6th

ITU Symposium on
ICTs, the Environment
and Climate Change
Accra, Ghana, 7-8 July 2011

Moving the climate change agenda forward through green ICTs

ITU is organizing the 6th Symposium on ICTs, the Environment and Climate Change.

The main purpose of the event is to move the agenda forward on how to use ICTs to monitor climate change, mitigate and adapt to its effects.

When: 7-8 July 2011
Where: Accra, Ghana

Topics to be discussed will include:
- mitigation and adaptation to climate change
- e-waste
- disaster risk reduction
- cost-effective ICT technologies
- methodologies for the environmental impact assessment of ICTs
- challenges and opportunities in the transition to a green and resource efficient economy

Output:
The symposium will develop a set of recommendations for action in relation to ICTs, the environment and climate change as a contribution to the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP17-CMP7) and the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD 2012 or Rio+20).

More information at http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/go/ghana

Thursday, 7 July 2011

High-Level Segment: From Cancun to Durban via Accra – A Roadmap on ICTs, Climate Change and the Environment
This High-Level Segment open debate will make a link between the ITU symposium on ICTs and Climate Change and the two ongoing UN processes related to climate change and sustainable development — the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP17-CMP7), and the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD 2012 or Rio+20). The session will also discuss the contribution from the ICT sector to both processes.

Session 1: Adaptation and Climate Change Impact
This session will look at how ICTs can help countries to adapt to climate change, especially in developing countries. It will also look at national climate change adaptation, early warning systems, prevention, disaster risk reduction issues, and technological issues such as the use of remote sensing.

Session 2: ICTs As a Green Technology for Sustainable Development
This session will look at how the ICT industry is reducing its own carbon footprint. It will also explore the ICT industry's potential role as an enabler for greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions reduction as well as the savings created through ICT applications in other industry sectors.

Friday, 8 July 2011

Session 3: Methodologies for the Environmental Impact Assessment of ICTs
This session will examine work under way in standardization organizations (e.g. ITU) and other international organizations to measure the impact of ICTs on the enivronment and ways to assist developing countries to obtain and make best use of ICTs to address climate change, and how to standardize the way ICTs' reduction of GHG is calculated.

Session 4: Space and Climate Change
Focusing on the efforts to improve global climate monitoring, this session will provide an overview of the use of ICTs to monitor and predict climate change. Accurate climate change indicators are crucial to increase the possibilities of mitigating climate change and helping countries to adapt to extreme weather events.

Session 5: E-waste
The alarming and increasing reports on the e-waste situation in many countries, in particular in the African region, call for urgent global action. This session will provide an overview of best practices and global standards related to e-waste issues.

Session 6: Review and Wrap up
This session will provide an overview of each session and will suggest recommendations on how ICTs can be used to tackle climate change and protect the environment. The output of the meeting will identify possible goals, commitments and recommendations from the ICT sector with a look towards the global sustainability agenda, including the related UN processes.

Good to know
✓ Participation is free of charge. Remote participation will also be provided.
✓ Discussions will be held in English. Interpretation into French will be provided.
✓ Get involved and register online until 30 June 2011.

Sponsor it!
Sponsorship packages are available at http://www.itu.int/ITU-T/go/ghana
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