

ACCELERATING DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Building Vibrant ICT Centric Innovation Ecosystems

Innovation track@WSIS Forum

Room C1, ITU, Geneva

Monday 19 March 2018

BACKGROUND and AGENDA

The vital role of ICTs as a catalyst for development is acknowledged in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, stating “the spread of information and communications technology and global interconnectedness has great potential to accelerate human progress, to bridge the digital divide and develop knowledge societies.” Though only directly referenced in four of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) – as catalysts for education (SDG4) and gender balance (SDG5), as a driving force for new ‘smart’ infrastructures (SDG9), and as essential tools to implement the SDGs (SDG17) – they have a key role to play in achieving each of the goals.

Innovation has been recognized as a powerful engine for development to address social and economic challenges and steer global concerns for policy makers and citizens alike. Innovation is also essential to accelerating digital transformation and fosters the sustainable growth for the digital economy. **BDT Innovation service** supports ITU memberships to foster digital transformation through ICT entrepreneurship and increased ICT innovation in the ICT ecosystem, while encouraging empowerment of grassroots key stakeholders and creating new opportunities for them in the telecommunication/ICT sector. This also includes building a culture of innovation in the ITU membership to foster ICT entrepreneurship, ICT SMEs, startups creation and scale-up. The ITU Office for Europe is specifically tasked such needs through the **Regional Initiative for Europe on ICT-Centric Innovation Ecosystems** defined at WTDC-17.

This year’s **Innovation-track@WSIS Forum** will provide a unique opportunity for high-level dialogue, cooperation and partnerships among telecommunication/ICT policy-makers, regulators, industry, academia, regional and international development agencies and organizations on specific actions undertaken at the regional level strengthening the impact of the ICTs on the sustainable development. A primary outcome of the Innovation track@ WSIS Forum are three session reports that will capture future steps in accelerating Digital Transformation from 3 perspectives

- Good Practices
- Innovation Ecosystems Implementation tools
- Funding Policy for high impact sustainable flagship projects



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DRAFT AGENDA: SESSION ONE

09:00 – 10:45 Session 1: An insight into “ICT-centric economic growth, innovation and job creation”

This session will focus on the main highlights of the evidence-based research carried out by world renowned scholars on ICT-centric economic growth, innovation and job creation from various aspects such as governance, education, job creation, industrial transformation and socio-economic growth through digital and emerging technologies in the converged ICT ecosystem. Successful partnership and approaches among multi-stakeholders will be explored and debated on the opportunities and challenges for accelerating digital transformation through ICT-centric innovation in cross-sectors or industries from finance, education to health among many others, in order to contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Opening remarks

- Dr. Eun-Ju Kim, Chief Innovation and Partnership, ITU

Keynote speaker

- Mr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, Senior Vice President, World Bank Group

ICT@SDGs SDGs: main findings and future research

- Dr. Ahmad Reza Sharafat, Tarbiat Modares University, Iran
- Dr. George Barker, London School of Economics (LSE), UK

Partnerships for Dynamic Digital Ecosystem

- Dr. Edgar Napoleon Asimwe, Programme Manager Research, SPIDER – The Swedish Program for ICT in Developing Regions, Stockholm University
- Ms. Sonja Betschart, Co-Founder and Chief Entrepreneurship Officer, WeRobotics
- Ms. Sylvia Cadena, Head of Programs, APNIC Foundation

Panel Discussion moderated by Dr. Eun-Ju Kim, Chief Innovation and Partnership, ITU



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DRAFT AGENDA: SESSION TWO

11:00 – 13:00

Session 2 Good Practices for Accelerating Digital Transformation [co-organised with Office of Electronic Communication (UKE), Poland]

This session will focus on the successful actions taken by stakeholders including universities, major industry players and international entities to leverage ICTs in all socio-economic sphere through innovation. The practices behind each successful case will be discussed in a guided exercise format.

Opening remarks

- Mr. Houlin Zhao, Secretary General, ITU
- Mr. Marcin Cichy, President, Office of Electronic Communications (UKE), Poland

Pechakucha style presentations [20 slides, 20 seconds each]

- **Capacity building for Industry 4.0 challenges and strategies** by Dr. Lidia Stępińska-Ustasiak, UKE, Poland
- **Digital Transformation towards 2030 in Portugal** by Mr. Pedro Matos, Senior Policy Officer, Department for the Information Society, Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), Portugal
- **Brazilian Digital Transformation Strategy: Preparing for the Future** by Mr. Carlos da Fonseca, Minister, Information Society Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Brazil
- **Cooperation between science (academia) and business** by Dr. Damian Derlukiewicz, Wrocław University of Technology
- Presentations by Students from Wrocław University of Technology
 - **Scan^π Integrated scanner and 3D printer**, Grzegorz_Iskierka
 - **Robotic Chessboard**, Daniel_Semkowicz
 - **Erly. Powerbank rental and return from any location in IoT technology**, Arkadiusz_Terpiłowski
- **Student-faculty collaboration in innovation processes** by Mr. Anthony Giannoumis, Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science, Oslo Metropolitan University
- Presentation by Ms. Taïssa Thierry Chaves, Digital Transformation Specialist/Founder and President of Women in Digital Switzerland

Guided Exercise facilitated by Mr. Mohamed Ba, Head of BDT Innovation, ITU

This exercise will be carried out by the presenters and the audience. The exercise aims at distilling innovation good practices from each of the presentations using relevant ITU Innovation tools.



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DRAFT AGENDA: SESSION THREE

14:30 – 16:15

Session 3: High Level Session on Digital Transformation

This session will focus on building vibrant ICT Ecosystems taking into consideration country experiences illustrated by high level representatives of Member States. It will discuss possible ways of further strengthening international collaboration in the field of Digital Transformation through ICT-Centric Innovation. This session will also be an opportunity for launching two country Digital Innovation Profiles (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia), one Country Review (Moldova), a publication on Innovation Practices in Europe and the ITU report “Bridging the Digital Innovation Divide: A Toolkit for Strengthening ICT Centric Innovation Ecosystems” (now available in all 6 UN languages).

Opening Remarks

- **Mr. Brahima Sanou**, Director, Telecommunication Development Bureau, ITU

High Level Statements

- **H.E. Mr. Yogida Sawmynaden**, Minister of Technology, Communication and Innovation, Republic of Mauritius,
- **H.E. Mr. André Müller Borges**, Secretary of Telecommunications of the Ministry of Science, Technology, Innovation and Communications, Brazil
- **H.E. Ms. Maria-Manuela Catrina**, Secretary of State, Ministry of Communication and Information Society, Romania
- **H.E. Ms. Irimi Reljin**, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications, Serbia
- **H.E. Ms. Lucija Ljubic Lepine**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative, Bosnia and Herzegovina
- **H.E. Mr. Marin Cebotari**, Deputy Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission, Republic of Moldova
- **Mr. Jaromir Novak**, Chairman of the Council of the Czech Telecommunication Office, Czech Republic
- **Mr. Konstantinos Masselos**, President, Hellenic Telecommunications & Post Commission (EETT), Greece
- **Prof. Levi Obonyo Owino**, Director of the CA Board, Communications Authority of Kenya

Panel Discussions moderated by **Mr. Jaroslav Ponder**, Head of ITU Office for Europe



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DRAFT AGENDA: SESSION FOUR

16:30 – 18:15

Session 4: Financing Mechanisms for Accelerating Digital Transformation

This session will focus on a key requirement for building vibrant ICT Ecosystems - funding. The discussion will be around investing in and funding of bankable projects for sustained development with immediate and long term measurable socio-economic impact. Examples of successful ICT4SDG projects fostering digital transformation will be also presented. Mechanism of crowd funding will be presented drawing attention to new opportunities for inventors and stakeholders driving ICT centric innovation.

Setting the context

- **Mr. Jaroslav Ponder**, Head of ITU Office for Europe, ITU

Panelists

- **Ms. Minerva Novero-Belec**, United Nations Development Programme
- **Mr. Anir Chowdhury**, Policy Advisor, Prime Minister's Office, Bangladesh
- **Mr. Kofi Assante**, Chief Executive Officer, Ghana Investment Fund for Electronic Communication, Ghana
- **Ms. Simone Conrad**, Advisor Sector Project Sustainable Digital Development, giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH, Germany
- **Mr. Johan Hellström**, Policy Specialist Digital Development, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), Sweden
- **Mr. Alex Wong**, Head, Global Challenge Partnerships, World Economic Forum
- **Mr. Bocar A. Ba**, Chief Executive Officer of SAMENA Telecommunications Council
- **Ms. Marie Debombourg**, Chief Operating Officer, WeCan.Fund SA, Switzerland
- **Mr. Turhan Muluk**, Global Public Policy Manager, Intel

Panel Discussions moderated by **Mr. Jaroslav Ponder**, Head of ITU Office for Europe

