

Unlocking New Opportunities and Strengthening Impact of ICT for SDGs: Alignment of WSIS and SDG Processes



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ITU Regional Development Forum for Africa ICT for Sustainable Development

5 December 2016
Kigali, Rwanda

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Senior Strategy and Policy Advisor, WSIS, ITU*

World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Implementation Process



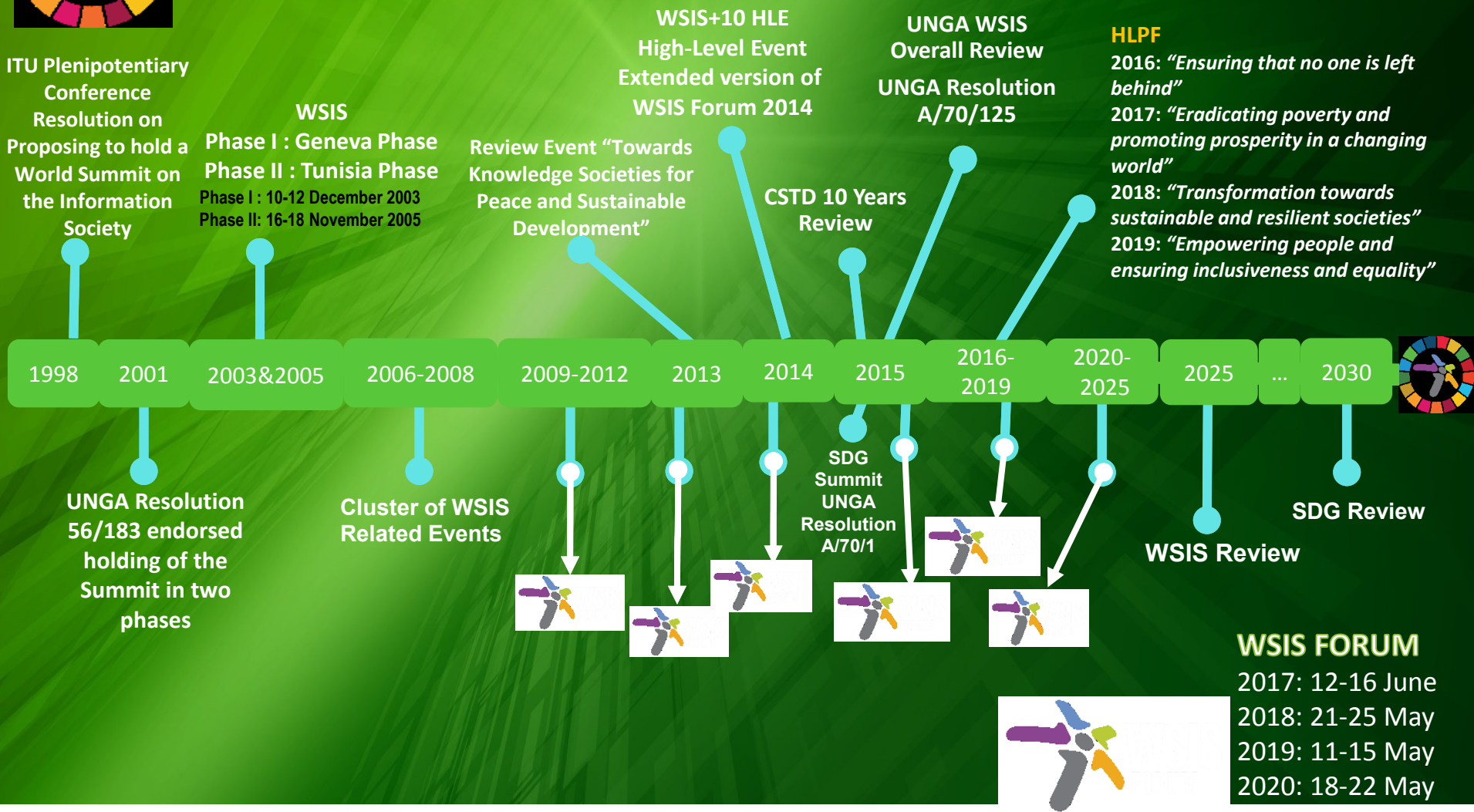
World Summit
on the Information Society
Building bridges into action
October 2024 - November 2025



International and
Knowledge Societies for
Sustainable Development Goals
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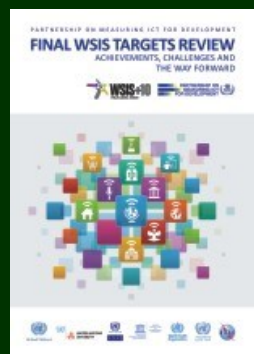
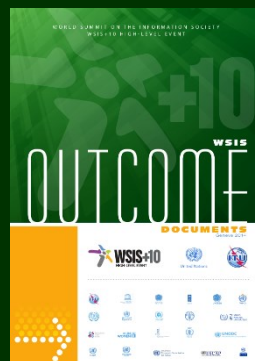
- A unique UN Process, multi-stakeholders, and provides a global framework for Information and Knowledge Societies
- Eleven WSIS Action Lines covering all aspects of information and knowledge societies
- UN General Assembly overall review on the implementation of WSIS (UNGA Resolution A/70/125). The resolution provides guidance on the implementation of the WSIS Outcomes till 2025.
- **In particular, it calls for close alignment between the World Summit on the Information Society process and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.**

WSIS Implementation Process Timeline



UNGA Overall Review

WSIS implementation beyond 2015



(...)

United Nations A/70/L.33

General Assembly Distr.: Limited
13 December 2015
Original: English

Seventieth session
Agenda item 17
Information and communications technologies for development

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the General Assembly

Outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

The General Assembly,

Adopts the following outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at its seventieth session:

Outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

We, the Ministers and heads of delegations participating in the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at its seventieth session, held in New York on 15 and 16 December 2015,

Recalling the request in paragraph 111 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society¹ that the General Assembly undertake an overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society in 2015, and in this regard reaffirming the role of the General Assembly in this process, and reaffirming also that the Assembly, in its resolution 68/302 of 31 July 2014, decided that the overall review would be concluded by a two-day high-level meeting of the Assembly, preceded by an intergovernmental preparatory process that also meaningfully takes into account inputs from all relevant stakeholders,

Welcoming the constructive and diverse inputs from Governments, the private sector, civil society, international organizations, the technical and academic communities and all other relevant stakeholders in taking stock of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the

¹ See A/60/87.

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Para 12 of the UN Resolution A/70/125

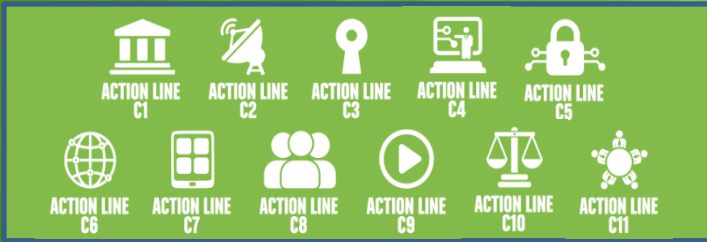
-We commit to harnessing the potential of information and communications technologies to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other internationally agreed development goals, noting that they can accelerate progress across all 17 Sustainable Development Goals. We accordingly call upon all Governments, the private sector, civil society, international organizations, the technical and academic communities and all other relevant stakeholders to **integrate information and communications technologies into their approaches to implementing the Goals**, and request United Nations entities facilitating the World Summit on the Information Society action lines to review their reporting and work plans to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda...

ITU's Role in the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes

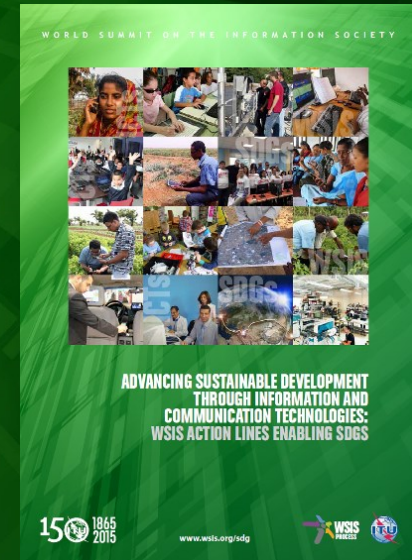
- Lead facilitator (along with UNESCO and UNDP) in coordinating the multistakeholder implementation of the *Geneva Plan of Action (Para 109 TAIS)*
- Facilitator of Action Lines C2 (Information and communication infrastructure) and C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs); upon the UNDP's request the ITU accepted to play the role of the Facilitator of Action Line C6 (Enabling Environment)
- Co-facilitator of Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C7 and C11; and partner for C8 and C9
- Rotating chair of the United Nations Group on Information Society (UNGIS)
- Steering committee member of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Measurement.
- Facilitator of the WSIS Stocktaking process.
- Initiator and facilitator of the WSIS Project Prize
- Implementation of other WSIS outcomes.

WSIS ALs-SDG Matrix

Impact of WSIS Action Lines on Sustainable Development Goals



- Released during WSIS Forum 2015
- Joint effort of all United Nations Action Line Facilitators
- Aims at drawing **direct linkages between WSIS Action Lines and proposed SDGs**, to continue strengthening the impact of ICTs for sustainable development
- analysis by each **Action Line Facilitator**, of connections and relations between their respective Action Line with the proposed SDGs and their targets.

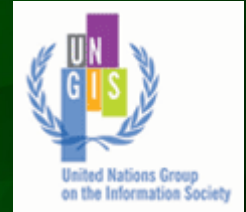


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United Nations Group on the Information Society



30 UN Agencies Members

UNGIS' objective is to develop extensive collaboration and partnerships among the CEB members in order to contribute to the achievement of the WSIS objectives, to help to maintain ICT-related issues as well as science and technology at the top of the UN Agenda and finally to mainstream ICT for Development issues in the mandate of CEB members

Upcoming Activity:
Identification of ICT related activities mandated in the 30 UN Agencies.





SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS \ WSIS ACTION LINES LINKAGES

	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	e-gov	e-bus	e-lea	e-hea	e-emp	e-env	e-agr	e-sci	C8	C9	C10	C11
SDG 1																		
SDG 2																		
SDG 3																		
SDG 4																		
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WSIS Forum beyond 2015

Mr Ban Ki-moon, UN SG
UNGA HLM, 15 Dec 2015



We will strengthen the WSIS Forum as a key platform for discussing the role of ICTs as a means of implementation of the SDGs and targets.

Beyond 2015, following the multistakeholder approach, the WSIS Forum, will build upon the outcomes of the WSIS+10 Review and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In this regard the WSIS-SDG Matrix developed by UN WSIS Action line Facilitators will serve as the mechanism to map, analyze and coordinate the implementation of ICTs as enablers and accelerators of the SDGs.



Mr Houlin Zhao, ITU
Secretary-General



UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM
Chief Executives Board for Coordination

Chief Executives Board Joint Statement to the United Nations General Assembly on the Overall Review of the Implementation of World Summit on the Information Society Outcomes

We, the Chief Executives of organizations of the United Nations system, witnessing the momentous events taking place, with the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals and the ongoing United Nations General Assembly Overall Review of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), held in two phases in Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005), reaffirm the important role of information and communications technologies (ICTs) as a critical enabler for advancing the globally agreed development goals, in particular in the context of the new development framework in resolution 70/1, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", which acknowledges that "the spread of information and communications technology and global interconnectedness has great potential to accelerate human progress... and to develop knowledge societies" and contains targets on use of ICTs for the empowerment of women, for education and on access to ICTs for least developed countries (LDCs).

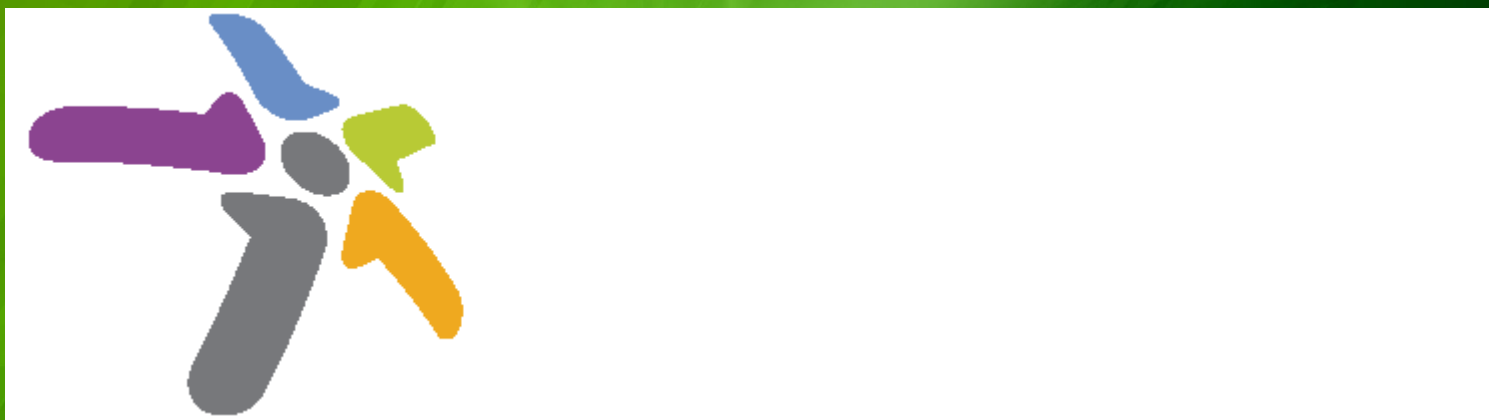
Though access to advanced technologies has grown at a fast pace since the celebration of WSIS, the impressive gains observed during the era of the Millennium Development Goals are still hampered by existing gaps in ICT access – between and within countries, between urban and rural settings, among men and women, and boys and girls. A major digital divide is still in place, with more people offline than online and particularly poor access in vulnerable developing nations, which include LDCs, landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS). The WSIS vision remains valid and we therefore commit ourselves collectively to reinvigorate collaborative action to harness the power of new technologies in promoting sustainable development and making the goal of universal and affordable access to ICTs and knowledge a reality. This should include also a new focus on relevant content, skills, capacity building, and an enabling environment, including multilingualism, to empower the implementation of the sustainable development goals, as well as to further freedom of expression and to promote cultural diversity on the basis of human rights.

In the national development process, use of ICTs need to be systematically integrated into development plans. Renewed efforts should be made to ensure that the enabling ICT dimension is adequately reflected in United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks and equivalent documents as well as in poverty reduction strategies.

Coherence across the United Nations system in the implementation of multiple goals and commitments is essential. In this regard, we reaffirm the role of United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS)¹ as the inter-agency coordination mechanism for issues related to the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS and call on UNGIS to include in its strategic priority the alignment between WSIS implementation and the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

We also recognize the WSIS Forum has evolved as an efficient mechanism for multi-stakeholder implementation of WSIS action lines and cross-cutting commitments on gender equality, information exchange, knowledge creation and the sharing of best practices. Beyond 2015, it can serve as a key forum for discussing the role of ICTs as a means of implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, with due regard to the global mechanism for follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as set out in General Assembly resolution A/70/L.

As Chief Executives of the United Nations system, we look forward to the successful outcomes of United Nations General Assembly's Overall Review of the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes and we pledge our collective support for their implementation.



The Information and Knowledge Societies for SDGs

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Share

BEST PRACTICES

Win

WSIS PRIZE

Interact

MULTISTAKEHOLDER

Sponsor

FORUM



Join CONSULTATIONS	Share BEST PRACTICES	Win WSIS PRIZE	Interact MULTISTAKEHOLDER	Sponsor FORUM
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The **Open Consultation Process OCP** is a multistakeholder preparatory process where entities are actively engaged 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 physical meetings of the Open Consultation Process will benefit from **remote participation**



The Open Consultation Process for the WSIS Forum 2017 is structured in six phases as follows:

<p>Phase I Opening of the open consultations 01 September 2016</p>	<p>Phase II First physical meeting 12 October 2016</p>	<p>Phase III Second physical meeting 14 February 2017</p>
<p>Phase IV Submissions deadline 20 February 2017</p>	<p>Phase V Final review meeting 14 March 2017</p>	<p>Phase VI Final brief 10 May 2017</p>

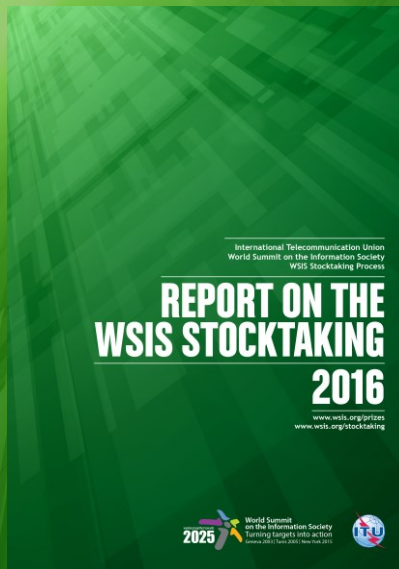
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WSIS Stocktaking: Call for Update and New Entries

WSIS Stocktaking database reached new records with **8.000 plus entries** and a growing community of **200.000 stakeholders**

New Call for Submissions has been released in July 2016, and the newly submitted activities will be reflected in the **WSIS Stocktaking Report 2017**, which will be released at the WSIS Forum 2017.

NEW WSIS Stocktaking product are the Regional Stocktaking Reports (2014-2016), which will be released in September 2016.



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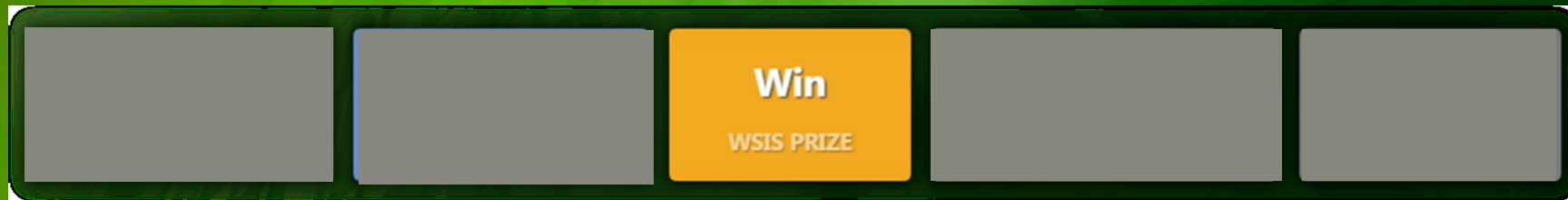
WSIS Stocktaking: Call for Update and New Entries

In the period 2014-2016, WSIS Stocktaking Reports have reviewed several ICT-related projects and activities carried out by international organizations, governments, the private sector, civil society and other stakeholders in the Africa Region, with those in 2016 highlighting the efforts deployed by stakeholders involved in implementation of the SDGs. WSIS Stocktaking reports are based on the multistakeholder approach, including input from stakeholders from all over the world responding to ITU's official call for stocktaking updates and new entries.



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New Call for WSIS Prizes 2017 contest was launched in August 2016 – inviting WSIS Community to submit ICT-related projects and initiatives that also **help advance SDGs**. All WSIS Stakeholders are encouraged to **SUBMIT** their project descriptions to the WSIS Prizes contest from **5 September 2016 until 15 February 2017**.

Champions will be announced on 25 April 2017 while the **Winners** will be announced during the **WSIS Prizes Ceremony** at the WSIS Forum 2017 (12-16 June 2017). **Five Phases of the Contest:**



Phase I
Submission phase
5 September 2016 – 15 February 2017

Phase II
Nomination Phase
16 February – 15 March 2017

Phase III
Public Online Voting
16 March – 15 April 2017

Phase IV
Selection of Winning Projects
by the Expert Group
16 April – 25 April 2017

Phase V
Public announcement of winners
during WSIS Prize 2017 Ceremony
at WSIS Forum 2017





WSIS Regional Implementation: Regional/National Actions & Reviews

- Building regional capacities on the WSIS and its alignment with 2030 Agenda
- Building awareness on the enabling role of ICTs in sustainable development and placing ICTs in central point of the national sustainable development agendas and policies
- Advocating for inclusion of ICTs in the programming of future UNDAFs
- Fostering of cross sectoral approaches using ICTs to accelerate achievement of SDGs (e-health, e-learning, e-business, e-agriculture, e-governance ...)
- Encouraging collaborative regulation, policy making and implementation
- Fostering interagency collaboration on implementation of the WSIS outcomes and ICT for sustainable development, while aligning WSIS and SDG processes
- Identifying best practices from national, regional and global experiences for the WSIS Prizes
- Reporting on efforts at the national and regional level related to WSIS implementation and WSIS-SDG alignment to WSIS Stocktaking Process
- Contributing as the regional formal submission to the WSIS Forum Open Consultation Process by bringing the regional trends, challenges and opportunities to the global dialogue on the WSIS implementation.
- Facilitating further UN reporting on WSIS and SDGs (incl. ECOSOC, HLPF, UNGA)



ITU World Telecommunication Development Conference

- The International Telecommunication Union, through its Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT), organizes a World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) in the period between two Plenipotentiary Conferences to consider topics, projects and programmes relevant to telecommunication development.
- WTDCs set the strategies and objectives for the development of telecommunication/ICT, providing future direction and guidance to the ITU Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D).
- Following the kind invitation of the Government of Argentina and the approval by the Council with the concurrence of a majority of the Member States of ITU, WTDC-17 will be convened in **Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 9 to 20 October 2017**. Details on WTDC-17 are available [here](#).
- To coordinate the preparations for WTDC-17 at regional level, BDT is organizing one Regional Preparatory Meeting (RPM) per region, two in the last quarter of 2016 and four in the first quarter of 2017. More information on these meetings is available [here](#).

wtdc17

World Telecommunication Development Conference
Date, Buenos Aires, Argentina



ICT4SDG



Information and Knowledge Societies for SDGs

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