|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Revision 1 to**  **Document CWG-WSIS&SDG-43/2** |
| **8 September 2025** |
| **English only** |
|  |  |
| Report by the Secretary-General | |
| COMPREHENSIVE REPORT DETAILING THE ACTIVITIES, ACTIONS, AND ENGAGEMENTS THAT THE UNION IS UNDERTAKING IN THE CONTEXT OF THE WSIS IMPLEMENTATION AND 2030 AGENDA | |
| **Purpose**  The objective of this report is to provide information on the activities, actions, and engagements that the Union is undertaking in the context of the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as in their follow-up and review processes.  **Action required**  The Council Working Group on WSIS and the SDGs is invited to **take note** this report.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **References**  [*CWG-WSIS&SDG website*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-wsis/Pages/default.aspx)*; UNGA Resolutions* [*A/RES/70/125*](https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/70/125)*,* [*A/RES/70/1*](https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/70/1)*,* [*A/RES/77/150*](https://docs.un.org/en/A/RES/77/150)*; UN ECOSOC Resolution* [*E/RES/2024/13*](https://docs.un.org/en/E/RES/2024/13) *and Report* [*E/2025/31–E/CN.16/2025/4*](https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/ecn162025d4_en.pdf)*; PP Resolutions* [*172 (Guadalajara, 2010)*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-wsis/Documents/Resolution172-PP10.pdf) *and* [*140 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022)*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-140-E.pdf)*; Council Resolutions* [*1332 (Modified 2024)*](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CL-C-0141/en) *and* [*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)*; RA Resolution* [*ITU-R 61-3 (Rev. Dubai, 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, 40th, 41st, 42nd*](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-wsis/Pages/Previous-meetings.aspx)*;* [*Final Report on the outcomes of the CWG-WSIS&SDG 41st and 42nd meetings*](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS42-C-0020/en)*;* [*Roadmap for ITU’s activities to help achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CWGWSIS42-INF-0006/en)*.* | |

# 1 ITU’s activities for the implementation of the WSIS outcomes

1.1 In line with [Resolution 1332 (Modified 2024)](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CL-C-0141/en), the Secretary-General prepares a comprehensive annual report on [ITU’s contribution to the implementation of the WSIS outcomes](https://www.itu.int/en/itu-wsis/Documents/ITUContribution/2024_ITU_Contribution_to_WSIS-Implementation-DRAFT-20241031.pdf). This report highlights key WSIS-related initiatives and activities undertaken across the Union’s three Sectors —Standardization, Radiocommunication, and Development— as well as by the General Secretariat. It outlines operational and policy-level progress in fulfilling ITU’s WSIS-related mandates. The annual Reports of the ITU Contribution are available [online](https://www.itu.int/en/itu-wsis/Pages/Contribution.aspx).

1.2 Following the publication of the 2024 edition of the [WSIS Action Lines Roadmaps](https://www.itu.int/en/itu-wsis/Pages/Roadmaps.aspx), ITU is preparing the 2025 edition, which will be issued for review at the 44th meeting of the CWG‑WSIS&SDG in early 2026. The roadmaps publications cover Action Lines C2 (Information and Communication Infrastructure), C4 (Capacity Building), C5 (Building Confidence and Security in the Use of ICTs), and C6 (Enabling Environment), where ITU is the sole facilitator.

1.3 ITU continues to lead WSIS-aligned initiatives such as the [WSIS Forum](http://www.wsis.org/forum), the [WSIS Stocktaking](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/stocktaking/), and the [WSIS Prizes](http://www.wsis.org/prizes), promoting linkages between WSIS Action Lines and the SDGs as illustrated in the [WSIS-SDG Matrix](http://www.wsis.org/sdg) developed by UN agencies in 2015. Council-16 resolved to use the WSIS framework as the foundation for ITU’s contribution to achieving the 2030 Agenda, in accordance with its mandate and within approved budgetary resources.

1.4 Established under PP Resolution 140, the [WSIS Fund in Trust](https://www.itu.int/en/itu-wsis/Pages/WSIS-Fund-in-Trust.aspx) continues to support WSIS-‑related activities. In accordance with Council Resolutions 1332 and 1334, all ITU Members and stakeholders are encouraged to contribute voluntarily to support the implementation of WSIS outcomes, the SDGs, and the WSIS+20 review process. Partnership packages for 2026 will soon be available in all six UN languages.

1.5 ITU continues its role as permanent secretariat and vice-chair of [UNGIS](http://www.ungis.org) (2025-2026), alongside UNESCO, UNDP, and UN ESCWA, supporting interagency coordination under the chairship of UNCTAD. UNGIS actively contributes to major digital and development events, including the WSIS+20 overall review, High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) and others. Following UNGIS input into the Summit of the Future and Global Digital Compact (GDC) processes, the [Draft WSIS-SDG-GDC Matrix](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/ungis/Content/upload/gdc/UNGIS-CompiledMatrixOfLinkages-WSIS-GDC.pdf) was developed.

1.6 ITU remains an active member of the [Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/intlcoop/partnership/default.aspx), serving on its Steering Committee alongside UNCTAD and UN DESA. The Partnership is an international, multi-stakeholder initiative to improve the availability and quality of ICT data and indicators and raises awareness of the importance of data for sustainable development. Delivering a comprehensive quantitative assessment of WSIS Action Line implementation over the past 20 years requires the active engagement of all members of the Partnership. As part of this effort, the Partnership organized a session at the WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025 to map its core ICT indicators against the WSIS Action Lines, the Global Digital Compact (GDC), and the UN Meaningful Connectivity (UMC) framework. This mapping exercise is an essential first step, as it will help identify existing data gaps and areas where indicators are lacking.

Building on the outcomes of this mapping, a broader assessment will be conducted. It was agreed during one of the recent Partnership meetings that this assessment should be based on the findings of the WSIS+20 overall review process, which is expected to conclude in December 2025. We noted that the monitoring component is included in paragraphs 82-84 of the [elements paper](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fpublicadministration.desa.un.org%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2F2021-04%2F2025%2FWSIS%252B20_ElementsPaper_20June.pdf&data=05%7C02%7Cvladimir.stankovic%40itu.int%7C3337a20685ad46c0557208ddcdb73872%7C23e464d704e64b87913c24bd89219fd3%7C0%7C0%7C638892908985890001%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=yOalAFZK32EyOntX%2FGQ7UPVIp5%2FFLiNkY4OiUYSG0IY%3D&reserved=0). Within this context, ITU will contribute an assessment based on the indicators it currently collects, which cover a subset of the WSIS Action Lines. It is anticipated that, following the WSIS+20 review process, a formal mandate may be given to the Partnership to lead the full assessment effort. In addition, the third objective of the Partnership is the dissemination of data for the core indicators through a single platform. To this end, the ITU will host all available data for the core indicators in the ITU DataHub, which is expected to be ready in 2025.

1.7 ITU organized in 2025 [6 Regional Development Forums](https://www.itu.int/itu-d/meetings/rdf/) (RDFs) aligned with WSIS outcomes, enabling multistakeholder dialogue and promoting the exchange of best practices, challenges, and solutions.

# 2 Preparation for the WSIS+20 Overall Review on the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes: WSIS Beyond 2025

2.1 Preparations for the WSIS+20 review process are ongoing. The ITU Council has adopted revised Resolutions [1334](https://www.itu.int/md/S23-CL-C-0120/en) (2023) and [1332](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CL-C-0141/en) (2024) to guide ITU’s work in addressing Member States' requests and following PP Resolution [140 (Rev. Bucharest, 2022)](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-140-E.pdf).

2.2 ITU is working closely with UNESCO, UNDP, UN CSTD, and UN DESA, alongside the WSIS+20 Overall Review modalities resolution co-facilitators, H.E. Mr Erastus Lokaale, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations, and H.E. Ms Suela Janina, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Albania to the United Nations, to support a joint and inclusive preparatory process for the WSIS+20 Overall Review by the UN General Assembly on 16-17 December 2025 in New York. Regular coordination meetings aim to ensure multistakeholder engagement and interagency coherence.

2.3 Following the [WSIS+20 Forum High-level Event 2024](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2024/en), chaired by the Swiss Confederation, resulted in a [Chair's Summary](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2024/Files/outcomes/draft/WSIS20ForumHighLevelEvent2024-ChairsSummary.pdf) calling for inclusive, strengthened digital cooperation, particularly in light of developments in AI and emerging technologies, the recently held [WSIS+20 High-level Event 2025](http://www.wsis.org/forum) in Palexpo, Geneva, served as a key moment to assess progress since the Geneva (2003) and Tunis (2005) phases. The WSIS+20 High-level Event 2025 highlights and outcomes are available [here](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2025/Home/Outcomes).

Chaired by H.E. Mr Solly Malatsi, Minister, Department of Communications and Digital Technologies (DCDT), South Africa (Republic of), the WSIS+20 High-level Event 2025 represented a pivotal moment towards the WSIS+20 overall review by UNGA and for the global digital cooperation agenda. Reflecting the discussions held at the [ministerial roundtable](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2025/Files/outcomes/draft/WSIS20HighLevelEvent2025-HLOutcomesAndExecutiveBrief.pdf), more than 50 ministers reaffirmed ITU’s leading role and called for enhanced multistakeholder collaboration, particularly on issues such as cybersecurity and digital inclusion. As noted in the 2025 [Chair’s Summary](https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2025/Files/outcomes/WSIS20HighLevelEvent2025-ChairsSummary.pdf), ensuring inclusive digital transformation across all regions and communities remains a top priority for the WSIS community going forward. Participants further advocated for the GDC to integrate with the WSIS process to avoid duplication and strengthen coherence in global digital governance.

2.4 The ITU Secretary-General’s WSIS+20 roadmap is under implementation, with engagements of all stakeholders, including the WSIS+20 Joint Preparatory Process with key UN agencies involved. UN agencies are also advancing their contributions, including UNESCO’s Global Forum on AI and Digital Transformation (June 2025) and CSTD’s 28th session (April 2025) and the upcoming CSTD Inter-sessional panel (November 2025). Regional implementation and follow-up efforts continue, supported by UNDP, UN DESA, and UN Regional Commissions.

2.5 As requested by the relevant ITU resolutions, the ITU secretariat presented during the Council-25 the [WSIS+20 Report on ITU's contribution to the implementation of and follow-up to the WSIS outcomes and its role in achieving the SDGs](https://www.itu.int/md/S25-CL-C-0061/en), titled *WSIS+20 Report: Building a digital future for all*. The report reflects on the work of the ITU in the WSIS+20 review, including ideas related to the review of the WSIS Action Lines, and a vision for WSIS beyond 2025.

2.6 [The zero draft of the WSIS+20 Outcome Document](https://publicadministration.desa.un.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/2025/WSIS%2B20_ZERO_DRAFT.pdf) has been published online, providing Member States and stakeholders the opportunity to submit written inputs in the form of text proposals until 26 September. ITU contributed inputs to the Elements Paper, which helped shape the development of the Zero Draft.

# 3 ITU’s activities for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda

3.1 ITU's commitment to the 2030 Agenda is integrated in the [ITU Strategic Plan 2024-2027](https://www.itu.int/en/council/planning/Pages/default.aspx), focusing on universal connectivity and sustainable digital transformation. ITU promotes the use of emerging technologies to accelerate SDG implementation.

3.2 The Roadmap for ITU Activities in Support of the 2030 Agenda, as outlined in Council Resolution [1332 (Modified 2024)](https://www.itu.int/md/S24-CL-C-0141/en), remains a living document guiding implementation efforts.

3.3 The [Connect 2030 Agenda](https://www.itu.int/en/mediacentre/backgrounders/Pages/connect-2030-agenda.aspx) outlines ITU’s vision for how ICTs can accelerate SDG progress. Further updates are available online.

3.4 ITU engages in HLPF through thematic inputs, Council contributions, and side events, all accessible via the [CWG-WSIS&SDG website](https://www.itu.int/en/council/cwg-wsis/Pages/default.aspx) and the [UN HLPF website](https://hlpf.un.org/).

3.5 Sectoral contributions are guided by the WSIS-related resolutions:

3.5.1 RA Resolution [ITU-R 61-3 (Rev. Dubai, 2023)](https://www.itu.int/pub/R-RES-R.61),

3.5.2 WTSA Resolution [75 (Rev. Geneva, 2022)](https://www.itu.int/pub/T-RES-T.75-2024), and

3.5.3 WTDC Resolution [30 (Rev. Kigali, 2022)](https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-d/opb/tdc/D-TDC-WTDC-2022-PDF-E.pdf).

3.6 The [ITU Partner2Connect (P2C) Digital Coalition](https://www.itu.int/partner2connect/), reflecting ITU's commitment to fostering global digital cooperation and delivering on the Roadmap for ITU's activities to help achieve the 2030 Agenda, emphasizes strong public-private partnerships across four focus areas: access, adoption, value creation, and incentivizing investments. To date, Partner2Connect has mobilized 1 043 pledges from 482 entities across 149 countries, with an estimated total value of USD 76.71 billion, a significant milestone on the path toward the Coalition’s goal of USD 100 billion in pledges by 2026. During the WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025, new commitments were announced, including high-impact pledges from China Unicom and Cisco, alongside impactful reporting from existing pledgers such as South Africa, ZTE, Amazon, Google, and the Internet Society. Many of these pledges harness artificial intelligence, satellite connectivity, and digital skills development to enhance access, drive inclusion, and support sustainable digital transformation in underserved communities.

3.7 Aligned to WSIS Action Line C2, [Giga](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Initiatives/GIGA/Pages/default.aspx) —a partnership between ITU and the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)— is supporting governments in connecting every school in the world to the Internet. 2.6 billion people worldwide are still without Internet access, and it is estimated that half of the world's schools remain offline. Giga provides support in four areas: geo-mapping of schools; infrastructure mapping; modelling and cost analysis; innovative financing and procurement/contracting. These are all aligned to WSIS Action Line C4 and anchored on capacity development provided to boost local expertise. Since its inception in 2019, Giga has mapped over 2.2 million schools, while infrastructure modelling in the context of connecting schools has been done for 9 countries, with data collection underway to advance work for 16 other countries. From 8 to 10 July 2025, Giga convened over 250 decision‑makers responsible for school connectivity for the second Giga Connectivity Forum in Geneva. These were drawn from Ministries of Education and ICT, Communications Regulatory Authorities and independent Universal Service Agencies from 42 countries. Delegates to the Forum took stock of the progress in school connectivity around the world, discussed the challenges being faced and shared practical lessons learnt.

3.8 The [ITU/UNESCO Broadband Commission](https://www.broadbandcommission.org/) advocates for global broadband expansion to drive development. With its membership of high-level public and industry leaders, the Commission develops practical policy recommendations to accelerate progress towards achieving the UN 2030 Agenda and its [7 Advocacy Targets](https://www.broadbandcommission.org/advocacy-targets/). Published annually in the State of Broadband, these recommendations are critical to realizing universal connectivity. In its 15th anniversary year, the Commission is launching a four-part series of reports under the [State of Broadband 2025](https://www.broadbandcommission.org/publication/state-of-broadband-2025/). This approach reflects the growing complexity of digital ecosystem, offering focused insights into specific areas: progress toward achieving the targets; regional developments with a spotlight on Africa; emerging satellite and non-terrestrial technologies; and the broader transformation of digital societies, including AI, data governance, and digital infrastructure. In terms of publications, the Working Group on “Data Governance in the Digital Age” led by UNESCO, ITU, UNDP and AUC launched its toolkit on “Navigating data in the Digital Age” during a WSIS+20 High-Level Session on 8 July in Geneva. In 2025, the Broadband Commission marks 15 years of high-level advocacy, collaboration, and impact. To commemorate this milestone, the Commission convened a [special anniversary meeting](https://www.broadbandcommission.org/event/special-meeting-of-the-commission-15th-anniversary/) in Geneva on 6 July, gathering the leadership, current and former Commissioners and Special Guests. The meeting features reflections on 15 years of broadband impact and global advocacy.

3.9 ITU has been organizing [SDG Digital,](https://www.itu.int/initiatives/sdgdigital/) in 2023 and 2024, an initiative that exemplifies how digital technologies can lay the groundwork for a more sustainable, inclusive, and responsible future. Building on this momentum, ITU will organize [Digital@UNGA](https://www.itu.int/initiatives/digital-unga2025/) in 2025 during the UN General Assembly, in partnership with UNDP. This platform will showcase digital cooperation through a flagship Anchor Event and a series of Affiliate Sessions, bringing together leaders, innovators, youth, and civil society to explore how digital technologies can empower communities worldwide.

3.10 The [World Telecommunication and Information Society Day 2025](https://www.itu.int/wtisd/) took place on 17 May 2025, marking the date of the founding of ITU and the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention in 1865. The theme this year was “Gender equality in digital transformation”. The theme highlights the urgent need to close digital gender gaps in access, affordability, skills, and leadership to ensure that women and girls can fully participate in —and benefit from— the digital future.

3.11 In 2025, ITU commemorates its [160th anniversary (ITU160)](https://www.itu.int/160/) of advancing global connectivity, fostering multilateralism, innovation, economic growth, security and safety. ITU’s 160th anniversary activities, historic milestones, a vision for the future, advocacy kit and digital assets can be found on the [ITU160 website](https://www.itu.int/160/). The secretariat is organizing activities for ITU160 [throughout the year](https://www.itu.int/160/celebrate-with-us/events/), inviting the diplomatic and Geneva communities as well as the public, to explore how they have been #ConnectedByITU for over 160 years. On 17 May, an outdoor event bringing the diplomatic and Geneva communities together featured a light show on the iconic ITU Tower to show and tell the story of ITU’s 160 years of technology for humanity. The event was live streamed on ITU’s corporate social media for remote participation.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_