WSIS Forum 2017: Outcomes and Achievements

WSIS Forum 2017 Official Outcome Publications:
WSIS Forum 2017 has resulted in several concrete outcomes that will enable stakeholders to strengthen implementation of WSIS Action Lines and the alignment of the WSIS and SDG processes.

- **WSIS Forum 2017: Outcome Document**
- **WSIS Forum 2017: High Level Track Outcomes and Executive Brief**
- **WSIS Stocktaking Report 2017**
- **WSIS Forum 2017 and SDG Matrix**
- **WSIS Stocktaking Success Stories 2017**
- **WSIS Forum 2017: Report – Implementation of WSIS Action lines for Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world**

Photos: https://www.flickr.com/photos/itupictures/albums/
Videos, Interviews and Highlights: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLpoIPNlF8P2NR-mXRzpmOx8_hIs_sf0wh

Introduction:

- This year the Forum attracted more than 2000 WSIS Stakeholders from more than 150 countries.
- Thousands followed remotely while more than 500 were engaged by intervening remotely.
- More than 500 high-level representatives of the wider WSIS Stakeholder community graced the Forum with more than 85 ministers and deputies, several ambassadors, CEOs and Civil Society leaders contributing passionately towards the programme of the Forum.
- More than 200 content rich workshops
- 18 WSIS Prizes winners and 70 WSIS Prizes champions were acknowledged for their excellent work in implementation of the WSIS Action Lines on the ground.

WSIS Forum 2017: Key Achievements (Announcements, Launches, Agreements, Commitments)

1. **UNGIS** reiterated commitment to the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines and alignment of the WSIS and SDG processes. UN Regional Commission for Africa was appointed as the rotating Vice Chairman to strengthen the regional perspective.
2. **UN Regional Commissions** committed to strengthen the action at the regional level, providing the platforms for connecting the dots, i.e. all relevant stakeholders, with the aim of strengthening implementation of the WSIS Action Lines and alignment of WSIS and SDG processes. Series of regional face to face meetings were announced. It is anticipated that WSIS will be included in the UN Regional Coordination Mechanisms and WSIS4SDG will become one of the pillar of the regional SDG Forums.
3. **Ministerial Round Table** emphasized on the importance of the WSIS Action Lines framework that remains the key UN framework to the work on the information and

knowledge societies, and reiterated that many national digital agendas were built upon it. Value of the WSIS Forum as the only UN platform for exchanging best practices and advancing implementation of ICTs4SDGs was emphasized. Many Ministers expressed their continued support and strengthened commitment to the WSIS process.

4. ITU, WHO and IEEE organized first Hackathon held at WSIS Forum on the issue of e health. **Hack for Health** was a successful event which brought together 42 participants from 16 different countries across all five UN regions and diverse educational backgrounds ranging from computer science, mathematics and electrical engineering through chemistry, epidemiology and business.

5. FAO, ITU and IEEE committed to work on e Agriculture for WSIS Forum 2018 Hackathon – **hack against hunger.**

6. ARM announced that within the framework of the **BeHealthyBeMobile** initiative, ARM will strengthen its focus on a global goals based behaviour change technology focussing on chronic disease, and a wide variety of other issues, that affect low resource settings. The details of the programme will be launched in the context of the 2030Vision partnership, a U.N. wide initiative looking at how technology can support the achievement of all 17 goals.

7. A new **toolkit**, *Bridging the Digital Innovation Divide,* has been developed by ITU to help countries develop a Digital Innovation Framework, a set of policies and projects that foster national innovation

8. ITU and Rwanda launched **The Rwanda Country Review** on the ICT Innovation Ecosystem

9. ILO and ITU launched a campaign to train 5 million young people globally by 2030. The **'Digital Skills for Decent Jobs Campaign'** is part of the Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth, the first-ever, comprehensive United Nations system-wide effort for the promotion of youth employment worldwide.

10. ITU Launched the **Global Cybersecurity Index**

11. The **Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development** launched a Task Group on ICT for SDGs, that will prepare a thematic list of ICT indicators that aims to complement the monitoring framework for measuring progress towards the achievement of the SDGs. The Agenda 2030 recognizes that ICTs have great potential to accelerate human progress, but only includes 7 indicators in its monitoring framework. The thematic list to be prepared by the Partnership Task Group will try to capture the cross-cutting and multi-faceted contribution of ICT to the SDGs.

12. Launch of the **Global E-waste Statistics Partnership** to increase the availability and quality of e-waste data. This Partnership is made up of ITU, UN University and the International Solid Waste Association (ISWA).

13. **Assistance by Japan**: Ministry of Information and Communication from Japan presented equipment for emergency telecommunications to the ITU–D

14. Announcement of the **GEM-TECH Awards 2017** that will be renamed as Equals in Tech will be held during the IGF here in Geneva, call for nominations will be launched next week.

15. In February 2017, ARM joined the Be He@lthy, Be Mobile initiative to collaborate on innovations in health technology for low-resource settings. Under this partnership we are focusing on scaling up behaviour change programs, looking at how different technologies can reach the largest number of people and deliver the greatest impact at the lowest cost.

Details of the project portfolio will be announced shortly. The work will also link with the 2030Vision partnership, a U.N.-wide initiative looking at how technology can support the achievement of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

16. ITU presented the **Global ICT Regulatory Outlook 2017**, the first of an annual series of reports tracking market and regulatory trends in the information and communication technologies (ICT) sector and their implications across the economy

17. A new feature of **WSIS Stocktaking Process** was launched- an ICT for SDG Application that based on the WSIS Action Lines and the SDG Matrix and developed by University of West Indies and ITU w

18. **Several Multistakeholder Agreements during Workshops:** to work together in the field of ICTs for SDGs by Multistakeholders – eg
    - Agreement Signed by eWorldwide Group (eWWG) & Bangladesh Institute of ICT in Development (BIID)on ICTs for SDGs,
    - Learning Foundation announced two major initiatives:
        o The #DigitalScholar education initiative to develop new skills and leadership for the digital transformation of learning
        o The #DigitalScholar call for proposals to develop projects to tackle complex challenges around one or more SDGs
    - Grenoble École de management, in follow up, will launch a new research project "Cybersecurity as competitive advantage for companies" in line with the SDGs
    - At the workshop on Regional Engagement in Internet Governance a key announcement was made an internet governance event in Johannesburg, South Africa in 23 and 24 June.
    - Announcement was the setting up of links between digital humanities, social science, anthropology, linguistics on one side and the scientific community and experts for ICT on the other side. This will be effective at the World Conference on Humanities in Liege, 6-12 August 2017, for WSIS FORUM 2018 and other events, through appropriate channels like Semantis, ISCC-CNRS, LACITO-CNRS, (Paris), Cecua Academy (EU), etc