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| **Council Working Group on the World Summit on the Information Society**  **32nd meeting – Geneva, 24-25 January 2018** |  |
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**World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Stocktaking (2018)**

Regular reporting on [WSIS Stocktaking](http://www.wsis.org/stocktaking) is the outcome of the Tunis phase of the Summit, launched to serve as a valuable tool for assisting with the [WSIS follow-up](http://www.wsis.org/). WSIS Stocktaking has played a crucial role over many years, and this role takes on even greater significance in the light of the WSIS 2015-2025 process, where besides collecting data on the implementation of WSIS outcomes, it also started to collect data on how ICTs are helping advance the [UN Sustainable Development Goals](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300) on the ground, seeking to provide evidence for future strategy and policy making.

The new call was launched on 11 September 2017and we invited ICT4D community to submit entries online at [www.wsis.org/stocktaking](http://www.wsis.org/stocktaking). Submitted activities will be reflected in various forms in the WSIS Stocktaking 2018 (reports, exhibitions, videos etc.) which will be released at WSIS Forum 2018 (19-23 March 2018). **We look forward to receiving responses to this call by 9 February 2018**. Should you have any questions or need for assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the WSIS Team at [wsis-stocktaking@itu.int](mailto:wsis-stocktaking@itu.int).

The WSIS Stocktaking Platform was introduced in 2010 and currently has 10.000+ entries and a growing community of 300.000 stakeholders. ITU has been maintaining the [WSIS Stocktaking Database](http://www.wsis.org/stocktaking) as a publicly accessible system providing information on ICT-related initiatives and projects with reference to the 11 WSIS action lines (Geneva Plan of Action) and 17 SDGs.

ITU remains committed to the WSIS Stocktaking process, recognizing and appreciating the extremely valuable contributions made by stakeholders to enable the continuation of WSIS monitoring and reporting. There can be no doubt whatsoever that, in today’s fast-moving world, innovation and efficiency are vital to success. Accordingly, the WSIS Stocktaking process continues to progress in reaching out to new stakeholders, collecting record numbers of submissions in 2017 (as listed in the [WSIS Stocktaking Report 2017](http://www.itu.int/pub/S-POL-WSIS.REP-2017)), and introduces new products that help evolve understanding of the enhancing role of ICTs in advancing SDGs.

WSIS Stocktaking platform is undergoing major update and besides a **more user-friendly interface**, new products will be introduced, such as **geographical map of WSIS Action Lines implementation** on the ground, **calendar of ICT4SDG events**, while the past and future WSIS Prizes Winners and Champions will be invited to contribute to the **stocktaking** **blog** dedicated to follow-up on the awarded projects. Another contributing product of the WSIS Stocktaking, that will be further developed and presented at the WSIS Forum 2018, is the **interactive matrix** that is to be used as a graphical representation of WSIS and SDG data collected through the implementation of the WSIS Stocktaking process.

The WSIS Stocktaking **embeddable interface** (iframe) was recently developed, providing opportunities for WSIS multistakeholder community to harvest on its many services by integrating it into their online platforms and websites. The objective of this product is to reach out to the communities and networks of the current WSIS stakeholders and collect their ICT-related projects and initiatives while at the same time invite them to contribute to the WSIS and SDG processes.

One such example is currently being explored in coordination with the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB), with the focus on artificial intelligence projects that are implementing WSIS Action Lines and advancing SDGs, striving to provide tangible global overview of projects and initiatives in this emerging field. We invite all stakeholders to take part in this unique opportunity towards evidence based policy making and promote it within different communities and networks. The WSIS Team will provide the necessary information, sufficient to test and run the interface, upon request.

The **WSIS Stocktaking Report 2018** seeks to provide key findings on emerging trends in the development of the information society, and references major activities being implemented in the eighteen areas covered by the eleven WSIS action lines and seventeen SDGs. The tenth edition, will be presented during the [WSIS Forum 2018](http://www.wsis.org/forum), 19-23 March 2018 in Geneva, Switzerland. At the same occasion, an interactive session will be dedicated to presentation of the results of the WSIS Stocktaking 2018 and it will also be an opportunity to listen to the voices of the WSIS multistakeholder community on how to improve the process in the future.

Besides the WSIS Stocktaking Report 2018, we are also preparing the **WSIS Stocktaking Regional Reports 2016-2018** with the idea to report on the ICT projects and initiatives on the ground in the six ITU regions and through linkages with the related SDGs reflect on how are ICTs advancing the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. Since the last Regional Reports were issued for the period 2014-2016 with no reflection on the SDGs, with already submitted projects in 2016 and 2017, in addition to the newly submitted projects for the 2018, we strive to provide a relevant ICT4SDG data to report back to the WSIS and ICT4D communities at the regional level.

All WSIS-related publications, including the WSIS Stocktaking reports, are available to download at the [ITU Bookshop](https://www.itu.int/en/publications/Pages/default.aspx?wec-appid=EBOOKSHOP_B2B&wec-locale=en_US).

Following the successful first edition [WSIS Forum Photo Contest 2017](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2017/PhotoContest), asking WSIS stakeholders community to picture a more sustainable world, with the theme: Information and Knowledge Societies for Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, we will continue to exercise the Photo Contest and invite the community to picture ICTs are advancing SDGs on the ground. We invite you to engage your communities and networks in building a collage of ICT for Sustainable Development photographs from around the world by promoting the Photo Contest within your networks and communities. **We look forward to receiving responses to this call by 9 February 2018**. Should you have any questions or need for assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the WSIS Team at [wsis-stocktaking@itu.int](mailto:wsis-stocktaking@itu.int).

The three winning entries in the WSIS photo contest will be awarded and presented at the WSIS Forum 2018 19-23 March 2018 in Geneva, Switzerland. In addition, all photos that fit the criteria will be exposed at the dedicated Photo Contest Exhibition at the Forum and also later promoted in WSIS-related events, while the WSIS Stocktaking publications will also be reflecting on nominated photos. A dedicated poster and other campaign materials highlighting their work will be created and shared within ITU and its stakeholders.