ITU-ETSI Symposium on ICT Sustainability

Standards Driving Environmental Innovation

11-12 December 2024 Geneva, Switzerland

itu.int/go/ITU-ETSI_Symposium





Dominique Würges Chair, ITU-T Study Group 5: Environment, EMF, Climate Action and Circular Economy

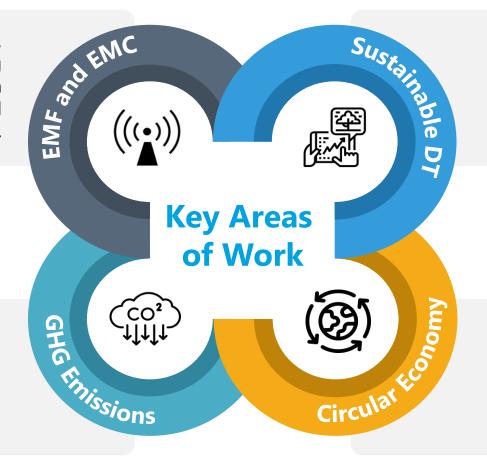
11 December 2024

Advancing Environmental Sustainability through ICT Standards

ITU-T SG 5: Key Areas of Work

Continually addressing EMC, resistibility, and lightning protection. Furthered research on minimizing the potential health risks from EMF.

Development of standards and guidelines that help reduce the carbon footprint of ICT operations, contributing to global climate goals.

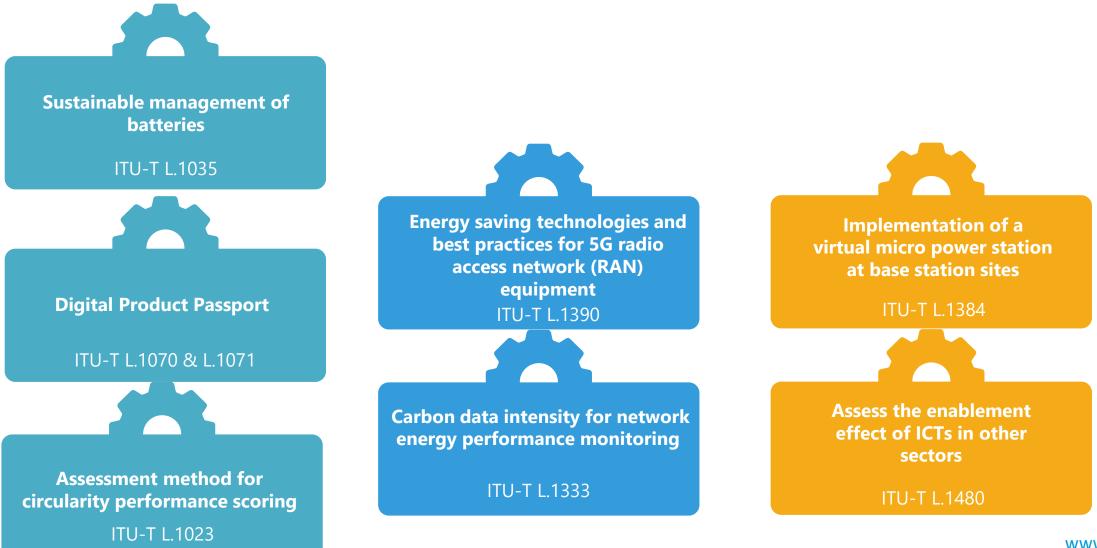


Development of standards that promote the integration of sustainable practices in the ICT sector, focusing on energy efficiency, resource management.

Support the transition to a circular economy within ICT, encouraging the strong e-waste management practices and the adoption of circular design principles.

Key Recommendations

ITU-T SG5: Key ITU-T Recommendations



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Main Achievements

01

02

03

04

05

ITU-T SG5: Main Achievements

Climate Change and Circular Economy Digital solutions for a sustainable future 7-9 May 2024 Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso itu.int/go/15Symposium

Hosted by

ITUPublications

ITUEvents

15th Symposium on ICT, Environment,

Co-organized by:

ecos

International Telecommunication Union ication Standardization Secto

ITU

ITUEvents

Regional workshop on EMF harmony

Balancing connectivity, safety and tower location selection in the Arab Region

13-16 May 2024 Muscat, Sultanate of Oman

itu.int/go/EMF-SG5RG-ARB

Regional Workshops on Key Topics

Digital Product Passport

Guidance on Scope 3 Emissions for **Operators**

AI and the Environment

Argentina Case Study

Al and the Environment -International Standards for AI and the Environment 2024 Report



GSMA 💋 GeSI 📖 🙀

Scope 3 Guidance for Telecommunication **Operators**



Implementation of the ITU-T International Standards for the Sustainable Management of Electrical and Electronic Equipment: On the road to a circular economy in Argentina

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Case Study





SG5 Ongoing and New Collaborations

Electromagnetic Fields and Human Health Exposure





Technically Aligned Standards







IEEE

Green

Digital Action

Green Standards:

Initiative

Green Digital Action



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circular electronics partnership



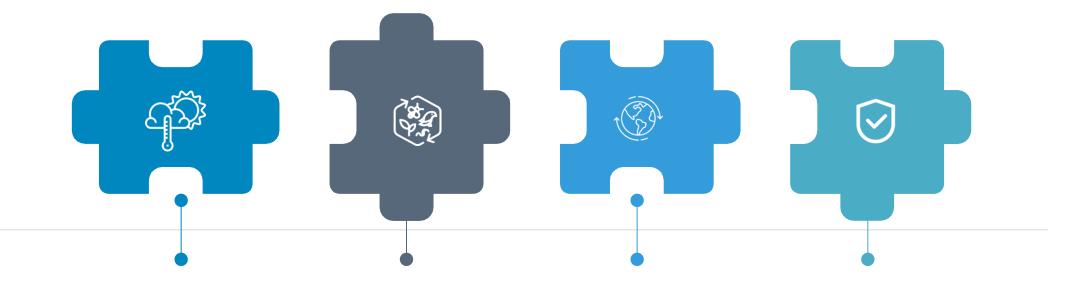






ITU-T SG5: as follow up of WTSA-24, our most important Topics in 2025-2028

ITU-T SG5's work does not stop here



Climate Action & Energy Efficiency including Al Biodiversity & Environmental Resilience E-Waste & Circular Economy Safety & Reliability

Resolution 73 Rev. New Delhi, 2024

ICT, environment, climate change and circular economy



What are the main changes and key highlights?

- ITU will create a database with environmental data on the ICT sector
 - Promote the collection of standardized environmental data for the telecommunications/ICT sector and ensure their harmonization across domestic data systems for easier analysis
- More emphasis has been included to work towards minimizing the ICT environmental impact, improving e-waste management, circularity, green data centres and biodiversity
- Use of telecommunication/ICTs (including new and emerging) to facilitate adaptation to climate change as well as combating it
- to work towards a reduction of the negative environmental impact of materials used in ICT products,
- to work towards promoting industrial approaches in telecommunications/ICTs
- to improve the methodological anchoring of studies devoted to measuring the ICT environmental impact

Resolution 79 Rev. New Delhi, 2024

The role of ICT in handling and controlling e-waste from ICT equipment and methods of treating it



What are the main changes and key highlights?

- to study and develop Recommendations and reports on methodologies related to the estimation of the life span of telecommunication/ICTs equipment and collection systems for e-waste in all geographic areas
- to develop Recommendations and promote best practices related to recycling and reuse of e-waste and promote the use of secondary/recycled materials
- to continue developing standards and guidance on handling and controlling ewaste resulting from telecommunications/ICT and methods of treating and recycling it

Member states, are invited to:

- include the prevention of exposure to the environmental hazards of e-waste and its treatment in their relevant policies/strategies
- promote the circular utility of e-waste through reusing and recycling efforts
- collaborate with the relevant stakeholders in the development of sustainable and comprehensive e-waste management frameworks by adopting relevant ITU-T Recommendations and other international standards
- encourage manufacturers to design durable devices with increased lifespan and further encourage consumers to participate in circular economy by reusing and maintaining user devices

ITU-T SG5: Conclusion



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I'm proud of our role in setting the standards that guide environmental and climate action in the ICT sector. With climate change affecting us all, the relevance of our work has never been more critical.

The ICT sector must be part of the solution, and SG5 is leading the charge in driving sustainable digital transformation. Through our collaborative efforts, we're ensuring that technology becomes a powerful tool in the fight against climate change.

- Dominique Würges, SG5 Chair

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Thank you