website

<https://cto.int/membership/alumni/2017-18/>

### Proposed activity

The CTO proposes to host Fellows to work on 5 work programmes:

- Conducting Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) Study:

Weeks 1 - 4: Review the current USOF schemes across selected Commonwealth countries.

Weeks 5 - 8: Propose possible amendments/enhancements for the scope and extent of Universal Service Obligations that could be adopted by the Commonwealth to address current gaps/issues and enable universal access to broadband across Commonwealth nations

Weeks 9 – 12: Propose an appropriate Framework with the necessary Technical, Operational and Financial parameters/models for ensuring broadband universal service and access

- Developing a framework for regulating digital currencies

Weeks 1 - 4: Review the current digital currencies ecosystem to determine the nature and scope of digital currencies and identify areas of the ecosystem that should be regulated

Weeks 5 - 8: Benchmarking Review of existing legislation across selected countries which regulate the various areas of the digital currencies ecosystem

Weeks 9 – 12: Propose an appropriate Framework for regulating digital currencies ecosystem holistically with the necessary principles and measures that provide a safe environment for users but doesn't stifle innovation.

- Developing a Critical Information Infrastructure Protection (CIIP) framework for the Commonwealth

Weeks 1 - 4: Review the CIIP ecosystem of selected countries the aim of identifying CIIP operators, stakeholders, owners, the state of CIIP and existing gaps, as well as current ideas on CIIP principles, measures, roles, responsibilities, etc

Weeks 5 - 8: Compilation and analysis of findings from preceding research to synthesise recommendations on CIIP principles, measures, roles and responsibilities for addressing identified gaps and enhancing CIIP to produce the

Weeks 9 – 12: Finalisation and validation of an appropriate CIIP Strategy and Action Plan Framework for CIIP incorporating comments and inputs from selected peer reviewers and Commonwealth countries

- Restructuring the ICT Capacity Development (CD) Programme of the CTO

Weeks 1 - 4: Conduct an ICT Capacity needs assessment across the Commonwealth and mapping this against current CD programme to identify gaps in CD as well as ICT capacity building requirements of Commonwealth nations

Weeks 5 - 9: Developing a Capacity Development Strategy which would describe the new vision of the programme, guiding principles and main approaches for building ICT Capacity across the Commonwealth, Strategic directions, funding requirements, etc

Weeks 10 – 12: Develop an Implementation framework which will enable the successful execution of the Strategy, including proposed systems and processes

- Improving ICT Sector Stakeholder Engagement

Weeks 1 - 4: Study the generic structure of a National ICT sector, and identify the role of key actors in public sector and private sector in selected Commonwealth countries

Weeks 5 - 9: Survey the ICT sector with the Commonwealth using both CTO's internal sources and Global knowledge bases such as the International Telecommunications Union; and develop a map of CTO membership categories and offerings and their focus areas

Weeks 10 – 12: Develop an Implementation framework which will enable the CTO membership programme to successfully engage with ICT sectors within the Commonwealth countries

## **CSC theme**

Priority Theme 1    Science and technology for development

## **Further details**

For more information on how to apply, please visit the CSC website:  
<http://cscuk.dfid.gov.uk/commonwealth-professional-fellowships-information-for-candidates/>