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| **Council Working Group on WSIS and SDG 37th meeting – Virtual meeting, 22-23 September 2021** |  |
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| WSIS PRIZES 2021 | |
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| **Summary**  This document serves to inform the Group about the activities related to the WSIS Prizes, in particular:   * Results of the WSIS Prizes 2021 contest   **Action required**  Members are invited to note the document, participate in promotion of the WSIS Prizes 2021 Awardees.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **References**  [Res. A/70/125](https://unctad.org/en/PublicationsLibrary/ares70d125_en.pdf); [Res. A/70/1](https://www.un.org/ga/search/viewm_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1); [PP-18 Resolution 140 (Rev. Dubai, 2018)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-wsis/Documents/Resolution-140-PP18.pdf); [Council Resolution 1332 (Modified 2019)](https://www.itu.int/md/S19-CL-C-0137/en); [ECOSOC Res 2021/28](https://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=E/RES/2021/28) |

**WSIS PRIZES 2021**

This year marked the tenth-year anniversary of the WSIS Prizes contest with the record number of submitted ICT-related projects (1,260) from around the world. A new record of this global multi-stakeholder engagement in implementation of WSIS Action Lines for SDGs confirmed the relevance of this major global awards within the ICT for development community. This exercise provided stakeholders with a platform presenting an overall picture of and sharper insight into the latest WSIS activities undertaken toward achieving WSIS goals and advancing SDGs.

Following the announcement of the [360 WSIS Prizes 2021 Nominees](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/stocktaking/Prizes/2021/Nominated?jts=RKCUQ7#start) in March and the [90 WSIS Prizes 2021 Champions](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/stocktaking/Prizes/2021/Champions?jts=9TELQB#start) in April this year, awardees have been extensively promoted on WSIS and ITU online platforms. Numerous virtual sessions were organised for global promotion of their innovative projects, including those during the virtual WSIS TalkX from April till June, with more than 1,000 participants engaged in celebrating the best ICT practices for development. As part of the promotion of awardees, a special virtual exhibition dedicated to the WSIS Prizes 2020 has been inaugurated in June. To explore it in more details, visit the WSIS Forum 2021 online networking platform [ImeetyouatWSIS](https://wsisforum2020.pathable.co/).

The United Nations Economic and Social Council [ECOSOC Resolution 2020/12](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=E/RES/2020/12) on “Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society” reiterates the importance of sharing best practices at the global level and, while recognizing excellence in the implementation of the projects and initiatives that further the WSIS goals, encourages all stakeholders to submit ICT-related projects and initiatives to the WSIS Stocktaking platform.

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) remains committed to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Stocktaking and WSIS Prizes, and to implementation of the WSIS goals beyond 2021. ITU recognizes and highly appreciates the extremely valuable contributions made by stakeholders to enable the continuation of WSIS monitoring and reporting.

WSIS Prize winners represent the innovative and high-impact projects from around the world that demonstrate the vital role of ICTs in achieving the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals. The prizes are awarded across 18 categories, each directly linked to the [11 WSIS Action Lines](https://www.itu.int/wsis/implementation/facilitators.html) defined in the [Geneva Plan of Action](https://www.itu.int/net/wsis/docs/geneva/official/poa.html).

Our winners and champions amazing efforts and impactful ICT solutions have brought us to celebrate together the power of ICT in making impact around the world. We look forward to further promoting their achievements in various formats in the future, and we also invite all to promote their success back home with your communities. We invite all to explore more about the winners and champions and their projects at the WSIS Prizes [website](http://www.wsis.org/prizes). We also invite all to continue contributing to the WSIS Prizes in the future and promote this important global annual award among networks and channels.

**Annex 1: Meet the WSIS Prizes 2021 Winners:**

Category 1: AL C1. The role of governments and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development KSA Free Wi-Fi STC, Zain, Mobily Saudi Arabia  Category 2: AL C2. Information and communication infrastructure National Implementation of the Financial Inclusion Initiative in China China Academy of Information and Communications Technology China  Category 3: AL C3. Access to information and knowledge Comparatel: “Discover the tariff plan for telephony, Internet and Pay TV that suits you best. Compare and choose” Telecommunications Regulatory Agency Peru  Category 4: AL C4. Capacity building Talk to me Contemporary Education Academy Georgia  Category 5: AL C5. Building confidence and security in use of ICTs Central Biometric Verification Monitoring Platform Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission Bangladesh  Category 6: AL C6. Enabling environment A programme of practice-focused training in cybersecurity Central Bank of the Russian Federation Russian Federation  Category 7: AL C7. ICT applications: benefits in all aspects of life — E-government "Citizens' Electronic Appeals" system Data Processing Center (DPC), Ministry of Transport, Communications and High Technologies Azerbaijan  Category 8: AL C7. ICT applications: benefits in all aspects of life — E-business ServicePlus - A metadata-based eService Delivery Framework National Informatics Centre India  Category 9: AL C7. ICT applications: benefits in all aspects of life — E-learning Our Girls Our Future Yielding Accomplished African Women Ghana  Category 10: AL C7. ICT applications: benefits in all aspects of life — E-health SHEFAA portal / application Ministry of Health and Prevention United Arab Emirates  Category 11: AL C7. ICT applications: benefits in all aspects of life — E-employment Kahramaa Mobile Application - Employee Section Qatar General Electricity & Water Corporation -- “Kahramaa”  Qatar  Category 12: AL C7. ICT applications: benefits in all aspects of life — E-environment Al Nawras Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications Bahrain  Category 13 AL C7. ICT applications: benefits in all aspects of life — E-agriculture Leveraging Information and Communication Technology for Irrigated Agricultural Information 8villages Indonesia  Category 14: AL C7. ICT applications: benefits in all aspects of life — E-science Epidemiological Surveillance 4.0 Ministry of Science and Technology Argentina  Category 15: AL C8. Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content Digital Transformation Center Rwanda Information Society Authority Rwanda  Category 16: AL C9. Media CMHS Radio Caibarién | La Voz de la Villa Blanca CMHS Radio Caibarién Cuba  Category 17: AL C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society Digital Community Center Project Office of the National Digital Economy and Society Commission Thailand  Category 18: AL C11. International and regional cooperation Digital Villages American Tower Corporation United States of America

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