



WSIS+20
HIGH-LEVEL EVENT 2025

7-11 July 2025
Geneva, Switzerland

WSIS+20 Review
Side Event of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for
UNECE Region 2025

Celebrating Twenty Years and Achieving Future Milestones Together

3 April 2025 | 09:00-09:40 CEST

Co-hosts



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Co-organizers



WSIS Process

WSIS is a **UN process**, that involves more than 47 UN organisations and is built on the framework of the 11 WSIS Action Lines.

It encompasses **multistakeholder digital cooperation** within UN agencies including the governments, private sector, civil society, academia and the technical community.

The goal of WSIS is to achieve a common vision, desire and commitment to **build a people-centric, inclusive and development-oriented information and knowledge societies** where everyone can create, access, utilize and share information through digital and new technologies.



WSIS Process Milestones



WSIS Process

2003: WSIS - Geneva Phase (first phase)

Geneva Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action - reflected the common vision and key principles to build a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society.

The WSIS process is guided by the **WSIS Action Lines framework** that serve as a comprehensive framework for building an inclusive information and knowledge societies. These WSIS Action Lines play a significant role in advancing progress towards the achievement of the SDGs.

2005: WSIS - Tunis Phase (second phase)

Tunis Agenda for the Information Society - focused on financial mechanisms for bridging the digital divide, on Internet governance and related issues, as well as on implementation and follow-up of the Geneva and Tunis decisions.



2015: WSIS+10 Review

UNGA Resolution A/70/125 - called for close alignment between the WSIS process and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, highlighting the crosscutting contribution of ICTs to the SDGs



2024-2025: WSIS+20 Review

Mandate of WSIS until 2025 WSIS+20 review to provide multistakeholder discussions and to take stock of the achievements and key trends, challenges and opportunities since the Geneva Plan of Action.



Governance

UNGA Resolutions

ECOSOC Resolutions

CEB through the United Nations Group on Information Society (UN
CSTD

Annual WSIS Forum

Annual Internet Governance Forum (IGF)

UN Agencies mandated to implement WSIS Action Lines

UN Regional Commissions mandated
to implement WSIS at regional level

WSIS Prizes | WSIS Stocktaking |

Partnership for Measuring ICT development |

WSIS Special Initiatives



Guided by key principles: WSIS Action Lines

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------------|-----|----------------------------|
| C1 | ICTs for development | C7 | eHealth |
| C2 | Infrastructure | C7 | eEmployment |
| C3 | Access to info & knowledge | C7 | eEnvironment |
| C4 | Capacity building | C7 | eAgriculture |
| C5 | Confidence & security | C7 | eScience |
| C6 | Enabling environment | C8 | Diversity & local content |
| C7 | eGovernment | C9 | Media |
| C7 | eBusiness | C10 | Ethical dimensions |
| C7 | eLearning | C11 | Int & regional cooperation |

13 000+ digital projects aligned with SDGs

Presentations by UN WSIS Action Lines facilitators on WSIS+20 Review
Action Lines Milestones, Challenges and Emerging Trends beyond 2025:
<https://itu.int/go/wsis20review>



WSIS Process: Multistakeholder in nature, involving all stakeholders



WSIS Targets : achievements since 2003



5.5

Billion people online



280 000+

Connected schools
according to Giga Maps



WHO & ITU
collecting
Data

Connected hospitals



65%

Women using the Internet



79%

Youth (15-24 years old)
use the internet



WSIS: continuously evolving process addressing impacts of emerging technologies



Hackathons



WSIS Forum agenda and programme continuously updated to encompass discussions on new and emerging technologies



AI for Good and WSIS Forum organized concurrently



Exhibition spaces showcasing latest technologies



WSIS Special Innovation Prizes



WORLD SUMMIT ON
THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

Partnership on Measuring
ICT for Development

WSIS Special
Initiatives

WSIS&SDG TalkX

Alignment of the WSIS process
with the 2030 Agenda

WSIS&SDG Implementation

WSIS Action Lines

WSIS Forum

WSIS Stocktaking

United Nations Group
on Information Society



United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS)



UNGIS
UNITED NATIONS GROUP ON THE
INFORMATION SOCIETY **FOR DIGITAL
TRANSFORMATION**

CHAIRS AND VICE-CHAIRS



Established in 2006 within the UN Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) to facilitate the implementation of WSIS outcomes

UNGIS remains committed to advancing the GDC goals and supporting the broader UN digital cooperation agenda

UNGIS prepared the **WSIS Process and 2030 Agenda - GDC Matrix** that maps GDC objectives to existing WSIS structures, mechanisms and supporting activities

31 members with **16 observers** consisting of the relevant UN bodies and organizations

ITU serves as the permanent secretariat of UNGIS

Chair: UNESCO
Vice-Chairs:
ITU, UNCTAD, UNDP, UN ECLAC (2024-2025)

UNGIS Digital Transformation Repository showcases UN initiatives linking WSIS Action Lines to SDGs

WSIS Process and 2030 Agenda – GDC Matrix			
Objectives (texts extracted from GDC)	SDG (extracted from GDC)	WSIS Action Lines	Existing WSIS structures, mechanisms and supporting activities
Objective 1: Close all digital divides and accelerate progress across the Sustainable Development Goals	All SDGs	All 18 WSIS Action Lines	Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development, UNGIS, WSIS Forum, IGF, WSIS Action Line facilitation, WSIS and SDG Matrix, WSIS Stocktaking, WSIS Prizes
Connectivity			
(a) Develop and strengthen targets, indicators and metrics for universal meaningful and affordable connectivity, building on existing work, and integrate these into international, regional and national development strategies	SDG 9	WSIS Action Lines C1 C2, C3, C5, C6, C7-E-government, C7-E employment, C11, C7 E-Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Partnership on Measuring ICT for DevelopmentWorld Telecommunication Indicators SummitICT Development Index (IDI)ITU DataHubUMC - Universal and Meaningful Connectivity projectUNGISWSIS ForumWSIS Action Line facilitationWSIS and SDG MatrixIGFITU statistics

WSIS Forum

15
years

160
countries

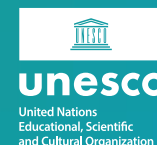
50,000
multi-stakeholder participants
(onsite and virtual)

40+
UN Agencies
involved

10+
Special Tracks
Gender, Youth ...



Co-organizers



WSIS: An overall framework incorporating all aspects of digital

WSIS Framework: Implementation and follow-up to GDC



WSIS Process and 2030 Agenda - GDC Matrix is prepared in consultation with WSIS Action Lines facilitators





Save the date

7-11 July 2025

Palexpo

Geneva, Switzerland



Register now!

Registration for the WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025 is free of charge and open to all stakeholders.

Registration is mandatory for all participants to attend the Event.

Invitation letter available in **6 UN Languages**.

On-site Registration

Virtual Registration

<https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2025/Home/Registration>

We encourage you to book your accommodation early.

Accreditation and Visa

- Accreditation is required in order to participate on-site to attend the Event.
- Accreditation requests should be submitted as soon as possible and no later than **30 April 2024** to ensure timely administrative processing of the requests.
- A registration confirmation (e-confirmation) will be the sole document provided for visa support.



Join the Open Consultation Process meetings

18 November 2024
14:00-15:00 CET
ITU HQ, Room A and remote

1st Meeting

11 February 2025
During 42nd CWG-WSIS&SDG
ITU HQ, Geneva and remote

3rd Meeting

10 June 2025
14:00-15:00 CEST
ITU HQ, Room A
and remote

Final Brief

2nd Meeting

18 December 2024
During IGF-24, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
07:45 to 08:45 (CET)
with remote participation

4th Meeting


3 April 2025
ITU HQ, Room A, Geneva and
remote



Learn more



Draft Agenda

	MON 7 July	TUE 8 July	WED 9 July	THU 10 July	FRI 11 July
AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ambassadors Roundtable (TBC) Inaugural Session High-Level Plenary Exhibition Inauguration Knowledge Café WSIS Prizes Youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forum track High-Level Lunch by Platinum partner Knowledge Café 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Network of Women Leaders in ICT Breakfast High-Level Track Forum track High-Level Lunch by Diamond partner Knowledge Café WSIS Prizes Champions Ceremony 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High-Level track Forum track Knowledge Café 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High-Level track Forum track Knowledge Café
PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNGIS High-Level Forum track Reception by Poland / Youth Party 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulators Roundtable Forum track TED/similar TalkX WSIS 20-year celebrations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High-Level track Ministerial Roundtable ITU 160th Presidential Gala Dinner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AI Governance Day Forum track Official Swiss Reception Partner Certificates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WSIS Action Lines Facilitators Meeting Closing Ceremony and Chair's WSIS+20 HLE Summary 

WSIS+20 High-Level Event – key elements



High-Level Leaders
TalkX



Interactive Sessions by
all stakeholders



WSIS Prizes



Hackathon



Ambassadors &
Regulators Roundtables



Emerging Technologies



Ministerial Roundtable



UN WSIS Action Lines
& UNGIS sessions



Exhibitions



20-year celebrations

High-Level Track

Participation

- Heads of States
- Ministers
- Heads of Regulatory Authorities
- Ambassadors
- Heads of UN Agencies
- Mayors
- Heads of International Organizations
- Parliamentarians
- CEOs
- Civil Society Leaders

Engagements

- Leaders TalkX
- Ministerial Roundtable
- Regulators Roundtable
- Ambassadors Roundtable
- High-Level social events



Call for High-Level Track Facilitators

- Objective : capture the vision, identify emerging trends, opportunities and challenges shared by the High-Level speakers in the TalkX

- Representation from : Private Sector, Civil Society, Technical Community, Academia and International Organizations

- Nominations open until: **31 March 2025**

- www.wsis.org/forum



WSIS Stocktaking and WSIS Prizes 2025



 **WSIS**
PRIZES 2025

We've received close to
1000
submissions
for #WSIS Prizes 2025!

www.wsis.org/prizes



www.wsis.org/prizes



#WSIS20Story – Join the 20-year Global Celebration !

- Engage the global community in commemorating 20 years of WSIS
- Collect and share personal testimonials from the ground highlighting the transformative power of digital initiatives promoted by WSIS.

Join now!

- Create a short video (**20 seconds**) sharing how has WSIS contributed to your personal development, community improvement, or advanced your digital inclusion?
- Post your video/reel/snippet in **your language** on your preferred social media platforms (X, Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn).
- Use the hashtag **#WSIS20Story** to ensure your story is part of the global narrative and tag WSIS accounts to increase the visibility of your video.
- Every story is a testament to the impact of WSIS in bridging the digital divide.
- Selected stories will be featured in WSIS+20 celebrations and communications



#WSIS20Story – What's your story?



WSIS Story of Markus Kummer,
Switzerland



WSIS Story of Wendy
Teresa Goico Campagna,
Dominican Republic



Partner with Us!


 Strategic Partner Diamond

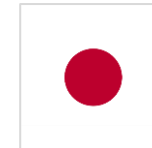
 Strategic Partner Platinum

 Strategic Partner Gold

 Silver Partner

 Contributing Partners

 Supporting Partners



Contact us at wsis-info@itu.int

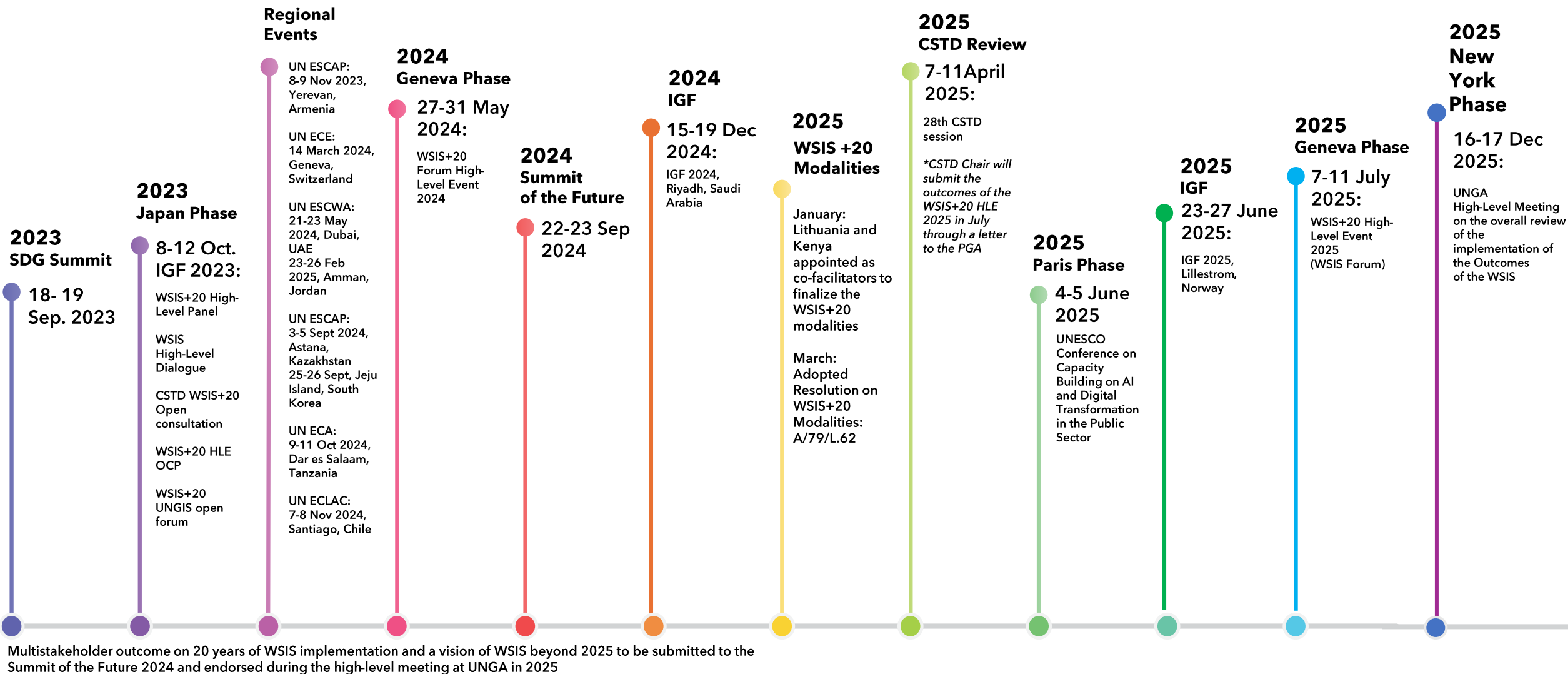




WSIS+20 REVIEW



WSIS+20 Review Joint Preparatory Process



Appointment of the co-facilitators

The President of the United Nations General Assembly has appointed co-facilitators for intergovernmental consultations to finalize the modalities for the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society.



H.E. Mr. Erastus Lokaale

Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Kenya to the
United Nations



H.E. Mr. Rytis Paulauskas

Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Lithuania to
the United Nations



WSIS+20 Roadmaps



World Summit on the
Information Society
(WSIS)+20: WSIS beyond
2025 - WSIS+20
Roadmap



Report of the UNESCO
Director-General on the
implementation of the World
Summit on the Information
Society (WSIS) outcomes



Commission on Science and
Technology for Development
Roadmap for the WSIS+20



20-Year Reports on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes

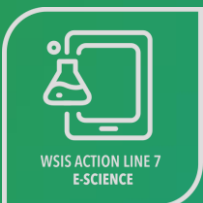
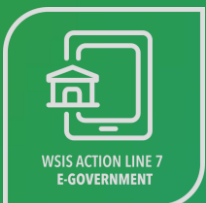
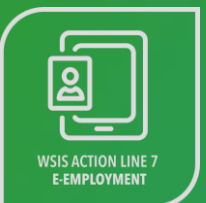
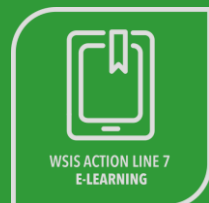
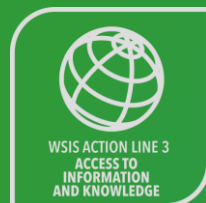
[Country 20-Year reporting template](#)

[WSIS Stakeholder 20-Year reporting template](#)

www.wsis.org/review



20 years of WSIS Action Lines: milestones, challenges and emerging trends beyond 2025



20 years of implementation of WSIS Action Lines prepared by UN Action Lines Facilitators, highlighting:

- Evolution of context
- 20 years achievements
- Challenges
- Emerging Trends
- Opportunities beyond 2025

Learn more:

<https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2025/Home/About>

Thank You

wsis.org/forum

#WSIS

@WSISprocess

