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| **Council Working Group on WSIS&SDG 35th meeting – Geneva, 6-7 February 2020** |  |
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|  | **Document CWG-WSIS&SDG-35/8-E** |
| **10 December 2019** |
| **English only** |
| **ITU Sector Study Groups for the WSIS and SDG process** | |

At the meeting of the ITU Council Working Group on WSIS&SDG (CWG-WSIS&SDG), held on 25 September 2019, the group appreciated the work conducted by ITU-D and ITU-T study groups to map the WSIS Action Lines and SDGs with the activities of the study groups. The CWG-WSIS&SDG welcomed the collaboration with ITU-R for a similar exercise after the RA/WRC 2019. Further, the study groups were encouraged to explore synergies with the WSIS Forum 2020.

**ITU-D**

1. Exploring synergies with the WSIS platform:

ITU-D study groups value rich content shared by stakeholders within the WSIS platform and the opportunities that exist for outreach and exchange that can be undertaken with diverse stakeholders who participate in the WSIS process.

During the ITU-D Study Group 1 (SG1) and Study Group 2 (SG2) rapporteur group meetings which took place from 23 September to 18 October 2019 in Geneva, a document prepared by BDT ([SG1RGQ/258](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-SG01.RGQ-C-0258/en) and [SG2RGQ/167](https://www.itu.int/md/D18-SG02.RGQ-C-0167/en)) further explored benefits and possible next steps for collaboration between ITU-D study groups and the WSIS platform. This was a follow-up to an earlier document ([1/207](https://www.itu.int/md/d18-sg01-c-0207) and [2/190](https://www.itu.int/md/d18-sg02-c-0190)) which considers possible linkages between the WSIS Prizes Winner and Champion projects in 2018 and 2019 and ITU-D SG1 and SG2 Questions. The new document highlighted among others the usefulness of the WSIS Stocktaking Database and invited study group members to explore its projects for possible synergies with the ongoing work and planned deliverables. Also, the document suggested the possibility of organizing a session focused on the work of ITU-D study groups during WSIS Forum 2020 in order to increase opportunities for collaboration with the WSIS platform. The meetings expressed thanks for the document and encouraged the ITU-D rapporteur groups to review and propose relevant topics that can be taken on board for organizing such a session during the next WSIS Forum.

1. Preparations for WSIS Forum 2020:

Those active in ITU-D study groups, including its chairs, vice-chairs, rapporteurs and vice-rapporteurs have long been involved as speakers and active contributors in WSIS action line sessions. At WSIS Forum 2020, rapporteurs and vice-rapporteurs will continue to provide input for different sessions on the work and outcomes of the ITU-D study groups as it relates to specific topics of interest. Following the consultation with the study group teams at their meetings in 2019, a dedicated session for ITU-D study groups is also planned to discuss, among other things, the value of the study group platform and how input from the WSIS platform can inform reports and guidelines coming out of the ITU-D study groups.

**ITU-T**

1. Tutorials on WSIS, SDGs, WSIS Forum:

Tutorials on WSIS, SDGs, WSIS Forum were given by the General Secretariat at ITU-T study group meetings for:

1. SG2 (February 2019, December 2019)
2. SG15 (October 2018) which was well received and attracted interest; Japan delegate attended regional WSIS preparation meeting in Bangkok; SG15 presented and exhibited the recently approved Recommendations on optical fibers for developing countries (ITU-T L.110/L.163/L.1700) during WSIS Forum 2019. Perhaps some follow-up activities at WSIS Forum 2020.
3. SG20 (December 2019)

TSB, together with the General Secretariat, developed a plan for forthcoming ITU-T study group meetings where tutorials on WSIS, SDGs, WSIS Forum could be given by the General Secretariat.

The General Secretariat gave a briefing to TSB colleagues on WSIS Forum 2020.

1. Thematic Workshops at WSIS Forum 2019:

TSB organized or facilitated a number of thematic workshops at WSIS Forum 2019:

1. Thematic Workshop WSIS Accessibility Day on Safe Listening; promoting the WHO-ITU Recommendation ITU-T H.870 international standard on safe listening devices and systems
2. Thematic Workshop WSIS Accessibility Day on accessibility for emerging technologies
3. Thematic Workshop WSIS Accessibility Day: Special Recognition Ceremony: on telecom relay services (led by ITU-T Q26/16 and Nippon Foundation)
4. Thematic Workshop on Accessibility for Emerging Technologies (ITU-T JCA-AHF to collaborate with various ITU-T SGs) and exhibition stand
5. Thematic Workshop on United For Smart Sustainable Cities Blockchain for Cities
6. Thematic Workshop on En-gendering the Smart City
7. Thematic Workshop on E-waste management in a circular economy
8. Thematic Workshop on Blockchain for Social Good: Moving beyond the hype of Crypto
9. Preparations for WSIS Forum 2020:

* TSB was informed on WSIS Forum 2020 with the opportunity to organize thematic workshops, and for members to submit proposals for WSIS Prizes.
* TSB is analysing and assessing the submitted projects for WSIS Action Lines C8, and C10 for the WSIS Prizes.
* Consultations are ongoing with the ITU-T SG2 Chairman to explore the possibility of organizing a WSIS Forum 2020 session on having an ITU-T E.164 phone number allocated to a help line for elderly people.

1. TSAG

* TSAG Rapporteur Group on standardization strategy received several Contributions
  + to study the mapping between the SDGs and the Questions in each Study Group.
  + Towards having a classification of a new work item proposal by declaration of explicit commitment of ITU-T study groups to the SDG Targets; incl. development of mapping criteria; guidelines for procedures of the declaration of contributions to the SDGs;
* from ITU-T Sector Members on their position on and usage of the SDGs.

1. TSB is continuing with the mapping of ITU-T results to SDGs, and WSIS Action Lines.
2. WTSA-20:

Templates for the Question texts provide fields wherein the ITU-T study groups can provide a mapping to the SDGs, and the WSIS Action Lines.

1. Outreach:

TSB was invited to a panel on 20 November 2019 at UNECE during their 29th session of Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6), where a facilitated discussion took place on future direction of work on “Standards and sustainable development”.

**ITU-R**

Discussions on collaboration with ITU-R Study Groups are ongoing.

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