# World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Process and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



#WSIS www.wsis.org





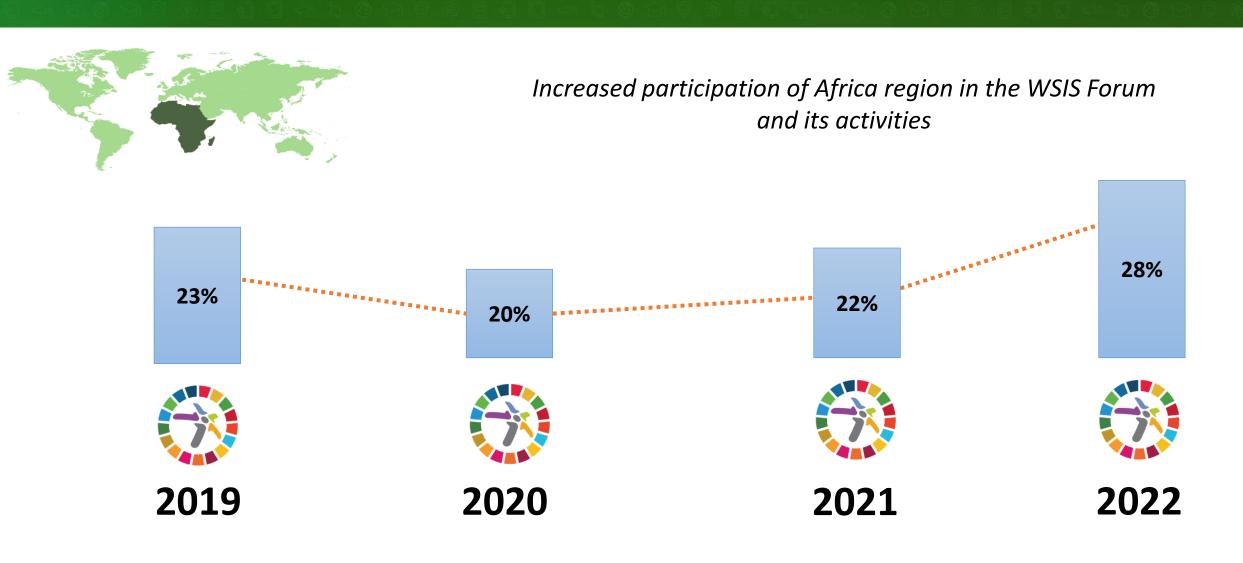
# Africa World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Regional Review Meeting 2022

28 November 2022 | 09.30-11.15 EAT | Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Presentation by: Gitanjali Sah, ITU

#WSIS www.wsis.org

# Africa region participation at the WSIS Forum





# **High-Level engagements**

#### **WSIS Forum 2022 Chairman**



H.E. Professor Isa Ali Ibrahim (Pantami)

Minister

Federal Ministry of Communications and Digital Economy

Nigeria



20 High-Level officials
(Ministers & Regulators)
participated at the
WSIS Forum 2022



### **WSIS Prizes winners**





WSIS ACTION LINE 10
ETHICAL DIMENSIONS
OF THE
INFORMATION SOCIETY

AL CIO. Ethical dimensions of the information Society
ICT and Media: Efficient tools for youth to
Counter Violent Extremism
Ghana Investment Fund for Electonic Communications
Ghana





# Special Track on ICTs for Developing Countries (and LDCs)

- Initiated in 2022, in collaboration with the UN Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries
- This new special track aims to highlight good practices in the implementation of ICTs within developing and least developed countries, while identifying solutions and opportunities to advance progression towards achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

#### LIST OF SESSIONS – WSIS FORUM 2022



Opening of the ICTs for Developing Countries (and Least Developed Countries) special track: Connectivity in LDCs, 4 April 2022

E-resiliency and digital transformation in developing economies, 5 April 2022

Role of ICTs in Finance and Digital Inclusion, 6 April 2022

ICTs opportunities and challenges in developing countries – An Academic perspective, 7 April 2022

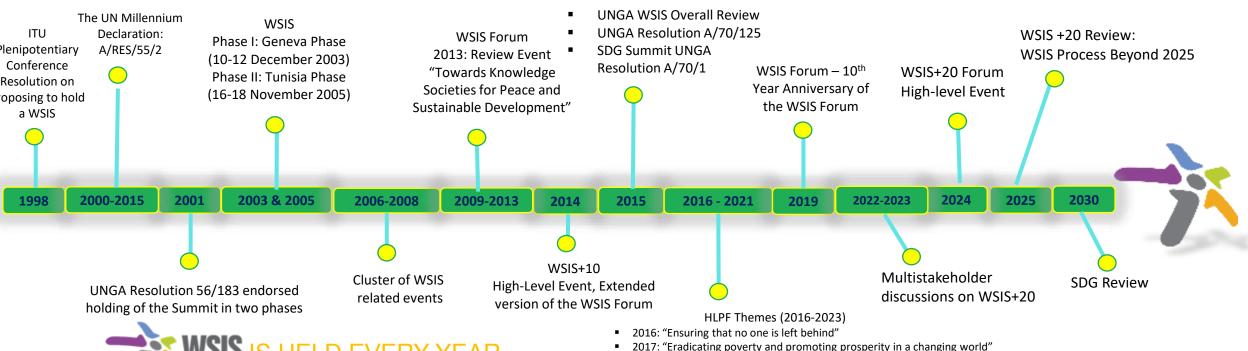
ICTs Access and Affordability in Developing Countries for Digital Inclusion, 8 April 2022

High-Level Dialogue: ICTs for Developing Countries (and LDCs), 1 June 2022





### **WSIS Process timeline**



- IS HELD EVERY YEAR
- 2017: 12-16 June 2018: 21-25 May 2019: 8-12 April
- 2020: 22 June final week (7-10 September)
- 2021: January onwards final week (17-21 May) 2022: March Onwards – final week 30 May – 3 June
- 2023: 13-17 March virtual sessions (April May)
- 2024: 27-31 May 2025: 26-30 May

- 2018: "Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies"
- 2019: "Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality"
- 2020: "Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development "
- 2021: "Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development"
- 2022: "Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"
- 2023: Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels



### WSIS Action Lines – Sustainable Development Goals Impact of WSIS Action Lines on Sustainable Development Goals















































































WSIS-SDG Matrix: https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/sdg/

The WSIS implementation mechanism at the international level is organised taking into account the themes and action lines in the Geneva Plan of Action, and moderated or facilitated by UN agencies when appropriate.





# WSIS Action Lines and UN Secretary-General 'OUR COMMON AGENDA'



#### **WSIS Action Lines**



IMPROVE

COOPERATION

DIGITAL







ABIDE BY INTERNATIONAL LAW & ENSURE JUSTICE



& GIRLS AT THE CENTER



**BUILD TRUST** 





**ENSURE** SUSTAINABLE FINANCING



BOOST PARTNERSHIPS



LISTEN TO & WORK WITH YOUTH



BE PREPARED







































# **Highlights from ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2022**







#### OPENING CEREMONY

I reiterate the importance of supporting the World Summit on the Information Society....

...The International Telecommunication Union has a vital role to play in accelerating global connectivity for all by 2030.

H.E. Mr António GUTERRES, Secretary-General, United Nations

#### **SIDE EVENT : WSIS Beyond 2025**





H.E. Prof Isa Ali Ibrahim (Pantami), Minister, Communications and Digital Economy, Nigeria, and Chairman of the WSIS Forum 2022, organised a side event titled WSIS Process: WSIS Beyond 2025 at the ITU PP-22, which highlighted the role of the WSIS Action Lines in accelerating the achievement of the SDGs, raised challenges, and concluded with reflections on the emerging trends and the learning experience towards the digital future.

#### **RESOLUTION 140**

ITU's Member States expressed unanimous support for the WSIS Action Lines to advance the achievement of the SDGs. The PP-22 approved updates to Resolution 140 on ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of the WSIS process that emphasize increasing ICT access, connecting the unconnected, and ensuring the inclusion of the marginalised and vulnerable for the success of the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. While the WSIS process must remain aligned with the 2030 Agenda, the WSIS Forum can provide a platform for reviewing implementation to date.

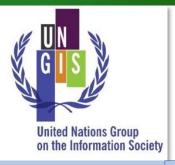


# **UNGIS** meetings – WSIS Forum 2022





### United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS)



Established in 2006, approved by the UN Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB).



UNGIS is the United Nations system's inter-agency mechanism to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of WSIS, providing guidance on issues related to inclusive information and knowledge societies, helping maintain issues related to science and technology at the top of the UN Agenda, and mainstreaming ICT for Development in the mandate of CEB members.

Comprised of

31

UN system entities

2022-2023:

**Current Chair: ITU** 

Vice-Chairs: UNESCO, UNCTAD,

UNDP, UN ECA

UNGIS conducts annual high-level and working level meetings at the WSIS Forum.

To date, UNGIS has organised 19 high-level meetings at the annual WSIS Forum.

UNGIS report and its work

UNGIS contributed to the sixty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW67)

UNGIS contributed to the annual HLPF through a joint statement and organized a side-event during the HLPF

Dialogue on the Role of
Digitalization in the Decade of
Action to raise awareness of both
the importance of digitalization in
achieving the SDGs

Digital Transformation Repository that will be used as a reference guide and repository for UN Agencies on different implemented initiatives/activities showing the direct impact of the WSIS Action Lines on SDGs



### WSIS Forum 2022 Partners

STRATEGIC PARTNER
PLATINUM



STRATEGIC PARTNER GOLD PLUS



STRATEGIC PARTNER GOLD



PARTNERS FOR SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES





CONTRIBUTING PARTNER











SUPPORTING PARTNERS









Theme: WSIS Action Lines for building back better and accelerating the achievement of the SDGs











# **Open Consultation Process**



The Open Consultation process (OCP) aims at ensuring a participatory and inclusive spirit of the Forum. This process actively engages multistakeholders in the preparatory process to ensure broad ownership and further improvements of the Forum. The Open Consultation Process will include a collection of inputs from regional and national WSIS related events.

The Open Consultation Process for the WSIS Forum 2023 is structured in five phases as follows:



Launch of the OCP 7 September 2022

#### Phase 2

1<sup>st</sup> Meeting

30 November 2022, 10:00-11:00 CET/12:00-13:00 EAT: Open Forum on Implementation of WSIS Action Lines and WSIS Forum (during IGF 2022 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)

#### Phase 3

2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting

13 January 2023, 14:00-15:00 CET

#### Phase 4

Special WSIS Forum
2022 Chairman
Session (WSIS+20:
Highlighting the
achievements and
challenges of the
WSIS Action Lines
for achieving the
SDGs)& Deadline
for Submissions

1 February 2023, 13:00-14:00 CET

#### Phase 5

3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting

13 February 2023 14:00-15:00 CEST



# **Open Consultation Process**



Official submissions to the WSIS Secretariat on the Thematic Aspects and Innovations on the Format

- Login with your existing account or Sign up as a new user
- 2) Fill out the OCP Form

www.wsis.org/forum

**Deadline: 1 February 2023** 



- High-level Policy Sessions
- Ministerial Round Table
- High-level Dialogues
- Ambassadors Briefing
- Mayors Round Table





#### Chairman



H.E. Professor Isa Ali Ibrahim
(Pantami)
Minister
Federal Ministry of Communications
and Digital Economy
Nigeria

Current Chairman until the Final Week of the WSIS Forum 2023



# Call to Action WSIS Forum 2023 High-Level Track Facilitators

- Open Call for Major Stakeholder Coordination Mechanisms following the WSIS Process to Identify and Nominate High-Level Track Facilitators (HLTF) for the WSIS Forum 2023.
- The main task of the HLTF is to capture the vision, Identify emerging trends, opportunities and challenges shared by the leaders of their session.
- The High-Level Policy Sessions will be moderated by the High-Level Track Facilitators nominated and identified by each stakeholder type i.e Private Sector, Civil Society, Technical/ Academic community and International Organization.
- Each stakeholder type is invited to launch an Open Call to identify HLTF to represent their respective communities.





# Call to Action: WSIS Prizes 2023

Submit your ICTs projects to the most globally recognised ICT for Development international annual award.

#### **FIVE PHASES OF THE CONTEST**

- The first phase: Submission phase
   7 September 2022 7 December 2022 (Deadline for last submission: 23:00 Geneva time)
- The second phase: Nomination Phase 13-23 December 2022.
  - Revision of submitted projects that will result with a list of 360 nominated projects, twenty (20) projects per Action Line Category (18) twenty projects per each category will be nominated
- The third phase: Public online voting
   25 December 2022 25 January 2023 (Deadline for casting last vote: 23:00 Geneva time)
   Identification of five projects per category with the highest number of votes
- The fourth phase: Selection of winning projects by the ITU Expert Group that will result with a list of winning projects
   25 January 2023 10 February 2023
- The fifth phase: Announcement of winners to the public during WSIS Prize 2023 Ceremony at WSIS Forum 2023, and the release of publication "WSIS Stocktaking: Success Stories 2023", which is a compilation of extended descriptions of the 18 winning projects and 72 champion projects.





# WSIS Stocktaking: 2022-2023 Call for New Entries

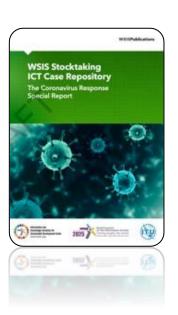
Publicly accessible WSIS Stocktaking database <u>www.wsis.org/stocktaking</u> currently with 15,000+ submitted projects and initiatives from 350,000+ registered stakeholders has been vigilant and started collecting projects and activities on how ICTs are assisting stakeholders in their everyday life, work, and combating challenges caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

UN General Assembly called for a close alignment between the WSIS process and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: WSIS Stocktaking is highlighting the contribution of 11 WSIS Action Lines to the achievement 17 SDGs;

ECOSOC resolution 2022/15 reiterates the importance of sharing best practices at the global level and encourages all stakeholders to submit ICT-related projects and initiatives to the WSIS Stocktaking platform.







NEW Call for Submission: www.wsis.org/stocktaking



# Call to Action: WSIS Photo Contest 2023

Following the successful of previous Photo Contests editions, WSIS Forum continues to exercise the Photo Contest in 2023 and invites the community to picture how Information and Communication Technologies are playing an enabling role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Participate in building a collage of ICT for Sustainable Development photographs from around the world by promoting the Photo Contest within your networks and communities. The three winning entries in the WSIS photo contest will be awarded and presented at the WSIS Forum 2023.

**Deadline: 1 February 2023** 







# **WSIS Forum 2023 : Special Tracks**



ICTs and Youth



ICTs and Gender Mainstreaming



Technologies for sustainable development and ICTs for Industry 4.0



ICTs for Well-being and Happiness



for Persons with
Disabilities and Specific
Needs



ICTs and Older Persons



Cybersecurity



ICTs and Indigenous
Peoples and Cultures



ICTs for Developing
Countries (and LDCs)



ICTs and Clean
Technologies for Climate
Change



Digital Citizenship and Public Services



# ...And many more partnerships and activities!

#### THEMATIC WORKSHOPS

# Misinformation: Digital Marketing of Harmful Products to Children In collaboration with WHO, ITU and UNESCO launch of

 In collaboration with the UN Technology Bank for LDC, ITU and WHO: safe listening

## WSIS Multistakeholder Alliance on ICTs and Older persons:

- Awareness building on the opportunities and challenges of ICTs for Older Persons
- Intergenerational working groups with enterprises, in collaboration with CSEND

#### **TRAININGS**

### Qatar trainings on Digital Accessibility

# WSIS Gender Repository Trainings: In collaboration with Vision Empower, trainings will be organised for the following:

- Sensitization programme for women and girls to raise awareness about the crucial role of Technology in the lives of visually-impaired people (4 quarterly workshops)
- Training workshops for educators/caregivers working and/or willing to work with visually-impaired people (2 halfyearly programme)

#### **SPECIAL TRACKS**

1st ever Academic Round Table was organized that resulted in the creation of a WSIS Special track focused on Academia, Research Exchange, Involving Academic community in digital cross sectoral projects.

#### **SPECIAL PRIZES**

WSIS-SDG Metaverse Global Prize & VR competition 2023: in collaboration with Exponential Destiny

WSIS Healthy Ageing Innovation Special Prize 2023 in collaboration with ITU, WHO, UNDESA and Global Coalition on Aging (GCOA)

WSIS Special Prize on Indigenous Languages 2023

Special WSIS Prize 2023 for Best
Digital Service Design in collaboration
with GovStack Global - ITU, GIZ, EE,
DIAL



# WSIS Forum 2023 Hackathon: Digital GovHack

#### Advancing the Digital Economy by leveraging Emerging Technologies

ITU, Digital Government Authority (DGA) of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and relevant stakeholders are jointly organizing a WSIS Forum 2023 Hackathon on DigitalGov Hack: Advancing the Digital Economy by leveraging Emerging Technologies

The Hackathon is calling on stakeholders to form teams to explore the use of ICTs in answering to the next calling challenges

leveraging emerging technologies.

#### 4 Themes:

- Immersive public services
- Empowering young talent
- Productivity in public workplace
- Financial sustainability

#### **Prizes**

- 4 winners, one per theme will win each 5000 \$ cash prize
- Have access to up to 6 months of mentoring from international experts on GovTech







The WSIS&SDG TalkX is a platform, both virtual and physical, dedicated to sharing experiences and inspirational stories about ICTs for development (implementation of the WSIS Action Lines for Development) by stakeholders all over the world.

#### **Upcoming TalkX**

Worlds Children Day 2022- Connecting every School to Internet and every young person to ICT- Recognizing the Leadership

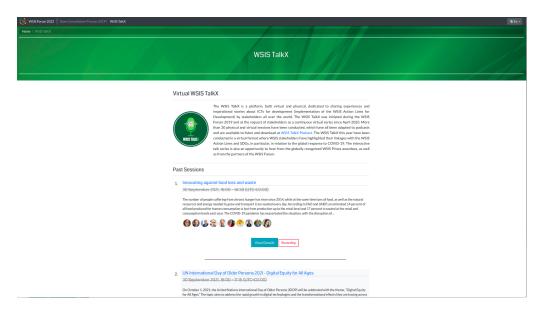
18 November 2022

**International Day of Persons With Disabilities** 

3 December 2022

**World Wildlife Conservation Day** 

4 December 2022



**Listen to our Podcasts** 

https://wsistalkx.buzzsprout.com

Visit our page and Register for the upcoming TalkX

www.itu.int/go/WSISTalkX



# **WSIS Special Initiatives**



# WSIS Stocktaking Repository of Women in Technology

The WSIS Process affirms the **importance of promoting and maintaining gender equality and women empowerment**, guaranteeing the inclusion of women in the emerging global ICT society, and emphasizes the need to fully integrate gender equality perspectives in WSIS related strategies and facilitate their implementation to ensure that the Information Society enables women's empowerment and full participation based on equality in all spheres of society and in all decision-making processes.

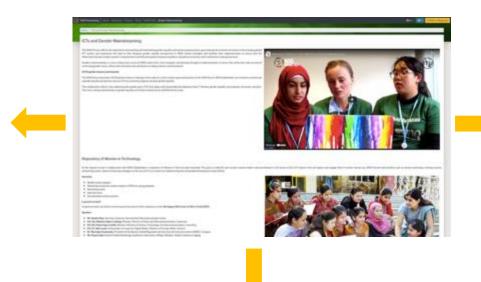
Launch of the Repository: 4 August 2021

#### **Repository of Women in Tech**

At the request of and in collaboration with WSIS Stakeholders a repository of Women in Tech has been launched. The goal is to identify and connect women leaders and practitioners in all sectors of the ICT industry from all regions and engage them in events, forums and activities.

Nominate WSIS Gender Trendsetter

https://forms.gle/WnzqX59xXYdF1uqx6



#### 50/50 Gender Balance Participation

The WSIS Forum launched a 50/50 gender balance challenge in the wake of a call to realise equal participation at the WSIS Forum. This collaborative effort is also addressing the gender gap in ICTs that aligns with Sustainable Development Goal 5 "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls". The crosscutting commitments on gender equality are further echoed across all WSIS Action Lines.

#### **Activities**

- Identify women speakers •
- Networking events
- Interview series

- Mentorship sessions for women and girls in STEM, for young graduates
- Documentation of best practices

More information

http://www.itu.int/go/WSISGender



### **WSIS Gender Trendsetters**



#### MEET THE WSIS GENDER TRENDSETTERS!



Mr. Vala Afshar Chief Digital Evangelist, SalesForce



Ms. Susana Arrechea
Digital Community
Center Project
Director, New Sun
Road for-profit public
benefit company



Ms. Elena Estavillo Flores CEO, Centro-i para la Sociedad del Futuro Think Tank



Ms. Mei Lin Fung Chair and Cofounder, People Centered Internet



Ms. Gab-Hingonne Gabdibe National Coord. Action pour L'Education & la Promotion de la Femme, TCHAD



Ms. Mikaela Jade CEO and Founder, Indigital EduTech



Ms. Kirthi Jayakumar Coder and Creator at Saahas



**Dr. Tawfik Jelassi** Assistant Director-General, UNESCO



Mr. Malcolm Johnson
Deputy
Secretary-General,
International
Telecommunication
Union



Ms. Tatyana Kanzaveli Founder and CEO, Open Health Network



H.E. Ms. Lotte Knudsen Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, European Union



Ms. Fang Li Deputy Director Research Institute of Technology and Standard, CAICT



Mr. Benoit Louvel
Service Design Front
Office Director,
Customer Service &
Operations, Orange
Business Services



H.E. Ms. Neema Lugangira Member of Parliament of Tanzania & Founder of NGO, Omuka Hub



Ms.Samantha Paoletti Research and Business Dev. Manager CSEM



Ms. Ari Qayumi Founder and CEO, Mindful Venture Capital



**Ms. Yvette Ramos** President, WomenVai



Ms. Natalja Rodionova Founder, Sisters of Code & IT Academy STEP Cambodia



Ms. Magatte Wade Entrepreneur, Magatte Wade



Ms. Vidhya Y. Cofounder and Trustee, Vision Empower















#### **WSIS Special Initiative:**

WSIS Multistakeholder
Alliance on ICTs and Older
Persons

The WSIS Multistakeholder Alliance on ICTs and Older Persons has been created at the request of stakeholders. It has 5 sub-groups at present led by Chairs and Co-Chairs:

- 1. Design and Accessibility (Mr. Alfredo Ronchi, EC MEDICI Framework; Mr. Raymond Saner, CSEND; Ms. Lichia Saner-Yiu, CSEND)
- 2. Capacity Building and Education (Mr. Ian Philp, Age Care Technologies; Dr. Rakesh L., Ada Lovelace Software Private Limited)
- 3. Cybersecurity issues (Dr. Pavan Duggal, International Commission on Cyber Security Law)
- 4. Innovation (Ms. Heba Al Heraki, Bevol International Platform; Ms. Tafadzwa Muusha, University of Zimbabwe Innovation Hub )
- 5. Healthy Ageing (Global Coalition on Aging)



# WSIS Special Initiative: WSIS Multistakeholder Alliance on ICTs and Older Persons

# AGEING BETTER WITH ICTS: SHARING OF TANGIBLE EXPERIENCE

At the request of the MultiStakeholder Alliance on ICTs and Older Persons, WSIS Team conducted a series of 8 interviews with older persons from different regions, to highlight how ICTs are helping this segment of society in their daily life. The video is currently being finalized and will be shared very soon!





















**ACTION** 

# WSIS Youth Campaigns



Join us in scaling up the ICTs and Youth special track at the WSIS Forum

Awareness Building

Partnerships and Collaboration

Youth Empowerment











**Daniela Ovalles Marko** 







Lara Rudar





Roeltje van Heijningen



**Raymond Liang** 





Luis Guillermo López Ahumada



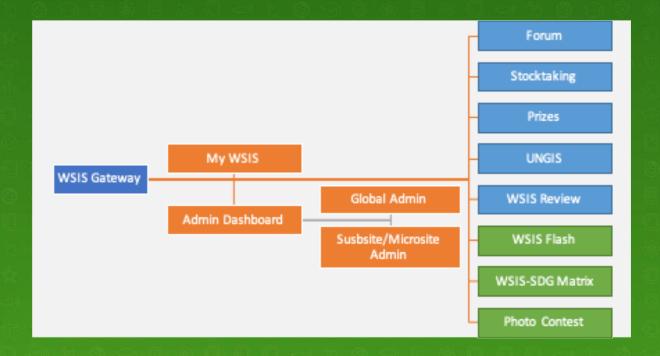
**Dhwani Trivedi** 



# WSIS Gateway

The redesign of WSIS Websites and development of one WSIS Gateway will include new information architecture; content migration to and implementation of a new design system.

It will also include new user experience features, improved data visualization and community engagement, among others.





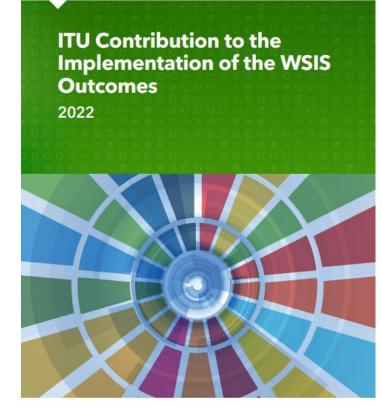
# ITU Report on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes 2022

WSISPublications

A comprehensive report on the ITU activities in context of WSIS carried out by the Union in 2022. The Report provides detailed information on the key WSIS related initiatives and activities carried out by the three sectors of the Union (Standardization, Radiocommunication and the Development Sector) and the General Secretariat.

The Report provides updates on the tasks carried out by the ITU at the operational and policy level, covering all assigned mandates with reference to the WSIS Process.

https://www.itu.int/en/itu-wsis/Pages/Contribution.aspx









# WSIS+20: Review and WSIS Beyond 2025

Report of the UNESCO Director-General on the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) outcomes, 15 October 2021; elaborates UNESCO's roadmap towards the WSIS+20 review

**World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)+20: WSIS Beyond 2025: WSIS+20 Roadmap;** elaborates the ITU Secretary-General's roadmap on the role of ITU in the WSIS+20 Review process and its preparations

#### WSIS Forum 2022: Multistakeholder Dialogues and discussions

- Knowledge Café: WSIS+20, 30 May 2022
- High-Level Strategic Dialogue: WSIS+20: Multistakeholder Digital Cooperation for Global Development (WSIS Action Lines to achieve the SDGs), 31 May 2022
- High-Level Dialogue: WSIS+20 WSIS Beyond 2025, 2 June 2022

WSIS Forum 2024: WSIS+20 Forum High-level Event celebrating the achievements of the WSIS Process and identifying the opportunities and challenges in implementing the WSIS Action Lines.

#### **WSIS+20 Stocktaking Report**

CSTD Report on the implementation of WSIS

WSIS Action Lines advancing the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals



Chair of WSIS Regional Commissions Group:

<u>UN ESCWA (2021-2022)</u>

Permanent Secretariat: <u>ITU</u>

Annual meetings held at the WSIS Forum

In the outcomes of the UN General Assembly overall review on the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) (GA Resolution A/70/125), Regional Commissions are invited to continue their work in implementation of WSIS and their contribution to the reviews thereof, including through regional reviews. Sharing practices at the regional level aiming at advancing WSIS implementation at the regional Level and strengthening alignment of the WSIS and SDG processes

Coordination of regional approaches and harmonization
Engagement of stakeholders into the regional implementation
Strengthening of the regional perspective at the global level of the WSIS Process



### Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development





























- Launched in 2004 to improve the availability and quality of ICT data and indicators, particularly in developing countries. The initiative is a direct response to the request made by the WSIS to produce official statistics to monitor the information society.
- The Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development is made up of the 14 partner organisations.
- The Partnership work is coordinated by a Steering Committee, which is elected every 3 years. The current Steering Committee is made up of ITU, UNCTAD, and UN DESA.
- ITU will be the chair of the Steering committee of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development in 2022.



# Reminder of Open Calls



WSIS Prizes 2023

Submit your outstanding project that leverage the power of ICTs

Deadline: 7 December 2022



**Open Consultation Process** 

Request
workshops/exhibition
space/speakers and
provide inputs on the
format and themes

Deadline: 1 February 2023



WSIS Photo Contest 2023

Submit your photo that shows how ICTs are playing an enabling role in achieving the SDGs

Deadline: 1 February 2023



High-Level Track Facilitators (HLTF)

Nominate your representative for the HLTF

Deadline: 1 February 2023



# WSIS Forum 2023 Partnership Opportunities

#### **WSIS Forum 2023 - Visibility and Partnership Packages**

STRATEGIC PARTNER
PLATINUM

STRATEGIC PARTNER
GOLD PLUS

STRATEGIC PARTNER GOLD PARTNER FOR SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

CONTRIBUTING PARTNER

SUPPORTING PARTNER Partner with us for the WSIS Forum 2023!

**Contact us at:** 

wsis-info@itu.int



# Social Media channels

Follow #WSIS and stay up to date with our latest news across our different social media channels





















# THANK YOU

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wsis-info@itu.int