

## BROADBAND PARTNERSHIP OF THE AMERICAS (BPA)

President Obama, while attending the Summit of the Americas in Colombia, [announced](#) a new [Broadband Partnership of the Americas \(BPA\)](#), with a focus on improving access to broadband, the Internet and other communications technologies in the Americas. Within the international development community there is growing recognition of the value of information and communication technologies (ICTs) in advancing economic growth, and in enhancing the delivery of health, education, agriculture, and other services. The BPA serves as a voluntary and flexible framework through which the governments of the Western Hemisphere, multilateral organizations, the donor community and the private sector can collaborate to increase access to broadband and the Internet with the aim of improving development outcomes, fostering economic development and increasing competitiveness.



### SIXTH SUMMIT MANDATE:

*To promote the development, coordination, and implementation of strategies and projects, as appropriate, for expanding access to, and use of, ICTs with the support and participation of international organizations, the private sector, social actors, and communities, in order to achieve greater social inclusion and improve the quality of life of our peoples. (Access to and Use of Information and Communication Technologies)*

### INITIATIVES:

- Finance the expansion of mobile technologies and broadband services to rural communities.
- Improve regional and international connectivity by linking existing broadband networks.
- Mobilize private and public sector resources and partnerships to expand broadband access through [USAID](#).
- Explore alliances with regional multilateral organizations that have similar programs.
- Collaborate in a regional effort to harmonize the use of digital spectrum.
- Share best practices.

### PARTNERS:



SIXTH SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS INITIATIVES [www.summit-americas.org](http://www.summit-americas.org)