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|  | **Document CWG-WSIS&SDG-41/11-E** |
| **30 August 2024** |
| **English only** |
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| Report by the Secretariat | |
| UPDATE ON ITU SECRETARY-GENERAL’S WSIS+20 ROADMAP | |
| Purpose  The document provides an update on the ITU Secretary-General’s WSIS+20 Roadmap, (including 20 years of implementation of WSIS Action Lines).  Action required  The Council Working Group on WSIS and the SDGs is invited to **review** this document and **contribute** to implementation of the roadmap.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  References  [*CWG-WSIS&SDG website*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-wsis/Pages/default.aspx)*; UNGA Resolutions* [*A/RES/70/125*](https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=A%2FRES%2F70%2F125&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False)*,* [*A/RES/70/1*](https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=A%2FRES%2F70%2F1&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False)*,* [*A/71/212,*](https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=A%2FRES%2F71%2F212&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False)[*A/70/299*](https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=A%2FRES%2F70%2F299&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False)*,* [*A/70/684*](https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=A%2F70%2F684&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False)*,* [*A/RES/73/218*](https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=A%2Fres%2F73%2F218&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False)*; UN ECOSOC Resolution* [*E/RES/2023/3*](https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/ecosoc_res_2023d3_en.pdf)*;* [*Resolution 140 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022)*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-140-E.pdf)*;* [*Resolution 172 (Rev. Guadalajara, 2010)*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-wsis/Documents/Resolution172-PP10.pdf)*;* [*Resolution 71 (Rev. Bucharest 2022)*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-071-E.pdf) *of the Plenipotentiary Conference; Council* [*Resolution 1332 (Modified 2024)*](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CL-C-0141/en)*,* [*Resolution 1334 (Modified 2023)*](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CL-C-0120/en)*;* [*WTDC Resolution 30 (Rev. Kigali, 2022)*](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-d/opb/tdc/D-TDC-WTDC-2022-PDF-E.pdf)*;* [*WTSA Resolution 75 (Rev. Geneva, 2022)*](https://www.itu.int/pub/T-RES-T.75-2022)*;* [[*Resolution ITU-R 61-3 (Rev. Dubai, 2023*](https://www.itu.int/pub/R-RES-R.61-3-2023)*)*](https://www.itu.int/pub/R-RES-R.61-3-2023)*; Reports of the CWG-WSIS&SDG meetings* [*33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th*](http://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-wsis/Pages/default.aspx)*,* [*40th*](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CL-C-0008/en)*;* [*Report on the Outcomes of the CWG-WSIS&SDG Meetings held since PP-18*](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-CWGWSIS38-C-0020/en)*;* [*Report on the Outcomes of the CWG-WSIS&SDG Meetings held since Council 21*](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-CWGWSIS38-C-0019/en)*;* [*Roadmap for ITU’s Activities to Help Achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-CWGWSIS38-C-0014/en)*;* [*ITU Council Contribution to the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) 2024;*](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CWGWSIS40-C-0016/es)*[World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)+20: WSIS beyond 2025 - WSIS+20 Roadmap.](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-PP-C-0047/en)* | |

This document provides updates on the implementation of the ITU Secretary-General’s roadmap for ITU’s role in the WSIS+20 review process and preparations, as outlined at PP-22. It highlights ITU's leadership in WSIS since its inception and outlines the activities and steps taken to date.

Relevant ITU and UN resolutions

– During PP-22, ITU Member States adopted a revised [Resolution 140](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-140-E.pdf) on implementing WSIS outcomes, addressing key trends, challenges, and opportunities in relation to the WSIS Outcomes and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

– During the ITU Council 2023 the [Resolution 1334](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CL-C-0120/en) on ITU’s role in the overall WSIS review was revised, while during the ITU Council 2024 the [Resolution 1332](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CL-C-0141/en) on ITU’s role in the implementation of WSIS and the 2030 Agenda was revised.

– Revised ITU Council Resolution 1332 (modified 2024) reaffirms that the WSIS framework is the foundation for ITU’s efforts in achieving the 2030 Agenda, within the allocated resources and in alignment with the WSIS-SDG Matrix developed by UN agencies, as overseen by the Council Working Group on WSIS&SDG.

– Revised ITU Council Resolution 1334 (modified 2023) commends the ITU Secretary-General’s efforts to align WSIS, the 2030 Agenda, and the Summit of the Future, ensuring synergies across these UN processes.

– The revised ECOSOC resolution [E/RES/2023/3](https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/ecosoc_res_2023d3_en.pdf) on assessing the progress of WSIS outcomes and SDGs emphasizes ITU’s role in advancing these initiatives, acknowledging ITU’s roadmap for the WSIS+20 review process.

– The revised Information and Communications Technologies for Sustainable Development Resolution [78/132](https://www.undocs.org/A/RES/78/132) referencing the WSIS+20 review and noting the upcoming WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event in Geneva, was adopted in 2023.

– The Kigali Action Plan, aligned with WSIS Action Lines and SDGs, updated [Resolution 30](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-d/opb/tdc/D-TDC-WTDC-2022-PDF-E.pdf) (Rev. Kigali, 2022) and encourages the ITU-D sector to continue advancing the WSIS vision in harmony with the 2030 Agenda.

Hosting and co-organizing WSIS Forum

**WSIS Forum and Multi-Stakeholder Engagement:** The annual WSIS Forum, hosted by ITU and co-organized with UNESCO, UNDP, and UNCTAD, exemplifies the WSIS principles of multi-stakeholderism and inclusiveness. In the past 20 years, the Forum has consistently provided a platform for deliberations of WSIS process and WSIS Action Lines implementation. It continues to serve as a critical venue for gathering inputs towards the WSIS Review process, with outcomes reported to the UN CSTD annual sessions. The discussions and innovative formats introduced have successfully met the evolving expectations of diverse stakeholders.

**WSIS Forum 2022:** ICTs for Well-Being, Inclusion and Resilience: WSIS Cooperation for Accelerating Progress on the SDGs

The [WSIS Forum 2022](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2022/) reaffirmed the importance of the WSIS Process in advancing the SDGs, with broad support from ministers, regulators, policymakers, civil society, private sector, and academia. Stakeholders emphasized the need for a comprehensive, inclusive, and effective 2025 review process that reflects new technological, policy, and procedural developments.

**WSIS Forum 2023**: WSIS Action Lines for building back better and accelerating the achievement of the SDGs

The [WSIS Forum 2023](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2023/en) continued to explore WSIS Action Lines, focusing on emerging trends, opportunities, and challenges. The United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) reaffirmed its commitment to WSIS and the implementation of WSIS Action Lines, emphasizing the alignment with the SDG processes. UNGIS members discussed plans to elevate UNGIS’s role and contribute to global digital development processes.

**WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event 2024**: Multistakeholder outcomes contributing towards WSIS+20 Overall Review

The [WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event 2024](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2024/) marked a significant milestone of twenty years of progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society. The Event served as a platform for multistakeholder discussions with the objective to take stock of the achievements and key trends, challenges, and opportunities since the Geneva Plan of Action in 2003. The Event also served as one of crucial junctures in shaping the future of digital cooperation and sustainable development. The Swiss Confederation presented a [Chair's Summary](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2024/Home/Outcomes), which emphasized that the time has come to think boldly and widely about a “**WSIS Plus**”, a strengthened and further developed inclusive framework for digital governance and cooperation which will be fit-for-purpose and serve us well as we enter an era of fast and uncertain AI and digital developments.

**WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025:** Final milestone towards WSIS+20 Overall Review

As we approach the twenty-year review of the WSIS in 2025, the WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025, will take place on 7-11 July 2025 in Geneva, Switzerland. It will provide another opportunity for WSIS stakeholders to discuss and take stock of the latest achievements and key trends, challenges and opportunities, while also looking at the 20 years of WSIS implementation, synchronicity with the outcomes of the Summit of the Future and GDC, and the outcomes of the Event will feed into the second overall review by UNGA in late 2025.

Maintaining and Coordinating the WSIS Stocktaking Database and WSIS Prizes

ITU continues to maintain the [WSIS Stocktaking](http://www.wsis.org/stocktaking) database, as mandate by WSIS and UNGA in 2004. During the WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event 2024, the WSIS Stocktaking released its [Global Report for 2024](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2024/Files/outcomes/draft/WSISStocktakingReport2024_Draft.pdf) along with bi-annual regional reports covering the 2023-2024 period. These reports provide comprehensive insights into the progress and implementation of the WSIS Action Lines. The WSIS+20 Stocktaking Report, which will present a 20-year analysis of the WSIS Action Lines' implementation on the ground, is currently under preparation and will be presented at the WSIS+20 High-Level Event in 2025. The WSIS Stocktaking database remains a vital international repository, encompassing 13 240 projects and maintaining an active membership base exceeding 500 000.

The **WSIS Prizes** contest, a cornerstone of the WSIS Stocktaking platform, continues to identify and celebrate global success stories in implementing the WSIS Action Lines and SDGs. The [2024 edition](http://www.wsis.org/prizes) received 945 project submissions, bringing the total to 7,744 entries since the contest's inception in 2012, and engaging hundreds of thousands of stakeholders worldwide. The 18 winners and 72 champions were celebrated and are available for review in the [WSIS Stocktaking 2024 Success Stories](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2024/Files/outcomes/draft/WSISStocktakingSuccessStories2024_Draft.pdf) publication. The new call for the 2025 edition is being launched, with preparations underway for the WSIS+20 Stocktaking Success Stories report and related activities throughout 2024 and 2025.

WSIS+20 Joint Preparatory Process

Towards the WSIS+20 review, efforts have been made to establish a collaborative WSIS+20 review preparatory process involving all UN Agencies, including ITU, UNESCO, UNDP, UNCTAD, UN DESA, UN CSTD and the UN Regional Commissions. Regular meetings are organised to facilitate discussions and planning, reflecting the joint and dedicated approach towards the WSIS+20 review. WSIS+20 review roadmaps:

– [CSTD roadmap for the WSIS+20 review](https://unctad.org/system/files/non-official-document/ecn162023_roadmap_p05_CSTDChair_en.pdf)

– [ITU Secretary-General’s roadmap: World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)+20: WSIS beyond 2025 – WSIS+20 Roadmap](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-CL-C-0059/en)

– [UNESCO’s roadmap towards the WSIS+20 review in 2025](https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000379370).

This joint preparatory process will ensure a collective approach to the WSIS+20 review and contribute to the UNGA overall review in 2025. Consultative meetings have been and will continue to be organized as part of this process. Please refer to Annex 1 below for details.

Contributing to international and regional activities

– In May 2024, ITU assumed the vice-chairing of the **United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS)** together with UNDP, UNCTAD, and UN ECLAC. For the period 2023-2024, ITU has co-chaired UNGIS alongside UNDP, playing a pivotal role in coordinating preparations for the WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event 2024 in collaboration with UNGIS members.

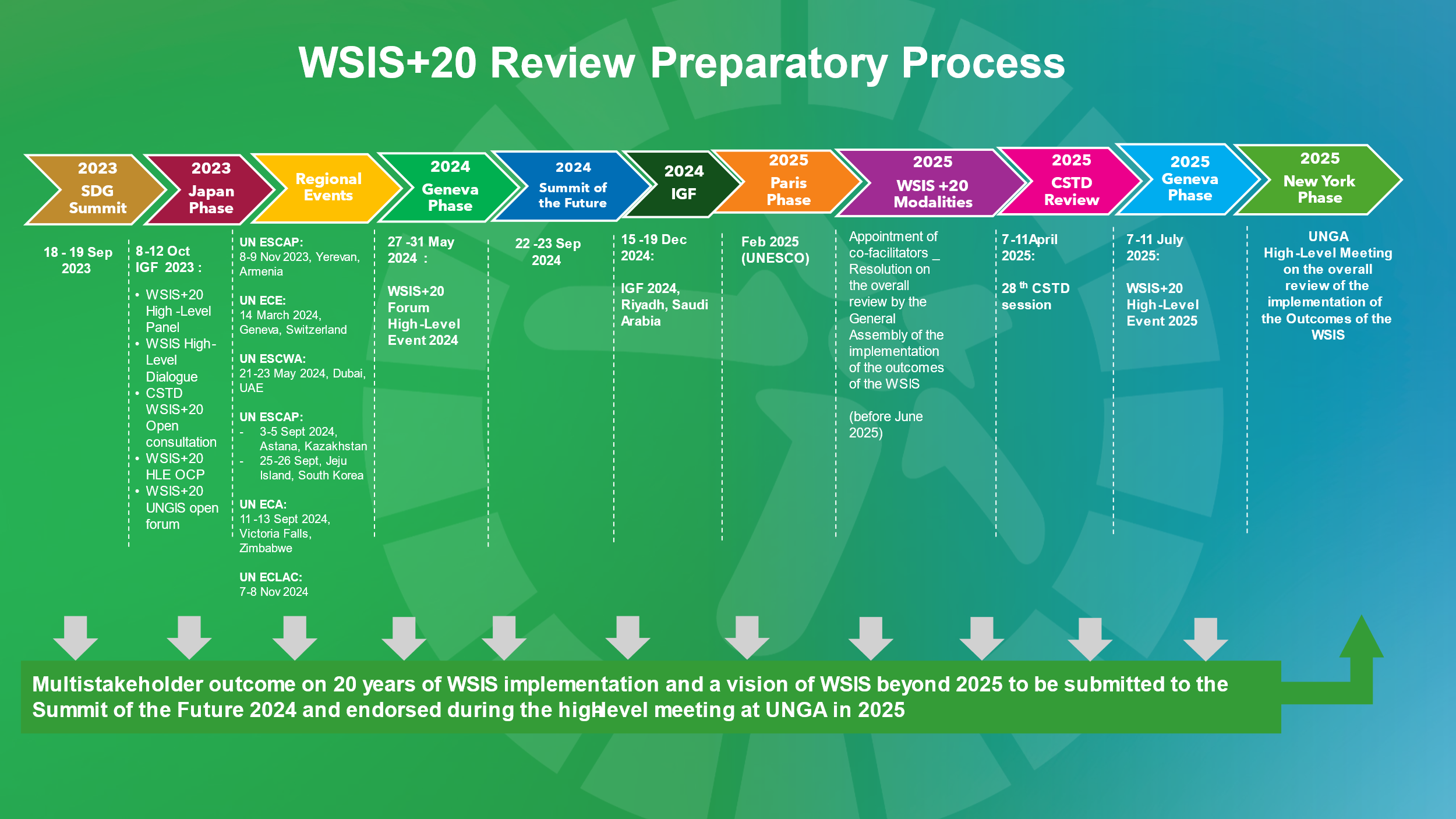
– The ITU is working closely with UNGA, ECOSOC, CSTD providing updates on the implementation of the roadmap. ITU has also worked closely with co-facilitators of GDC and SOTF on the strengthening the alignment of WSIS process and GDC.

– The **Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development**, under ITU's leadership as Chair of the Steering Committee (with UNCTAD and UNDESA as other members), continues to drive efforts to enhance the availability and quality of ICT statistics. This partnership works closely with stakeholders to explore new data sources and methodologies, ensuring accurate measurement of progress toward internationally agreed targets, including the WSIS and SDGs. New areas that the Partnership will look at is ICT in health and ICT in employment.

– At the **regional level**, ITU has maintained its role as a key facilitator for discussions on WSIS+20 and the future of the WSIS Process beyond 2025. These activities are coordinated and implemented through close collaboration between the UN Regional Commissions, ITU Regional Offices, Regional Technical Organizations, and other UN agencies, ensuring a comprehensive and inclusive approach to digital development.

WSIS+20 Action Lines Milestones, Challenges and Emerging Trends beyond 2025

The WSIS Action Lines serve as a key framework for advancing progress towards the achievement of SDGs. The WSIS Action Lines cover eleven areas of focus with technology serving as a key enabler for sustainable development. The WSIS-SDG Matrix, developed by the UN Action Line Facilitators, clearly shows the linkage between each Action Line and the 17 SDGs and provides rationale for each. The ITU and other WSIS Action Line facilitators from UN agencies have worked on documenting milestones, challenges and emerging trends beyond 2025. Visit the dedicate [webpage](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2024/Home/About#actionLines) and read more about the **WSIS Action Lines 20 Years of Implementation**.



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