Bridging the Standardization Gap (BSG)

ITU-T Leadership Meeting @ WTSA

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Article 17 of the ITU Constitution refers explicitly to the “concerns of developing countries”
BSG is a **key** strategic objective for ITU-T

In the ITU Strategic Plan 2016-2019 (Annex to Res. 71), the following is listed as one of the 5 overarching objectives of ITU-T:

Promote the **active participation** of the membership, in particular **developing countries**, in the definition and adoption of non-discriminatory international standards (ITU-T Recommendations) with a view to **bridging the standardization gap**
Plenipotentiary Resolution 123 on BSG
Since 2002 there is a PP-resolution on Bridging the Standardization Gap

PP-14 Resolution 123 (rev. Busan) resolves, *inter alia*, to instruct the Secretary General and the Directors of the 3 Bureaux to:

- Provide developing countries with **assistance to enhance capacity building** in the standardization field
- Identify ways and means to **support the participation of representatives of developing countries** in the meetings of the three Sectors of ITU and the **dissemination of information** on standardization
- Further **collaborate with the relevant regional organizations** and support their work in this area...
- ...
Since 2004, we have a WTSA Resolution on BSG:

... that developing countries are still encountering multifarious difficulties in ensuring their efficient participation in the work of ITU-T, in particular engaging in and following up the work of the ITU-T study groups.

Res. 44 includes (in its annex) an Action Plan to implement Resolution 123 of PP-14.

NB: In the ITU-D, there is a Recommendation ITU-D 22 on “Bridging the standardization gap in association with regional groups of the study groups”
Res. 44 contains a number of resolutions ("resolves") and instructions ("instructs") that are applicable to ITU-T Study Groups, TSAG and the TSB Director (in some cases in collaboration with other sectors).

The Annex of Res. 44 includes an Action plan for the implementation of PP Res 123, containing 4 programmes.
BSG Action Plan from Resolution 44

The 4 Programmes outlined the BSG Action Plan

1. Making standards
   - "Assisting Developing Countries with respect to the application of standards"

2. Applying standards
   - "Fundraising for bridging the standardization gap"

3. Building Capacity
   - "Strengthening standard-making capabilities"

4. Fundraising
   - "Human resources capacity building"
Through Resolution 44,

- **WTSA-16 instructs** the TSB Director, in collaboration with the Directors of BDT and BR:
  - to continue implementing the objectives of the action plan annexed to this resolution;
  - to continue the activities of the implementation group established within TSB to organize, mobilize resources, coordinate efforts and monitor work related to this resolution and the associated action plan.

- **WTSA-16 resolves**:
  - that the action plan annexed to this resolution, having the objective of bridging the standardization gap between developed and developing countries, should be continued and be reviewed on an annual basis to take into account the requirements of developing countries;
BSG and the ITU-T Value Proposition

Empowering participation in standards-making from all corners of the world.

Raising international acceptance of ITU-T Standards.

- Informs and Fuels Innovation
- Is inclusive of needs and requirements of established & emerging markets
- Ensures wider standards implementation

GLOBAL REACH
BSG@ITU 2013-2016: Implementation
Key Performance Indicators or KPIs

- Number of participants from developing countries in ITU-T Study Groups
- Number of RSFs, workshops and tutorials held in developing countries and distinct topics covered
- Number of participants in RSFs, workshops and tutorials held in developing countries
- Number of BSG hands-on sessions held for Study Groups
- Number of participants attending hands-on SG trainings and rate of satisfaction
- Number of delegates certified in the A.1 e-learning course
- Number of Study Group Chairs and Vice-Chairs from developing countries
- Number of SG Regional Group meetings held
ITU-T Regional Standardization Forums for BSG
Meetings and Participants by Region (2013-2016)

RSF in ARB
- 4 Meetings
- 175 Participants

RSF in AFR
- 3 Meetings
- 145 Participants

RSF in APT
- 4 Meetings
- 323 Participants

RSF in CIS
- 1 Meeting
- 48 Participants

12 RSFs organized
19 Total number of days
707 Number of participants
Information: Tech Papers & Other Studies
Disseminating knowledge and information: Study Period 2013-2016

2013
- Impacts of M2M and Non-M2M Mobile Data Applications on Mobile Networks
- How to increase Quality of Service (QoS)/Quality of Experience (QoE) of IP-based Platform
- Migration scenarios from legacy network to NGN in developing countries
- Telecommunications and Disaster Mitigation

2014
- Applications of wireless sensor networks in Next Generation Networks
- Multiple radio access technologies
- Accessible Digital Television – From Idea to Reality
- Mobility Management in ITU-T: Its Current Development and Next Steps Heading Towards Future Networks
- New challenges for Public-Key Infrastructure standardization
- IPTV Green book
- Green ICT Standards Roadmap

2015
- Guide for NRAs on International Mobile Roaming Cost analysis
- Security in telecommunications and information technology
Workshops held in Developing Countries
Number and days of meetings, 2013-2016

- **Number of workshops**
- **Number of days**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Workshops</th>
<th>Days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Participation in ITU-T Workshops

### Number of participants per year (2013-2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Participants</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016 (Jan-May)</td>
<td>528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>494</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>1300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>1059</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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- **Workshops organized**: 46
- **Total number of days**: 87
- **Number of participants**: 3381
Engagement: Remote Participation

Encouraging participation from those that cannot physically attend meetings

Remote Participation (2014-2016*)

- **2016 (Jan-May)**
  - Number of e-meetings provided for physical meetings
  - Online attendees to physical meetings
  - Number of fully online e-meetings provided
  - Fully online attendees

- **2015**
  - Number of e-meetings provided for physical meetings
  - Online attendees to physical meetings
  - Number of fully online e-meetings provided
  - Fully online attendees

- **2014**
  - Number of e-meetings provided for physical meetings
  - Online attendees to physical meetings
  - Number of fully online e-meetings provided
  - Fully online attendees

*Note: Data available only from 2014 onwards*
Engagement: Study Group Mentors

Over 70% of Study Groups have appointed Mentors in this Study Period

Study Group Mentors by Membership Type
(2013-2016 Study Period)

- Sector Members: 56%
- Administrations: 44%
Fellowships awarded to Developing Country Delegates, 2013 to 2016

Total Number and Distribution by Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2016 (Jan-May 2016)</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Community: Regional Empowerment
Participation in Regional Groups (2013-2016)

- **ITU-T SG12**
  - 4 Meetings
  - 205 Participants

- **ITU-T SG13**
  - 4 Meetings
  - 136 Participants

- **ITU-T SG17**
  - 2 Meetings
  - 40 Participants

- **ITU-T SG2**
  - 2 Meetings
  - 50 Participants

- **ITU-T SG3**
  - 18 Meetings
  - 561 Participants

- **ITU-T SG5**
  - 8 Meetings
  - 234 Participants

- **Statistics**
  - 45 Regional Group Meetings
  - 78 Total number of days
  - 1552 Number of participants
The “Guidelines on the establishment of a National Standardization Secretariat (NSS) for ITU-T” was developed in 2013 and published in 2014. It takes into account the different capability levels for standardization across the developing countries, showing how it is possible to establish an NSS at a basic level with very little new cost or resource requirements.

TSB conducted a consultancy exercise for Zambia ICT Authority from November 2015 to March 2016 to undertake an audit of the current set up for ICT standardization activities and its national standardization secretariat and make recommendations on processes that could be enhanced in order to participate more effectively in ITU-t activities.

The course comprises six modules:

- Standardization in ITU-T
- Managing the study groups
- Coordination
- Inputs to the study groups
- Outputs of the study groups
- Further infrastructure supporting the study group process

Some **353 persons** have attempted the course and **175 persons** have obtained the certificate.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Details</th>
<th>Tutors</th>
<th>Fees</th>
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</table>

This is the first e-Learning course developed by ITU-T addressed to the sector members.

**Course Type:** e-Learning  
**Region:**  
**Language:**
Know-How: Hands-on BSG & Role Play

Sessions were held between January and August 2016 (8 months) at ITU Headquarters as well as tailored sessions in Tunisia and India.

- **177 Delegates**
- **35 Countries**
- **75 Organizations**

**NET PROMOTER SCORE:**

95% of those surveyed would recommend the training.
Know-how: Developing the right skills

Taking into account the disparities in the ability of developing countries, relative to developed ones, to access, implement and influence international ITU-T standards, one of the core areas of the BSG programme is geared towards assisting developing countries in acquiring the right skills and capabilities for international standards-making. This page introduces our e-learning courses and primers, and provides information about our hands-on interactive training sessions and related events.

These are intended to help delegates from developing countries become familiar with how ITU-T Study Groups work and how to navigate the standards development process in order to reach their standardization objectives.
Thank you!

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