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| **Council Working Group on the World Summit on the Information Society**  **31st meeting – Geneva, 19-20 September 2017** |  |
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**WSIS Stocktaking: Success Stories 2017 Report**

Each year, on the occasion of the WSIS Forum, 18 WSIS stakeholders are awarded **WSIS Prizes**, as a unique mark of global recognition for excellence in the implementation of WSIS outcomes. WSIS Prizes honour outstanding projects that leverage the power of ICT to accelerate socio-economic development around the globe. To this end, 18 projects are selected as the most successful stories worldwide, under each category, to serve as best-practice models to be replicated by other stakeholders interested in information and communication technologies (ICTs) for development. These projects brilliantly demonstrate how established **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** can be realized in concrete actions and inspire other stakeholders all over the world to follow their success. This year, we have continued to implement the **WSIS Prize Champions** categoryfor the[**WSIS Prizes 2017**](http://www.wsis.org/prizes)contest.

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has announced the top-90 winning Information and Communication Technology for Development (ICT4D) initiatives from around the world competing for prestigious WSIS Prizes 2017, from which one top Winner and four Champions emerged in each of the 18 prize categories. These 18 category Winners were announced and presented with their awards, and Champions honoured, on 13 June at the WSIS Prizes 2017 ceremony held at the Geneva International Conference Centre during WSIS Forum 2017.

The WSIS Prizes contest is open to all stakeholders: governments, businesses, civil society, international organizations, academia and others. The contest comprises 18 categories directly linked to the WSIS Action Lines outlined in the Geneva Plan of Action. This year's final list of **345 nominated projects** represented a wide range of stakeholders.

This includes, by region: 49 from Africa (14.1%), 45 from the Americas (12.9%), 78 from the Arab region (22.4%), 88 from Asia and the Pacific (25.3%), 41 from the CIS (11.8%), 42 from Europe (12.1%), and five international projects (1.4%); and by sector: 145 from governments (41.7%), 78 from businesses (22.4%), 56 from civil society (16.1%), 22 from international organizations (6.3%.), and 47 from other entities (13.5%).

The **WSIS Prize Champions** category recognizes those contenders having emerged from the online voting phase with **1.1 million votes** from the WSIS community. Their projects are among those having received the highest number of votes and having gained the best reviews by the members of the Expert Group.

More than 60,000 new members of the WSIS stakeholder community voted this year, and with this, ITU is proud to announce that the WSIS Stocktaking Platform has increased to 300,000 registered stakeholders. This sets a new high for the level of global multi-stakeholder engagement, and implementation of WSIS Action Lines in support of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

In line with the inclusive, multi-stakeholder character of the WSIS Process, the prizes recognize the outstanding achievements of a wide range of organizations. This year's 18 Winners, by WSIS Action Line, are:

* Action Line C1 *The role of government and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development*   
  **Winner**: Adqar's e-safe school online safety, Kalifa Empowerment Program for Students, United Arab Emirates
* Action Line C2 *Information and communication infrastructure*  
  **Winner**: South-to North water diversion (Eastern route) communication optical cable project for the water resources dispatch and management system, China Communications Technology Co., Ltd., People's Republic of China
* Action Line C3 *Access to information and knowledge*   
  **Winner**: DAISY-standard accessible reading materials for students with visual and print disabilities, Access to Information (a2i) Programme, Prime Minister's Office, People's Republic of Bangladesh
* Action Line C4 *Capacity building*   
  **Winner**: Puntos México Conectado Programme, Ministry of Communications and Transportation, Mexico
* Action Line C5 *Building confidence & security in the use of ICTs*   
  **Winner**: Multimedia distance-learning course on the safe use of Internet resources, A.S. Popov Odessa National Academy of Telecommunications, Ukraine
* Action Line C6 *Enabling environment*   
  **Winner**:  Egypt's National Program for ICT Accessibility in Education for Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Arab Republic of Egypt
* Action Line C7 *E-government*   
  **Winner**: Rendering of state and municipal services in electronic format, Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan, Russian Federation
* Action Line C7 *E-business*   
  **Winner**: National Trade Platform, Singapore Customs, Republic of Singapore
* Action Line C7 *E-learning*   
  **Winner**: E-learning and Virtual Classroom System, Kuwait University, State of Kuwait
* Action Line C7 *E-health*  
  **Winner**: Informed: an innovation, socializing project at the service of Cuban public health; National Information Center for the Medical Sciences, Cuba
* Action Line C7 *E-employment*  
  **Winner**: Social Network for Health Promoting Hospital, Advanced Info Services, Thailand
* Action Line C7 E-environment   
  **Winner**: Greenmap Belarus, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Protection of the Republic of Belarus, Republic of Belarus
* Action Line C7 *E-agriculture*   
  **Winner**: Electronic Application System, Rural Support Service, Republic of Latvia
* Action Line C7 *E-science*   
  **Winner**: Communication Technology and Networking for Development, World Science Project, Ghana
* Action Line C8 *Cultural diversity & identity, linguistic diversity*   
  **Winner**:  Turkcell "Hello, Hello" Mobile App for Integration of Syrian Refugees, Turkcell, Turkey
* Action Line C9 *Media*   
  **Winner**: Agribusiness TV, MediaProd, Burkina Faso
* Action Line C10 *Ethical dimensions of the Information Society*   
  **Winner**: Internet Sehat (Internet Healthy) Towards Indonesian Information Society, ICT Watch – Indonesia, Republic of Indonesia
* Action Line C11 *International & regional cooperation*   
  **Winner**: African School on Internet Governance, Association for Progressive Communications, Republic of South Africa

Detailed descriptions of all WSIS Prizes 2017 winning projects are available at: <https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/prizes/2017/>

Building on the outcomes of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Overall Review on WSIS, as well as on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, **WSIS Prizes 2017** kept reflecting on the linkages between the projects and the **SDGs**. ICTs are enablers for sustainable development, and reporting on ICT success stories to best showcase the possible achievement of **SDGs**, through the implementation of projects related to the WSIS Action Lines, is the new objective of the WSIS Stocktaking process, including WSIS Prizes. We invite you learn how ICT projects submitted for WSIS Prizes 2017 are enabling the advancement of the SDGs.

Attached: Annex 1: WSIS Stocktaking: Success Stories 2017 Report

**ANNEX 1**

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[](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-s/opb/pol/S-POL-WSIS.SUCC_STORIES-2017-PDF-E.pdf)