

ITU Green Standards Week/ High Level Segment on Developing a Global Framework: Understanding and Measuring Green ICT

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Abstract

Driven by increased connectivity, digital convergence and growing competition, the ICT sector continues to innovate at a rapid pace and deliver new products and services against the backdrop of rising consumer demand. This throws up key questions about the impact of ICT on sustainability issues such as climate change. On the one hand, the ICT sector faces some tough challenges on the road to sustainability, amongst these cutting the energy consumption and carbon emissions of its own products and services. On the other hand, according to the GeSI SMART 2020 study, ICT has the potential to cut global emissions by as much as 15% by enabling other sectors such as energy and transport to improve their environmental performance. Above all, key constituents need to better understand the positive impact of ICT in order to accelerate its deployment and fully realise the 15% reduction potential. In her speech, Alice Valvodova, Executive Director of the Global e-Sustainability Initiative (GeSI), will address the crucial need for identifying and quantifying the benefits of low-carbon ICT solutions through the development of global methodologies and standards, and give examples of concrete industry initiatives to that effect. Alice will engage in a lively debate on what is needed from the ICT sector, as well as other stakeholders, to accelerate this process and speed up the transition to a low-carbon economy.

References

Evaluating the Carbon-Reducing Impact of ICT: An Assessment Methodology

<http://www.gesi.org/ReportsPublications/AssessmentMethodology/tabid/193/Default.aspx>

ITU-GeSI Report on Using ICTs to Tackle Climate Change

<http://www.gesi.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=fzmFL3kXfOU%3d&tabid=60>

SMART 2020: Enabling a low carbon economy in the information age

<http://www.gesi.org/ReportsPublications/Smart2020/tabid/192/Default.aspx>

The Contribution the ICT Industry Can Make to Sustainable Development- A Materiality Assessment by the Global e-Sustainability Initiative

<http://www.gesi.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=yUzW4%2fuE15E%3d&tabid=60>

ICT Sustainability through Innovation- GeSI Activity Report June 2009

<http://www.gesi.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=nCDkpySzT08%3d&tabid=60>