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<th>Session Title</th>
<th>Organiser</th>
<th>Sustainable Development Goals Linked</th>
<th>Action Lines Linked</th>
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<td>ICT-driven innovation</td>
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| Women in the Information Society | | | |}
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| B2B: Blinlum for Business | | | |}
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WSIS Forum 2017

"Information and Knowledge Societies for SDGs"

Outcomes

The WSIS Forum has proven to be an efficient mechanism for multi-stakeholder implementation of WSIS Action Lines and cross-cutting commitments on gender equality, information exchange, knowledge creation, the sharing of best practices and continues to provide assistance in developing multi-stakeholder and public/private partnerships to achieve the sustainable development goals. WSIS Forums are organized each year, hosted by the ITU, co-organized by ITU, UNESCO, UNCTAD and UNDP in close collaboration with all WSIS Action Line Facilitators/Co-Facilitators (UNDESA, FAO, UNEP, WHO, UN Women, WIPO, ILO, WHO, UN, ITC, IPU, UNODC, UNIDO, UNHCR, UNICEF and UN Regional Commissions).

In 2015, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Overall Review resolved to hold the WSIS Forum on the annual basis till 2025. UNGA also called for close alignment between WSIS and SDG process. Moreover on the occasion of the UNGA review heads of the UN Agencies decided that beyond 2015 WSIS Forum 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/70/1. Following the UN General Assembly Resolution A/70/125, calling for close alignment of the WSIS and SDG process as well as holding the WSIS Forum on the annual basis, the WSIS Forum 2017 was held from the 12th-14th June 2017 at the ITU Headquarters in Geneva and the overall theme of the WSIS Forum 2017 was "Information and Knowledge Societies for SDGs".

The Agenda and Program of the WSIS Forum 2017 was designed in collaboration with the multi-stakeholders on the basis of official submissions received during the Open Consultation Process on the thematic aspects and innovations of the format of the WSIS Forum 2017. Involving all WSIS Stakeholders (governments, civil society, private sector entities, academia and international organizations), this process aims to ensure an active participation of different players during the event. The process began in September 2016 and was structured in six phases that includes online submissions and physical meetings. The WSIS Forum is the only event of its kind where the Agenda is completely crowdsourced. All stakeholders were invited to contribute their formal inputs towards shaping the themes and format of the WSIS Forum 2017 through the online official submission form and physical meetings. The ITU-WSSS Secretariat received more than 250 submissions containing proposals on the thematic aspects and innovations on the format of the WSIS Forum 2017, including binding requests for partnerships, workshops, exhibition spaces and so on.

This year the Forum attracted more than 2000 WSIS Stakeholders from more than 150 countries. Several high-level representatives of the wide 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. At the WSIS Forum 2017, moderated High-Level Policy Sessions of the High-level Track (HLT) took place on the 13th and 14th June. During these sessions, moderated Policy Sessions with high-ranking officials of the WSIS Stakeholder community, representing the Government, Private Sector, Civil Society, Academia and International Organizations were held. High-Level Policy Sessions were divided into fourteen sessions covering fourteen themes. The themes, based on the General Plan of Action with particular focus on the WSIS Action Lines, hold on the outcomes of the United Nations Overall Review and the submissions received during the open consultation process. The high-level track was moderated by High-level Track Facilitators who were nominated by different stakeholder types to represent their respective communities.


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### WSIS-SDG Matrix

The WSIS-SDG Matrix developed by UN WSIS Action Line Facilitators serves as the mechanism to map, analyze and coordinate the implementation of WSIS Action Lines, and more specifically, ICTs as enablers and accelerators of the SDGs. This Matrix builds upon the WSIS-SDG Matrix and provides guidance on the outcomes of the workshops and other sessions held during the forum, emphasizing linkages between the WSIS Action Lines and SDGs as well as highlighting rational for each linkage that has been established. WSIS Stakeholders identified a clear relation and connection between the WSIS Action Lines and SDGs in their respective workshops. Please read the complete document here: https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2017/#outcomes.