



Latin America & Caribbean Digital Communications and Media Forum 2026

Date: 23rd - 25th June 2026

Location: Montevideo, Uruguay

Agenda: Tuesday 23 June 2026: Regional Regulators Roundtable (Invitation Only)

14:00 - 17:30: Pre-forum afternoon roundtable for regulatory authorities & government

Sharing best practice policy and regulation for the digital era: comparing structural and strategic approaches to support digital transformation in the era of AI.

Moving from legacy telecommunications/media regulation to digital regulation - how do we manage the migration/transition to new models, structures opportunities and challenges?

Attendees:

Allyson Leacock OR (Dr. The Hon.), Chairman, Barbados Broadcasting Authority; Director, National Transformation Initiative, Government of Barbados; Board Director, International Institute of Communications

Juliano Stanzani, Director of the Department of Sectoral Policy, Ministry of Communications (MCom), Brazil

Tawfic Awwad Júnior, Director of the Department of Innovation, Regulation and Supervision, Acting Secretary of Broadcasting, Ministry of Communications (MCom), Brazil

Paulo Henrique de Oliveira, Chief of Staff for the President, Administrative Council for Economic Defense (Conselho Administrativo de Defesa Econômica, CADE, Brazil

Dr. Paulo Eduardo dos Reis Cardoso, Coordinator of Innovation and Broadcasting Systems, National Telecommunications Agency (Anatel), Brazil

Alex Gallardo, Head of the Regulatory Policy Division, SUBTEL, Chile

Javier Gutiérrez Afanador, Communications Commissioner, Communications Regulatory Commission (CRC), Colombia

Sadi Alfonso Contreras Fuset, Commissioner Audiovisual Content, Commission for Communications Regulation of Colombia (CRC)

Pedro Miguel Figueroa Domínguez, Head of the Department of Digital Governance Studies and Research, OGTIC, Dominican Republic

Ryan Biran, Manager Policy and Research, Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (TATT)

Gonzalo Balseiro Giglio, President, Regulatory Unit of Communications Services (URSEC), Uruguay

Fernando Machuca Manevy, Member of the Board of Directors, National

Agenda: Wednesday 24 June 2026

08:00: Registration and networking

09:00: Welcomes

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

Julissa Cruz Abreu, Director of Sustainable Digital Infrastructure, CAF - Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean

Tiago S. Prado, Telecom and Connectivity Lead Specialist, Inter-American Development Bank

09:15: Keynotes

Rodrigo Goñi Reyes, President of the House of Representatives, Parliament of Uruguay

09:45: Closing the digital divide: where to focus? Accessibility? Affordability? Skills?

- What's really working, what isn't, and how to make measurable, sustainable progress
- Push and pull factors which can most influence the usage gap
- Policy levers, economic incentives, infrastructure alternatives
- Novel approaches to drive digital inclusion
- What are the critical elements needed in infrastructure, talent, and capital to support a thriving digital ecosystem?

Keynote:

Pablo Siris Seade, National Director of Telecommunications and Audiovisual Communication Services, Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mining (MIEM), Uruguay

Speakers include:

Ryan Biran, Manager Policy and Research, Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (TATT)

Javier Gutiérrez Afanador, Communications Commissioner, Communications Regulatory Commission (CRC), Colombia

Pedro Miguel Figueroa Domínguez, Head of the Department of Digital Governance Studies and Research, OGTC, Dominican Republic

11:00: Networking break

11:30: Closing the funding gap: quantifying the investment required and potential sources of finance / business models to drive digital transformation for all

- Debating the effectiveness of coverage obligations, universal service funds, wholesale

access schemes in generating new, sustainable investment

- Novel mechanisms – blended finance, co-investment funds, or minimum revenue guarantees established by regulation
- Case studies – investments in fiber-optic cables, submarine cables networks, 5G networks,
- How can policy and regulation balance affordability ex ante and sustainability of investment ex post?
- What tools can be used to minimise administrative barriers to network deployment such as permits and licenses?

Speakers include:

Juliano Stanzani, Director of the Department of Sectoral Policy, Ministry of Communications (MCom), Brazil

Petros Mavromichalis, Ambassador, Delegation of the European Union to Uruguay

Javier Morales Fhon, Senior Analyst, Global Trends and Americas, Cullen International

12:30: Showcase: Digital TV and broadcasting evolution in Latin America & the Caribbean - Brazil as a case study

- Digital switchover and standardisation
- TV for digital inclusion and digital public services

Tawfic Awwad Júnior, Director of the Department of Innovation, Regulation and Supervision and Acting Secretary of Broadcasting, Ministry of Communications (MCom), Brazil

Dr. Paulo Eduardo dos Reis Cardoso, Coordinator of Innovation and Broadcasting Systems, National Telecommunications Agency (Anatel), Brazil

13:00: Networking lunch

14:00: Fostering resilient and future-proof digital infrastructure in Latin America & the Caribbean

- Which emerging technologies—such as satellite, device-to-device communication, and community networks—are most viable for connecting remote areas?
- What lessons can be drawn from case studies across Latin America & the Caribbean?
- What financing frameworks are needed to incentivize new investments in connectivity infrastructure in Latin America & the Caribbean?
- What flexible regulatory frameworks can support innovative pilots in remote territories?

Speakers include:

Tiago S. Prado, Telecom and Connectivity Lead Specialist, Inter-American Development Bank

Alex Gallardo, Head of the Regulatory Policy Division, SUBTEL, Chile

Paola Marquez Mantilla, Head of Regulation, Entel Peru

Paula Cordoba, Senior Lead, Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, Americas, Project Kuiper, Amazon

15:30: Networking break

16:00: Digital transformation, data centres and Artificial Intelligence: pipes,

power, policy and trust

- AI as a driver of unprecedented demand for connectivity, power and data flows; ensuring networks can handle rapidly expanding AI workloads
- AI as a driver of network efficient, enhanced quality of service, and new revenue streams for network operators
- How can strict oversight be balanced with the need for innovation and competitiveness in emerging AI ecosystems?
- Unlocking investments in critical AI infrastructure such as data centres, cloud, and high-performance computing

Moderator:

Marieke Goettsch, Competitiveness, Technology and Innovation Specialist, Inter-American Development Bank

Speakers include:

Jacqueline Lopes, Director of Institutional Relations LATAM South, Ericsson

Celedonio von Wuthenau, Director, Government Relations - Latin America, Nokia

Sebastián M Cabello, CEO, SmC+

17:30: Close of day one

Agenda: Thursday 25 June 2026

08:00: Registration and networking

09:00: Welcome

Lynn Robinson, Director General, International Institute of Communications

09:15: Keynotes

Bruno Gili, Executive Director, Uruguay Innova (U+I), Presidency of the Republic

09:45: Economic impact of the creative economy - sustainable financing and policy/regulatory building blocks

- Supporting local and national skills and storytelling
- Aligning cultural goals with economic opportunity
- How is AI impacting the creative economy?

Speakers include:

Gisella Previtali, President, ACAU (Uruguay Agency for Audiovisual & Cinema)

10:30: Digital markets, competition regulation and platform governance in the Global South - the evolving picture

- Brazil as a case study
- Comparing the effectiveness of ex ante and ex post initiatives to address the global nature of large digital platforms whilst fostering innovation and the development of digital

services

Keynote:

Paulo Henrique de Oliveira, Chief of Staff for the President, Administrative Council for Economic Defense (Conselho Administrativo de Defesa Econômica, CADE, Brazil)

Speakers include:

Fernando Machuca Manevy, Member of the Board of Directors, National Telecommunications Commission (CONATEL), Paraguay

11:30: Networking break

12:00: Online safety: how are policy makers, regulators and industry working to arm and protect consumers - especially minors - from online harms?

- Comparisons: national and regional initiatives to protect citizens whilst enabling innovation and competitiveness
- Highlighting specific issues and initiatives concerning the protection of children and adolescents online

Speakers include:

Julissa Cruz Abreu, Director of Sustainable Digital Infrastructure, CAF - Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean

Gustavo Gómez, Executive Director, OBSERVACOM (Latin American Observatory on Regulation, Media, and Convergence)

Sadi Alfonso Contreras Fuset, Commissioner Audiovisual Content, Commission for Communications Regulation of Colombia (CRC)

13:15: Networking lunch

14:00: Internet governance masterclass: update from 2025 Forum

- Sovereignty, security, multistakeholderism, architecture advancements
- Ensuring the future of digital infrastructure remains aligned with the values of openness, resilience, and accessibility

Speakers include:

Ernesto Majó, Executive Director/CEO, LACNIC

Christian O'Flaherty, Regional Vice-President for Latin America and The Caribbean, The Internet Society (ISOC)

Daniel Fink, Stakeholder Engagement Senior Director - South America, ICANN

Mercedes Aramendía, Executive Director, DIG.IA-LAC

15:15: Tackling the rapidly expanding cyberthreat landscape: building alertness and resilience

- Updates national and regional cybersecurity strategies and Critical Infrastructure Protection priorities
- As hyperconnectivity increases the surface area to be protected and the sophistication of cyberthreats, how do we respond?
- Establishing trust - roles for vendors, enterprises and governments
- Examples of collaboration across supply chains and across borders to counter the

cyberthreat landscape

Speakers include:

Paulina Hernández, Acting Head of the Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement Division, Chilean National Cybersecurity Agency (ANCI)

16:30: Closing remarks