

# 2015

## ITU Contribution to the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes

[www.itu.int/itu-wsis](http://www.itu.int/itu-wsis)



2011

2012

2013

2014

2016

2017

2018

working together towards

# 2015



World Summit Geneva 2003  
Tunis 2005  
on the Information Society  
Turning targets into action



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# **ITU Contribution to the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes: 2015**


## Table of Contents

	<i>Page</i>
<b>I. Introduction .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>II. Overview of ITU activities and projects undertaken since in 2015 in the context of the implementation of WSIS Outcomes .....</b>	<b>5</b>
(a) Lead facilitator (along with UNESCO and UNDP) in organizing the multistakeholder implementation of the <i>Geneva Plan of Action</i> .....	5
(b) Facilitator of the WSIS Action Lines C2, C5, C6 .....	7
Action Line C2: Information and Communication Infrastructure .....	7
Action Line C5: Building Confidence and Security in the use of ICTs .....	26
Action Line C6: Enabling Environment .....	34
(c) Co-facilitator of Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C7, C11 and Partners for C8 and C9. ....	47
Action Line C1: The Role of Public Governance Authorities and all Stakeholders in the Promotion of ICTs for Development and Action Line C11: International and Regional Cooperation 47	
Action Line C3: Access to Information and Knowledge .....	48
Action Line C4: Capacity-Building.....	49
Action Line C7: ICT Applications .....	52
Action Line C7: E- Governance .....	52
Action Line C7: E-Health .....	52
Action Line C7: E – Environment .....	53
Action Line C7 E –Agriculture.....	53
Action Line C7: E-Science .....	53
Action Line C7: E-Learning .....	54
Action Line C8: Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content .....	54
Action Line C9: Media.....	55
(d) United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS).....	56
(e) Measuring the Information Society (Para113-119 of TAIS).....	57
(f) Maintaining the WSIS Stocktaking Database (Para 120, Tunis Agenda) and a portal for best practices and success stories (Para 28, Geneva Plan of Action).....	60
(g) Emergency Telecommunications (Para 91 of TAIS) .....	66
(h) International Internet Connectivity (Para27c.ii and 50d of TAIS) .....	69
(i) World Telecommunication and Information Society Day .....	70
(j) Bridging the standardization gap (BSG).....	73
(j) Internet Governance Forum .....	74
<b>III. ITU Role in the Overall Review of the Implementation of the Outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society .....</b>	<b>75</b>
(a) UNGA Overall Review of the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes .....	75

<b>IV. Forums, innovative initiatives and future actions .....</b>	<b>78</b>
(a) Forums.....	78
WSIS Forum 2015 Event and its outcomes:.....	78
<i>WSIS Forum 2016</i>	82
(b) WSIS Action Lines and SDGs Matrix .....	84
(c) WSIS Project Prizes.....	86
(d) WSIS Stocktaking Portal .....	89
(e) The Knowledge Café.....	90
(f) The Global Cyber Security Agenda (GCA).....	90
(g) Connect 2020 Agenda for global telecommunication/ICT development.....	91
(h) Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development.....	93
(i) m-Powering Development Initiative .....	97
(j) Smart Sustainable Development Model Initiative .....	98
(k) Girls in ICT Day .....	100
(k) GEM-TECH Awards 2015 .....	100
(l) Roadmaps for WSIS Action Lines C2, C5, C6.....	101
(m) Communication and Outreach.....	102
(n) WSIS Fund in Trust .....	103
(o) WSIS Action Lines and SDGs .....	105
(p) WSIS Action Lines and SDGs Matrix .....	105
(q) Future Actions.....	106
<b>V. Final conclusions.....</b>	<b>107</b>
<b>ANNEX: 1</b>	<b>109</b>

## I. Introduction

1. As stated in the Strategic Plan of the Union (2012-2015), adopted by PP-10, the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) continues to be one of the priorities of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The strategic plan also highlights the role of ICTs as effective tools to promote peace and economic growth and to enhance democracy, social cohesion, good governance and the rule of law at the national, regional and international levels as state (as recognized by the outcome texts of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). Furthermore, the strategic plan for the Union for 2016-2019 set out in Resolution 71 (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference contains a commitment to the implementation of the relevant WSIS outcomes in response to the changing telecommunication/ICT environment and its effects on the Union, as well as the priority areas to be addressed in implementing the WSIS outcomes beyond 2015, subject to the outcomes of the UNGA overall review;
2. At the policy level, following the revision of Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014), "ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and in the overall review by United Nations General Assembly of their implementation", the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in 2014 further strengthened the Union's mandate in relation to the implementation of WSIS outcomes. Revised Resolution 140 provides strategic guidance on ITU's future role in WSIS implementation and follow-up as well as the UNGA Overall Review. The resolution has also been updated with the inclusion of the outcomes of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, namely: the WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes and WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS beyond 2015. According to the resolution, ITU should continue to be the sole facilitator of WSIS Action Lines C2, C5 and C6 and as co-facilitator of the other action lines. It should also continue the coordination of WSIS forums, the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day, WSIS Project Prizes and the maintenance of the WSIS Stocktaking database, subject to the outcomes of UNGA's overall review in December 2015. The updated resolution also resolved that ITU, in coordination with UNESCO, UNCTAD and UNDP, should contribute to the topic of ICT for development in the debate on the Development Agenda Beyond 2015 arranged by the United Nations General Assembly, taking into account WSIS+10 High-Level Event (2014) outcome documents; with a focus on bridging the digital divide through sustainable development.
 


3. The Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014) invited Member States inter alia to support, through relevant UN processes, the creation of synergies and institutional linkages between WSIS and the Post-2015 Development Agenda to continue strengthening the impact of ICT for sustainable development. Member States are also invited to contribute and closely collaborate with the Partnership on Measuring the ICT for Development as an international, multistakeholder initiative to improve the availability and quality of ICT data and indicators, particularly in developing countries.
4. ITU Council 2015 modified Resolution 1332 and Resolution 1334 thereby strengthening the ITU's leadership and role in the WSIS+10 Process on the Overall Review of the Implementation of the Outcomes of the World Summit on the Information. It further stated that that the

United Nations General Assembly, in its Resolution 68/302, decided that the overall review will be concluded by a two-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly in December 2015, to be preceded by an intergovernmental preparatory process that would also take into account inputs from all relevant stakeholders of the World Summit on the Information Society. Among the others it resolved to instruct the ITU Secretary General, in collaboration and coordination with other UN Agencies, to support the UN General Assembly Overall Review Process, making the best possible use of experiences gathered by the Union during the organization of two phases of WSIS (2003-2005) and WSIS+10 High-Level Event, including WSIS+10 Multistakeholder Preparatory Platform;

5. The Council Working Group (CWG) on WSIS, created in 2002, continues to monitor and evaluate on a yearly basis the actions taken by ITU with respect to implementation of WSIS outcomes. The CWG facilitates inputs from membership on the ITU implementation of relevant WSIS outcomes through its regular meetings and



and circular letters, questionnaires or other appropriate methods of query and provides guidance to the membership regarding the actions to be performed by ITU in the implementation of WSIS outcomes. The CWG is also mandated to review the preparations of ITU for the review of the progress achieved in relation to the WSIS goals in 2015 and to prepare a roadmap for WSIS implementation up to 2015 within its core competencies. At the 26th CWG-WSIS, the meeting acknowledged the ITU's coordination and leadership in WSIS+10 multi-stakeholder preparatory process, noting that the WSIS+10 High-Level Event was a real demonstration of the multi-stakeholder approach, and proved that ITU has the capacity and capabilities to handle complex multi-stakeholder processes addressing issues related to ICTs for development. CWG-WSIS also acknowledged that the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development, under the leadership of ITU, has released its comprehensive report on the final WSIS targets review in 2013. The report provides a comprehensive evaluation of the achievements made towards the WSIS targets agreed by governments at WSIS. Within this context attention was drawn to the Connect 2020 Agenda, endorsed by ITU Membership at PP-14, which provides a clear vision and shared objectives for the future of the ICT sector. Connect 2020 will provide the guidance for the measurement indicators related to Action Lines C2, C5 and C6. The outcomes of the 26th meeting were approved by Council-15.

The 27th Meeting of the Working Group on WSIS (WG-WSIS) was held on the 29th and 30th September 2015 in line with Resolution 140 (Busan 2014). The group highlighted and appreciated the role of WSIS Forum in engaging and reaching all the different WSIS Stakeholders and for being open, inclusive, collaborative and multistakeholder and invited the Stakeholders to contribute ideas for the further development of the WSIS Forum. With regard to the SDGs, it was highlighted that the role of the WSIS Forum should evolve and adapt with the newly adopted SDGs, taking into account the outcomes of the UNGA Overall

Review. The WSIS Prizes contest was welcomed as a good mechanism to showcase the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines. All WSIS Stakeholders were invited to continue reporting to the WSIS Stocktaking Database with a stronger emphasis on the usage of the WSIS Stocktaking platform to serve both ICT centric community and the community following SDG process, hoping that the new portal will provide reference point for the interaction between WSIS Action Lines and SDGs. The outcomes of the meeting will be forwarded the Council-16 for its consideration

6. A Council Working Group (CWG) on Internet related public policy issues was established as a separate group by Council Resolution 1336, in accordance with Resolutions 102 and 140 of the 2010 Plenipotentiary Conference. This CWG is limited to Member States, with open consultation to all stakeholders. Previously, this group was established as the Dedicated Group as an integral part of WG WSIS, open only to all Member States, in accordance with Resolution 75 (WTSA, 2008), and Council Resolution 1282 (Mod. 2008). Council 2012 Resolution 1344, modified 2015, decided the modality of the open consultation for the Group. 2009 Council Resolution 1305 invites Member States to recognize the scope of work of ITU on international Internet-related public policy matters, represented by the list of topics in Annex 1 which was established in accordance with decisions of ITU membership at the Plenipotentiary Conference, Council and world conferences; and to elaborate their respective position on each of the international Internet-related public policy issues referenced in the list of topics and to contribute actively to the work of ITU on these issues.



7. The three Sectors of the Union (Standardization, Radiocommunication and the Development Sector) and the General Secretariat have carried out several important activities and projects that enhance the WSIS outcomes and objectives.
8. At the operational level, ITU has been carrying out the tasks assigned by the WSIS Outcomes Documents, in particular, in its capacity as:
  - Lead coordinator of the WSIS+10 process
  - Lead facilitator (along with UNESCO and UNDP) in coordinating the multistakeholder implementation of the *Geneva Plan of Action*.
  - Facilitator of Action Lines C2 (Information and communication infrastructure) and C5 (Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs); upon the UNDP's request the ITU accepted to play the role of the Facilitator of Action Line C6 (Enabling Environment).

- Co-facilitator of Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C7 and C11; and partner for C8 and C9.
- Rotating chair of the United Nations Group on Information Society (UNGIS).
- Steering committee member of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Measurement.
- Facilitator of the WSIS Stocktaking process.
- Implementation of other WSIS outcomes.



9. Within the ITU, the effective coordination of ITU's strategies and activities in relation to WSIS has been ensured by a WSIS Task Force that is chaired by the Secretary-General.
10. This document is divided into 5 sections, following the introduction, the second section provides an overview of ITU activities and projects undertaken in 2015 in the context of the implementation of WSIS Outcomes, while the third section informs about ITU's Role in the Overall Review of the Implementation of the Outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society. The fourth section highlights forums, innovative initiatives and informs about the planned future activities to ensure the full implementation of the WSIS outcomes. The final section provides conclusions of the report.



## II. Overview of ITU activities and projects undertaken since in 2015 in the context of the implementation of WSIS Outcomes

### (a) Lead facilitator (along with UNESCO and UNDP) in organizing the multistakeholder implementation of the *Geneva Plan of Action*.

11. The ITU has planned, organized and hosted the WSIS Forum since 2009 in collaboration with the co-organizers, UNESCO, UNCTAD and UNDP. The annual WSIS Forum is a global multistakeholder platform facilitating the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines. The Forum, co-organized by ITU, UNESCO, UNDP and UNCTAD, in close collaboration with all WSIS Action Line co-facilitators and other UN organizations (UNDESA, FAO, UNEP, WHO, UN Women, WIPO, WFP, ILO, WMO, ITC, UPU, UNODC, UNICEF and UN Regional Commissions), is also an opportunity for information exchange, knowledge creation and sharing of best practices, taking into account the evolving Information and Knowledge Societies. The WSIS Forum provides opportunities for developing multistakeholder and public-private partnerships to advance development goals.



12. The WSIS Forum is a natural evolution of the Cluster of the WSIS related Meetings held every May from 2006 to 2008 organized by the WSIS Action Line facilitations and coordinated by ITU. Since 2009, the WSIS Forum itself has evolved into a unique platform for multistakeholder consensus and discussions on crucial issues concerning the information society. The WSIS Forum results in several documents in particular the WSIS Forum Outcome Document is released on the last day of the Event each year. The agenda, programme and format of the forum is built in an open multistakeholder consultation process that consists of physical meetings and online consultations. The forum comprises of a high-level and forum track that include high-level panels, WSIS Action Lines meetings, WSIS Action Line Facilitator's meeting, thematic workshops, and various platforms for networking and initiation of partnerships.

Please refer to the following for the yearly editions of the WSIS Forum, you can also find the Outcome Documents and the Emerging Trends Document:

- **Cluster of WSIS Related Events 2006:**

<http://www.itu.int/net/wsis/implementation/cluster.asp?year=2006&month=0&type='alf'&subtype=0>

- **Cluster of WSIS Related Events 2007:**

<http://www.itu.int/net/wsis/implementation/cluster.asp?year=2007&month=0&type='alf'&subtype=0>

- **Cluster of WSIS Related Events 2008 :**

<http://www.itu.int/net/wsis/implementation/cluster.asp?year=2008&month=0&type='alf'&subtype=0>

- **WSIS Forum 2009-**

<http://www.itu.int/wsis/implementation/2009/forum/geneva/>

- **WSIS Forum 2010-** <http://www.itu.int/wsis/implementation/2010/forum/geneva/>

- **WSIS Forum 2011-** <http://www.itu.int/wsis/implementation/2011/forum/>

- **WSIS Forum 2012-** <http://www.itu.int/wsis/implementation/2012/forum/>

- **WSIS Forum 2013-** <http://www.itu.int/wsis/implementation/2013/forum/>

- **WSIS Forum 2014-** <http://www.itu.int/wsis/implementation/2014/forum/>

- **WSIS Forum 2015-** <http://www.itu.int/wsis/implementation/2015/forum/>

13. The WSIS Forum 2015 represented the world's largest annual gathering of the CT for development community. The WSIS Forum, co-organized by ITU, UNESCO, UNDP and UNCTAD, in close collaboration with all WSIS Action Line Facilitators/Co-Facilitators (UNDESA, FAO, UNEP, WHO, UN Women, WIPO, WFP, ILO, WMO, ITC, UPU, UNODC, UNICEF and UN Regional Commissions) has proven to be an efficient mechanism for coordination of multistakeholder implementation activities, information exchange, creation of knowledge, sharing of best practices and continues to provide assistance in developing multistakeholder and public/private partnerships to advance development goals. This forum provided structured opportunities to network, learn and participate in multi-stakeholder discussions and consultations on WSIS implementation.

14. [The WSIS Forum 2015](http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Outcomes/) resulted in several Outcome Documents also available here <http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Outcomes/> :

- [WSIS Forum 2015 High Level Track Policy Statements](#)
- [WSIS Forum 2015 Track Outcome Document](#)
- [WSIS SDG Matrix](#)
- [WSIS Stocktaking Report 2015](#)
- [WSIS Stocktaking Success Stories 2015](#)
- [Advancing Sustainable Development through Information and Communication Technologies: WSIS Action Lines Enabling SDGs](#)

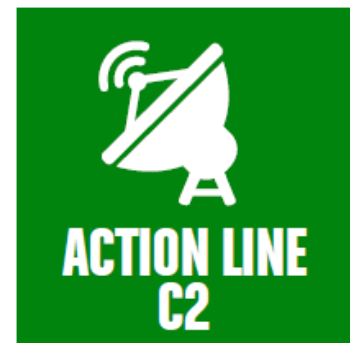
15. The **WSIS Forum 2016** is scheduled to be held from the 2-6 May at the ITU Headquarters, Geneva. The agenda and programme will build upon the Open Consultation Process, structured in five phases, for further information please visit [www.wsis.org](http://www.wsis.org)



**(b) Facilitator of the WSIS Action Lines C2, C5, C6**

**Action Line C2: Information and Communication Infrastructure**

16. Within the framework of the existing resources and given mandate, as well as in line with the Geneva Action Plan, the ITU carries out several activities with regard to the WSIS Action Line C2. These are oriented toward six domains as follows (1) Promotion of National ICT-Strategies; (2) Harmonization of the ICT policies in different regions; (3) Development of regional and large-scale national initiatives; (4) Launch of global thematic ICT infrastructure initiatives; (5) Development of a virtual financing platform and (6) Deployment of an online tool for ICT development assessment.



17. The 10<sup>th</sup> Action line C2 Facilitation Meeting was held in Geneva on 28 May 2015 as an integral part of the WSIS Forum 2015. Based on proposals received during the WSIS Forum 2015 multistakeholder open consultation process, the theme for the Action Line Facilitation meeting was Broadband for Sustainable Development. Among the debated issues, participants shared their experience on: how new technologies can be applied to promote broadband and achieve the SDGs; models of Public Private Partnership (PPP) for broadband network rollout; the mapping of missing links to improve connectivity; and key factors for rural communication. Please find the outcome of the meeting here: [http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/outcomes/WSISForum2015 Outcome Document ForumTrack.pdf](http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/outcomes/WSISForum2015_Outcome Document ForumTrack.pdf)

18. With the aim of mobilizing additional funds and new partnerships to attain the WSIS goals including the development of infrastructure, ITU initiated the [Connect Summit](#) series in 2007. As the 5th event, the Connect Asia-Pacific Summit was jointly organized with ITU, Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (MICT) of Thailand, APT, ABU, UNESCAP, WHO and many others on 18 November 2013, Bangkok, Thailand. The Summit attracted some 625 participants from 37 ITU Asia-Pacific Member States, including 7 Heads of State, 30 Deputy Prime Ministers, Ministers, Deputy Ministers, and Ambassadors, 13 Observers from ITU Member States outside the Asia-Pacific region and other stakeholders. Leaders affirmed their common [Leaders' Vision](#) of an inclusive and development-centered as well as creative Asia-Pacific: Smartly DIGITAL by 2020. The Summit also adopted a [Communiqué](#), which is an action plan for the above Vision. During the Multi-stakeholder Partnership Meeting, a number of projects and partnerships, valued at USD 53 billion, were identified as [market opportunities](#).

19. The [Connect a School, Connect a Community](#) initiative, within the framework of the Connect the World initiative, aims to improve access to broadband in schools and enables them to serve as community ICT centers.



- Funded by Swiss contribution, a project to connect schools was implemented in Comoros, Lesotho, Sri Lanka, Sierra Leone and Tanzania. In Sri Lanka, the project for over 8500 students in 33 schools, also educating children with special needs, was inaugurated in December 2013. Also, 29 schools in Tanzania, 10 in Lesotho, 10 in Sierra Leone, and 5 in Comoros has been implemented, and beneficiary countries have conducted a formal training for teachers to be able to teach computers as a subject in the schools.
- Funded by French contribution to equip and connect schools as community ICT centers, ITU provided connection to 20 model schools with community ICT centers in Tanzania, 3 sites in Gambia with 40 terminals per site, and 3 sites in Niger with 13 terminals per site where the installation of 2 sites were installed at the end of August 2014. Activities to train the trainers are completed in the 3 countries mentioned above and to ensure the continuous operation of the sites, solar panels were installed on the sites of Gambia and Niger in addition to generator sets. The project has been completed in 2015.
- Funded by ITU, UAE and ICT-DF, projects aiming to connect schools located in remote, rural or underserved areas of the State of Palestine, to broadband Internet services through individual or shared computing devices in the selected schools (including any necessary servers, printers, local area networks and other equipment, including assistive technologies for persons with disabilities) are being implemented.
- Within the framework of the initiative, trainings for informatics teachers in the rural settlements of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan were held by ITU, in cooperation with Institute of Electronics and Telecommunication under the KSTU. In line with the positive feedback from the similar 2014 training participants, 117 informatics teachers completed the training in 2015.
- Based on a previous successful project to connect 5 schools in Comoros, a new project to connect additional 10 schools has been signed in January 2015. This new project is expected to be fully implemented by December 2016



20. In partnership with the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), ITU also prepared a Report on Universal Service Obligation Policy for Facilitating the Provision of Broadband to Every School in ASEAN which among others, provided strategy recommendations to promote broadband access to schools, particularly in the rural areas.
21. ITU also organized the [Asia-Pacific Regional Forum on Universal Access and Service and Broadband Deployment 2015](#) in Bangkok, Thailand during 25-27 March 2015 in partnership with the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission of Thailand (NBTC) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The forum successfully mobilized resources and partnerships to undertaking new projects aimed at promoting universal service and access and broadband deployment in the region.
22. Concentrated assistance aimed at improving access to broadband in schools and enables them to serve as community ICT Centers in Haiti's Rural School Connectivity Programme. The Centres will facilitate ICT training programmes in rural and underserved areas. This will facilitate extending ICT access and services to rural communities by providing basic sets of accessible ICT equipment, increase access to broadband services and promoting investment in networks for Haiti and ensure ICTs for all.
23. ITU assistance for the establishment of Community Centres in the Barbados, Belize, Grenada and St. Kitts and Nevis in ensuring access to information through appropriate infrastructure deployment. The rationale for such Community Telecentres is that these shared sites would provide and increase public access to the technology tools for productivity and development training and access to Internet and primarily to information and services available via the Internet. This also provides complement to the beneficiary countries' policy in relation to Universal Access, towards increasing Broadband access and Connectivity and creating platforms for access to information, facilitating and promoting E-government, and the creation of local content. The sustainability of the Centres was endorsed the governments.
24. In order to facilitate building wireless broadband in the developing and the least developing countries, ITU has been assisting countries in developing their own wireless broadband master plans. ITU, with support from Korea, has assisted member countries in developing broadband policies and plans since 2011. ITU supported eighteen 22 countries to develop [Wireless Broadband Master Plans](#) and National Broadband Plans/Policies (Fiji, Cambodia,

Brunei, Vietnam, Samoa, Nepal, Myanmar, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Pakistan, Lao PDR, Vanuatu, Marshall Islands, Philippines, St Lucia, Malawi, Congo-Brazzaville, Guinea-Bissau and South Sudan). In Africa in 2014 and 2015 four countries received assistance to develop the Wireless Broadband Master Plans with funding support from Korea: Congo Brazzaville, Guinea Bissau, Malawi and South Sudan. During the same period the ITU had assisted three countries in Africa developing their respective National Broadband Policies (Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland). ITU has further assisted the countries in Southern Africa Region harmonizing the development of their respective National Broadband Plans by assisting the SADC (Southern Africa Development Community) and CRASA (Communications Regulators Association of Southern Africa) in the development of the Guidelines for Development of National Broadband Plans in SADC Region and Model National Broadband Plan for SADC region., that were validate in Windhoek, Namibia in June 2015.

25. As a follow-up to the Connect Africa Summit, the ITU/Craig and Susan McCaw Broadband Wireless Network project for Africa is implementing broadband wireless networks and developing ICT applications to provide free or low cost digital access for schools and hospitals, and for underserved populations in rural and remote areas in selected countries. Installations activities in progress for Lesotho and final installations are ongoing for Burkina Faso. In Burundi, the project is fully implemented. In Djibouti, the Broadband Wireless 4G is completely implemented and its extension to other 10 rural sites is ongoing. For Mali, negotiations with the host and maintain the Broadband Network are ongoing with the ICT Ministry. In Swaziland, the Government has signed the cooperation agreement and the frequency allocation and the technical requirements have been successfully identified and approved.
26. A new project was signed with Burundi to strengthen Burundi's institutional and technical capabilities for an accelerated and sustainable broadband development. The project will assist Burundi in harnessing the benefits of ICT through deployed Broadband infrastructures and making its ICT sector to be one of the main engines of its development. This will be achieved through providing to Burundi not only a national ICT policy and/or a broadband development strategy, but also necessary technical knowledge and know-how for ICT policy/strategy development and implementation
27. To show a global perspective of broadband connectivity that will allow membership to identify broadband investment opportunities, ITU has been updating ITU Interactive Transmission Maps by continuously collecting data from all regions. The maps are a cutting-edge [ICT-data mapping platform](#) to take stock of national backbone connectivity (Optical fiber, Microwave links and Satellite Earth Stations) as well as of other key metrics of the ICT sector, which currently covers Africa, Asia-Pacific, Arab, CIS, Europe and Latin America with data from more than 290 operators.
28. In 2015 a new partnership was established between ITU and Malaysia academia for the Transition from IPv4 to IPv6 in Developing Countries. Also, collaboration agreements established with Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), Manipal International University (MIU) and with International University of Malaysia-Wales (IUMW). As a Result, USD 300`000 have been committed by UKM for the implementation of WTDC-14 Res 68 and PP-14 Res 180 on the transition from IPv4 to IPv6. ITU is contribution the same amount USD 300`000.

29. Enhanced knowledge for the IPv6 transition in Uganda and in Djibouti is ongoing through the provision of practical information and exchange of experience in the field.
30. ITU contributed to Special Interest Group (SIG) APNIC-2015 and APRICOT-2015 in Fukuoka, Japan 2-6 March 2015, fostering areas of cooperation between ITU and APNIC on IPv6 migration capacity building in Asia-Pacific region.
31. As a Result of an initiated partnership with the Montenegro Administration to establish the first National Internet Exchange Point (IXP) in Montenegro, in collaboration with the National University and the Internet Society, since July 2015, the first Internet Exchange Point in Montenegro is operational.
32. The Third Regional Forum on Interconnectivity, Cyber Security and IPv6 is being co-organized by ITU, LACNIC and ASEP to take place in September 2015 in Panama, aimed to support regional cooperation on lowering interconnection costs and assuring network security
33. ITU through its concentrated assistance program to LDCs, Yemen, Comoros and Djibouti have provided with strategic plan to move their IP infrastructure to IPv6 based Networks. The assistances was provide in 2014 and 2015.
34. ITU in collaboration with the Arab League Education, Culture and Science organization, ALECSO, launched an action to promote the use of Cloud Computing and to develop a unified regulatory framework for cloud computing services and an integrated plan to foster the use of cloud computing in the Arab region.
35. ITU is carrying out a project to foster affordable access to the digital world by providing stakeholders with a platform to identify the appropriate policy, regulatory, technical and commercial measures to achieve affordable access to international bandwidth. The aim of the project is to strengthen cooperation at the global level, bringing together fiber optic communication stakeholders, as well as policy makers and regulators to identify measures to address the main bottlenecks, strengthen commercial agreements and regulatory frameworks and thus promote open access to fiber optic communications and associated infrastructure and develop harmonized related model regulation.
36. ITU has kept its efforts to assist countries/areas affected by natural disasters. This year, funded by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC), Japan, ITU has initiated a feasibility study on restoring telecommunication and ICT infrastructure through the use of the Movable and Deployable ICT Resource Unit (MDRU). In response to the Great East Japan Earthquake, MIC and Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (NTT) has developed the MDRU for providing immediate communication infrastructure recovery, which will now be tested in the areas damaged by typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. The unit will provide telephony and Wi-Fi connection, which will allow disaster affected residents to connect to the outside world through their personal mobile devices.
37. ITU continues to provide emergency telecommunication equipment to Member States that are affected by natural disasters. The assistance is made up satellite mobile phones, global broadband area network (BGANs), laptops, and auxiliary equipment as a short term solution. The long term solution is looking at providing infrastructure for early warning systems. ITU assisted the government of Uganda and the launch of the first early warning system for flooding in Uganda was done in September 2014.

38. Due to the remoteness of islands making up the Pacific Island countries, ITU signed the agreement with partners, and also with the 11 Pacific Island countries during the 3 UN International conference on small island developing states (SIDS) on 2 September 2014. The project aims to provide satellite connectivity for development and emergency telecommunication when natural disaster strikes. This region is often hit by cyclone with the recent category 5 cyclone that hit Vanuatu and category 5 typhoon that hit Micronesia in March 2015. It is for the first time that these communities in the remote and outer islands will have access to the most needed ICT infrastructure including computers, VSATs, printers and the Internet using broadband. Most locations are in schools.
39. A Cooperation Agreement and Project Document were signed during an ITU side event held in Samoa on 2 September 2014 at the occasion of the 3rd International Conference for Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The partners who signed the Cooperation Agreement in Samoa include Intelsat, Inmarsat, ITSO, Kacific International and ITU. The project targeting the Pacific Island countries aims at providing opportunities for low cost, reliable, diverse satellite communications capacity for socio-economic development by utilizing un-used satellite capacity. The project launch is planned for 29 October 2015. It is expected that by this date, the installation of equipment and training the trainer workshops for computer and Internet use under Phase 1 of the project will have been completed.
40. ITU through its training programs including Centers of Excellence built human capacity in countries to support infrastructure development in areas such as broadband network planning, transition from analogue to digital broadcasting, spectrum management, effective deployment of IPv6, quality of service, cloud computing amongst others (details available at [ITU Academy](#)).
41. Digital broadcasting has been identified as one of the regional initiatives in all regions, and ITU members have recognized the importance of managing the transition smoothly.
42. ITU has performed a large set of software simulations and analysis, and also coordination meetings to help several regions on this transition with fruitful results., in special in relationship with the compliance of the goals agreed during Regional radio Conference for Region 1 2006 (GE06). To remark:
- I. 2 Ministerial Summit on Digital Transition & Spectrum Management
  - II. December 2011 (Nairobi) and
  - III. September 2012 (Accra )
  - IV. Frequency coordination meetings GE06 for sub Saharian Africa: a last successfully in Nairobi from 15 to 19 July 2013: Level of success: , average 97.37 % :
  - V. Duration: 18 months.
  - VI. 47 countries in sub-Saharan Africa were included
  - VII. 3 meetings in planning and frequency coordination: Bamako in March 2102 , April 2012 and Nairobi Kampala July 2012 .
  - VIII. BR participation in regional meetings: EACO, ECOWAS , SADC, ...
  - IX. 33 iterations for compatibility analyzes based on the requirements submitted leave the country. BR was responsible for preparing the requirements for the absent countries.
  - X. 7107 spectrum requirements submitted in 470-694MHz band (against 11,406 at RRC- 06 for the entire band 470-862 MHz).



43. ITU-R is replicating the same process which is currently in progress for Arab countries. The meeting in Marrakech, Morocco in April 2015 organized jointly by ITU and the Arab Spectrum Management Group (ASMG) and hosted by the Agence Nationale de Reglementation des Telecommunications (ANRT) was the third and last overall coordination meeting of Arab countries on UHF spectrum planning for TV and mobile services, after similar meetings in Hammamet, Tunisia (September 2014) and Dubai, UAE (May 2014) and a number of other bilateral and multilateral meetings.
44. Furthermore, DTTB assistance in Arab region with the development of the roadmap report on digital broadcasting transition has been extended to support 3 Arab countries namely Sudan, Lebanon, and Palestine in 2013 & 2014. In addition, further assistance was provided to Palestine with regard to frequency planning in April 2015.
45. A direct assistance was provided to Mauritania in the development of the report on the use of digital dividend in Mauritania in 2014.
46. As a result in 2013, [47 Sub-Saharan African countries agreed on frequency coordination for digital switchover in 2015](#). Frequency coordination negotiations succeeded in setting up the mechanism to deploy digital television in 47 Sub-Saharan African countries. The consolidation of national plans to implement the digital switchover in the African region is in conformity with the deadlines of June 2015 (for UHF) and June 2020 (for VHF in 33 countries) set in 2006 by ITU's Regional Radiocommunication Conference (RRC-06), which adopted the GE06 TV Plan.
47. This landmark also makes Africa the first region to be in a position in 2015 to allocate bandwidth freed up by the transition to digital television – the so-called 'digital dividend' – to the mobile service for both the 700 MHz and 800 MHz bands. Decisions of the World Radiocommunication Conference 2012 (WRC-12) to facilitate availability of the digital dividend to the mobile service will be effective with some technical refinements immediately after the next World Radiocommunication Conference in 2015 (WRC-15).
48. The meeting in Nairobi in July 2013 organized jointly by ITU and the African Telecommunications Union (ATU) and hosted by the Communications Commission of Kenya (CCK) was the third and last overall coordination meeting of African countries, after similar meetings in Bamako (March 2011) and Kampala (April 2011) and a number of other bilateral and multilateral meetings held in 2011 and 2012.
49. The ITU-D Sector maintains a portal indicating the status of the deployment of Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) broadcasting worldwide.
50. An [ITU-R Report BT.2140-7 \(2014\)](#) on 'Transition from analogue to digital terrestrial broadcasting' is available online free of charge.
51. ITU, in cooperation with Republic of Korea, has provided assistance on Digital Broadcasting Transition since 2008. Roadmaps for Afghanistan, Solomon Islands, Vietnam, Vanuatu and Guyana and a case study of Thailand have been published in 2015. The ITU works closely with regional organizations such as Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union and Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development.

52. Also, in cooperation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC), Japan, ITU has extended assistance to countries (Bangladesh and Micronesia) for the establishment of Digital Broadcasting Conversion, and published a case study of Japan on digital conversion implementation.
53. ITU in partnership with the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission of Thailand (NBTC) has implemented a number of projects aimed at transitioning from analogue to digital broadcasting in Thailand. These projects include digital terrestrial TV and Radio broadcasting as well as mobile TV broadcasting services. Under the project frameworks, ITU also organized regional forums/training on digital broadcasting.
54. Furthermore, with the assistance from Department of Communications, Australia, development of the roadmap reports on digital broadcasting transition for Pacific Island countries (Samoa, Kiribati, and Nauru) and an Australian case study have been published in 2015. As a result, DTTB assistance in Asia-Pacific region has now been completed in 24 countries. In addition a report on Interactive multimedia services in Asia Pacific: Trends and insights was prepared.
55. In Thailand, a project is being undertaken on frequency planning for Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting (DTTB) to assess the need for additional stations and Portable Indoor antenna to achieve a network coverage target of fixed DTTB reception at 95% of the households;
56. In cooperation with the Andean Development Bank (CAF), ITU is providing support to at least 6 countries in the Americas Region on Transition from Analogue to Digital Broadcasting.
57. As a joint project with the Latin-American Development Bank, guidelines on the digital broadcasting transition were translated into Spanish. Beneficiary countries have been selected and the first reports for the 8 beneficiary countries (Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Paraguay and Jamaica) were prepared and are under revision for DTTB transition.
58. In addition, forums, seminars, and workshops to ensure the transition for Analog to Digital broadcasting were organized by the Union.
  - ITU organized workshop on the “Transition to Digital Broadcasting and Digital Dividend: Current Deployment & Regulatory Issues”, Khartoum-Sudan, 17-18 Dec. 2013”, in cooperation with the Arab States Broadcasting Union (ASBU ) and the Arab Information and Communication Technologies Organization (AICTO)
  - A Regional Forum on Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting Services and First Arab coordination Meeting for the Digital Terrestrial Television Service in the Arab region, held in Dubai - UAE, 17 - 20 May 2014 in collaboration with the League of Arab States (LAS) and the Arab States Broadcasting Union (ASBU)
  - The international symposium “A milestone for Digital Terrestrial Television” was held in Geneva on 17 June 2015. The day was the deadline for switching off analogue television broadcasting in UHF band applicable for all countries belonging to ITU Region 1 and Iran. The symposium addressed the objectives of ASO, shared experiences and status of member countries, and introduced advances in digital broadcasting

- The ITU workshop for Europe and CIS on “Spectrum Management and Transition to Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting” was held from 5 to 7 May 2015 in Budapest, Hungary
  - ITU organized from 2012 in collaboration with ATU 4 digital migration summits in Africa, respectively held in Bamako, Kampala, Accra and the last one in Nairobi (2014).
59. The Digital Switch-Over database with additional developments on reporting and statistics is also available.
  60. ITU-D has made available a computer program known as SMS4DC (Spectrum Management System for Developing Countries) to assist administrations of developing countries in performing their spectrum management responsibilities more effectively. ITU has kept updating this program and more than 40 countries have subscribed to the tool ITU Arab regional training workshop on the SMS4DC was held in Djibouti, 14-18 June, 2015. Within the project supported by Korea, new modules and functionalities have been enhanced and will be published by December 2015.
  61. In the Americas region, the ITU has implemented a technical cooperation project for an integrated spectrum management for the ICT Ministry of Colombia. Assistance was provided to the Nacional Communications Commission of Argentina in reviewing requirements for the procurement of a Spectrum Management Solution.
  62. Assistance was provided to Mongolia and Lao P.D.R on the issues related to national Spectrum Management.
  63. Direct assistance was provided to Indonesia to mitigate the issue of cross border Interference due to simultaneous operations of Indonesian CDMA-2000x operators and EGSM operators of Singapore and Malaysia in 880-890MHz band.
  64. Direct assistance is being provided to South Sudan, Somalia, Barbados, Vanuatu and Bissau-Guinea in areas of spectrum management.
  65. ITU, with support from Korea, is assisting developing countries in establishing modern spectrum management master-plans in ASP region. The final report for Bangladesh, Brunei and Fiji are prepared in 2015. Pakistan, Vietnam and Thailand have been selected as additional beneficiary countries. The new project to support three countries in the Caribbean region was launched in March 2015. Jamaica, Grenada and St. Vincent & the Grenadines have been selected as the beneficiaries.
  66. The ITU assisted Government of Mongolia in preparing for satellite launch related coordination procedures and the related ITU International Spectrum Regulations.
  67. In February 2014 ITU organized Asia-Pacific Regional Seminar on “IMT towards 2020 and beyond – Technology & Spectrum” at Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. The Seminar was attended by around 156 participants representing 16 ITU Member states from Asia-Pacific Region, 8 ITU Member states from outside Asia-Pacific Region and several worldwide ITU Recognized operating agencies and Scientific or Industrial organizations.
  68. Issues on Optimization and Efficient Use of Spectrum, including WRC-15 preparatory works, were discussed by more than 120 participants from 11 American countries who attended an ITU Forum organized in Mexico in July 2015.

69. Considering the positive results of the PAPI project implementation in the Republic of Moldova on creation of Internet Access Points in Rural Settlements of the Country and in accordance with the Request of the Republic of Moldova approved by the ITU Secretary-General during his 2014 official visit to the country, 28 more Internet Access Points were created in rural settlements of the Republic of Moldova in 2014.
70. ITU started a project in Uzbekistan on Provision of stable electric power supply for Telecommunications/ICT facilities in a remote area of Uzbekistan in 2013. The project was completed in 2014.
71. ITU jointly with the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission of Thailand (NBTC) organized an “International Satellite Symposium 2014” whereby over 200 participants including policymakers, regulators, private sector and industry, academia and researchers attended the event. The Symposium was held in Bangkok, Thailand during 18-19 September 2014 with an exhibition to showcase innovative satellite solutions and technologies.
72. Furthering the broadband networks development, ITU held in Chisinau from 20 to 22 May 2014 the Regional Forum for CIS and Europe on Shared Use of Infrastructure as a Tool to Promote Development of Broadband Networks.
73. To consider key trends in the ICT development in the CIS region, prospects of implementation of the CIS regional initiatives, ITU Regional Forum on Development for CIS and Georgia “Broadband for Sustainable Development” was held in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova from 31 March to 1 April 2015.
74. To share practical experience in the field of the building of broadband access networks in small and medium-sized settlement, ITU Regional Workshop for CIS on Optimal Solutions to the Provision of Broadband Access in Small and Medium-sized Settlements was held in Moscow, Russian Federation, from 17 to 19 February 2015.
75. To provide a basis for the exchange of best practices encountered on the path of digital terrestrial television broadcasting transition and to consider the ways of enhancement of spectrum management tools and structures, ITU Regional Workshop for Europe and CIS on "Spectrum Management and Transition to Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting" was held in Budapest, Hungary, from 5 to 7 May 2015.
76. Aimed at further implementation of satellite communication system in the Republic of Armenia, expert assistance was provided to the Republic of Armenia on elaboration of recommendations on coordination of orbital-spectrum resource.
77. Aimed at sharing practical experience in the field of organizational and technical development of Telecommunications/ICT, ITU Regional Workshop for CIS on relevant topic will be held in Odessa, Ukraine, from 23 to 25 September 2015.
78. Aimed at the development of virtual financing platform, the CIS regional initiative approved by WTDC-10 on Development of Recommendations and Creation of a Pilot Segment of the Telecommunication/ICT system to Support Secure Remote Retail Payments was implemented in 2014. As final stage of the implementation, ITU in cooperation with Intervale CJSC (Russian Federation), Odessa National Academy of Telecommunications (ONAT) n.a. A.Popov (Ukraine)

organized a workshop to present the results in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, from 14 to 16 October 2014.

79. For Swaziland assistance was provided on spectrum management and monitoring issues in April 2014.
80. The ITU-NBTC workshop on 'Cross-Border frequency coordination' was held from 29 June to 1 July 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand.
81. Please see Annex 1 for a list of all BDT Projects initiated in 2014-2015 in the area of action line C2.
82. Furthermore, ITU develops a number of the large scale regional projects focusing on 28 regional initiatives facilitating development of the information and communication infrastructure. More information on these projects as well as the other projects can be found [ITU-D Projects webpage](#).
83. ITU assisted Somalia in monitoring and measurements of their spectrum and provide them with Test Mobile System (TMS). The TMS was provided to Somalia in 2014.
84. ITU through its concentrated assistance program to LDCs. training on SMS4DC were provided to Arab LDCs. The training took place in Djibouti, 14-18 June, 2015.
85. ITU in its implementation to the PP/WTDC Resolutions related to Palestine had organized a dedicated training on Spectrum planning Engineering and Management. The training hosted by TRA of UAE in April 2015.
86. In the Framework of ITU-D Study Group, the following questions related to AL-C2 have been approved by WTDC-14:
  - [Question 1/1](#): Policy, regulatory and technical aspects of the migration from existing networks to broadband networks in developing countries, including next-generation networks, m-services, OTT services and the implementation of IPv6.
  - [Question 2/1](#): Broadband access technologies, including IMT, for developing countries
  - [Question 5/1](#): Telecommunications/ICTs for rural and remote areas
  - [Question 8/1](#): Examination of strategies and methods of migration from analogue to digital terrestrial broadcasting and implementation of new services
  - [Question 4/2](#): Assistance to developing countries for implementing conformance and interoperability programmes
  - [Resolution 9](#): Participation of countries, particularly developing countries, in spectrum management
87. As an input document to Question 1/1, ITU has prepared a Report on Implementation of Evolving Telecommunication/ICT Infrastructure for Developing Countries: Technical, Economic and Policy Aspects. The report introduces essential telecommunication/ICT infrastructures and their technologies, economic and policy aspects supporting effective adoption of Next-generation Networks, and is available online.

88. The issues of NGN and post-NGN were covered by the ITU Regional Workshop for CIS: «Shift of the Modern Infocommunication Paradigm in the Post-NGN Networks: New Technical, Economical, Legal, and Political Aspects», held in Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 23 to 25 June 2014 (with participation of over 50 participants from 7 countries). The ITU Arab Office organized in collaboration with the Moroccan Regulator the Arab Regional Forum on Future Networks, 19-20 May 2015. The Forum addressed the issue of the migration from existing networks to NGN.
89. BDT is contributing to bridging the standardization gap between developing and developed countries. Instructed by PP-14 Resolution 123 and the new WTDC-14 Recommendation 22 on Bridging the Standardization Gap (BSG), regional workshops and other regional activities are receiving support from ITU Regional Offices. ITU Academy has started collaboration with TSB to develop two online courses: Next-generation Networks and Quality of Service.
90. In the implementation of Action Line C2, ITU continues to be at the forefront of providing global standards for telecommunication. Since 1 January 2014, ITU-T approved 171 work items, including ITU-T Recommendations, Supplements and Technical Papers.
91. There are also currently 1155 ITU-R Recommendations and 410 ITU-R Reports in force and extensively used by the industry as witnessed during 2013 and 2014 by more than 5 million online downloads yearly (free access to general public). All ITU-R Rec in force issued from 2005 to 2013 are available on the 6 UN languages, and those from 2014-2015 are in process of translation
92. Free downloads Handbooks on radio-frequency spectrum management (3 Handbooks) are also relevant: more than 4 thousands
93. Free downloads of International Treaties: Radio Regulations (RR) and its Rules of Procedures (RoP) : more than 20 thousand downloads, made from practically all states members, in the 6 UN languages
94. ITU standardization activities related to Next Generation Networks (NGN) continues on requirements, capabilities and functional architecture for NGN evolution. In December 2014, ITU members achieved final approval of G.fast (ITU-T G.9701), the new ITU broadband standard that will allow delivery of up to 1Gb/s broadband access over the traditional copper phone lines that still make up a substantial proportion of so-called 'last-mile' networks. Within 400 metres of a distribution point, G.fast provides fibre-like speeds matched with the customer self-installation of DSL, resulting in cost-savings for service providers and an improved customer experience.
95. Internet of Things (IoT) standardization progressed and numerous ITU-T Recommendations were published by various study groups. At TSAG meeting in June 2015, a new ITU-T Study Group 20 was established to address the standardization requirements of (IoT) technologies, with an initial focus on IoT applications in smart cities and communities.
96. ITU members have achieved first-stage approval of a new methodology to assess the environmental impact of ICTs on the energy efficiency and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of cities (ITU-T L.1440).

97. ITU, ISO, and IEC have approved two new international standards fundamental to the cohesion of cloud computing's development. The standards provide a terminology foundation to be applied universally across the industry as well as a reference architecture to enable the development of interoperable cloud computing systems and services.
98. Standardized signalling requirements and protocols for software-defined networking (SDN) (overview, framework, high-level capabilities, basic requirements, functional requirements, and architecture) is progressing rapidly.
99. The set of e-health Recommendations was enriched with 32 new texts that are used to test the conformity of personal health devices with ITU-T H.810, a transposition of the Continua Design Guidelines. In cooperation with Continua, a list of devices previously tested according to these new Recommendations was inserted into the new ITU-T Conformance database (see section 3.3 above).
100. The ITU-T Focus Group on Disaster Relief Systems, Network Resilience and Recovery (FG-DR&NRR) concluded its work with nine Technical Reports that were fed into related standardization work in ITU-T Study Groups. The reports provide a comprehensive view of the technical frameworks underlying emergency communications and their emerging standardization needs.
101. The new Focus Group on Digital Financial Services had its first meeting in December 2014 to address a series of critical issues currently preventing digital financial services from reaching unbanked or under-banked populations. The Focus Group is developing a standardization roadmap for interoperable mobile money services and best practices to support national policy-makers and regulatory authorities in their efforts to encourage the adoption and use of these services.
102. The new Focus Group on Aviation Applications of Cloud Computing for Flight Data Monitoring is studying the requirements for standards to enable an 'aviation cloud' for real-time monitoring of flight data. It had its first and second meetings in December 2014 and February 2015, respectively.
103. The ITU-T Focus Group on Smart Sustainable Cities (FG-SSC) agreed on the definition of smart sustainable city and finalized 21 technical specifications and reports, inter alia, on climate change adaptation, EMF considerations, smart water management cybersecurity, and key performance indicators (KPIs) on smart sustainable cities. Dubai will be the first city to use the KPIs developed by the FG-SSC to measure its progress and inform urban-development policies and assess the efficiency and sustainability of its operations. The two-year pilot project will evaluate the feasibility of the indicators with the aim of contributing to their international standardization.
104. Globally 783 million people do not have access to clean water and 6 to 8 million people die annually from water-related diseases and disasters. ICTs have the potential to save up to 70% of water used for irrigation – one of the main consumers of water. ITU-T Focus Group 5 is developing the necessary specifications and an ITU/UNESCO report on 'smart water management' is available on the ITU website. The 5th Green Standards Week (GSW) is planned for 14-18 December 2015 in Nassau, The Bahamas.

105. ITU-T is carrying out various activities to encourage and facilitate the participation of academia in the work of the Sector, as well as to benefit from their technical and intellectual expertise. An assessment of academia members' involvement in the ITU-T activities shows that more than 30 universities actively participate in ITU-T events and contribute to ITU-T Study Groups. The Kaleidoscope 2014 event 'Living in a converged world – impossible without standards?' was held in St Petersburg University in June. Peer-reviewed papers were presented, with the best papers receiving cash prizes, as well as being published by IEEE. K-2015 "Trust in the Information Society" – Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain, 9-11 December 2015 – will contribute to the celebration of ITU's 150th anniversary, highlighting academia's contribution in service of ITU's mission to "Connect the World".
106. Fifteen ICT leaders met for the sixth annual Chief Technology Officers' (CTO) meeting in Doha, Qatar, on 6 December 2014. IoT, ITS, access and transport networks, efficient video coding, Software Defined Networking (SDN), and Network Function Virtualization (NFV) were among the key topics on the agenda.
107. Resolution 177 on Conformance and Interoperability (Dubai, 2014) endorsed the objectives of both Resolution 76 (Rev. Dubai, 2012) and Resolution 47 (Rev. Dubai, 2014) on conformity and interoperability of ICT equipment. The goal of Resolution 76 on Conformance and Interoperability testing is to help in increasing probability of interoperability and to ensure all the countries to benefit of ICTs. WTDC-14 reviewed Resolution 47 on enhancement of knowledge and effective application of ITU Recommendations in developing countries, including Conformance and Interoperability (C&I) testing of systems manufactured on the basis of ITU Recommendations". C&I issues are in the Dubai Declaration and are part of Regional Initiatives for AFR and ARB. Also, ITU Council-14 (May 2014) revised the C&I action plan, added stronger amendments requesting all ITU-T SGs to develop test requirements and test specifications for conformance and interoperability testing, and consisted of activities to promote ICT infrastructure in developing countries, as:
- The C&I Portal is responsible to gather all information about the work done in Pillar 1 (conformance assessment), Pillar 2 (interoperability), Pillar 3 (capacity building), and Pillar 4 (assistance in the establishment of test centres and C&I programmes in developing countries).
  - The C&I Portal is responsible to gather all information about the work done in Pillars 1 (conformance assessment) and 2 (interoperability); as Pillars 3 (capacity building) and 4 (assistance in the establishment of test centres and C&I programmes in developing countries).
  - The following ITU-D publication has been published on C&I: i) Guidelines for the development, implementation and management of mutual recognition arrangements/agreements (MRAs) on conformity assessment; ii) a Feasibility Study for the establishment of a Conformance Testing Center; iii) Guidelines on Establishing Conformity and Interoperability Regimes – Basic Guidelines. The complete version of the guidelines on establishing C&I regimes was finalized in 2015; iv) Guidelines for Developing Countries on establishing conformity assessment test labs in different regions.
  - ITU has organized C&I training events and workshops in the regions. During these events, key issues were discussed highlighting the relevance of accreditation and certification, including mutual recognition agreements and arrangements to increase confidence in conformity assessment and decreasing the need of repeated testing. Trainings on EMC, mobile terminals,



and C&I regimes for experts from Americas, Africa, Arab, CIS, and Asia-Pacific regions has been organized in the premises of partners' laboratories in the regions. Guidelines for building Test Labs for C&I of equipment and systems in developing countries were distributed, during the forums and the training courses. Also, ITU has started the development of the C&I Training Programme in the ITU Academy environment.

- ITU is preparing assessment studies in the regions to determine C&I areas of commonalities and differences in the concerned countries, allowing to assessing the present situation in each beneficiary country and proposing a common C&I regimes for the participant countries, which can include either building new labs and/or establishing MRAs, as appropriate. Assessment studies on C&I for SADC, Maghreb and the Caribbean Regions were finalized in 2014. In 2015, same studies for EAC and COMTELCA are taking place. A common declaration between ITU and UMA (Arab Maghreb Union) has been signed in the aim of strengthening their collaboration in general and to collaborate to establish the C&I MRA between the Maghreb countries. The Maghreb C&I Experts meeting is planned for 23-25 November 2015. . The results and the recommendations coming from these studies are presented in Regional Workshops, with the following agenda: for SADC region, 13-15 October 2014, in Livingstone, Zambia; for Maghreb region, 9- 11 December 2014, Tunis, Tunisia; for Caribbean region 2-4 December 2014, in St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago for EAC region, 21-23 October 2015, Nairobi, Kenya; and for COMTELCA countries and Cuba, 10-12 November 2015, in Managua, Nicaragua.
- The ITU is providing assistance to developing countries on conformity and interoperability tailored to their needs. The ITU assisted Sri-Lanka in building national Human capacity for C&I and to Government of Mongolia in setting up Type Approval systems in the country.
- Regional Workshop for CIS on Conformance and Interoperability was held by ITU-D in cooperation with ITU-T and with the support of the ZNIIS in Moscow, Russian Federation from 20 to 22 August 2014 (with participation of 35 representatives of 5 countries).
- Regional Workshop for CIS on Conformance and Interoperability was held by ITU-D in cooperation with ITU-T and with the support of the ZNIIS in Moscow, Russian Federation, from 7 to 9 July 2015.

108. The goal of WTS Resolution 76 on Conformance and Interoperability testing is to help in increasing probability of interoperability and to ensure all the countries to benefit of ICTs. In December 2014, ITU launched the "ICT product conformity database" to provide industry with a means to publicize the conformance of ICT products and services with ITU-T's international standards. E-Health products covering 23 classes of technology have been volunteered for inclusion in the database at its launch, with the intention of assisting buyers in their efforts to select standards-compliant products. The e-Health devices populating the database were tested for compliance with the specifications of Recommendation ITU-T H.810 "Interoperability design guidelines for personal health systems". Later entries include mobile phones tested in conjunction with vehicle-mounted hands-free telephone systems in accordance with Chapter 12 ("Verification of the transmission performance of short-range wireless (SRW) transmission enabled phones") of Recommendations ITU-T P.1100 and ITU-T P.1110 (01/2015).

- ITU-T SG11 was designated by WTSA-12 as a lead ITU-T study group on test specification, conformance and interoperability testing. SG11 accelerated relevant activities and developed its Action plan for the implementation of C&I Programme. ITU-T SG11 developed a living list of key technologies suitable for conformance and Interoperability testing and a reference table of testing specifications and the corresponding ITU-T Recommendations which are under ICT industry testing practice based on feedback/inputs from other ITU-T study groups.
- ITU-T SG11 initiated work on “Collaboration between ITU-T and testing laboratories for ITU C&I programme”. A Conformity Assessment Steering Committee (ITU-T CASC) was established in SG11 April 2015 meeting to elaborate detailed procedures for the implementation of a test laboratory recognition procedure in ITU-T in collaboration with existing CA schemes (including but not limited to IECEE, ILAC, etc). ITU is planning to partner with IEC to conduct a trial of voluntary 3rd party CA of suitable ITU-T Recommendations.
- ITU-T organized various other interoperability and showcasing events in 2015 on NGN, IPTV and e-health.

109. Resolution 176 (Guadalajara, 2010) instructed the Directors of the three Bureaux to collect and disseminate information concerning exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF), including on EMF measurement methodologies, in order to assist national administrations, particularly in developing countries to develop appropriate national regulations. Also, WTSA-12 approved revised Resolution 72: Measurement concerns related to human exposure to electromagnetic fields. [ITU-T SG5](#) is the lead study group on ICT environmental aspects of electromagnetic phenomena and climate change. A new ITU mobile application provides a guide to electromagnetic fields (EMF) which have raised public health concerns as countries’ mobile network infrastructure expands. ITU standards are designed to ensure the responsible consideration of human exposure to EMF. EMF is a growing concern for citizens in many countries due to the huge growth in deployment of ICTs, as well as the development of a new online resource that will provide a means to check field strengths at locations of particular concern – such as near homes or schools. The application will be available in the six UN languages by July 2015.

110. In elaboration of the topic of the expert assistance provided by the ITU to Communication Administration of the Republic of Armenia in 2013 on determination of the necessity to coordinate satellite communication networks, the ITU-D in cooperation with the ITU-R and the Communication Administration of Armenia held in Yerevan from 17 to 19 September 2014 the Regional Workshop for CIS on Advanced Satellite Communications Technologies aimed, in particular, at elaboration of recommendation for the CIS countries for the development of advanced satellite communication technologies.

111. With regard to radiocommunications, ITU-R organized from Dec 2012 to July 2015 2 World Radiocommunications Seminars and a 10 Radiocommunication Regional Seminars (to consider regional ICT radiocommunication matters, including spectrum management, use of digital dividend and the digital TV switchover, in addition to the current spectrum/orbit issues related to the application of the Radio Regulations. List of events are:

- WRS-12, from 3 to 7 December 2012, attended by 394 participants from 96 countries;
- WRS-14, from 8 to 12 December 2014, attended by 357 participants from 104 countries.

112. The WRS and RRS jointly strategy has reached ITU 165 member states

Date	RRS	Place	Host	Cooperation	Forum Topics	Language s	Participants/ administrations
8-12 July 2013	RRS-13-Americas	Asuncion, Paraguay	CONATEL Paraguay	ITU Americas Office	Digital Dividend in Latin America	S, E	121/9
16-20 September 2013	RRS-13-Africa	Yaounde, Cameroon	MINPOSTEL Cameroon	ATU, ITU Africa Office	UHF band in Africa	F, E	135/33
28 October - 1 November 2013	RRS-13-Asia-Pacific	Nadi, Fiji	Ministry of Communications Fiji	PITA, ITU Asia-Pacific Office	C Band in Asia-Pacific	E	53/18
9-13 December 2013	RRS-13-Arab	Tunis, Tunisia	ANF Tunisia	ASMG, ITU Arab Regional Office	Cognitive radio and TV White Spaces	A, E	49/12
26-30 May 2014	RRS-14-Asia	Ha Noi, Viet Nam	MIC Viet Nam	APT, ITU Asia-Pacific Office	New issues on Spectrum Management	E	94/15
14-18 July 2014	RRS-14-Americas	Island of Tobago, Trinidad and Tobago	Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago	CTU, ITU Americas Office	WRC-15 Agenda: Regional matters C-band registration	E	46/19
2-6 March 2015	RRS-15-Eastern Europe and CIS	Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic	State Communications Agency - Kyrgyz Republic	RCC, ITU Offices for Eastern Europe and CIS	WRC-15 regional preparation	R	56/8
20-24 April 2015	RRS-15-Africa	Niamey, Niger	Autorité de Régulation des Télécommunications et de la Poste, ARTP, Niger	ATU, ITU offices for Africa	Emerging concepts in spectrum utilization and monitoring; Preparing for future spectrum management for the region	F, E	100/36
25-30 May 2015	RRS-15-Asia-Pacific	Manila, Philippines	Information and Communications Technology Office, Department of Science and Technology (ICTO-DOST), Philippines	APT, Dpt of Communications, Government of Australia, ITU offices for Asia and Pacific	Space Planned Services: current status and challenges	E	70/20
27-31 July 2015	RRS-15-Americas	San Salvador, El Salvador	Superintendencia General de Electricidad y Telecomunicaciones of El Salvador (SIGET)	COMTELCA, ITU area office for Central America	WRC15: Challenges and opportunities for the Region C-band registration Unlicensed Devices Regulations	S	70/16
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10 RRS</b>						<b>794/115</b>

113. The BR has provided partial fellowships for RRS (only one per administration for eligible countries). More than 80 partial fellowships were granted. Also provided full fellowships for WRS, granting more than 60

114. 34 During 2013-2014 period 34 Technical assistance requests coming from 28 countries were duly attended, including:

- Supporting national spectrum management activities in the rapidly changing regulatory environment (see Resolution 7 (Rev.WRC 03)) and providing technical assistance in the field of space radiocommunication (Resolution 15 (Rev.WRC 03)); to this end, missions were undertaken either on request of administrations, or under special missions jointly organized with the BDT, including participation of BR experts to provide capacity building in regional seminars organized by BDT or regional organizations. Furthermore, experts from administrations of least developed countries were granted fellowships to attend BR radiocommunication seminars and workshops. Experts from administrations were also received for individual or group in service training in the ITU headquarters on radio regulatory procedures;
- Participating in the meetings of the regional coordination groups, as requested by Article 12 of the Radio Regulations;
- Providing assistance in Long Term Frequency management and assignment for mobile broadband (IMT);
- Providing guidance and technical support for the transition to Digital Television and the allocation of the digital dividend following the request of assistance from the Regional Groups ATU and ASMG in implementing the decisions of WRC-07 and WRC-12 on the allocation of the 700 and 800 MHz band, the Bureau provided technical expertise and the associated

software to enable ATU and ASMG Administrations to plan additional channels in the frequency band 470-694 MHz in preparation to the transition to digital TV and the allocation of these bands to the mobile service.

115. Assistance was also provided by the Bureau in support of frequency coordination between the administrations of smaller groups of countries.

#### Assistance to ATU

- The process of coordination was initiated in response to two African summits of Ministers conveyed by ATU: in Nairobi (December 2011) and Accra (September 2012), and included 47 Sub-Saharan countries. The intensive discussions and technical compatibility analysis of frequencies, based on the recommendations of ATU adopted in Bamako in March 2012, covered 18 months, during which 33 compatibility iterations were performed, based on the requirements submitted by administrations.
- To enable the participating administrations to proceed with bilateral and multilateral coordination, ATU, with the assistance of the ITU, organized three planning and coordination meetings, respectively in Bamako, Kampala and Nairobi.
- The average of satisfied requirements achieved was 97.37%. By the date of preparation of this report, 89% of ATU Administrations had successfully modified the GE06 Plan in line with the agreement reached.

#### Assistance to ASMG

- The process of coordination between ASMG countries was initiated in response to a recommendation from the 35th meeting of the Permanent Arab Committee for Communications and Information (Cairo: 4-5 March 2014) and involved 17 Arab Administrations (with the exception of the Arab countries also part of ATU).
- The process covered eleven months, with the coordination criteria and establishment of the frequency requirements in the frequency band 470-694 MHz based on ASMG recommendations (Dubai, 2014). A total of 27 iterations were performed for the compatibility analysis, based on the requirements submitted by administrations. To facilitate bilateral and multilateral coordination, three meetings were organised successively in Dubai, Hammamet and Marrakech.
- The average of satisfied requirements achieved was 76.87%. By the date of preparation of this report, ASMG Administrations were in the process of modifying the GE06 Plan according to the agreement reached channels. Coordination with several administrations outside the ASMG is still ongoing. It is necessary to permit the corresponding modifications to the GE06 Plan.

#### Assistance to CITEL

- Following the development by BR of online tools for technical examinations in the scope of the RJ81 Plan, the BR provided remote training for the use of this software, on request from CITEL.

#### Assistance to other groups of countries

- The Bureau hosted two sub-regional frequency coordination meetings in March 2013 and November 2014 at the ITU headquarters in Geneva, between the Administrations of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, Iran, Kuwait, Oman and Qatar. These meetings enabled the concerned administrations to conclude two agreements:
    - Arrangement to control cross-border spillover and harmful interference to the Mobile service;
    - Mechanism for coordinating the VHF Sound Broadcasting service;
  - The application of these agreements has significantly improved the coordination of frequencies used for the Mobile.
  - The Bureau hosted a coordination meeting between the Administrations of Egypt, Israel, Lebanon, Palestine and Syria on the Digital Television broadcasting frequency planning in the band 470-694 MHz. This meeting took place in Geneva from 29th September to 1st October 2014 and agreement on some technical criteria for frequency coordination was reached, such as a limiting interfering margin between Israel and the Arab countries.
116. ITU-R are working on the futuristic mobile broadband wireless technology standards '[IMT for 2020 and Beyond](#)' through the leading role of ITU- R Working Party 5D, ITU-R Radiocommunication Sector.
117. The buzz in the industry on future steps in mobile technology — “5G” — has seen a sharp increase, with attention now focused on enabling a seamlessly connected society in the 2020 timeframe and beyond that brings together people along with things, data, applications, transport systems and cities in a smart networked communications environment. In this context, ITU and its partners, sharing a common community of interest, have recognized the relationship between IMT — International Mobile Telecommunication system — and “5G” and are working towards realizing the future vision of mobile broadband communications.
118. ITU has a rich history in the development of radio interface standards for mobile communications. The framework of standards for International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT), encompassing IMT-2000 and IMT-Advanced, spans the 3G and 4G industry perspectives and will continue to evolve as 5G with “IMT for 2020 and beyond”.
119. In early 2012, ITU-R embarked on a programme to develop “IMT for 2020 and beyond”, setting the stage for “5G” research activities that are emerging around the world.
120. Through the leading role of Working Party 5D, ITU’s Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) is finalizing its view of a timeline towards “IMT for 2020 and beyond”. The detailed investigation of the key elements of “5G” are already well underway, once again utilizing the highly successful partnership ITU-R has with the mobile broadband industry and the wide range of stakeholders in the “5G” community.
121. The last meetings of Working Party 5D, took place in: 2014: Ho Chi Minh City, 11-19 February 2014, 2015: San Diego, USA, 10-18 June 2015, each one convened about 200 experts from industry, government, and academia to meet and set the framework for the future development of IMT technologies.
122. With those outcomes, in 2015, ITU-R is about to finalize its “Vision” of the “5G” mobile broadband connected society. This view of the horizon for the future of mobile technology

will be instrumental in setting the agenda for the World Radiocommunication Conference 2015, where deliberations on additional spectrum will take place in support of the future growth of IMT.

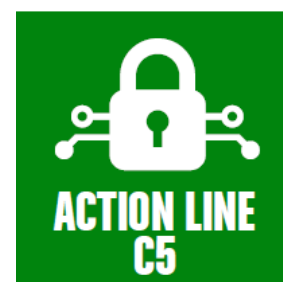
123. In order to ensure compatibility with and protection of radiocommunication services from power line communications (PLC) emissions, Recommendation ITU-R SM.1879-1 addresses the impact of power line telecommunication (PLT) systems on radiocommunication services and provides as guidance of the protection criteria for radiocommunication services below 470 MHz with regard to interference by an aggregate of PLT systems including examples of some national regulations. Reports ITU-R SM.2158, ITU-R SM.2212 and ITU-R SM.2269 further describe the ITU-R standardization activities on this subject. Additional ITU-R studies are on-going regarding smart grid power management systems.

### Action Line C5: Building Confidence and Security in the use of ICTs

124. A fundamental role of the ITU, following the WSIS and the 2006 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference, is to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs.

125. The 10th Action Line C5 facilitator's meeting was held as an integral component of the WSIS Forum 2015, on 28 May 2015. The outcomes of the meeting are available here:

[http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/outcomes/WSISForum2015\\_OutcomeDocument\\_ForumTrack.pdf](http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/outcomes/WSISForum2015_OutcomeDocument_ForumTrack.pdf)



126. As 2015 marks the 10-year anniversary of WSIS and is also the year of the review of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and the elaboration of the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), this session specifically addressed issues concerning building confidence and security in the use of ICTs as a means for sustainable development, taking also into account the priorities identified by the multistakeholder community for Action Line C5 beyond 2015 during the 2014 WSIS+10 High Level Event.

127. Cybersecurity and Countering Spam Activities:

- a) The Global Cybersecurity Agenda (GCA) provides a framework within which an international response to the growing challenges to cybersecurity can be addressed. Resolution 130 (Rev. Busan, 2014) clearly endorses the GCA as the ITU-wide strategy on Cybersecurity.
- b) Within ITU, the GCA shows the complementary nature of existing ITU work programmes and facilitates the implementation of BDT, TSB and BR activities in this domain. The GCA is built upon five strategic pillars or work areas around which its work is organized: (1) Legal Measures, (2) Technical and Procedural Measures, (3) Organizational Structures, (4) Capacity Building and (5) International Cooperation.

#### 1) Legal Measures

128. As part of Objective 3 of the Dubai Action Plan, and taking into account ITU-D Q 3/2 (former Q22/1), ITU is assisting Member States in understanding the legal aspects of cybersecurity through its [ITU Cybercrime Legislation Resources](#) in order to help harmonize their legal frameworks.

129. A new edition of the ITU Publication on Understanding Cybercrime: Phenomena, Challenges and Legal Response was published in November 2014. The Guide will serve to help developing countries better understand the implications related to the growing cyber threats and assist in the assessment of the current legal frameworks and in the establishment of a sound legal foundation.
130. In the area of legal measures, ITU collaborates closely with partners such as UNODC and others that may have expertise in this area.

## 2) Technical and Procedural Measures

131. In order to identify cyberthreats and countermeasures to mitigate risks, ITU-T has developed Recommendations of security requirements, guidelines and specifications for ICT and IP-based systems. ITU-T also provides an international platform for the development of the protocols, systems and services that protect current and Next Generation Networks (NGN). ITU-T's work on secure communication services, reviews enhancements to security specifications for mobile end-to-end data communications and considers security requirements for web services and application protocols.
132. ITU-T Study Group 17 (SG17) is the lead study group on security and identity management with its role being reinforced by WTSA-12 Res. 50 and 52. SG17 is also working on the implementation of WTSA-12 Res. 58 to "Encourage the creation of national Computer Incident Response Teams, particularly for developing countries" and is following Resolution 130 of the Plenipotentiary Conference. Since December 2012, Study Group 17 has continued its responsibility for building confidence and security in the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs), and continues to be instrumental in study and standardization in the area of cybersecurity, anti-spam, identity management, X.509 certificates, information security management, ubiquitous sensors networks, telebiometrics, IPTV security, virtualization security towards cloud computing security, and security architecture and application security, often in cooperation with external SDOs and Consortia. Since September 2014, Study Group 17 has approved two Recommendations on cybersecurity, among them Rec. ITU-T X.1211 on techniques for preventing web-based attacks, and Rec. ITU-T X.1525 on common weakness scoring system (CWSS), and approved several other ITU-T Recommendations related to security, such as Rec. ITU-T X.1314, on security requirements and framework of ubiquitous networking, Rec. ITU-T X.1157 on technical capabilities of fraud detection and response for services with high assurance level requirements, Rec. ITU-T X.1158 on multi-factor authentication mechanisms using a mobile device, Rec. ITU-T X.1246 on technologies involved in countering voice spam in telecommunication organizations, revised Rec. ITU-T X.1601 on cloud computing security framework, and Rec. ITU-T X.1631 on code of practice for information security controls based on ISO/IEC 27002 for cloud services. SG17 published the [6<sup>th</sup> edition of the ITU-T Security Manual](#).
133. ITU-R's work in radiocommunication standardization continues, matching the constant evolution in modern telecommunication networks. ITU-R established clear security principles for IMT (3G and 4G) networks (Recommendations ITU-R M.1078, M.1223, M.1457, M.1645 and M.2012). It has also issued recommendations on security issues in network management architecture for digital satellite systems (Recommendation ITU-R S.1250) and performance enhancements of transmission control protocol over satellite networks (Recommendation ITU-R S.1711).

## 3) Organizational Structures

134. BDT is working with Member States, regions, and with partners, to deploy capabilities to build capacity at national and regional levels through the establishment of National Computer Incident Response Teams (CIRTs).
135. To date, 65 countries have received assistance in assessing their national cybersecurity preparedness and response capabilities. An assessment exercise is typically conducted during a five-day on-site visit, which also includes an initial workshop to provide an appreciation of cybersecurity issues at national level and to better understand the operations of a national CIRT. The ensuing analysis and report elaboration are done off site, culminating in a final report submitted to the country. This document is essentially a customized, detailed roadmap for implementing the country's national CIRT.
136. Eleven countries (Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Ghana, Jamaica, Kenya, Montenegro, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda and Zambia) have availed themselves of ITU support to set up a national computer incident response team, and four others (Barbados, Burundi, Gambia and Lebanon) are currently receiving assistance to do likewise. National CIRT implementation can be undertaken in 11 months if the country is fully engaged at all times.
137. To ensure that the national CIRTs are effective in managing incidents in harmony with international standards and good practice, and to foster technical-level cooperation between national CIRTs, cyberdrills are conducted at a regional level. A cyberdrill is a three-day event comprising a workshop (first day) for an unlimited number of participants, followed by a two-day simulation of attack exercise for the technical staff of national CIRTs. To date, 13 such cyberdrills have taken place with the participation of over 100 countries. In 2015 the ITU has conducted 4 Cyberdrills, the first was for the Africa region from 5 to 7 May 2015 in Rwanda, the second was for the Arab Region from 17 to 19 May 2015 in Egypt, the third was for Americas Region from 3 to 5 August 2015 in Colombia and the last one was for the Europe Region from 30 September to 2 October 2015 in Montenegro. At least 4 cyberdrills are being planned for 2016, confirmed ones will be held in Mauritius and in Ecuador.



138. The Cyberdrill in Rwanda in May 2015 saw the participation of 20 countries namely Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Cote D' Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania and Zambia.
139. The Oman regional cybersecurity centre has been operational since 2013 and has successfully undertaken capacity building, organized 20 events and assisted 7 countries in the region. The design phase for the first centre in the African region, located in Nigeria, is being finalized. Expressions of interest have been received from several other Member States and a centre for the Asia-Pacific region is being contemplated for hosting in Malaysia. Work is



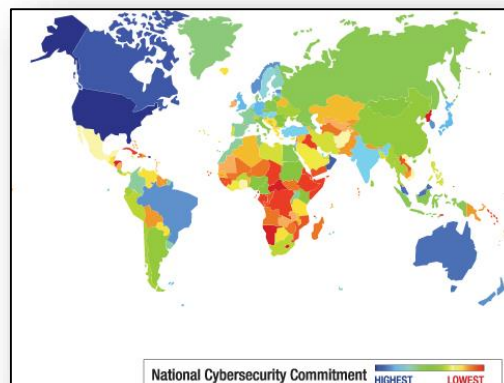
ongoing with regard to bringing in international training institutions with a view to providing cybersecurity training through the ITU Academy.

#### 4) Capacity Building

140. Within the framework of GCA, ITU facilitates in the implementation and deployment of cybersecurity capabilities that is necessary to combat cyberthreats.
141. ITU has organized, co-organized, and has participated in various human capacity-building forums. Recent forums include the "Regional Workshop on Critical National Infrastructure Protection" held in Hurghada, Egypt, in May 2015. ITU, in collaboration with the Swiss WebAcademy in Romania and the CERT-RO, supported the Central European Cybersecurity Public-Private Dialogue Platform Events held from 23 to 26 September 2015 in Sibiu, Romania. ITU participated in the Third Regional Forum on Interconnectivity, Cyber Security and IPV6 held 10-11 September 2015 in Panama city, Panama as well as in Cybersecurity workshop on "Global Cybersecurity Challenges - Collaborating for effective enhancement of cybersecurity in developing countries" held 8 September 2015, Geneva, Switzerland. ITU organized for Asia and Pacific region a Workshop on Cybersecurity and Cybercrime Legislation & Cybersecurity Incident Simulation held 23 March 2015 in Bangkok. First Sub-Regional Forum on Cybersecurity and fight against Cybercrime for members of Economic Community of Central African States held 24-27 February 2015 in Yaoundé, Cameroon was organized by ITU in partnership with Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications of Cameroon and CTO.
142. ITU is continuing its partnership with Symantec and Trend Micro for the timely dissemination of cybersecurity threat reports and other awareness materials to ITU Member States. To date, 13 reports, 4 e-guides and 4 infographics have been distributed.
143. Training courses in cybersecurity are being identified, and discussions have been initiated with a view to providing courses through the ITU Academy. To facilitate regional training in cybersecurity, the ITU Centre of Excellence Global network has endorsed five training institutions; namely two in the Africa region, one in Asia-Pacific and two in Europe.
144. The cybersecurity needs of the least developed countries (LDCs) are the focus of particular attention under ITU's "Enhancing Cybersecurity in Least Developed Countries" project. This project focuses on assisting the LDCs to enhance their capabilities, capacity, readiness, skills and knowledge in the area of cybersecurity. Apart from human capacity building, the project is also geared towards providing the appropriate enabling technologies and related tools to assist LDCs in carrying out activities with regard to securing their cyberspace.
145. To date, the project has been implemented in Sierra Leone, Republic of Guinea, Djibouti, Comoros and Vanuatu, and is at different stages of implementation in Afghanistan, Angola, Bhutan, Burundi, Chad, Haiti, Kiribati, Lao, Mauritania, Myanmar, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. Given the strong interest of Gambia in enhancing its cybersecurity capabilities, the project in Gambia has been augmented to a national CIRT establishment.
146. ITU provided direct country assistance to Lao PDR on drafting its National Cybersecurity Policy. ITU assisted Nepal in creating Cybersecurity awareness for the Ministry, regulator, industry and relevant stakeholders including child online protection. ITU assisted Afghanistan in

delivering penetration testing training for professionals of Afghanistan CERT to build their capability.

147. Capacity Building also implies having factual information about the state of cybersecurity readiness at a national and international level. Work is ongoing on the second version of the Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) following the publication of the 2014 results and its inclusion in Resolution 130 (Rev. Busan, 2014). This new iteration of the GCI will have a unique value addition to the sphere of existing cybersecurity indices, will capture more details on cybersecurity, require improved consultation with Member States and further expand the partnerships into a multi-stakeholder collaborative platform.



148. A report on the GCI and Cyberwellness profiles was launched during WSIS 2015. The GCI webpage has been enhanced with an interactive comparison tool and new charts illustrating the 2014 results from a new perspective. Cyberwellness country profiles are being maintained and Member States are urged to submit any update to [cybersecurity@itu.int](mailto:cybersecurity@itu.int). Following the SG rapporteur's meeting of April 2015, the GCI draft questionnaire has incorporated questions for



the ITU-D SG2 Q3 survey as well as specific questions on Child Online Protection. The reference model, partnership model and questionnaire were submitted for comments to Member States through the ITU-D SG2/Q3 with positive outcomes. A panel of expert is being set up to review the GCI questions weightages. To build

the multi-stakeholder collaborative platform and raise more awareness for responses from Member States, information on the GCI is being disseminated in identified fora including Cyberdrills and Telecom World. We currently have 15 confirmed partners to further reinforce the GCI effort. The online GCI questionnaire will be opened to respondents in early 2016 with facilities to upload relevant supporting documents.

149. The GCI webpage is being enhanced with an interactive comparison tool and new charts illustrating the 2014 results from a new perspective. Cyberwellness country profiles are being maintained and Member States are urged to submit any update to [cybersecurity@itu.int](mailto:cybersecurity@itu.int).

## 5) International Cooperation

150. The GCA is based on international cooperation and strives to engage all relevant stakeholders in a concerted effort to build confidence and security in the use of ICTs.

151. BDT has consolidated its global alliance with governments, academia and industry experts to promote a culture of cybersecurity awareness and a holistic approach to counter

misuses of online networks. An active partnership with the UNODC, ABI Research, ENISA, Oxford University, Symantec, Trend Micro, the Commonwealth Cybercrime Initiative (CCI), the Commonwealth Telecommunication Organisation (CTO), Nuix and INTERPOL is maintained. Collaboration with FIRST, the biggest association of CIRT teams, is progressing, with the FIRST affiliation for attending CIRTs in ITU cyberdrills being facilitated and subsidized.

152. The memorandum of understanding with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) was signed on 8 June 2015.

153. We are currently working on upcoming collaboration with CERT regional groups namely AfricaCERT, APCERT and OIC CERT. These collaboration will synergise our activities in the regions and will enhance CERT specific knowledge exchanges between regions.

154. During the Global Conference on Cyberspace (GCCS) held in The Hague, Netherlands, on 16 and 17 April 2015, the Global Forum on Cyber Expertise (GFCE) was launched. This forum comprises 42 Founding Members, including ITU. Some 15 cooperation initiatives were launched within the framework of the GFCE, with ITU being the co-initiator of the "CSIRT Maturity Initiative", along with the Netherlands, the Organization of American States (OAS) and Microsoft. The objective of the cybersecurity CSIRT Maturity Initiative is to provide a platform to GFCE members to help emerging and existing Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs) to increase their maturity level.

155. During the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2014, a letter of agreement was signed between BDT and ISOC on joint activities related to combating the proliferation of spam. The following are some of the areas that have been identified as a focus of collaboration between ITU and ISOC:

- workshop programmes for policy-makers and Member States;
- topical webinars;
- document formulation and best practices development in conjunction with ITU-D SG2/Q3;
- revision of ITU-D's spam report;
- Online training modules.

156. BDT is also actively participating in the London Action Plan (LAP). The purpose of this Action Plan is to promote international spam enforcement cooperation and address spam-related problems, such as online fraud and deception, phishing, and dissemination of viruses. LAP and BDT are discussing joint initiatives aimed at improving information exchange. The organization of the annual LAP meeting in 2016 in conjunction with the ITU-D SG2 annual meeting is currently being investigated.

## 6) The Child Online Protection (COP) Global Initiative

### 6. The Child Online Protection (COP) Global Initiative

157. Within the framework of the GCA, the Child Online Protection (COP) Initiative was established by ITU as an international collaborative network for action to promote the online protection of children worldwide.

158. ITU has been raising awareness on COP issues through organizing workshops, strategic dialogues and regional forums, and holding several workshops at different international conferences.

159. ITU and its partners are continuing to organize the Child Online Protection Challenge to address the issue and educating children by presenting an interactive platform where children, parents and educators can engage in fun activities to learn more about the risks that children face on the Internet and how these risks can be averted.

160. ITU continues to provide assistance to countries such as Oman, Zambia, Bahrain, Vanuatu, Chad and Gabon with the aim to support national stakeholders in planning and deploying an effective and practical approach to COP that can be implemented in the countries.

161. With the goal of bringing partners together to work on setting global goals and targets on child online protection, since the last WSIS Forum ITU is organizing regular meetings to translate the common vision for protecting children into a clearly measurable and result-oriented framework. Consultation on the framework includes elaboration of specific indicators along with measurement procedures; it is an ongoing project. An elaborated version is expected to be presented during the next meeting of the Council Working Group on COP, mid-February 2016.

162. Following the adoption of the Regional Initiatives on COP in Europe and CIS, during the last [World Telecommunication Development Conference 2014](#), ITU and partners are implementing activities and trainings programs in order to build a safer online environment for children.

- CIS:

- A multimedia distance-learning course on the safe use of Internet resources was developed by ITU's Telecommunication Development Bureau as part of the CIS regional initiative on "creating a child online protection centre for the CIS region", with the support of the Odessa National Academy of Telecommunications n.a. A.S. Popov (Ukraine).
- The course is divided into three parts: basic (for pre-school and junior school children); intermediate (for children in classes 5 to 9); and advanced (for senior pupils, students, parents and teachers). Each course is based on thematic modules with tests after each module. Russian-language version of the course is to be available online at <http://www.onlinesafety.info>

- Europe

- International Conference "[Keeping Children and Young People Safe Online](#)" held Warsaw, Poland, 22-23 September 2015: the event served one of the key targets of the Regional Initiative with regard to providing a platform to raise awareness on child online protection (COP) and safety issues. One of the main scopes of the conference was therefore to provide valuable

insights to educators and law enforcement officials in terms of the various risks posed to children online.

- 3rd Edition of the Macro-regional Public-Private dialogue platform took place as the precedent ones, held in Sibiu, Romania 24-25 September 2015: ITU supported the organization of an awareness-raising day for the schoolchildren (8-12 years old) with their teachers, for college teenagers with their teachers (13-17 years old).
- ITU is also working on the updated version of the Guidelines for Children and Parents to be translated and distributed in several countries in Europe.



163. In September 2015 the Regional Office for Latin American countries organized the third Regional Forum on Interconnectivity, Cyber Security and IPV6, in Panama City, Panama. During this event, COP issues were discussed with the support of partners such as GSMA and UNICEF.

164. Following the instruction of the Plenipotentiary Conference 2014, ITU Council Working Group on Child Online Protection is encouraged to conduct one-day online consultations for youth prior to its meetings in order to listen to their views and opinions on different matters related to child online protection. The first consultation was launched in September 2015 through the World We Want Platform.

165. In October 2015, the “ITU Regional Strategy Workshop on Child Online Protection (COP) for the Arab Region: Empowering the future digital citizens”, took place in Cairo, Egypt, and was hosted by and organized with the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology in Egypt (MCIT) under the auspices of the League of Arab States (LAS). This workshop built a coherent COP strategy framework for the Arab region that copes with the international perspectives. It provided a platform to share information on existing activities within the Arab countries and defined a way forward to consolidate the activities towards a regional framework for cooperation (Pan- Arab Network). In addition, the workshop helped regional stakeholders to further discuss the risks and points of weakness, and evaluated appropriate tools and approaches to promote growth of a safe and responsible young population online.

166. ITU in collaboration with the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, Indonesia and Intel will conduct the Digital Literacy Training and Promotion of Child Online Protection for children and teachers in the rural areas of Indonesia.

167. Following the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between ITU and Trend Micro, ITU is distributing regular infographics and reports to Member States on issues related to child online safety.

168. The ITU-T Joint Coordination Activity on child online protection (JCA-COP) continues under the parenthood of ITU-T SG17 with renewed terms of references, which established liaison relationships with ITU-D SG1 and CWG-COP.

169. Finally, by being considered a neutral platform for discussion on topics related to child online safety, ITU opens opportunities to new initiatives such as the IRights. Principles and recommendations of the coalition were discussed and follow up consultations are currently underway.

### Action Line C6: Enabling Environment

170. Recognizing the strong commitment of ITU’s work towards bridging the digital divide in the area of the enabling environment, UNDP officially handed over the lead facilitation role on WSIS Action Line C6 Enabling Environment to the ITU in May 2008. Since then, ITU has been acting as the sole facilitator for this Action Line building upon its regular work carried out within the framework of the ITU-D Programme 3: Enabling Environment.



171. The 10<sup>th</sup> Action Line C6 facilitation meeting was held as an integral component of the 2015 WSIS Forum, on 28 May 2015. The meeting was very well received and attracted more than 40 participants. The theme of this year was: “Fostering open access to international fiber”. The meeting was organized as an interactive panel discussion, involving multiple stake-holders including national governments, regulators, industry, civil society and international organizations. The session identified emerging trends and the vision of the action line beyond 2016. The outcomes of the meeting are available here: [http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/outcomes/WSISForum2015\\_Outcome\\_Document\\_ForumTrack.pdf](http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/outcomes/WSISForum2015_Outcome_Document_ForumTrack.pdf).

172. World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 preparations are well underway. World radiocommunication conferences (WRC) are held every three to four years. It is the job of WRC to review, and, if necessary, revise the Radio Regulations, the international treaty governing the use of the radio-frequency spectrum and the geostationary-satellite and non-geostationary-satellite orbits. Revisions are made on the basis of an agenda determined by the ITU Council, which takes into account recommendations made by previous world radiocommunication conferences. The World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 (WRC-15) will be held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 2 to 27 November 2015.



173. The ITU Radiocommunication Bureau also organizes ITU Inter-regional Workshops on WRC-15 Preparation in accordance with Resolution 72 (Rev.WRC-07). Based on the presentation of the on-going ITU-R preparatory studies for WRC-15, as well as on up-to-date information regarding the Bureau and regional preparations for WRC-15, these meetings provide participants with the opportunity to exchange views and have a better understanding of the draft common views, positions and/or proposals of the concerned entities. A 1st ITU Inter-regional Workshop on WRC-15 preparation was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 4-5 December 2013 and a 2nd ITU Inter-regional Workshop on WRC-15 preparation was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 12-13 November 2014. A third ITU inter-regional workshop on WRC-15 will be held in Geneva 2 and 3 September 2015. Successful preparatory meetings were organized each year in collaboration with ATU for the African region, the fourth and last one was held in Nairobi 23 to 27 July 2015. Progress was made on the approval of more

common positions for some agenda items. African nominations for the chair and vice chair of the WRC and the BR bodies have been also retained.

174. The BR regional seminar for the African region was organized in Niamey, NIGER, from 20 to 24 April 2015.
175. ITU announced the WSIS Prizes: winning projects for 2015 during the 2015 WSIS Forum. The prize winner for Action Line C6 was the Committee of State Property and Privatization of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Kazakhstan, for the development of the “Electronic Auction for property sale” project. This project is designed to organize and conduct electronic auctions for the sale of state property (national, municipal, regional and districts), quasi-public sector non-state property, and property of debtors and to enable individuals and legal persons to take part in such trading if they register in the system and submit electronic applications within the prescribed time.
176. ITU continues to assist Member States and Sector Members in developing a pro-competitive policy and regulatory framework for telecommunications. More specifically, through Objective 2/1 Policy and Regulatory frameworks, ITU has undertaken numerous activities that foster the development of an enabling environment worldwide including information sharing, creation of tools for effective regulation, national and regional assistance, and creation of training materials and opportunities. Activities include:
177. The ITU Regulatory and Market Environment Division (RME), under Objective 2/1 Policy and regulatory frameworks, assists membership in the formulation, review and effective implementation of telecommunication /ICT policies, legislation and regulations. This division conducts, global and regional research and analysis on the latest policy, regulatory, economic financial and market trends in telecommunications/ICTs. Some of the relevant activities in relation with WSIS are the following:
178. RME produces a number of flagship reports including Trends in Telecommunication Reform, focusing on best practice regulation to enable ubiquitous broadband markets to thrive. Various thematic studies provide valuable viewpoints and strategies on multiple issues that affect regulation and economics in a converged broadband world. Under the overarching theme "Getting ready for the digital economy", the 15th edition of Trends in Telecommunication Reform discusses changing ICT consumer behavior, consumer empowerment and protection in the digital age. It further explores the opportunities and challenges of big data and what it means from a regulatory perspective; why competition matters. It also attempts to answer whether it is time to rethink spectrum licensing, how to monitor the implementation of broadband plans and what are the new business models driven by digital communications and services. As in previous editions, the publication features an in-depth analysis of current market and regulatory trends based on ITU data from one of the world's most comprehensive data platforms, the ICT Eye. See Table of contents and preview at: [http://www.itu.int/en/publications/Documents/Trends2015-short-version\\_pass-e374681.pdf](http://www.itu.int/en/publications/Documents/Trends2015-short-version_pass-e374681.pdf)



179. The ICT Regulation Toolkit, developed by ITU in partnership with the World Bank/infoDev, assists regulators in developing effective regulatory frameworks by sharing information on key regulatory issues and best practices. The content management system of Toolkit and the design are currently being modernized to enhance the navigation and interactivity of the web platform.

180. ITU has launched its "ICT Regulatory Tracker".

The Tracker was built as a tool to monitor and measure the changes taking place in the telecommunication/ICT regulatory environment, and covers over 150 countries for a period of 11 years, showcasing regulatory progress within the same country, amongst regions and worldwide. A variety of traditional and new subjects is included in the Tracker and are allocated into four clusters overlooking the telecommunication/ICTs regulatory environment: regulatory authority, regulatory mandate, regulatory regime and competition framework.



181. The 15th Edition of the Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR-15) took place in Libreville, Gabon, from 9 to 11 June 2015, with 8 June being reserved for pre-events. Some 400 participants attended, including 63 countries. Key topics included investment opportunities and funding challenges in deploying ICT networks, and providing access and supporting the development of new services and applications to bolster access to knowledge in the digital world and reduce the digital gap. Sessions included: mobile money and financial inclusion, network sharing models, taxation in a digital environment, convergence and the Internet of Things (IoT), and interoperability. The regulators day (11 June) included sessions on accessibility to achieve digital inclusion, the role of the regulatory measures to facilitate the deployment and diffusion of m-services and applications to achieve social development goals, and an exchange on regulatory measures taken to foster broadband access, ensure quality of service and stimulate broadband uptake. This year's GSR culminated in a series of regulatory Best Practice Guidelines, recognizing that targeted fourth-generation regulation based on a light touch approach promoting healthy (active and sustainable) competition, innovation, consumer protection and empowerment can go a long way towards responding to the dynamic transformation of ICT markets and achieving social and economic goals. Regulators identified and endorsed these regulatory best practice guidelines to facilitate the uptake and widespread use of mobile services (m-services) and applications (apps) in order to foster digital and financial inclusion. The next Global Symposium for Regulators, GSR-16, will be held in Sharm el-Sheik, Egypt. GSR-17 will be held in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.





182. GSR15's pre-event programme included discussion sessions hosted by partners including the GSMA, that organized a Seminar "Driving Mobile's Future: Efficient Spectrum Management for Investment and Growth".and the Global VSAT Forum, that hosted a luncheon roundtable: "Satellites and the Connected Ecosystem: Enabling Efficient Global Solution".. The pre-event also included a meeting of Chief Regulatory Officers of Industry and a meeting of Regulatory Associations, the latter bringing together some 50 participants from 9 Associations (AREGNET, ARTAC, CRASA, EMERG, FRATEL, REGULATEL, OCCUR, WATRA, SATRC), and discussing priorities around harmonizing cross-regional frameworks. Discussions focused on access to international fiber infrastructure and mobile roaming, as well as the experiences of Regulatory Associations on the matter of funding of projects and activities.
183. ITU organized the ITU/IDA ICT Regulators' Leadership Retreat with the Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA) for Heads of ICT regulatory authorities only, to take place in Singapore from 18 to 20 March 2015. The Retreat provided Heads of ICT regulatory authorities with the opportunity to exchange views and experiences, challenge established myths and ideas from the ICT sector and identify common approaches to respond efficiently to the challenges of regulation in a data-driven connected world. Under the overarching theme "Getting ready for tomorrow: regulation in a data-driven connected world", the Retreat provided a global perspective on examining agile and adaptive regulation in a digital ecosystem and how bigger data leads to better decisions. The following topics were addressed: competition in the digital age, the changing rules of the game brought by the advent of OTTs, big data for bigger decisions, smart cities and open data and the role of the regulator today and in preparing for tomorrow.
184. RME actively supports the work of the ITU-T and ITU-D Study Groups on regulatory, policy, economic and financial aspects of telecommunications and addressed country direct assistances in coordination with the ITU Regional Offices.
185. RME continues to maintain the World Telecommunication/ICT Regulatory Database, which can be accessed from the ICT Eye, as well as the TREG website and the Global Regulators' Exchange (G-REX), a password-protected online discussion forum reserved for regulators and policy makers. RME also manages the ICTDec regulatory decisions clearinghouse, a one-stop access point to decisions originating from ICT decision making bodies developed in partnership with the World Bank. The ICTDec platform allows decision making bodies from around the world to upload directly their decisions in the database. The system is available in all six ITU working languages. ITU also maintains the World Tariffs Policies database, which focuses on trends related to pricing, cost and tariff models, interconnection rates, price control of different services, charging issues related to International Internet Connectivity and taxation of telecommunication services. This database can also be accessed from the ICT Eye.
186. ITU is carrying out a project to foster affordable access to the digital world by providing stakeholders with a platform to identify the appropriate policy, regulatory, technical and commercial measures to achieve affordable access to international bandwidth. The aim of the project is to strengthen cooperation at the global level, bringing together fiber optic communication stakeholders, as well as policy makers and regulators to identify measures to address the main bottlenecks, strengthen commercial agreements and regulatory

frameworks and thus promote open access to fiber optic communications and associated infrastructure and develop harmonized related model regulation.

187. A number of trainings were carried out in coordination with the ITU Centre of Excellence Network and ITU Regional Offices to ensure the enabling environment on policy & regulation and economic & financial issues (including costing and pricing) worldwide. In this framework a Series of ITU Advance Level Training sessions on Cost Modeling and Pricing for Quad play/Next Generation Access (NGA) are being organized at regional level for Africa, Americas and Arab States.

In Africa, ITU carried out a number of activities, including:

188. A high-level ITU training on cost modeling and pricing of broadband services for francophone African countries was held in Yaoundé, Cameroon, April 27-May 1, 2015. Regulators and policy maker were equipped with tools and approaches to ensure efficient pricing and costing of broadband services required for extending ICT access in the region. <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regulatory-Market/Pages/Events2015/CostingCameroon/Home.aspx>

189. ITU is supporting SADC Member States in developing a framework and guideline for ICT Infrastructure sharing including broadcasting infrastructure. Commencing in 2015, the projects main objective is to allow for regional harmonization in; achieving an enabling policy and regulatory framework conducive to infrastructure sharing; identifying existing platforms (transmission and contribution networks) suitable for infrastructure sharing in SADC; enabling competition in access networks and encouraging open access; providing positive incentives investment in underserved areas and improves quality of service.

190. ITU shall be extending direct assistance to The Gambia's Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) in 2015 to enhance their economic regulatory function; define a framework for competition assessment and market analysis for the electronic communications sector (telecommunications and multi-media) and guidance on retail and wholesale pricing. Similar assistance was extended to Malawi's communications regulatory authority in 2014.

In the Arab States, ITU carried out numerous activities, including:

191. The ITU Arab Regional workshop for Arab LDCs on Interconnection Regulation in IP based Environment organized and was held in Khartoum-Sudan 24-26 of March,2015 in collaboration with the National Telecommunications Corporation (NTC)-Sudan;

192. ITU Arab regional office will organize a regional workshop for Arab LDCS on Mobile Roaming: National and International Practices in Khartoum-Sudan during 27-29 Oct, 2015. The workshop is designed to equip the participants from Arab countries especially the Arab LDCs with required knowledge and skills about Roaming Principles, Models, the Roaming Processes, National and International Mobile Roaming (IMR), the ITU recommendations on IMR, building roaming relationships, and the regulatory and commercial aspects of roaming.

193. The ITU Arab Regional Office provided support to the Arab Regulator's Network AREGNET through the organization of a dedicated workshop On 27 April 2015, in cooperation with the Regulatory Authority in Mauritania. The workshop gave an introduction on NGN driving services and OTTs and covered the following issues: the relationship between TELCOS and

OTTs, the value chain and services migration flow, the regulatory initiatives regarding OTT service, and the regulations for the provision of service: market players perspective.

194. The ITU Arab Regional Office and BDT SIS are negotiating a project with the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology of Egypt to develop a Regional Center for ICT for Persons with Disabilities that will support implementation of the ITU Arab Regional Initiative on ICT Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities. In addition, the ITU Arab Regional Office started a collaboration with the WHO regional office on developing a manual to guide regional organizations on how to make their meetings, workshops, trainings and conferences more accessible to Persons with Disabilities. Earlier in the year the ITU Arab Regional Office organized a regional workshop to kickstart the activities of the regional initiative in Cairo, Egypt 21-22 April 2015. Finally, the ITU Arab Regional Office is currently working on translating and publishing the model ICT Accessibility Policy Report into Arabic for the benefit of the membership in the region.

In CIS, activities include:

- ITU Regional Workshop for CIS on Optimal Solutions to the Provision of Broadband Access in Small and Medium-sized Settlements, Moscow, Russian Federation, 17-19 February 2015
- ITU Regional Forum on Development for CIS and Georgia “Broadband for Sustainable Development” , Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, 31 March – 1 April 2015
- ITU Regional Workshop for Europe and CIS on "Spectrum Management and Transition to Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting", Budapest, Hungary, 5-7 May 2015
- Regional Workshop for CIS on Conformance and Interoperability, Moscow, Russian Federation, 7-9 July 2015
- Expert assistance to the Republic of Armenia: elaboration of recommendations on coordination of orbital-spectrum resource of the Republic of Armenia, Yerevan, Republic of Armenia, July 2015
- ITU Centres of Excellence Workshop on New and Advanced Technologies of Digital Television and Related Video Applications, Odessa, Ukraine, 18-21 August 2015
- ITU Regional Workshop for CIS on the Issues of Organizational and Technical Development of Telecommunications/ICT, Odessa, Ukraine, 23-25 September 2015
- ITU Regional Workshop for CIS on Use of ICT for Health Protection. Telemedicine Services, including in Rural and Remote Areas, Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan, 7-9 October 2015.

195. In order to increase enhanced dialogue and knowledge between national regulators, policy-makers and other Telecommunication/ICT stakeholders on regulatory, economic and financial issues in all regions, ITU is carrying out a number of activities, including:

196. ITU organized in 2015 several regional economic and financial fora, including for Africa (Sao Tomé 2-5 April 2015), Latin America and the Caribbean (Nassau 20-24 April 2015), Asia and Pacific (Kuala Lumpur 28 Sept.-2 Oct. 2015) and Arab States (Tunis 17-20 November 2015). These Fora were held in conjunction with ITU-T Study Group 3 Regional Groups as part of the ITU coordination activities. This year the Fora focused, among other interesting subjects, on the future of global telecommunications in view of the growth of OTT services; Mobile Money (MM) services and digital financial inclusion; relevant market definition and significant market

power (SMP); approaches and best practices for Broadband costing and pricing as well as issues pertaining to International Mobile Roaming, part of the ITU Let's Roam the World Initiative, an initiative aimed at achieving more affordable communications by facilitating knowledge exchange and discussion to achieve Strategic Best Practice Guidelines on International Mobile Roaming.

197. ITU is undertaking several activities within its mobile roaming initiative LET'S ROAM THE WORLD. This initiative started with the organization of the LET'S ROAM THE WORLD: The ITU Global Dialogue on International Mobile Roaming in Geneva on 18 September back to back with the ITU-D Study Groups meetings. The main objective of this initiative is to support Members in the definition and adaptation of best practices and guidelines for all stakeholders around the world on IMR.

198. In addition, the ITU Intersectoral International Mobile Roaming (IMR) Resources web portal consolidates in one portal all ITU activities on IMR, and lists activities by other regional and international organizations, as well as updated information on the initiatives at national, bilateral, regional and international level.



199. ITU is actively supporting implementation of enabling environment frameworks to promote ICT accessibility for persons with disabilities in line with Output 4.3 of the 2014 World Telecommunication Development Conference and Connect 2020 Target 2.5B. This work includes:

- a. The Commonwealth Telecommunication Organisation's workshop for the Caribbean, entitled "People with Disabilities and ICTs", held in St. John's, Antigua, on 9-11 February 2015 which raised awareness about the ITU-G3ict Model ICT Accessibility Policy report.
- b. Organizing a plenary session, a workshop and an exhibit on ICT accessibility during the Pacific Disability Forum, held in Fiji from 16-20 February 2015, in which ITU promoted and made a presentation on the Model ICT Accessibility Policy report. The report has also been used as a guideline in the development of the national ICT accessibility policy of Vanuatu.

c. The "Smart Accessibility on Connected TV" workshop, held in Barcelona on 18 March, 2015 which was organized by the Autonomous University of Barcelona in partnership with ITU and the European Commission within



the framework of the ITU European Regional Initiative 3 (EUR R13), "Ensuring access to telecommunications /ICTs, in particular for persons with disabilities", adopted by WTDC-14, Dubai. The meeting provided a basis for the exchange of best practices in the field of accessibility services, highlighted recommendations of the model ICT Accessibility Policy report, as well as practical solutions for broadcasters in providing access services for persons with disabilities. In addition, the participants were also informed about different standards of connected TV developed by ITU-T.

- d. The ITU-D Study Group 1 Rapporteurs Group meeting on Question 7 was held on 13 April 2015 in ITU-HQ in Geneva. BDT provided capacity building training to the Members on the following topics covered by the Model ICT Accessibility policy report:
1. Necessary changes to existing legislation to promote ICT accessibility;
  2. How to promote accessibility in public ICT spaces, such as telecentres and public pay phones;
  3. Which accessibility tools can be used for people with difficulties mastering reading and writing;
  4. Public procurement, including commercial best practices and
  5. Practical applications for accessible e-education.
200. The ARB RO organized a regional workshop to kickstart the activities of Arab Regional Initiative 5, “Ensuring access to telecommunications/ICTs, in particular for persons with disabilities, in Cairo, Egypt 21-22 April 2015. These activities include translating and publishing the model ICT Accessibility Policy Report into Arabic for the benefit of the membership in the region. In addition, the ITU Arab Regional Office is collaborating with the WHO regional office to develop a manual to guide regional organizations on how to make their meetings, workshops, trainings and conferences more accessible to Persons with Disabilities.
201. The ITU Arab Regional Development Forum was held in Amman, Jordan, from 23 to 24 March 2015 under the theme “Broadband for Sustainable Development.” The Forum discussed the five Arab Regional Initiatives approved by the World Telecommunication Development Conference in 2014 (WTDC - 14), providing ITU Member States and Sector Members with an opportunity to exchange experiences and best practices in the implementation of the initiatives. The Initiatives focus on the following areas: broadband, cybersecurity, ICTs for the environment, smart learning, and ICTs for persons with disabilities. Under each Regional Initiative, and through partnerships and resource mobilization, projects will be developed and implemented to meet the real needs of the region.
202. ITU delivered a keynote address at the M-Enabling Summit 2015 held from 1 to 2 June in Washington DC-US, promoting international exchanges among policy makers, organizations of persons with disabilities and private sector companies involved in developing ICT accessibility policies and programs in their respective countries. ITU also delivered a presentation during the Briefing Session for International Delegates of the M-Enabling Summit (Hosted by the US FCC on 3 June 2015), which highlighted ITU’s role in promoting ICT accessibility and raised awareness about ITU’s activities in the area of ICT accessibility.
203. The Global Symposium for Regulators included a session on ICT accessibility in June, including an overview of the ITU-G3ict Model ICT Accessibility Policy report.
204. ITU organized an “Expert Group Meeting on Accessible TV in the Converged ICT Ecosystem: Emerging trends and challenges” on 11 June 2015 in Rome, within the framework of EUR RI3, to promote ITU activities in the field of accessibility and to build a community of broadcasters and ICT accessibility professionals. During the meeting experts jointly identified the main challenges as well as best practices and solutions at the regional level to promote modalities to implement accessible TV at national and regional levels. The experts presented the current technical accessible TV solutions for persons with disabilities and identified guidelines to be presented for consideration to ITU members.

205. ITU also made a presentation at the “5th International Symposium on Respeaking, Live Subtitling and Accessibility” held on 12 June 2015 on the overall ITU work on accessibility. This event brought together academic researchers, software developers, broadcasters, consumers and all stakeholders interested in recent developments in media accessibility and applications of speech recognition technology. The Symposium also included presentations of successful accessible audiovisual media services and education solutions for persons with disabilities.
206. Through CIS Regional Initiative 2 on ICT accessibility a project to create an Internet Access and Training Centre for persons with disabilities (visually and motor impaired) will be implemented in Bishkek (Kyrgyz Republic). Following the installation of special equipment for visually and motor impaired persons procured by ITU, and preparation of the premises by the Institute of Electronics and Telecommunications (IET) of the Kyrgyz State Technical University, UNESCO will provide training for trainers on the use of the equipment. Similar projects are planned for Moldova and Belarus.
207. The ITU ASP Regional Office will publish an action guide on inclusive disaster management for vulnerable groups in Q3 2015 entitled “Using ICTs to make disaster management inclusive of and responsive to marginalized populations 2015.” ITU is also developing a Text-to-Speech engine in the Lao language in collaboration with the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications of Laos and the National Electronics and Computer Technology Center of Thailand (NECTEC)
208. ITU, in cooperation with the Philippines Department of Science and Technology - Information and Communication Technology Office (DOST-ICTO), is organizing a Digital Strategies for Development Summit 2015 – “A Knowledge Exchange Forum for Asia-Pacific Region and Beyond (DSDS 2015)”, which will be held from 22-24 September 2015 in Cebu City, Philippines. The Summit will provide a platform for high level participants from telecommunications/ICT policy makers, regulators, industry, SMEs, tech hubs, innovation labs, academia and development partners in the Asia-Pacific region, to foster dynamic and strategic discussions, sharing of information, real experiences, practices and initiatives on promising solutions to address emerging challenges in promoting inclusive growth and development through ICTs. DSDS 2015 will present initiatives and opportunities for collaboration in the development and use of innovative ICT solutions for digital inclusion and empowerment including youth employment and entrepreneurship and persons with disabilities, including ICT accessibility policies and regulations.
209. The International conference "The Role of Information and Communication Technologies in the Development of Inclusive Society for Persons with Disabilities" will be held on 8-9 October 2015 in Belgrade, Serbia. This meeting, being organized within the framework of EUR RI 3, will explore the role of ICT in creating a more inclusive society for persons with disabilities through adoption of ICT accessibility policies and the application of universal design principles in the development of ICT products and services to ensure widespread use and availability of accessible ICT services by persons with disabilities. The conference will provide a platform for open dialogue, cooperation and partnership in the field of accessible ICT for persons with disabilities among national, regional and international agencies and organizations, industry, organizations of persons with disabilities and academia addressing specific regional challenges and opportunities.

210. The 2nd Accessible Americas, Information and Communication for ALL” event will take place in Medellin, Colombia, from 4 to 6 November 2015. This event aims at moving the discussions from principles, identified during the 1st Accessible Americas event, to implementation of concrete solutions and practices to ensure that accessible ICTs and assistive technologies are widely available to persons with disabilities (PwD). The event will also build synergies between all related stakeholders from the Americas. One of the main expected outcomes of the event is the identification of best practices that can be implemented by the governments, industry and other stakeholders in the Americas region to ensure ICT accessibility to create equal opportunities for persons with disabilities and support a regional disability-inclusive development agenda.
211. ITU is also developing online training courses to build the capacity of ITU members and relevant stakeholders on ICT accessibility. A first training course on “Public Procurement of accessible ICT products services” will be delivered on the ITU Academy in the fourth quarter of 2015. This training will provide the knowledge, understanding and skills required to specify accessibility for persons with disabilities in the public procurement of ICT products and services. With that expertise, accessibility can be addressed during all stages of the public procurement process, from requirements gathering and market analysis, through specifying and evaluating accessibility as a criterion in procurement documents, to the management of contracts. Relevant international standards for accessible ICT as a criterion in the procurement process are also covered by the training.
212. The ITU carries out several activities directly related to WSIS Action Line C6, through projects such as the ones listed below. More information on these projects as well as the other projects can be found on the ITU-D Projects webpage (<http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Projects/Pages/default.aspx>).
213. ITU has continued to support the strengthening of the Brazilian National Telecommunications Agency (ANATEL). In August 2014, ITU and ANATEL celebrated the effective conclusion of the cost modelling works performed under a USD10 million dollar contract. The set cost models developed are being integrated to the Brazilian regulatory framework, and the Brazilian telecom sector has thus been observing the inherent benefits of the costing methodologies developed as a result of ITU-Anatel collaboration, such as the definition and implementation of prices and tariffs policies, promoting sustainable low tariffs.
214. ITU has recently finalized implementation of a project with the Peruvian Regulator (OSIPTEL). The Project's main objective was to provide technical assistance to the telecommunications regulator of Peru, (OSIPTEL) by means of studies and recommendations aimed at enhancing OSIPTEL's supervisory and control functions of certain telecommunications services. Under the Project, OSIPTEL and ITU, together with a group of external experts, performed a study of international best practices for monitoring and control of public telecommunications services (telephony fixed and mobile, cable broadcasting and internet). Findings were then compared to ongoing methodologies and procedures currently in place in OSIPTEL. In terms of concrete results the project developed and delivered important recommendations identifying opportunities for improvement in OSIPTEL's monitoring and control functions while also determining the resources needed for implementation. It is expected that the project's recommendations, if implemented, shall be useful for OSIPTEL as it will allow improvements in the regulatory framework towards a more

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preventive and enabling supervisory approach, enhancing the quality of public telecommunication services to the end users.

215. With the financial support from the Republic of Korea, the ITU is assisting selected Caribbean countries to establish national spectrum management master plans. The activities of the project with respect to each beneficiary country include the assessment of spectrum management scheme (i.e. spectrum policy, spectrum use, authorization, spectrum sharing, spectrum pricing, spectrum monitoring and compliance), and the provision of advice in connection with each beneficiary country's development of relevant policies, legislations and regulations, based on request and interest of the countries. This project will also build human capacity and provide guidance in preparing the implementation of the master plans where requested by beneficiary country and agreed to by ITU.
216. Since 2014, in cooperation with the Andean Development Bank (CAF), ITU provides support to at least 6 countries in the Americas Region on a project in the field of Transition from Analogue to Digital Broadcasting. The Project addresses the regulatory, political, technological and economic challenges which the beneficiary countries will face when implementing the transition.
217. In August 2015, ITU kicked off the implementation of a regional Project to Support Harmonization of the ICT Policies in the Caribbean (HIPCAR II). This Project aims at building on the platform and dynamism created in the region by the ITU-EC "Enhancing the competitiveness in the Caribbean through the harmonization of ICT Policies, Legislation and Regulatory Procedures (HIPCAR)" project implemented by the ITU from 2007 to 2013. It will support further regional organizations/institutions and selected countries of the Caribbean to develop and promote use of harmonized ICT policies and regulatory guidelines for the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) market in the region as well as building human and institutional capacity in the field of ICTs through a range of knowledge transfer measures. To ensure ICT standardization contributes to accessibility, ITU together with IEC and ISO developed an joint IEC/ISO/ITU Policy on Standardization and accessibility which emphasizes the importance of the following four points: Apply the principles of Accessible or Universal Design; Engage older persons and persons with disabilities in standards development; Train standards developers on the importance of accessibility; and Improve accessibility of standardization secretariat support.
218. ITU is carrying out a project to strengthen Burundi's institutional and technical capabilities for an accelerated and sustainable broadband development with a view to assist Burundi in harnessing the benefits of ICT through deployed Broadband infrastructures and making its ICT sector to be one of the main engines of its development. This will be achieved through providing to Burundi not only a national ICT policy and/or a broadband development strategy, but also necessary technical knowledge and know-how for ICT policy/strategy development and implementation.
219. ITU is developing a toolkit for ICT innovation policy/governance and ICT innovation ecosystem. This project aims to develop a toolkit for fostering ICT innovation ecosystems as well as fostering ICT innovation policy and governance. The toolkit will contain guidelines and best practices for the ICT Innovation policy and governance, and guidelines on developing a vibrant ICT ecosystem with the best practices built on relationship among the stakeholders including policy-makers, regulators, industry and academia as well as innovators.



220. ITU is providing advisory Services to Saudi Arabia's Communication and Information Technology Commission (CITC): The project intends to support the Government's telecommunications development programs through advisory services, in the field of radio frequency spectrum management.
221. ITU is developing a Roadmap for Mobile Television Broadcasting Deployment and Regulation in Thailand through the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) of Thailand, that is mandated to put in place policy and regulatory frameworks for, and ensuring the provision of, digital broadcasting services in Thailand. The ITU and NBTC are implementing a project to study the feasibility as well as developing a roadmap for mobile television broadcasting deployment and regulation in Thailand.
222. ITU is working with the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) of Thailand that is mandated to implement Universal Service Obligation (USO) for telecommunications/ICTs in Thailand. The ITU and NBTC are jointly implementing a project which will establish an international platform for cooperation on USO subject matters, organize a regional forum, and build human capacity of the NBTC. A USO training event is planned for November 2015.
223. ITU is carrying out a project supported by the Department of Communications Australia to facilitate the implementation of the Asia-Pacific Regional Initiatives identified in the Dubai Action Plan DuAP: Special consideration for Least Developed Countries, including Pacific Island Countries, and Landlocked Developing Countries; Emergency Telecommunications; Harnessing the Benefits of new Technologies; Development of Broadband Access and Adoption of Broadband; Policy and Regulation. The activities carried out under this project include
- Policy and Regulatory Assistance for Cambodia and Lao PDR,
  - Assistance to the Communications Regulatory Commission, Mongolia,
  - Telecommunication Regulatory Dispute Resolution for Myanmar,
  - Review and Amendment/Revision of the Philippines Telecoms Law (Republic Act 7925),
  - Recommendation on Tariff structure for Samoa National Broadband Highway (NBH),
  - Review on Post-Liberalization of the Telecommunication Sector in Timor Leste,
  - Cost Modeling for ICT Services, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka
224. The World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-14) adopted changes to Resolution 68, considering – (i) to up-date the research on best practices and public policy recommendations for the Development of ICTs in indigenous communities and foster the study of mechanisms that ensure the availability of spectrum for the networks in questions; (ii) to ensure access to training and innovation solution through pilot project that enable the implementation of local communication networks administered and operated by indigenous people themselves.
225. In line with adjusted Resolution 68 the BDT (ITU Americas Regional Office and SIS) is delivering a [Training Programme on Communication Innovative Tools for the strengthening](#)

[of Indigenous People](#), being delivered through three on-line Modules: (i) Module 1: Access, development and use of digital content and web tools of indigenous interest; (ii) Module II: Education and training in entrepreneurship for indigenous development: e-commerce, mobile applications and other tools for entrepreneurs; (iii) Module III: Development of indigenous local communication networks: how to develop, manage and operate an indigenous radio network. This new programme will be delivered from 2015 to 2017. Previous programme was focused on project management for indigenous, including project identification, design, implementation and monitoring and was delivered from 2011 to 2014.

226. The [ITU-T Study Group 3 Regional Group for Latin America and the Caribbean \(SG3RG-LAC\)](#), together with the [ITU-D Regional Economic and Financial Forum for Telecommunications/ICTs for Latin America and the Caribbean](#) took place in The Bahamas from 21 to 24 April 2015. The Forum was organized by the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) in cooperation with the Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA) of the Bahamas and was followed by the Meeting of the Study Group 3 Regional Group for Latin America and the Caribbean (SG3RG-LAC) of the ITU Telecommunication Standardization Bureau (TSB), on 22 (afternoon) to 24 April 2015. The Forum was attended by 21 delegates from 13 countries, including representatives of ministries, regulatory bodies, operators, industry and regional associations, and invited experts.
227. The next meeting of SG3RG-LAC and associated Regional Economic and Financial Forum is planned for Brazil in June 2016.
228. ITU provides support, assistance and training to developing countries in bridging the standardization gap on ICT technologies. ITU-T has 13 active Regional Groups which have been proven to be a very effective mechanism in stimulating effective participation in ITU-T Study Groups and increasing the number of quality Contributions from the various regions - five in Africa, three in the Americas, three in the Arab region, and two in the APT region.
229. The new Focus Group on Digital Financial Services had its first meeting in December 2014 to address a series of critical issues currently preventing digital financial services from reaching unbanked or under-banked populations. The Focus Group is developing a standardization roadmap for interoperable mobile money services and best practices to support national policy-makers and regulatory authorities in their efforts to encourage the adoption and use of these services.
230. A new ITU-T Global Portal was launched with special focus on activities in the Africa, Asia Pacific, Arab, and Americas regions.
231. ITU-T continues to offer a mentoring programme for new delegates to ITU-T Study Groups. Remote participation is offered during all study group meetings at no cost (using a call-back option). Closing plenaries benefit from full interpretation. Contributions to study groups can be translated into six languages if received two months before a meeting. Some of the Recommendations approved by AAP are also being translated. Full or partial fellowships are awarded to facilitate participation from LDCs or Low-Income Developing Countries, depending on budget availability.
232. ITU organizes annual Regional ICT Standardization Forums as part of activities under WTS Resolution 44 on bridging the standardization gap. The Forums discuss current standardization hot topics in ITU-T study groups and focus groups to engage more developing

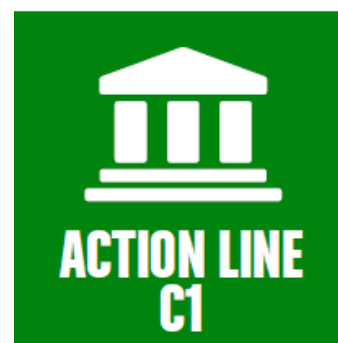
countries in the standardization work and could also feature capacity building on ITU-T Recommendations. A Regional Standardization Forum in Africa was organized in 24-25 March 2015 and 2015 events are planned for Asia-Pacific, CIS and Americas (October 2015) and Arab Region (November 2015).

233. ITU organized Trainings for the Asia-Pacific Region on “Leveraging ICTs for Smart Sustainable Cities” from 29 September to 2 October 2014 in Bangkok, Thailand, and from 24 to 26 March 2015 in New Delhi, India.
234. ITU continues to develop standards in ITU-T study groups(SGs) to promote accessible ICT technologies: ITU-T SG16 has 17 ongoing work items on accessibility, including: accessibility terms and definitions, Guidelines for accessible meetings, Accessibility features for mobile media devices; Requirements for captioning and audio description for accessibility; Application layer information specification at the terminal to network interface for people with hearing and speaking difficulties to request rescue to emergency rescue agencies, Guidelines for supporting remote participation in meetings for all, etc. ITU-T SG2 has two ongoing work items on human factors, namely ‘User interface for face-to-face speech translation considering human factors’ and ‘On-screen keyboards for ICT devices’. The ITU Inter-sector Rapporteur Group on Audio-visual Media Accessibility studies topics related to audio-visual media accessibility for all media delivery systems including broadcast, cable, Internet, and IPTV.

**(c) Co-facilitator of Action Lines C1, C3, C4, C7, C11 and Partners for C8 and C9.**

**Action Line C1: The Role of Public Governance Authorities and all Stakeholders in the Promotion of ICTs for Development and Action Line C11: International and Regional Cooperation**

235. In accordance with its mandate, the ITU continues to foster international and regional cooperation on a broad range of activities. ITU conducted several meetings, conferences and symposiums to provide a platform to broaden international dialogue on innovative means in harnessing ICTs for advancing development. In 2015 ITU organized a number of events. Series of regional meetings on private-public partnerships as a solution to address the needs of regions for digital technology deployment were organized. The 10<sup>th</sup> Action line Facilitation meeting of C1, C7. E-government and C11 was held on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2015 on the topic of Enabling ICTs for Sustainable Development, please read the outcomes here: [http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/outcomes/WSISForum2015\\_Outcome Document ForumTrack.pdf](http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/outcomes/WSISForum2015_Outcome Document ForumTrack.pdf)



236. The ITU has been contributing greatly to WSIS implementation and follow-up from 2005 to the present. During 2015, ITU, in close partnership with other United Nations agencies and all WSIS stakeholders, has been leading numerous activities worldwide in the field of information and communication technologies for development, these activities are reflected

throughout the report. This section will present major and the most significant initiatives fostered by ITU in 2015.

237. ITU Telecom World 2015 took place from 12 to 15 October in Budapest, Hungary. As the global platform for accelerating ICT innovation for social good, it brought together governments, corporates and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) from emerging and developed markets around the world. It combined an exhibition for digital solutions, a forum for sharing knowledge and a networking hub between nations, organizations and individuals. The event focused in particular on the role of SMEs in driving growth throughout the ICT ecosystem. By helping ideas go further, faster, ITU Telecom World 2015 aimed to make the world better, sooner, together. The outcome of ITU Telecom World 2015 is available here: <http://telecomworld.itu.int/news-blog/outcomes/>

238. The Cyberspace, Energy & Development international conference was co-organized and co-hosted by ITU and the Energy Pact Foundation, with the support of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the World Economic Forum (WEF). The conference focused on the different aspects of the interaction of cyberspace, energy and development, based on key findings regarding security issues. There is a need for greater international cooperation among nations regarding cyberspace, especially concerning the risks related to critical infrastructure such as conventional energy systems. It requires an exchange between the national level, responsible for critical domestic infrastructures, and the international level, as the extreme interconnectedness between the telecommunications industry and electricity infrastructures will only increase over time. Furthermore, taking into consideration the interaction between cyberspace and energy is a prerequisite for effective and safe economic development.

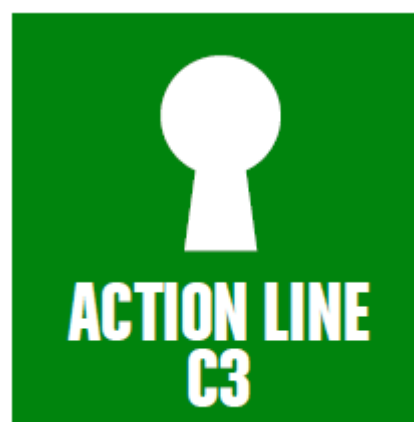


### Action Line C3: Access to Information and Knowledge

239. ITU-D held numerous workshops, conferences and symposiums, making materials widely available for free on the web. In addition, a number of information-rich resources have been made available including web-based information portals, practical ICT toolkits and online databases have been launched and/or existing resources updated.

240. ITU developed a set of “Guidelines for Promoting ICT Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities in the Americas Region”. These Guidelines are available in English, Spanish and Portuguese.

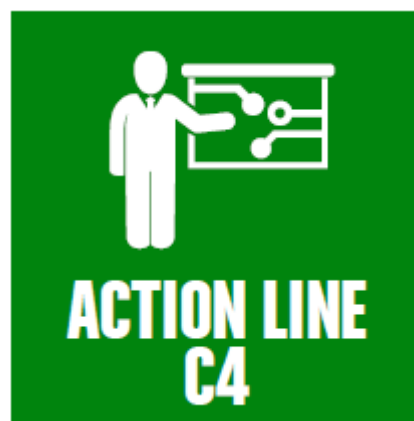
241. The joint ITU-G3ict Model ICT Accessibility policy report was launched during the Accessible Americas event November 2014.



242. The “Smart Accessibility on Connected TV” workshop was held in Barcelona on 18 March, 2015 organized by the Autonomous University of Barcelona in partnership with the International Telecommunication Union and European Commission.
243. Concerning broadband Access ITU, with support from Korea, has assisted countries in developing broadband policies and plans. Currently, support has been provided to develop Wireless Broadband Master Plans and National Broadband Plans/Policies to Fiji, Cambodia, Brunei, Vietnam, Samoa, Nepal, Myanmar, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Pakistan, Lao PDR, Vanuatu, Marshall Islands, Philippines and St Lucia, Malawi, Congo Brazzaville.
244. In 2015, ITU held numerous workshops and conferences, making extensive materials freely and widely available on the web. In addition, a number of online resources have been made available, including portals, web-based information portals, practical ICT toolkits, and online databases, while existing resources were updated.

#### Action Line C4: Capacity-Building

245. Within the framework of its mandate as facilitator for Action Line C4, the ITU organized the facilitation meeting of AL C4 on capacity building which took place as an integral part of the WSIS Forum 2015. The meeting was conducted under the theme “Mainstreaming e-skilling: The ICT Runway”. This theme was informed by the fact that, access to information technologies is a necessary but not sufficient condition to leveraging the benefits of ICTs. It is the adoption and use of these ICTs that is critical. However, this use is highly dependent on people having the knowledge and skills to use these ICT tools effectively, whether for government services, commerce, education or personal lives. This session highlighted the importance of putting in place national policies and programs that ensure everybody has the skills to participate in this knowledge society, and those programs need to be mainstreamed into and across all aspects of human endeavor. The session also noted that while dealing with this e-skills challenge today, there is need to be conscious of the changing environment, with discussion on topics such as smart societies, big data, and the Internet of Things, needing attention from an ICT skills perspective.

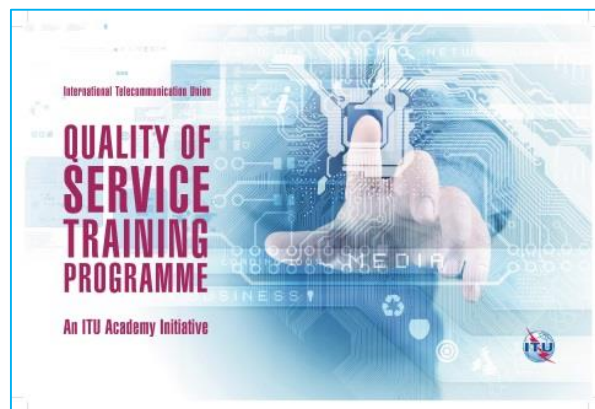


246. The ITU continues to support its [Centres of Excellence \(CoEs\)](#). The CoEs are institutions sharing expertise, resources and capacity-building know-how in telecommunications and ICTs training/education, distributed around the world. Designed to offer training to ICT managers in the public and private spheres through face-to-face or distance learning programmes, the Centres serve as regional focal points for professional development, research, and knowledge sharing, as well as providing specialist training services to external clients. CoEs networks have been established in all regions including Africa,



Africa Spanish/Lusophone countries, the Americas, Arab States, Asia-Pacific, Caribbean, Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and Europe. Under the umbrella of the ITU Academy, these regional networks are now being joined together into a single global network sharing training curricula, resources and expertise.

247. Following Resolution 73 of WTDC-2010, calling for a study to review the strategy of the Centres of Excellence, a new strategy has now been put in place, and took effect from January 2015. Under the new strategy, Centres of Excellence are now restricted to a maximum of six per each region. They are aligned to the priority areas for each four year cycle as determined by World Telecommunications Development Conferences, and are appointed for a specific area of competency within a specific cycle.



248. Following the adoption of the priority areas for the next four years by the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC 2014), an open and transparent application and selection process for new Centres of Excellence for the next four years was undertaken. A total of 32 new Centres were selected for the 2015-2018 cycle, out of a total of 99 applications received and processed. Regional Steering Committee meetings were held in the first quarter of the year, and all the centres are now fully functional.

249. Training activities under the Centres of Excellence have been taking place in all the 6 regions. Areas for which trainings have been conducted are:

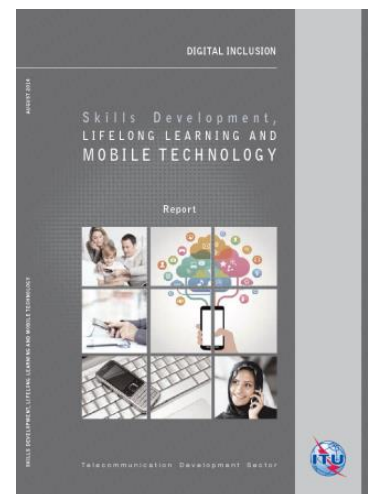
250. 4G Mobile Networks, Digital Terrestrial Television, Spectrum Utilization and Harmonization, TV White Spaces, Security Information Systems, Web Security, Satellite Network Registration Procedures and International Relations, IPv6 Infrastructure Security, Spectrum Monitoring, Next Generation Broadband Internet Access, New and Advanced Technologies of Digital Television and Related Video Applications, Optical Networks, Methods of spectrum allocation and assignment, Principles for Radioelectronic and Spectrum Management.

251. As the main ITU umbrella for training activities, the ITU Academy has finalised the development of the ITU [Spectrum Management Training Programme \(SMTP\)](#). This program consists of 9 modules at Basic level and six modules at Advanced level, leading to the award of a professional ITU certificate, or even a degree, if taken through University. The program was pilot tested in January 2015 with 45 participants from all regions taking part in an online course on Module 1 on the “Legal basis and regulatory framework of Spectrum Management”. Discussions are ongoing with institutions such as Centres of Excellence and universities, interested in delivering this program as part of their curricula. Modules are also being developed for a Quality of Service Training Program (QoSTP), as well as for ICT and Climate Change. In all instances the ITU Academy work.

252. The ITU Academy platform has just undergone a major upgrade, which has witnessed an improvement in its service offerings and functionalities that will greatly improve the quality of service and experience offered to the ITU members and all other users. The new themes

in Moodle and in Joomla are inspired by academic institutions platforms to give the learner a good learning environment experience, There are new and improved features such as online payment using debits and credit cards; online registration; smart search engine; smart content repository; personalized learner access, and improved course design and delivery, among others. Migration to the new platform took place on the 26 May 2015. Guidelines have been prepared to assist users, -mainly Centres of Excellence- to understand the new platform.

253. A publication on Skills Development, Lifelong Learning and Mobile Technology, has been produced and is ready for release. The document is the work of an international team of experts, who have contributed to nine chapters dealing with using mobiles for learning and capacity building.



254. Under a partnership with International Telecommunications Satellite Organisation (ITSO), two training activities on satellite communications were held in Nairobi, Kenya, for English speaking Africa June 2015 and in Dakar, Senegal for French speaking Africa in. The training in Nairobi attracted 40 participants, while the Dakar training attracted 37 participants. Another training for the Caribbean region will be held in September in Trinidad and Tobago, under the auspices of the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU).



255. Following a Capacity building Cooperation Agreement signed between ITU and Intel in 2014 during WTDC-14, a virtual Classroom training on Universal Service Policy for Broadband Rollout and Implementation of Smart Learning was run in March for the Arab States. The training covered areas such as Universal Service Policy for Broadband Rollout; Effective use of Universal Service Funds (USF) for broadband projects; and Leveraging ICTs for education in a broadband environment. Programme (STM Programme) is being negotiated for the Americas region. This project is designed to improve the managerial skills and competencies of the professional and executives working in the ICT sector in the Americas Region. The STM Program will comprise of 9 modules to be delivered through a constellation of partner universities within the region.

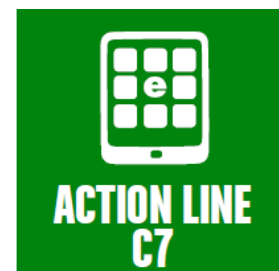
## Action Line C7: ICT Applications

### Action Line C7: E- Governance

256. The Action line C7 E Government Facilitation Meeting was held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May 2015 as part of the Action Lines C1 and C11 meeting entitled Enabling ICTs for Sustainable Development. ITU actively participated and contributed to this meeting. Please read the outcomes here: [http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/outcomes/WSISForum2015\\_OutcomeDocument\\_ForumTrack.pdf](http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/outcomes/WSISForum2015_OutcomeDocument_ForumTrack.pdf)

### Action Line C7: E-Health

257. The Action line C7 E Health Facilitation meeting was held on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2015 as an integral component of the WSIS Forum 2015. It was co-organized by WHO and ITU. The topic of the meeting was Social Media: Putting the “public” back in public health. Please read the outcomes here:



[http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/outcomes/WSISForum2015\\_OutcomeDocument\\_ForumTrack.pdf](http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/outcomes/WSISForum2015_OutcomeDocument_ForumTrack.pdf)

258. Developed, in collaboration with FAO and the “Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation ACP-EU” (CTA), a “National e-Agriculture Strategy Development guide” that consists of a Framework, a Methodology and set of resources to guide country decision makers through a process by which a national e-Agriculture roadmap can be elaborated.
259. Co-organized with FAO and CTA a global consultation workshop on “Developing National e-Agriculture Strategy”, 9-11 February 2015, Bangkok, Thailand to discuss the draft guide, share practical experiences and hold consultative meeting with e-Agriculture stakeholders.
260. Developed a Training of Trainers (ToT) materials to train experts in supporting national eHealth strategy development using the ITU eHealth strategy Toolkit
261. Started the development of a “Toolkit and Implementation Guidelines for a Digital Health Platform” which will guide decision makers and health planners in designing and implementing a national "digital health platform" on which local innovative, healthcare applications can be developed and hosted.
262. An mDiabetes programme was launched with the Ministry of Health in collaboration with Ministry of ICT and private sector companies such as Alcatel Lucent to help diabetic patients in Senegal to safely manage their illness and reduce the number of emergency hospitalizations.
263. An mSmokingCessation Programme was launched in the Philippines to use mobile to assist smokers to quit smoking
264. An mDiabetes and Smoking Cessation projects are being planned in Tunisia.
265. New Partnership agreements were signed with Novartis, Sanofi, GSK, Verizon Foundation to provide both financial and in-kind contributions to support activities on using mobile for health in targeted countries.



266. Both UK and Norway ministries of health have officially joined the “Be Healthy, Be Mobile” ITU-WHO joint initiative on mHealth for non-communicable diseases as pilot countries to up-scale mHealth interventions around Wellness and home-based care and share their best practices with other countries.
267. An “eHealth and innovation in women's and children's health: A baseline review” report was co-published by ITU and WHO to demonstrate the vital role ICTs are playing in helping achieve MDG related targets.
268. A global mHypertension Workshop was co-organized with University of Oxford, UK on January 13th and 14th, 2015. The two-day workshop examined mHealth solutions that can prevent and manage hypertension and identified means for the interventions to be implemented at a wider scale.
269. Two study group meetings for the new ITU-D Question 1/2 on “Smart Society” were held in 2015.
270. A facilitation meeting was held during the WSIS High-level meeting on Action Line C7 eHealth in Geneva in June to discuss achievements of eHealth following 10 years of WSIS and future priorities.
271. A guide on the use of mobile for Smoking Cessation and Diabetes and Cervical Cancer were finalized in collaboration with WHO and will be published by late 2015

#### Action Line C7: E – Environment

272. The Action line C7 E Environment Facilitation meeting was held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May 2015 as an integral component of the WSIS Forum 2015. It was co-organized by WMO and ITU. The topic of the meeting was Climate Change Adaptation in Africa: SOS Call for Connecting the Unconnected to Weather and Climate Warnings. Please read the outcome of the meeting here: [http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/outcomes/WSISForum2015\\_OutcomeDocument\\_ForumTrack.pdf](http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/outcomes/WSISForum2015_OutcomeDocument_ForumTrack.pdf) . On an annual basis the ITU implements several activities, projects and meetings under this action line.

#### Action Line C7 E –Agriculture

273. The Action line C7 E Agriculture facilitation meeting was held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May 2015 as an integral component of the WSIS Forum 2015. The topic of the meeting was Mainstreaming ICT in the Agricultural Sector: Paving the Way to a National e-Agriculture Strategy. ITU contributed actively to the meeting by presenting the process of the development of a “National e-Agriculture strategy guide”. This guide is being developed in collaboration with FAO and CTA and other stakeholders. Please read the outcome of the meeting here: [http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/outcomes/WSISForum2015\\_OutcomeDocument\\_ForumTrack.pdf](http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/outcomes/WSISForum2015_OutcomeDocument_ForumTrack.pdf)

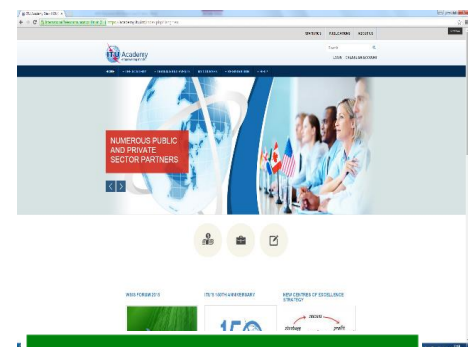
#### Action Line C7: E-Science

274. ITU is one of the co-facilitators together with UNESCO, UNDESA and Regional Commissions, ILO, ITC, FAO, UPU, UNEP, WMO, UNCTAD, WHO, etc. for the eight areas of ICT applications that are covered by WSIS Action Line C7. ITU is running the ITU Academy for trainings on ICT related issues. (<https://academy.itu.int/>)

275. Training on Spectrum management (Spectrum Management Training Programme) has been finalized (<http://academy.itu.int/news/item/1077/>) and the first pilot training was delivered <https://academy.itu.int/news/item/1593/>
276. Quality of Service Training Programme (QoSTP) is under development (<https://academy.itu.int/news/item/1555/>)

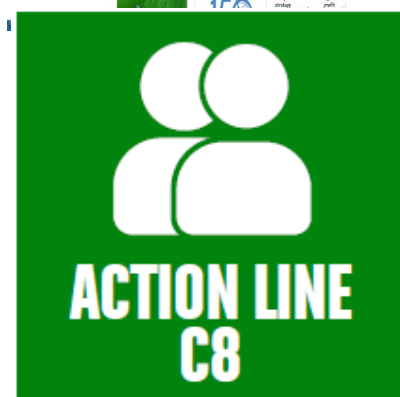
### Action Line C7: E-Learning

277. As the lead agent for all ITU capacity building activities, the ITU Academy continues to produce publications as part of its main deliverables. A mobile publication “Skills Development, Lifelong Learning and Mobile Technology” is due for release soon. This publication explores in-depth the full potential of mobiles for learning outside the formal educational system and structures. The publication has 9 chapters, written by a global team of diverse experts, academics and practitioners, carefully chosen for their acknowledged expertise in particular areas related to mobiles and learning. While discussing the capabilities of mobile devices and opportunities they present in improving access to learning, the 9 chapters of this publication cover among other topics, education aspects of mobile impact, uptake and usage; the basic platform, exploring the growing capabilities and extensibility of mobile devices through applications; as well as challenges and policy options. The summary of the publication will be made available on the ITU Academy website for download, and the chapter conclusions of this publication are prepared for presentation in regional forums and workshops to facilitate discussions in the area of mobile learning.
278. The ITU Academy platform has just undergone an upgrade. This platform allows for single visibility of all ITU training related activities and delivery of online learning. The new themes in the learner management system (Moodle) and in the content management system (Joomla) are inspired by academic institutions platforms to give the learner a good learning environment experience, There are new and improved features such as online payment using debits and credit cards; online registration; smart search engine; smart content repository; personalized learner access, and improved course design and delivery, among others. Migration to the new platform took place on the 26 May 2015. Guidelines have been prepared to assist users, -mainly Centres of Excellence- to understand the new platform.



### Action Line C8: Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content

279. ITU actively facilitates access to and use of ICTs by Indigenous Peoples to contribute to their digital inclusion, social and economic development and preservation of their heritage and cultural legacy through the use of ICTs. In line with this goal ITU Members adopted Plenipotentiary Resolution 184 (Guadalajara, 2010) regarding facilities to provide fellowships to indigenous persons seeking to attend ITU events, workshops, training etc.
280. In accordance with the decision of WTDC-02, endorsed by WTDC-06 Resolution 46 within the framework of the



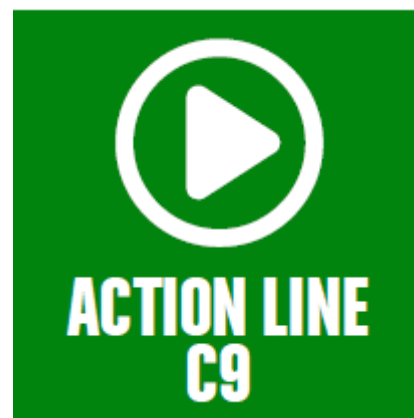
Special Initiative “Assistance to Indigenous People” and in line with the WTDC-10 Resolution 68 revised at WTDC-14, with a view to support Member States in addressing special needs of Indigenous People as regards to equitable access, use and knowledge of information communication technology (ICT’s), based on the preservation of their heritage and cultural legacy, the BDT developed since 2004 a Capacity building Programme targeting to use the ICTs as a tool to leverage their social and economic community development and to promote, preserve and protect their indigenous culture development.

281. To enable the development of this Capacity building Programme BDT included the relevant provisions in the activities of its Operational Plan with a view to support Member States in addressing special requests of Indigenous People developing and delivering dedicated training materials aiming at facilitating though the use and knowledge of information communication technology (ICT’s), provision of appropriate skills, and enabling to implement projects that respond to their community needs including the preservation of their heritage and cultural legacy.
282. BDT develops activities targeting to achieve the goal of digital inclusion, enabling universal, sustainable and affordable access to ICT’s for All, including disadvantaged, marginalized and vulnerable groups, as well as Indigenous People.

#### Action Line C9: Media

283. As the Partner for Action line C9 Media, the ITU carries out several projects and activities. The Action line C9 facilitation meeting was held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May 2015. The title of the meeting was Free, Independent and Pluralistic Media at the Heart of Post- 2015 Development Agenda. ITU participated and contributed actively to the meeting.

284. A number of recommendations relevant to providing access to ICTs through terrestrial and satellite radiocommunication and broadcasting infrastructures have been established, and are under study currently, broadcasting infrastructures are particularly relevant in developing countries and/or underserved areas such as remote and sparsely populated areas.



285. Moreover ITU carried out various studies for Internet Protocol TV (IPTV) that will enable enhanced, media rich delivery of content to users around the world, as well as Next Generation Networks (NGN) to reduce international imbalances affecting the media, particularly as regards infrastructure and technical resources. ITU-T is also working to enhance accessibility features of audio-visual media through the IRG AVA, and has organized two IPTV Application Challenges to promote innovative IPTV applications, and motivate experts across the broad IPTV ecosystem to develop original and creative IPTV applications based on ITU’s suite of IPTV Recommendations.

286. During WTDC-14 Digital broadcasting has been identified as one of the regional initiatives in several regions, and ITU members have recognized the importance of managing the transition smoothly. ITU, in cooperation with Korea, Japan, and Australia, has provided assistance on Digital Broadcasting Transition with updating Guidelines for roadmap development for world-wide, and developed roadmaps for Afghanistan, Solomon Islands,

Vietnam, Vanuatu, Guyana, Gabon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Micronesia, Samoa, Kiribati, Tonga, Bhutan and Nauru.

287. Also, in cooperation with the Latin-American Development Bank (CAF), ITU is providing support to 8 countries (Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Paraguay and Jamaica) in the Americas Region and translated the guidelines into Spanish.
288. Case studies on the experiences in digital terrestrial television broadcasting transition for Thailand, Japan and Australia have been prepared. Also a report was prepared on the Interactive Multimedia Services and Pay TV in ASP.
289. Several workshops were delivered on the subject together the BDT and the BR all around the world. On 17 June 2015, on the date of the analogue switch-off in UHF bands in Region 1, ITU will organize a Symposium on the Digital Broadcasting Transition.
290. Radiocommunication Conference 2015 (WRC-15), was held in Geneva from 2-27 November 2015. It is the job of WRC to review, and, if necessary, revise the Radio Regulations, the international treaty governing the use of the radio-frequency spectrum and the geostationary-satellite and non-geostationary-satellite orbits. Revisions are made on the basis of an agenda determined by the ITU Council, which takes into account recommendations made by previous world Radiocommunication conferences.
291. ITU hosted the World Radiocommunication Seminar 2014 (WRS-14) in Geneva from 8 to 12 December 2014, offering training focusing on the application of the ITU Radio Regulations and regulatory aspects of the use of the radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbits. More than 400 participants attended from over 90 countries. ITU organizes world seminars on spectrum management every two years, as well as regional seminars aimed in particular at addressing the needs of developing countries. Director of the Radiocommunication Bureau (BR), noted that “Radiocommunication today are undergoing constant changes. These changes occur as a result of technological improvements and changes in practice and they need to be reflected in the international regulations on spectrum. [...] They need to be reflected in the World Radiocommunication Conferences, ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) Recommendations, best practices on spectrum use, and the software tools used by ITU to process the thousands of notices we receive every week reliably and efficiently”.

#### (d) United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS)

292. UNGIS was endorsed by the CEB in April 2006 and it serves as an interagency mechanism to coordinate substantive policy issues facing the United Nations system’s implementation of the Geneva Plan of Action and Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society, thereby contributing to improving policy coherence in the UN system, as requested by the 2005 World Summit.



293. At its annual gathering at the WSIS Forum 2015, the United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) held its 12<sup>th</sup> High-level and Working-Level meetings. During the working-level meeting the annual rolling work plan was prepared and endorsed by the members.
294. The UNGIS members also welcomed a new tool developed by a number of United Nations agencies to map how information and communications technologies (ICTs) may contribute to the implementation of the proposed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
295. The mapping exercise describes the interfaces between the Action Lines adopted at the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) with the proposed SDGs. The matrix was developed by the various facilitators of the Action Lines, under their respective mandates, with the aim of identifying where the potential for ICTs to promote and realize the development goals is the greatest.
296. Mr Houlin Zhao, Secretary-General of ITU and the rotational Chair of UNGIS (2014-2015) congratulated the UN family for the excellent achievement and thanked them for great collaboration on the WSIS Action Lines and SDG Matrix while stressing: “ITU was pleased to coordinate this effort and I hope that the Matrix will serve as an easy reference for stakeholders engaged in shaping the future of both, the SDGs and the WSIS processes beyond 2015”
297. ITU continues to provide secretariat support to UNGIS and maintains the official UNGIS webpage [www.ungis.org](http://www.ungis.org).



**(e) Measuring the Information Society (Para113-119 of TAIS)**

298. ITU continues to monitor the development of the digital divide, through appropriate benchmarks and indicators. ITU maintains the World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database, which is updated twice a year (in June and in December), disseminated widely and which can be accessed online. To improve data availability and comparability, ITU works closely with its member states, particularly the Ministries in charge of telecommunication, regulatory agencies, and national statistical offices.
299. In 2014-15, more than 180 statistical indicators from over 200 economies worldwide were collected through five annual questionnaires. The data were disseminated through the ITU website, online portal, CD-ROM, electronic download and printed publications such as the 40th edition of the Yearbook of Statistics, and the 19th (June 2015) edition of the World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators database (WTID).



300. In May 2015, ITU published “The World in 2015: ICT Facts and Figures” featuring end-2015 estimates for key telecommunication/ICT indicators, including on mobile-cellular subscriptions, Internet use, fixed and mobile broadband services, home ICT access, and more. Since 2015 is the deadline for achievements of the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which global leaders agreed upon in the year 2000, the 2015 ICT Facts and Figures focused on ICT progress and remaining gaps over the MDG period.



301. ITU is an active member of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development and together with UNCTAD and UIS, one of the three members of its Steering Committee. Over the years, the Partnership has grown to a total of 14 partner organizations, with the ILO joining in 2014. In 2014, the Partnership also celebrated its 10th anniversary and at that occasion organized a special event during the WSIS Forum 2015 and the ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium 2014. The Partnership has been very active in tracking the progress of the WSIS Targets and has also taken a lead role in increasing awareness about the importance of ICT for development and in international ICT monitoring. The Partnership has made a concerted effort to highlight the role that ICTs will play in achieving the SDGs and prepared a joint proposal of ICT indicators to help track the SDGs and targets. In February 2015, this proposal was presented as a background document to the UN Expert Group Meeting on the indicator framework for the post-2015 development agenda. The proposal was also presented during the WSIS Forum 2015, when the Partnership organized a session on the ICT indicators for monitoring the SDGs.

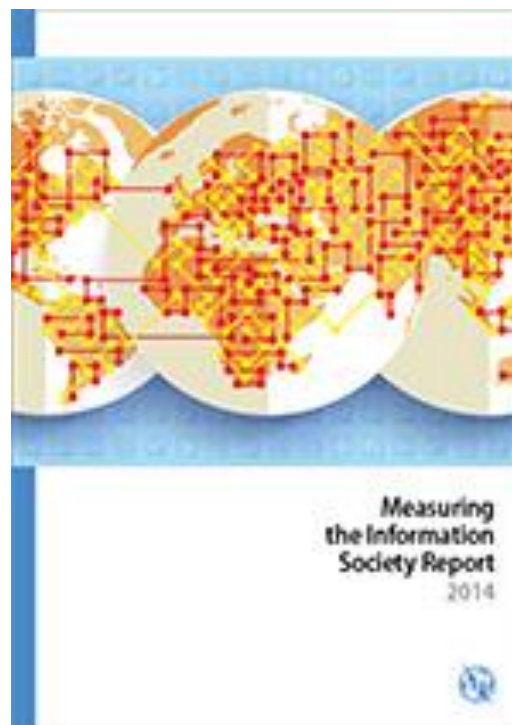


302. The 5th Meeting of the Expert Group on Telecommunication/ICT Indicators (EGTI) and the 2nd Meeting of the Expert Group on ICT Household Indicators (EGH) took place back-to-back in Geneva, in September 2014. The EGH meeting was attended by 85 participants, representing national statistical offices, ministries, regulators and international and regional organizations, as well as the private sector. The main topics covered were indicators on individuals using the Internet, by type of portable device and network used, Internet security, child and youth online protection, mobile phone ownership and barriers to individual Internet use, and ICT employment. The EGTI was attended by 92 participants, including experts from regulators, ministries and national statistical offices from 48 countries, as well as several private sector companies and representatives from the EC, Eurostat, OECD, UIS, and UNCTAD. Key topics of the EGTI were Indicators on international Internet bandwidth, broadband indicators, M2M, LTE, bundled telecommunication services and the revision of the ITU Long WTI Questionnaire.

303. In November 2014, the 12th World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium (WTIS) took place in Tbilisi, Georgia. The meeting attracted around 250 participants from around 80 Member States, 15 public and private organizations (including academia) and other regional and international organizations. The meeting focused on the following main topics: ICT policy and measurement, including the post 2015 development agenda and future priorities for ICT

for development (ICT4D) policy; the use of big data for development; the measuring of competition, regulation and affordability of ICT services; data quality in ICT statistics; and open data policies. The meeting also presented progress of the work carried out by the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development and the results of the work of the Expert Group on Telecommunication/ICT Indicators (EGTI) and the Expert Group on Household indicators (EGH).

304. In November 2014 ITU launched the 6th edition of the Measuring the Information Society Report (MISR). The MISR features key ICT data and benchmarking tools to measure the information society, including the ICT Development Index (IDI). The 2014 IDI captures the level of ICT developments in 166 economies worldwide and compares progress made during the last year. The Measuring the Information Society Report 2014 highlights the relationship between ICT development (as measured by the IDI) and the MDGs, a contribution to the ongoing discussions on the potential of ICTs as development enablers. The report includes the results of the ICT Price Basket (IPB) and new mobile-broadband price data for over 140 economies. Price data are analysed to provide insights into the relationship between affordability and income inequality, competition and regulation. The report also looks at new ICT data sources for measurement and examines the possible role of big data from the ICT industry for monitoring and development. For more information on the report, see: <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/publications/mis2014.aspx>



305. The 13th ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium (WTIS) will take place in Hiroshima, Japan, from 30 November to 2 December 2015.



**WTIS-15**  
13th WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION  
**ICT INDICATORS  
SYMPOSIUM**  
30 NOVEMBER - 2 DECEMBER 2015  
HIROSHIMA, JAPAN

It will be hosted by the Government of Japan and include a Ministerial Roundtable discussing ICT as a driver of sustainable development. The WTIS will also feature an international high-level dialogue on the topic of future ICT trends, policies and measurement challenges and see the launch of the 2015 Measuring the Information Society Report (MISR) and the ICT Development Index (IDI). The other sessions of the WTIS 2015 will focus on: the data revolution, big data and the ICT industry, ICT and innovation, and the Internet of Things (IoT) and mobile applications as a growing source of development data. The results of the work of the Expert Group on Telecommunication/ICT Indicators (EGTI) and the Expert Group on Household indicators (EGH) will be presented for adoption by the WTIS.

306. The 2015 edition of the *Measuring the Information Society Report* will be launched on 30 November, 2015, on the first day of the [World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium \(WTIS\) 2015](#), in Hiroshima, Japan. Parallel launch events will take place in Addis Ababa, Bangkok, Brasilia, Brussels and Cairo.

The Report, which has been published annually since 2009, features key ICT data and benchmarking tools to measure the information society, including the ICT Development Index (IDI). The IDI 2015 captures the level of ICT developments in 167 economies worldwide and compares progress made since the year 2010. The Report assesses IDI findings at the regional level and highlights countries that rank at the top of the IDI and those that have improved their position in the overall IDI rankings most dynamically since 2010. The Report features a review and quantitative assessment of the global ITU goals and targets agreed upon at the 2014 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference and included in the Connect 2020 Agenda.

In addition, the Report will show the results of the ICT Price Basket (IPB) and present and analyse fixed- and mobile-broadband price data for around 180 economies. The report also includes a chapter looking into recent developments, opportunities and challenges of the Internet of Things (IoT).



**(f) Maintaining the WSIS Stocktaking Database (Para 120, Tunis Agenda) and a portal for best practices and success stories (Para 28, Geneva Plan of Action).**

307. Maintaining the WSIS Stocktaking Database (Para 120). Pursuant to the outcomes of the Tunis Agenda (Para 120) ITU continues to work on the WSIS Stocktaking ([www.wsis.org/stocktaking](http://www.wsis.org/stocktaking)) as a valuable tool for assisting the WSIS follow-up, beyond the conclusion of the Tunis phase of the Summit.



308. Ten years ago, at the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) in its two phases (Geneva 2003, & Tunis 2005), the representatives of the peoples of the world adopted a common vision on the Information Society, identifying its main principles and challenges towards a people-centered inclusive and development oriented Information Society. The fundamental aim of the WSIS process was to foster the use of technology to improve people's lives and to bridge the digital divide. The users of ICTs have developed considerably and become a part of everyday life since the second phase of the WSIS in 2005, accelerating social and economic growth, sustainable development, increasing transparency and accountability, where applicable, and offering new opportunities to leverage technology, in developed and developing countries.



309. As one of the major components of WSIS, the WSIS Stocktaking process is a unique global platform that has been embraced by the multistakeholder community with the aim to provide an international register of ICT projects and activities on the ground carried out by governments, international organizations, the business sector, civil society, and other entities, in order to highlight the progress made since the landmark event. According to the Tunis Agenda (Para 120) the International Telecommunication Union was requested to continue to maintain and update the stocktaking database of WSIS related activities. The stocktaking portal ([www.wsis.org/stocktaking](http://www.wsis.org/stocktaking)) is structured around the eleven WSIS action lines and contains close to 7,000 WSIS-related entries submitted by stakeholders. This process provides a repository of best practices (maintained by the International Telecommunication Union) for stakeholders seeking updated information on the progress of implementation of WSIS outcomes. So far, WSIS Stocktaking process has involved more than 140,000 stakeholders worldwide.



[www.wsis.org/stocktaking](http://www.wsis.org/stocktaking)  
Extend your network • Create Partnerships • Provide more  
visibility & value to your projects at the global level • Be part of  
WSIS Stocktaking report • Use the new options • Communicate

310. WSIS Stocktaking Report series (seven published editions of the report: 2005, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015) are based on the multistakeholder approach and include input from stakeholders from all over the world as well as input from WSIS facilitators and co-facilitators. The reporting is based on the contributions of the stakeholders responding to the WSIS regular calls for updates and new entries. The latest call was issued in September 2014.

311. As the Web 2.0 platform continues to flourish, so does the promotion of social development and economic growth through ICTs. In 2010, the existing database was upgraded by Web 2.0 adding additional services for the project managers and the WSIS implementation community, and constituting the new WSIS Stocktaking Platform – an innovative interface which facilitates searches of all WSIS related activities. All 140.000 stakeholders benefit from sharing interesting case studies, which should undoubtedly facilitate the transfer of knowledge, experiences and models for projects implementation. The WSIS Stocktaking platform helps to create partnerships, provide greater visibility and add value to ICT projects all around the world.

312. Another major component has emerged since 2012 – WSIS Prizes contest. Each year, on the occasion of the WSIS Forum, 18 WSIS stakeholders are awarded WSIS Prizes, a unique global recognition for excellence in the implementation of WSIS outcomes. Open to all WSIS stakeholders, it was an immediate response to the requests expressed by WSIS stakeholders during the WSIS Forum 2011: to create a mechanism to evaluate and reward stakeholders for their efforts in the implementation of WSIS outcomes.

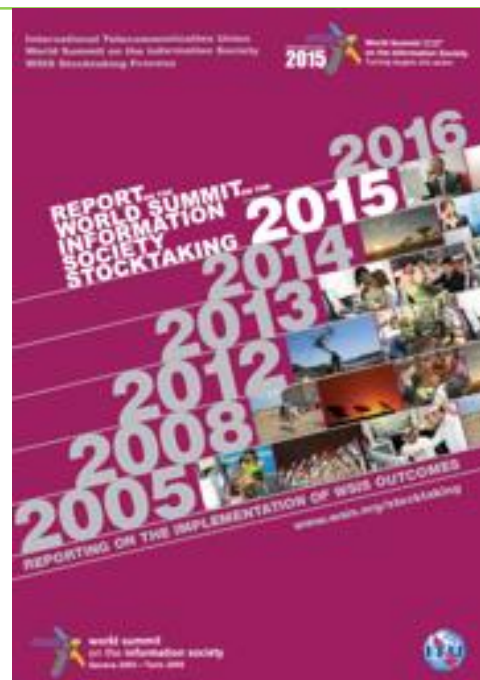


313. WSIS Prizes contest is an integral part of WSIS Stocktaking Process and it rapidly became popular with the ICT for development community. Being highly appreciated and reflected in ECOSOC resolution 2014/27, on “Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow up to the outcomes of the World Summit on Information Society “, the ICT for development community highlighted the importance of sharing the best practices at the global level. While recognizing excellence in the implementation of the projects and initiatives which advances the WSIS goals, this Resolution encourages all stakeholders to nominate their projects for the annual WSIS Prizes as an integral part of the WSIS Stocktaking process, whole noting the report on the WSIS Success Stories.
314. The ICT for development community is encouraged to follow both the WSIS Stocktaking and WSIS Prizes contest and submit their project descriptions using the WSIS Stocktaking online platform ([www.wsis.org/stocktaking](http://www.wsis.org/stocktaking)). Many projects and initiatives reflected on this platform highlight progress made towards achieving the WSIS goals as well as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).
315. The information and communication technologies (ICTs) have clearly demonstrated their value as a facilitator and development enabler in reaching MDGs. However, major challenges still lay ahead for counteracting the wide disparities in development and ambling all groups and all countries to benefit from universal access to information and knowledge. ICTs are cross-cutting enablers of development and are therefore critical to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). At the same time, WSIS stakeholders have recognized the need to link the WSIS process to the SDGs framework.
316. Presented at the WSIS Forum 2015, the WSIS Action Lines – SDGs Matrix has received large appreciation by all the WSIS community, which proposed to better explain the potential of ICTs as enablers for sustainable development, by investing the third dimension of the issue:

that of reporting ICT success stories to best showcase the possible achievement of SDGs, through the implementation of WSIS Action Lines related projects.

317. The many and varied stakeholders who have implemented innovative projects and contributed to the success of the WSIS Stocktaking Process deserve sincere gratitude. WSIS urges these stakeholders, along with all Member States, international organizations, the private sector and civil society, to continue submitting such contributions in the future.
318. International Telecommunication Union remains committed to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) process, and to implementation of the WSIS goals beyond 2015. ITU recognizes and highly appreciates the extremely valuable contributions made by stakeholders to enable the continuation of WSIS monitoring and reporting. We invite you to explore most recent updates and success stories in the WSIS stocktaking process, with more than 7,000 entries in the global database, involving more than 140,000 stakeholders.
319. Since October 2004, the WSIS Stocktaking Platform has served as a global repository for collecting and reporting on ICT-related projects which implement the WSIS Outcomes. It has also proved to be an efficient mechanism for sharing best practices towards advancing development goals, a role that I am confident will continue to be of value in the post-2015 era with the soon-to-be adopted Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
320. By identifying trends in implementing WSIS Outcomes, the WSIS Stocktaking Process makes a significant contribution towards building an inclusive Information Society. The best practices reflected in this process will serve as models to be replicated around the world, and will encourage stakeholders to move forward towards achieving the WSIS goals.
321. In 2014, United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Resolution 2014/27 reiterated the importance of sharing the best practices at the global level. It encouraged all stakeholders to continue contributing to the WSIS Stocktaking database and to nominate their projects for the annual WSIS Prizes. Each year, 18 WSIS stakeholders are awarded a WSIS Prize, a unique global recognition for excellence in the implementation of WSIS outcomes. The contest is open to all WSIS stakeholders.

322. The 2015 edition of the WSIS Stocktaking Report is the continuation of the WSIS Stocktaking Report series. The seventh edition of the WSIS Stocktaking Report was officially released during the World Summit on the Information Society Forum 2015. The 2015 report reflects more than 500 global activities relating to ICTs for development, submitted to the WSIS stocktaking process for the period April 2014 - March 2015, each one highlighting the efforts deployed by stakeholders involved in implementing the WSIS goals. The seventh edition gave examples of emerging trends in actions geared to bridging the digital divide and building an inclusive information society. The report is based on the multistakeholder approach, including input from stakeholders from all over the world, as well as the input from WSIS Action Line facilitators and co-facilitators. The reporting is based on the contributions of the stakeholders responding to the ITU official 2014 call for stocktaking update and new entries.

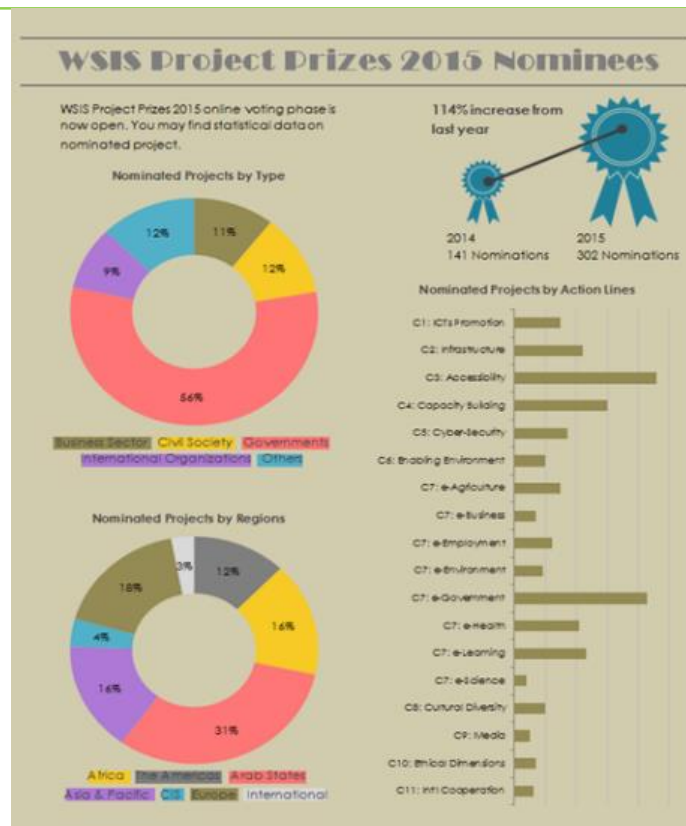


323. The WSIS Stocktaking process was initiated in October 2004 during the Tunis phase of WSIS and has over time become an effective tool for the exchange of information on projects and initiatives related to the implementation of the 11 Action Lines. The WSIS Stocktaking process provides a register of activities carried out by governments, international organizations, the private sector, civil society and other entities. To that end, in accordance with § 120 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society (TAIS) adopted by the Summit, ITU has been maintaining the WSIS Stocktaking Database as a publicly accessible system providing information on ICT-related initiatives and projects with reference to the 11 WSIS Action Lines (Geneva Plan of Action). The WSIS Stocktaking process provides a portal of best practices for stakeholders seeking updated information on progress made in implementing WSIS outcomes (§28.e, Geneva Plan of Action).

The 18 categories are the following:

- 1) The role of governments and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development
- 2) Information and communication infrastructure
- 3) Access to knowledge and information

- 4) Capacity building
- 5) Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs
- 6) Enabling environment
- 7) E-government
- 8) E- business
- 9) E-learning
- 10) E-health
- 11) E-employment
- 12) E-environment
- 13) E-agriculture
- 14) E-science
- 15) Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content
- 16) Media
- 17) Ethical dimension of the information society
- 18) International and regional cooperation



324. The principal role of the WSIS Stocktaking exercise is to leverage the activities of stakeholders working on the implementation of WSIS outcomes and share knowledge and experience of projects by replicating successful models.

325. As of May 2015, over 7 000 updated entries and more than 135 000 stakeholders have been registered in the WSIS Stocktaking Database, reflecting innovative activities including projects, programs, WSIS thematic meetings, conferences, publications, training initiatives, guidelines and tool-kits. Following § 120 of the Tunis Agenda and ECOSOC Resolution 2014/27, adopted on 27 August 2014, on Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, ITU Members are encouraged to continue to contribute information on their activities to this public database as well.

326. In addition, more than 300 international projects have been competing in the prestigious WSIS Project Prizes contest and are also to be included in the 2015 Stocktaking report. This marks an increase of 114 per cent in project nominations since 2014. The WSIS Project Prizes contest is part of the WSIS Stocktaking Process, and a unique way of recognizing excellence in the implementation of WSIS outcomes.

327. More than half of the projects submitted this year were government initiatives, while 12 per cent originated from civil society, 11 per cent from the business sector, 10 per cent from

international organizations, and another 12 per cent from other entities, mainly academia. As regards geographical distribution, 31 per cent of the projects in 2015 were submitted by Arab States, 18 per cent are from Europe, 16 per cent each from the Asia-Pacific Region and the Americas, 12 per cent from Africa, and 4 per cent from the CIS, while 3 per cent came from international organizations and international NGOs.

328. In addition to international stakeholders, including international organizations and companies, all Member States are invited to gather information at the national level with the involvement of all stakeholders, in order to contribute to the stocktaking process. In 2013, the new database application was introduced, with additional features that allow stakeholders to use the database in a more efficient way. Users are able to access their accounts of projects and activities and can track all recorded data and update/edit their existing WSIS-related activities at any time.
329. Regular reporting on WSIS Stocktaking is the outcome of the Tunis phase of the Summit, which was launched in order to serve as a valuable tool for assisting with the WSIS follow-up. Since 2005, regular reporting has been a key tool for monitoring the progress of ICT initiatives and projects worldwide. WSIS Stocktaking has been playing a crucial role over many years and this role takes on even greater significance in the light of the WSIS+10 review process on the implementation of WSIS outcomes.
330. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) remains committed to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) process, and to implementation of the WSIS goals beyond 2015. ITU recognizes and highly appreciates the extremely valuable contributions made by stakeholders to enable the continuation of WSIS monitoring and reporting. There can be no doubt whatsoever that, in today's fast-moving world, innovation and efficiency are vital to success. Accordingly, the WSIS Stocktaking 2015 Report shares with you the most recent updates and success stories in the WSIS stocktaking process.
331. We are also pleased to announce the launch of a new and innovative interface in the near future, which will facilitate searches of all WSIS related activities. All stakeholders benefit from sharing interesting case studies, which should undoubtedly facilitate the transfer of knowledge, experiences and models for projects implementation. The WSIS platform helps to create partnerships, provide greater visibility and add value to ICT projects all around the world. The many and varied stakeholders who have implemented innovative projects and contributed to the success of the WSIS stocktaking process deserve our sincere gratitude. ITU urges these stakeholders, along with all Member States, international organizations, the private sector and civil society, to continue submitting such contributions in the future.

#### (g) Emergency Telecommunications (Para 91 of TAIS)

332. **ITU deploys emergency telecommunication equipment to Myanmar**



Heavy seasonal rains caused severe flooding in Myanmar. As the situation continued to evolve, the President of the Union of Myanmar, Hon. Their Sein issued a statement declaring natural disaster zones in Chin and Rakhine states, Sagaing, and Magway regions, stating “the following regions which are hugely affected by natural disasters and have challenges for rapid restoration to normality, are

announced as natural disaster zones (1) Chin State, (2) Sagaing Region, (3) Magway Region and (4) Rakhine State.” The government indicated that it would accept international assistance. In response, ITU deployed emergency telecommunication equipment to support response activities. (4 August 2015).

### 333. ITU deploys emergency telecommunication equipment to Kenya



Heavy seasonal rains caused severe flooding in Kenya, causing devastation and loss of lives. The government requested the assistance from ITU.

To support response and recovery activities ITU deployed emergency telecommunication equipment to coordinate those efforts. (15 May 2015).

### ITU deploys emergency telecommunication equipment to Nepal



Following the 7.8 magnitude earthquake that hit Nepal on 25 April 2015, ITU deployed emergency telecommunication equipment to support relief coordination efforts.

35 satellite telephones and 10 satellite Broadband Global Area Network terminals along with solar panels and laptops were deployed in the aftermath of the earthquake. The equipment is being used in rural areas for search and rescue operations as all the telecommunications infrastructure was damaged. (April

2015)

### ITU deploys emergency telecommunication equipment to Mozambique

ITU deployed emergency telecommunication equipment to Mozambique following the request from Mozambique for assistance with satellite communication equipment for improvement of preparedness readiness.

ITU dispatched 10 Iridium satellite phones to further improve preparedness and coordination for future disasters. (April 2015)



### ITU deploys emergency telecommunication equipment to Micronesia



ITU deployed emergency telecommunications equipment to The Federated States of Micronesia following the devastation caused by a Category 5 Tropical Typhoon Maysak which hit the islands on 30 March.

ITU dispatched 30 satellite phones, 5 Broadband Global Area Network terminals and 25 solar panels to the Island nation to support relief coordination efforts. (April 2015)



### ITU deploys emergency telecommunication equipment to Vanuatu

ITU deployed emergency telecommunication equipment to Vanuatu following the devastation caused by Cyclone Pam, a category 5 category cyclone which hit the archipelago on Friday, 13 March 2015.

ITU dispatched 40 satellite phones, 10 Broadband Global Area Network terminals and 35 solar panels to the Island nation to support relief coordination efforts. (March 2015)



### ITU deploys satellite communication equipment to flood-hit Malawi



The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has dispatched emergency telecommunication equipment to Malawi which has been recently affected by severe flooding.

ITU has deployed 28 units of Thuraya XT satellite phones to support relief coordination efforts.

### (h) International Internet Connectivity (Para27c.ii and 50d of TAIS)

334. ITU-T Study Group 3 continues to study this matter. BDT is providing assistance to East African Community (EAC) and South African Development Community (SADC) countries on the creation of national Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) and achieving efficient and cost effective Regional Internet connectivity.



335. ITU Workshop on the establishment of Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) to advance inter-connectivity, 28 September 2015, Geneva, Switzerland

Paragraph 50 of the Tunis Agenda calls for the establishment of national, regional and sub-regional Internet exchange points (IXPs) as a strategy for increasing affordable global

connectivity, thereby facilitating improved and equitable access for all. This call has been reinforced repeatedly including in Opinion 1 of WTPF 2013 and PP14 Resolutions 101 and 102.

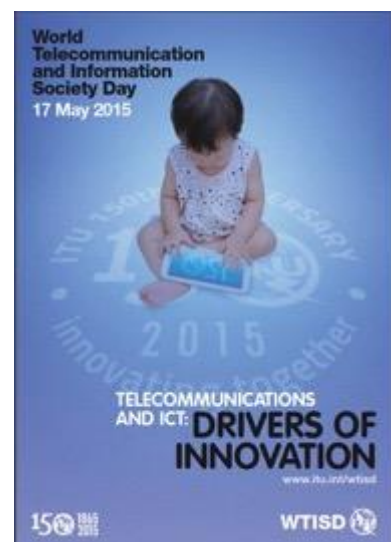
This workshop, co-organized by BDT and TSB, aims to provide insights on the value of IXPs in leveraging the benefits of connectivity through potentially reduced transmission costs, optimized Internet traffic, and improved Quality of Service among others. This workshop will discuss widely accepted best practices for the design, installation and operation of IXPs. Issues concerning peering as an effective way for Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to improve the efficiency of operations and interconnection business relationships will also be discussed, including related policy and regulatory challenges.

336. ITU-D Study Group 1 Question 1/1 within its work items for the 2014-2017 study period is studying some of the existing resources available, including case studies received, related to the deployment of Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) with an aim to prepare best practice guidelines that may be useful for the Member States. As an example, an empirical study of Kenya and Nigeria assessing the impact of IXPs in these two Sub-Saharan countries has been considered. The Group is examining how IXPs can be used to improve connectivity, how they can improve the quality of Internet services provided and potentially save operators money in connectivity fees. Other contributions to the work of the Group looks at the critical cost and performance benefits of IXPs in countries in the Americas (Argentina, Brazil, Colombia and Ecuador), and how they have been able to advance Internet growth in this region. While the Study Group will compile its final findings for the World Telecommunication Development Conference in 2017, the ITU Membership can take part in the work achieved to date and contribute to the discussions during its regular meetings and using online collaboration tools.

#### (i) World Telecommunication and Information Society Day

337. **17 May 2015, ITU's 150th Anniversary and World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD 2015)**

338. For a century and a half since 1865, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has been at the centre of advances in communications - from telegraphy through to the modern world of satellites, mobile phones and the Internet. The story of ITU is one of international cooperation, among governments, private companies and other stakeholders. The continuing mission is to achieve the best practical solutions for integrating new technologies as they develop, and to spread their benefits to all.

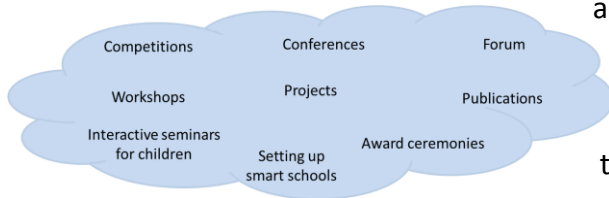


339. On 17 May 1865, the first International Telegraph Convention was signed in Paris by its twenty founding members, and the International Telegraph Union (the first incarnation of ITU) was established to supervise subsequent amendments to the agreement. That significant date – 17 May – eventually became World Telecommunication and Information Society Day.

340. In 2015, ITU marked the 150th anniversary of the International Telecommunication Union. The theme for World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD 2015)

and ITU's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration is "Telecommunications and ICTs: Drivers of Innovation."

341. The 150th anniversary is being marked by more than 140 celebrations around the world throughout this year. ITU's 150th Anniversary celebration includes a number of events and activities to highlight key milestones and achievements, recognizing important contributions of ITU Members and other stakeholders to the development of telecommunications/ICTs.



342. More than 30 Member States expressed their interest to produce commemorative stamps and other philatelic products.

Source: [www.itu150.org](http://www.itu150.org)



343. Some Member States organized special exhibitions to celebrate ITU's 150th Anniversary:



- "Be part of history" (Argentina)
- "ITU history - Togo history" (Togo)
- "The Submarine Cable in a sea of connectivity" (Portugal)
- "Exhibition about history of ICTs" (Côte d'Ivoire)

Photo credit: National celebration in Spain

344. Each month was celebrated by ITU, its membership and other stakeholders with specific theme. Member States and other stakeholders were invited to join the global celebration to

commemorate ITU's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and also organize national celebrations in line with global theme or specific monthly theme.

- January: ICT Drivers of Innovation
- February: Youth and Innovation
- March: Innovation and Intelligent Transport Systems
- April: Girls and Women and Innovation
- May: ICT Drivers of Innovation
- June: Innovation and the Digital Dividend
- July: Accessibility and Innovation
- August: Innovation to Bridge the Digital Divide
  - September: Navigation and Innovation
  - October: Big Data and Innovation
  - November: ITU as a platform for Innovation
  - December: Future Innovation

345. In the framework of ITU150 Campaign, several activities were launched:

- Dedicated website
- Digital timeline
- ITU 150th Anniversary smartphone Application
- Commemorative Book released during Paris Event
- ITU150 poster competition "Let's draw the future" and ITU150 poster exposition
- Golden Book
- ITU 150 video greetings
- Social Media and its community
- Inter-agency games
- Monthly Stories

346. On 17 May, ITU's 150th Anniversary and World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD 2015) was celebrated in Geneva. This historic event brought together more than 900 participants from all over the world, representing governments, the private sector, academia, UN agencies, and international organizations. ITU150 Awards was a prominent component of the ITU's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations programme on 17 May. ITU150 Awards recognized individuals from government, ICT industry, academia, and civil society that have contributed to improving lives of world citizens through ICT innovations developed, promoted or implemented by ITU. ITU150 Awards Laureates were Bill Gates, Robert E. Kahn, Thomas Wiegand, Mark I. Krivocheev, Martin Cooper and Ken Sakamura.

#### **LAUREATS 2015**

Bill Gates, Robert E. Kahn, Thomas Wiegand, Mark I. Krivocheev, Martin Cooper and Ken Sakamura have been honoured with ITU's 150th Anniversary Award.



(j) Bridging the standardization

gap (BSG)

347. A **Regional Standardization Forum for Africa** was organized by the ITU from 24 to 25 March 2015 in Dakar, Senegal. This Forum was hosted by the Autorité de Régulation des Télécommunications et des Postes (ARTP) of Senegal and took place at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Dakar.
348. The main objectives of the Forum were to provide examples of best practices to developing countries on global standards development, build national standards readiness so that standardization competence of developing countries can be enhanced and facilitate the establishment of a national standardization secretariat to coordinate participation in ITU-T study groups. The Forum will also discuss the standardization activities ongoing in ITU-T study groups which are of interest to the region.
349. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is organizing a Regional Standardization Forum for the Asia-Pacific Region in association with the Telecommunications Technology Association (TTA) at the Millennium Hotel Sirih, Jakarta, Indonesia, from 27 to 28 October 2015. The Ministry of Communications and Information Technology of Indonesia will kindly host this forum.
350. The main objectives of the event are to provide examples of best practices to developing countries on global standards development, build national standards readiness so that standardization competence of developing countries can be enhanced and facilitate the establishment of a national standardization secretariat to coordinate participation in ITU-T study groups. The Forum will also discuss the standardization activities ongoing in ITU-T study groups which are of interest to the region. A half day capacity building session will be conducted on how to fast track the establishment of a national standardization secretariat to coordinate participation in ITU-T study groups.
351. At the kind invitation of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL), The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is organizing a "Regional Standardization Forum for Americas" on 21 September 2015 at the CITEL Headquarters in Washington D.C., United States. This event will be followed by the XXVII Meeting of PCC.I from 22 to 25 September at the same venue.

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352. The main objectives of the event are to provide examples of best practices to developing countries on global standards development, build national standards readiness so that standardization competence of developing countries can be enhanced and facilitate the establishment of a national standardization secretariat to coordinate participation in ITU-T study groups. The Forum will also discuss the standardization activities ongoing in ITU-T study groups which are of interest to the region.

**(j) Internet Governance Forum**

353. ITU actively participated in the 10th IGF in João Pessoa, Brazil, on 10 to 13 November 2015. The ITU Deputy Secretary-General spoke at the Opening Session as well as the Zero Day High-Level Event on An Agenda for Internet Governance Post-2015. ITU participated in various Dynamic Coalition meetings and related workshops/events, including some that are organized or co-organized by ITU, aimed at raising awareness of the various ITU initiatives. ITU was also represented in main sessions on Cybersecurity and Connecting the next Billion. ITU organized a workshop on the Connect 2020 Agenda and an Open Forum on Fostering SMEs in the ICT Sector: the new Global ICT Entrepreneurship Initiative.

### III. ITU Role in the Overall Review of the Implementation of the Outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

#### (a) UNGA Overall Review of the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes

354. Paragraph 111 of the Tunis Agenda, endorsed by the General Assembly in resolution 60/252, requested the General Assembly to undertake the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society in 2015. In response, the General Assembly in resolution [68/302](#), decided that the overall review will be concluded by a two-day high-level meeting of the General Assembly, to be preceded by an intergovernmental process that also takes into account inputs from all relevant stakeholders of the World Summit on the Information Society. Co-Facilitators of the UNGA Overall Review appointed by the President of the UNGA are Ambassador Jānis Mažeiks, Ambassador of Latvia and Ambassador Lana Zaki Nusseibeh, Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates.

#### 355. Roadmap

The following presents the preliminary outline of the milestones for the UNGA Overall Review of the Implementation of WSIS presented on the website of the process.

Dates (2015)	Action / Activity
1 June	Appointment of <a href="#">two co-facilitators</a> by the President of the UN General Assembly to lead an Intergovernmental negotiation process
June 10-11	General Assembly <a href="#">Co-facilitators' Stocktaking Session</a> - Trusteeship Council, UNHQ, New York
1 July	<a href="#">First Preparatory Meeting of the Member States</a>
2 July	<a href="#">Informal Interactive WSIS Stakeholder Consultation</a> *
31 July	Deadline for <a href="#">written submissions</a>
End August	<a href="#">Non-Paper</a> ; <a href="#">OPGA's letter on the non-paper</a> .
18 September	Deadline for <a href="#">comments</a> on <a href="#">Non-Paper</a>
Last week September	<a href="#">Zero Draft Paper</a> ; <a href="#">Co-facilitators' letter</a>

15 October	Deadline for <a href="#">comments on Zero-draft</a>
19 October	<a href="#">Informal</a> <a href="#">Interactive</a> <a href="#">WSIS**</a> <a href="#">Stakeholder</a> <a href="#">Consultation</a>
October 20-22	<a href="#">2nd</a> <a href="#">Preparatory</a> <a href="#">Meeting</a>
4 November	<a href="#">Draft Outcome Document</a>
17 November	Deadline for comments on the Draft Outcome Document
19 - 20, 24 - 25 November	Informals
December 15-16	<a href="#">High-level meeting of the General Assembly on WSIS + 10 review</a>

\* Organized by the President of the 69th session of the General Assembly

\*\* Organized by the President of the 70th session of the General Assembly

### 356. ITU Mandate related to the UNGA Overall Review

- PP-14 Resolution 140 (2014): ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and in the overall review by United Nations General Assembly of their implementation
- Council-15 Resolution 1334 (2015): ITU's: ITU Role in the Overall Review of the Implementation of the Outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

### 357. ITU contributions submitted the UNGA Overall Review

- Per request by PP-14 and Council-15
  - [Outcome Documents of the WSIS+10 High Level Event \(Geneva, 2014\)](#)
  - [10 Year ITU Contribution to the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes \(2014\)](#)
- Additional Inputs Presented
  - [Final WSIS Targets Review](#)
  - [WSIS-SDG Matrix](#)
  - [ICT Facts and Figures](#)

### 358. ITU related activities



- **June 2015:** Dissemination of [Special Edition of WSIS Flash](#) inviting stakeholders to contribute to the process
- **8-9 June 2015:** [ITU-DESA Experts Group Meeting on Expert Group Meeting on Advancing a Sustainable Information Society for All](#)
- **10 June 2015:** [ITU presentation of the WSIS+10 High Level Event, its preparatory process and outcomes to the First Stocktaking Session of the UNGA Overall Review](#)
- **June 2015:** Elaboration of [brochure on third dimension](#) of the WSIS-SDG Matrix: *Advancing Sustainable Development Through Information and Communication Technologies: WSIS Action Lines Enabling SDGs*
- **1 July 2015:** ITU-UNESCO Information Session on WSIS beyond 2015: Building upon Multistakeholder Consensus Based Outcome Documents of the UNESCO and ITU hosted WSIS+10 Review Events ([www.wsis.org/briefings](http://www.wsis.org/briefings))
- **1 July 2015:** Intervention of ITU at the [First Preparatory Meeting](#)
- **2 July 2015:** ITU moderated a session two of the [Informal Interactive WSIS Stakeholder Consultation](#). Session is entitled *ICT Gaps, areas of continuous focus and challenges, including digital divide*. ([Summary of the meeting](#))
- **16-30 July 2015:** Coordination of ITU input to the UNGA Overall Review
- **30 July 2015:** Submission of the ITU input to the UNGA Overall Review
- **July 2015:** Dissemination of [Special Edition of WSIS Flash](#) inviting stakeholders to respond to the call for contributions to the UNGA review
- **16 July 2015:** Dissemination of special reminder on call for inputs through [WSIS Flash](#)
- **July 2015:** Kick-off of the coordination with UNGIS of the CEB statement on the UNGA Overall Review.
- **August 2015:** Dissemination of special WSIS Flash on October meeting
- **19 October, UNHQ, New York:** ITU moderated one of the sessions of the [Informal Interactive WSIS Stakeholder Consultation](#) (Internet Governance)
- **20-22 October, UNHQ, New York:** Following the [2nd Preparatory Meeting](#) - for the General Assembly's overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World summit on the Information Society (WSIS)
- **20 October, UNHQ, New York:** Side event on WSIS Forum, WSIS Stocktaking, WSIS Prizes and WSIS Fund in Trust.
- **November 2015:** Finalization by ITU of a **draft statement of CEB** (currently under endorsement process by UNGIS)
- **December 2015:** ITU Side Events at the WSIS High-level Meeting-

During the High-level Meeting ITU will be holding a series of side Side Events. The side events, 5 in total, will be held over three days from the 14-16 December 2015 and will cover issues such as the WSIS implementation and the 2030 agenda for sustainable development, and gender equality.

1. Strengthening the impact of WSIS action lines for sustainable development: showcasing best practices, transferring know-how, fostering partnerships  
Monday 14 December 2015, 13:15 - 14:30, UNHQ, Conference Room 11
2. GEM-TECH Awards 2015  
Monday 14 December 2015, 18:00 - 20:00, Civic Hall, New York
3. UN Group on Information Society (UNGIS) Breakfast (UN Agencies only), Hosted by ITU  
Tuesday 15 December, 8:00 – 8:45 UN Plaza 2, 25 Floor, WIPO Conference Room
4. Women's Empowerment in the Digital Age: Implementing WSIS Outcome and Agenda 2030  
Tuesday 15 December 2015, 13:15 - 14:30, UNHQ, Conference Room 6
5. Measuring the Information Society: ICT Data for Policy Making and Evaluation Tuesday 15 December 2015, 15:00 - 18:00, UNHQ, Conference Room A
6. Enabling a Trusted Connected World  
Wednesday 16 December 2015, 13:15 - 14:30, UNHQ, Conference Room 7

359. **ITU** is part of a special Task Force of Representatives of UN Agencies Represented in NY and Supporting the Preparatory Process . ITU is also an active part of a UN Communication Team for UNGA Overall Review (ITU, UNCTAD, UN DPI, UN OPGA, DESA. ITU facilitated the preparation of the CEB Joint Statement on the WSIS Overall Review (content to be coordinated through the UNGIS mechanism). ITU disseminates information on the process to the WSIS implementation community through the WSIS Flash

#### IV. Forums, innovative initiatives and future actions

##### (a) Forums

##### WSIS Forum 2015 Event and its outcomes:

360. The WSIS Forum 2015 was held from the 25–29 May 2015 at the ITU Headquarters in Geneva.

361. In addition the WSIS Forum 2015 resulted in series of documents and reports that provide in-depth reporting, analysis and a fresh vision for the issues concerning the information society, in particular the WSIS Action Lines. The outcomes of the WSIS Forum 2015 were presented on the last day, 29th May and are available for public on the following website: <http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Outcomes/>

##### 1) High-Level Track Policy Statements

Available at:

<http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/PolicyStatements/>

The High-Level Track of WSIS Forum 2015 was a platform for high-ranking officials of WSIS Stakeholders: Government, Private Sector, Civil Society and International Organization; to share their views on the achievements, challenges and recommendations on the

implementation of WSIS Action Lines, emerging trends and matters of strategic importance to the development of the telecommunication, information and communication technology sectors.

## 2) Forum Track Outcome Document

Available at:

[http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/outcomes/WSISForum2015\\_OutcomeDocument\\_ForumTrack.pdf](http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/outcomes/WSISForum2015_OutcomeDocument_ForumTrack.pdf)

Representatives of government, civil society, the private sector and international organizations gathered in Geneva on 25–29 May 2015 to identify emerging trends, fresh priorities and innovations for advancing the 'ICT for development' agenda.

The WSIS Forum is a unique global platform for multi-stakeholder coordination of implementation of WSIS-related activities, projects, and initiatives and its aim is to define strategies and tactics that would help countries and organizations harness the power of ICTs to meet development goals more effectively.

The WSIS Forum was co-organized by ITU, UNESCO, UNDP and UNCTAD, in collaboration with a number of UN sister agencies (UNDESA, FAO, UNEP, WHO, UN Women, WIPO, WFP, ILO, WMO, UN, ITC, UPU, UNODC, UNICEF and the UN Regional Commissions). This year's Forum was attended by over 1700 stakeholders from more than 140 different countries. More than 70 Ministers and deputies, several Ambassadors, CEOs and civil society leaders participated. The presence of so many leaders here in Geneva, was a sign of the stakeholders' commitment to the WSIS Process and that the ICTs will continue to play a significant role in tomorrow's development agenda.

WSIS Forum 2015 was comprised of over 150 workshops, interactive sessions and knowledge exchanges among the diverse range of stakeholders. The sessions demonstrated the open, collaborative and transparent nature of the WSIS Process. The Forum Track, besides various interactive sessions, also included an Exhibition, world cafés, thematic workshops, country workshops and UN Regional Commission meetings, with the involvement and participation of all WSIS Action Line Facilitators, other UN agencies and WSIS stakeholders. Key topics on the agenda this year included innovation, accessibility, gender empowerment, sustainable development (the UN 'Post-2015 Agenda'), cybersecurity, and WSIS beyond 2015 (WSIS+10).

## 3) WSIS Stocktaking Report 2015

Available at:

<http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/reports/wsisstocktaking-report-2015.pdf>

The 2015 edition of the WSIS Stocktaking Report is the continuation of the WSIS Stocktaking Report series. The seventh edition of the WSIS Stocktaking Report was officially released during the World Summit on the Information Society Forum 2015. The 2015 report reflects more than 500 global activities relating to ICTs for development, submitted to the WSIS

stocktaking process for the period April 2014 - March 2015, each one highlighting the efforts deployed by stakeholders involved in implementing the WSIS goals.

The seventh edition of the report is a collection of emerging trends in actions geared to bridging the digital divide and building an inclusive information society. The report is based on the multistakeholder approach, including input from stakeholders from all over the world, as well as the input from WSIS Action Line facilitators and co-facilitators. The reporting is based on the contributions of the stakeholders responding to the ITU official 2014 call for stocktaking update and new entries.

#### 4) **WSIS Stocktaking Success Stories 2015**

Available at:

<http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/reports/wsisstocktaking-successstories-2015.pdf>

This report is an annual publication issued in the framework of the contest of WSIS Project Prizes 2015 ([www.wsis.org/prizes](http://www.wsis.org/prizes)) that is open to all stakeholders.

The WSIS Stocktaking: Success Stories 2015, presents greater insights into the key ICT success stories of the WSIS Prize Winners from the WSIS Stocktaking database. During the WSIS Forum 2015 High-Level Track, eighteen WSIS Prizes were awarded, recognizing the outstanding achievements of a range of organizations in strengthening the implementation of the vision and targets set by WSIS across the eleven WSIS Action Lines. Over 300 projects were nominated for the 2015 contest, with the eighteen award winners elected through online voting involving over 100 000 stakeholders from around the world.

#### 5) **WSIS SDG Matrix**

Available at:

<http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/sdg/>

Linking WSIS Action Lines with Sustainable Development Goals

The WSIS Action line and SDG matrix was launched during the WSIS Forum 2015. To underline the key role of ICTs in promoting sustainable development, all WSIS Action Line Facilitators, under coordination by ITU, developed this WSIS-SDG Matrix demonstrating the direct links between the WSIS Action Lines and the proposed SDGs.

#### 6) **Advancing Sustainable Development Through Information and Communication Technologies: WSIS Action Lines Enabling SDGs**

Available at:

[http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/sdg/Content/wsis-sdg\\_draftbooklet.pdf](http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/sdg/Content/wsis-sdg_draftbooklet.pdf)

This mapping exercise draws direct linkages of the WSIS Action Lines with the proposed SDGs to continue strengthening the impact of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) for sustainable development. Each UN Action Line Facilitator has analyzed the connections and relations of their respective Action Line with the proposed SDGs and their targets. The goal is to create a clear and direct link and an explicit connection between the key aim of the WSIS, that of harnessing the potential of ICTs to promote and

realize the development goals, and the post 2015 development agenda, so as to contribute to the realization of the latter.

Methodology: UN Action Line facilitators have created a direct link and have derived all possible linkages between the Action Lines and the SDGs. The matrix presented maps the linkages with a rationale for each.

## 7) **Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development: Final WSIS Targets Review**

Available at: <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/publications/wsistargets2014.aspx>

This report of ITU features key ICT data and benchmarking tools to measure the information society, including the ICT Development Index (IDI). The IDI captures the level of ICT developments in 166 economies worldwide and compares progress made during the last year.

At the same time, the Report provides a comprehensive evaluation of the achievements made towards the WSIS Targets that governments agreed upon at the World Summit on the Information Society. Moreover it reviews progress made on each one of the WSIS Targets. The Report draws attention to the availability (and lack) of data to track progress today, and over time. It makes recommendations on policies that are most relevant in impacting the WSIS Targets. It also reviews the relevance of targets and indicators to track the information society. Moreover this report highlights lessons learnt and makes recommendations on a possible future (post-2015) ICT measurement framework, while linking a possible post-2015 ICT monitoring framework to the post-2015 Development Agenda. The report was produced by the [Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development](#), under the coordination of the ITU Development Bureau. The lead agencies contributing to the report were ITU, the UNESCO Institute of Statistics (UIS), the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and the United Nations University (UNU). Many other organisations and representatives of civil society also contributed.

Taking into account that the 68<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN General Assembly agreed on the modalities of the Overall Review ([UNGA Res. A/68/302](#)), the outcomes of the WSIS+10 High Level Event were submitted to the ECOSOC through its Commission on Science and Technology for Development in June 2014. The Outcome Documents will also be submitted to the preparatory process of the High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly to be held in December 2015 in due time.

## WSIS Forum 2016

362. The Open Consultation Process on thematic aspects and innovations on the format of the WSIS Forum 2016 will be held in five phases. The process aims at ensuring a participatory and inclusive spirit of the Forum, scheduled to be held from 2-6



May 2016 at the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in Geneva. This process actively engages governments, civil society, the private sector, academia, technical community and intergovernmental organizations in the preparatory process to ensure broad ownership and further improvements of the Forum.

363. The annual WSIS Forum is a global multistakeholder platform facilitating the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines. The Forum, co-organized by ITU, UNESCO, UNDP and UNCTAD, in close collaboration with all WSIS Action Line co-/facilitators and other UN organizations (UNDESA, FAO, UNEP, WHO, UN Women, WIPO, WFP, ILO, WMO, ITC, UPU, UNODC, UNICEF and UN Regional Commissions), is also an opportunity for information exchange, knowledge creation and sharing of best practices, taking into account the evolving Information and Knowledge Societies. The WSIS Forum provides opportunities for developing multistakeholder and public-private partnerships to advance development goals.

364. With the newly adopted 2030 Development Agenda, the WSIS Forum may need to evolve and adapt, with a view to strengthening the linkages between the WSIS Action Lines and the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as in light of the outcomes of the UN General Assembly Overall Review of the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes.

The Open Consultation Process for the WSIS Forum 2016 is structured in five phases as follows:

- Phase I:** 4 November 2015: Opening of the Open Consultations-
- Online dialogues on the WSIS Knowledge Communities at [www.wsis-community.org](http://www.wsis-community.org)
  - Official submissions to the WSIS Secretariat on the Thematic Aspects and Innovations on the Format invited at [www.wsis.org/forum](http://www.wsis.org/forum)
- Phase II:** 20 January 2016, ITU: First Physical Meeting\*
- Phase III:** 30 January 2016: Deadline for Submissions of Official Contributions and Binding Requests for Workshops
- Phase IV:** 26 February 2016, ITU: Final Review Meeting of the Open Consultation Process\*
- Phase V:** 1 April 2016: Final Brief on the WSIS Forum 2016\*

*\*Remote participation facilities will be available for all physical meetings*

Please refer to the [www.wsis.org/forum](http://www.wsis.org/forum) for updates.

365. The WSIS Forum 2015 was held from the 25–29 May 2015 at the ITU Headquarters in Geneva. This year the Forum attracted more than 1800 WSIS Stakeholders from more than 140 countries. Several high-level representatives of the wider WSIS Stakeholder community graced the Forum with more than 60 ministers and deputies, several ambassadors, CEOs and Civil Society leaders contributing passionately towards the programme of the Forum. On-site and remote participation increased tremendously during the WSIS Forum 2015.



366. The WSIS Forum, co-organized by ITU, UNESCO, UNDP and UNCTAD, in close collaboration with all WSIS Action Line Facilitators/Co-Facilitators (UNDESA, FAO, UNEP, WHO, UN Women, WIPO, WFP, ILO, WMO, UN, ITC, UPU, UNODC, UNICEF and UN Regional Commissions) has proven to be an efficient mechanism for coordination of multistakeholder implementation activities, information exchange, creation of knowledge, sharing of best practices and continues to provide assistance in developing multistakeholder and public/private partnerships to advance development goals. This forum provided structured opportunities to network, learn and participate in multi-stakeholder discussions and consultations on WSIS implementation.

367. The WSIS Forum 2015 comprised of the High-Level Track: 26th and 27th May that focused on innovation, partnerships and the link between ICTs and the Global Sustainable Development Agenda and the Forum Track : 25th, 28th and 29th May - that provided a platform for multi-stakeholder coordination of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes, with involvement and participation of all WSIS action line facilitators, other UN agencies and all WSIS stakeholders.



The High level Track consisted of Opening Segment, Policy Statements: by Ministers, CEOs, Heads of UN Agencies and Civil Society Leaders, WSIS Prizes Ceremony and the Ministerial Round Table. The Forum track consisted of Exhibition, Innovation/ Incubation Track, World Cafés, Linking ICTs and the Sustainable Development Agenda Track, Partnerships Track, Thematic Workshops, Country Workshops, UN Regional Commission meetings, UNGIS (High-level and working level

meetings), Interactive Sessions, Action Line Facilitation meetings, Action line Facilitators' meeting and Knowledge Exchange.

368. The High-Level Track provided a special platform for high-ranking officials of WSIS Stakeholders: Government, Private Sector, Civil Society and International Organization; to express their views on the achievements, challenges and recommendations on the implementation of WSIS Action Lines, emerging trends and matters of strategic importance to the development of the telecommunication and information and communication technology sector.

369. The synergistic nature of the Forum Track is a reflection of the inclusive and collaborative nature of the Open Consultation Process, which took place From 30 November 2014 until 6 February 2015. All stakeholders were invited to contribute their formal inputs towards shaping the themes and format of the WSIS Forum 2015. The ITU-WSIS Secretariat received more than 120 submissions containing proposals for the thematic workshops, including binding requests for partnerships, workshops, exhibition spaces and so on.



370. The commitment and dedication of the WSIS Stakeholders was evident from the outcomes submitted by the session organizers.

371. ITU and the co-organizers thank all WSIS Stakeholders for their commitment and dedication. We look forward to welcoming all WSIS Stakeholders to the WSIS Forum 2016!

**Agenda:** (Presentations and session recordings)

<http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Agenda/>

**Photographs:**

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/itupictures/albums>

**Videos:** <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLpolPNIF8P2MzfRsHgxowvP6MPFkEPXru>

## (b) WSIS Action Lines and SDGs Matrix

372. The vital role of ICTs as a catalyst for development is specifically recognized in the new development framework Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which acknowledges that “the spread of information and communication technology and global interconnectedness has great potential to accelerate human progress and to develop knowledge societies, to bridge the digital divide and to develop knowledge societies, as does scientific and technological innovation across areas as diverse as medicine and energy”.



373. Four targets of the SDGs explicitly recognize the role of ICTs. This applies to the targets on Education and scholarships (4.b) on Gender empowerment (5.b) on Infrastructure for Universal and Affordable access to ICTs and the Internet in the Least Developed Countries (9.c) and more broadly, Goal 17 on Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development , which calls to enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular ICTs. There are also several references to technology in general throughout the SDGs in which ICTs play an important direct or indirect role.
374. ICTs already empower billions of individuals around the world with wide ranging applications cutting across sectoral boundaries in agricultural productivity; population, health and education; transportation; industry, trade and finance; climate change and protection of our environment; as well as for the prevention and management of disasters, among many others.
375. Internet, mobile technologies and relevant ICT applications and services unquestionably help strengthen governance; empower people, in particular women and youth; enable wider exercise of human rights including freedom of expression; foster social inclusion of marginalized groups; open up employment opportunities; promote cultural diversity; expand access to learning and scientific knowledge; and create efficiencies in basic services including energy and water, to name here just a few.
376. However, we do need to acknowledge that, although access to advanced technologies has grown at a fast pace, the impressive gains observed during the MDG era are still hampered by existing gaps in access to ICTs— inequalities still persist among and within countries, between urban and rural sectors and among men and women. A major digital divide is still in place, with more people offline than online and particularly poor access in Least Developed Countries (LDCs).
377. ITU’s latest data reveal that while access to the Internet is approaching saturation levels in the developed world, the Net is only accessible to 35% of people in developing countries. The situation in the 48 UN-designated LDCs is particularly critical, with over 90% of people without any kind of Internet connectivity.
378. With the newly adopted 2030 Development Agenda, the WSIS Forum may need to evolve and adapt to strengthening the linkages between the WSIS Action Lines and the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as in light of the outcomes of the UN General Assembly Overall Review of the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes.
379. **WSIS SDG Matrix** :The WSIS Action line and SDG matrix was launched during the WSIS Forum 2015. The matrix aims to underline the key role of ICTs in promoting sustainable development, all WSIS Action Line Facilitators, under coordination by ITU, developed this WSIS-SDG Matrix demonstrating the direct links between the WSIS Action Lines and the proposed SDGs.

<http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/sdg/>

### (c) WSIS Project Prizes

380. Each year, on the occasion of the WSIS Forum, 18 WSIS stakeholders are awarded WSIS Prizes, as a unique mark of global recognition for excellence in the implementation of WSIS outcomes. To this end, 18 projects are selected as the most successful stories worldwide under each category, to serve as best practice models to be replicated by other stakeholders interested in ICT for development.



The 18 categories are the following:

- 1) The role of governments and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development
- 2) Information and communication infrastructure
- 3) Access to knowledge and information
- 4) Capacity building
- 5) Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs
- 6) Enabling environment
- 7) E-government
- 8) E-business
- 9) E-learning
- 10) E-health
- 11) E-employment
- 12) E-environment
- 13) E-agriculture
- 14) E-science
- 15) Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content

16) Media

17) Ethical dimension of the information society

18) International and regional cooperation



381. The WSIS Prizes contest, first held in 2012, rapidly gained the attention and appreciation of the ICT4D community and was reflected in United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution 2012/5, which refers to “Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society”. The resolution reiterates the importance of sharing best practices at the global level, recognizes excellence in the implementation of the projects and initiatives which further the WSIS goals, encourages all stakeholders to nominate their projects for the annual WSIS Prizes as an integral part of the WSIS Stocktaking process, and notes the report on the WSIS Success Stories.

382. The WSIS Prizes 2015 contest once again represents an ideal platform for identifying and showcasing success stories and models that can be easily replicated, empowering communities at the local level, giving an opportunity to WSIS stakeholders to participate in the contest, and, in particular, recognizing the efforts of stakeholders in terms of the value they add to society and of their commitment to achieving the WSIS goals.

383. To conclude this brief introduction with a few figures, more than 300 projects were nominated for the WSIS Prize 2015 contest and posted online for public appreciation. This figure represents an increase of 73.6 per cent over the period 2012 to 2015, and a 114.1 per cent increase from 2014 to 2015. We at ITU are very proud of this achievement, and would like once again to highlight the importance of the multi-stakeholder and bottom-up approach that is the essential philosophy of the WSIS Forum. Facilitated by ITU in coordination with all WSIS stakeholders, the WSIS Prizes 2015 competition provided a platform to identify and showcase success stories across the 11 WSIS Action Lines as defined in the Geneva Plan of Action.

384. WSIS Prizes is an international contest developed in response to requests from WSIS stakeholders to create an effective mechanism to evaluate and recognize individuals, governments, civil society, local, regional and international agencies, research institutions and

private sector companies for outstanding success in implementing development-oriented strategies that leverage the power of information and communication technologies (ICTs). The WSIS Prizes contest is an integral part of the WSIS Stocktaking Process.

385. The WSIS Stocktaking Process established its mandate demonstrating links between the use of ICTs and development processes, carrying out a series of activities in the context of the WSIS Action Lines advancing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The WSIS Stocktaking Process continues to give us real stories of on-the-ground implementation and case studies of how ICTs impact the lives of people worldwide.
386. This year's WSIS Prize winners include government ministries, international organizations, private sector companies, NGOs and academia. More than 300 projects were nominated for the 2015 contest, over double the number in 2014, reflecting the prestigious nature of the award and the growing importance of ICTs in national development strategies. The awards were conferred through online voting involving more than 100,000 stakeholders from around the world.
387. The contest of WSIS Project Prizes is open to all stakeholders: governments, private sector, civil society, international organizations, academia and others. The contest comprises 18 categories that are directly linked to the WSIS Action Lines outlined in the Geneva Plan of Action. For the first time, the contest was held in 2012 and gained fast attention and popularity of ICT4D community. The contest was highly appreciated and got its reflection in the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution 2012/5 "Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society", that reiterates the importance of sharing the best practices at the global level, and while recognizing excellence in the implementation of the projects and initiatives which further the WSIS goals, encourages all stakeholders to nominate their projects to the annual WSIS Project Prizes, as an integral part of the WSIS Stocktaking process, while noting the report on the WSIS Success Stories.
388. 18 winning projects were announced officially to the public during the Prize Ceremony, which was held at the WSIS Forum 2015 (25-29 May 2015). Extended descriptions of the winning projects constitute the basis for the WSIS Stocktaking: Success Stories 2015. Released at the Prize Ceremony, the success stories report showcases examples of projects on the implementation of WSIS outcomes, emphasizing achievements of stakeholders working towards achieving WSIS goals, transferring experience and knowledge at the global level and also spreading WSIS values while fostering them.
389. WINNING PROJECTS:
- C1: Fight Violence Against Women YoungInnovations, Nepal.
  - C2: Mexico Conectado: Internet access in schools, hospitals, government offices and other public places: Ministry of Communications and Transportation, Mexico.
  - C3: National Portal (Reaching the information-have-nots through National Portal) Prime Minister's Office, Bangladesh.
  - C4: Center of Digital Innovation Telecommunications Regulatory Authority, United Arab Emirates.

- C5: Security of Energy Systems: Ricerca sul Sistema Energetico (RSE), Italy.
- C6: Electronic auction for property sale: Ministry of Finance, Kazakhstan.
- C7 E-government: The System of Committees and Councils: Majmaah University, Saudi Arabia.
- C7 E-business: Information System on Consumer Prices (SIPC): Ministry of Economy and Finance, Uruguay.
- C7 E-learning: Tele-education in 1000 rural Government Schools: Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, India.
- C7 E-health: Mobile Health Information System: FHI 360, United States of America.
- C7 E-employment: E-employment Collaboration: Ministry of Manpower, Oman.
- C7 E-environment: Kuwait Official Environmental Portal “Beatona.net”: Central Agency for Information Technology, Kuwait.
- C7 E-agriculture: Agriculture, Rural Development and Youth in the Information Society (ARDYIS) Programme: Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation, Netherlands.
- C7 E-science: E-Science-Net: Universities and Research Network for Science and Technology Development in the Information Society: Research Center for ICT Strategic and International Studies, Iran University of Science and Technology, Iran.
- C8: Youth Mobilization – Cultural Heritage and Athletic Valorization: South-West University ‘Neofit Rilski’, Bulgaria.
- C9: Radio to Improve Production and Marketing for Farmers in Need: Radio Farm International, Canada.
- C10: Tackling Ethical Dimensions of Online Media Content through Self Regulation: Rwanda Media Commission, Rwanda.
- C11: Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean: Economic Commission for Latin America & the Caribbean.

390. Stakeholders highly appreciated the multi-stakeholder approach of the contest and highlighted the importance of the continuation of this platform to serve as a mechanism to recognize stakeholders for their efforts on the implementation of WSIS outcomes.

#### (d) WSIS Stocktaking Portal

391. The WSIS Stocktaking process was initiated in October 2004 during the Tunis phase of WSIS and has over time become an effective tool for the exchange of information on projects and initiatives related to the implementation of the 11 Action Lines. The WSIS Stocktaking process provides a register of activities carried out by governments, international organizations, the private sector, civil society and other entities. To that end, in accordance with § 120 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society (TAIS) adopted by the Summit, ITU has been maintaining the WSIS Stocktaking Database as a publicly accessible system providing

information on ICT-related initiatives and projects with reference to the 11 WSIS Action Lines (Geneva Plan of Action). The WSIS Stocktaking process provides a portal of best practices for stakeholders seeking updated information on progress made in implementing WSIS outcomes (§28.e, Geneva Plan of Action).

392. The principal role of the WSIS Stocktaking exercise is to leverage the activities of stakeholders working on the implementation of WSIS outcomes and share knowledge and experience of projects by replicating successful models. As of May 2015, over 7 000 updated entries and more than 135 000 stakeholders have been registered in the WSIS Stocktaking Database, reflecting innovative activities including projects, programmes, WSIS thematic meetings, conferences, publications, training initiatives, guidelines and tool-kits. Following § 120 of the Tunis Agenda and ECOSOC Resolution 2014/27, adopted on 27 August 2014, on Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, ITU Members are encouraged to continue to contribute information on their activities to this public database as well.

### (e) The Knowledge Café

393. The Knowledge Café “Fostering Innovation Enabling ICTs for Development (ICT4D), was held on 27 May 2015. It provided an ideal multi-stakeholder platform for over 120 delegates, enabling active involvement of each and every participant to explore key questions about the implementation of the WSIS Action lines for development at an international, regional and local level. This collaborative format facilitated brainstorming trends, challenges and opportunities in the ICT Ecosystem and further development of the Information Society beyond 2015.



394. During the Knowledge stakeholders had the opportunity to interact with the WSIS Prize winners and discuss their groundbreaking innovations in ICTs for Development. Delegates exchange their views about the enabling factors for ICT innovation and how these could be embedded in WSIS Action Lines to maintain and foster innovation in ICTs for Development.



### (f) The Global Cyber Security Agenda (GCA)

395. In May 2007, ITU launched the GCA: a framework for international cooperation in cyber security. The GCA has seven main strategic goals and is built around the following five work areas or pillars: (1) Legal Measures; (2) Technical and Procedural Measures; (3) Organizational Structures; (4) Capacity Building; and (5) International Cooperation. It acts on existing national and regional initiatives to avoid duplication of work and encourage collaboration amongst all relevant partners. Within the overall framework of the cyber security agenda (GCA), ITU along with its partners, are deploying joint services. These services harmonize, at the international level, different national approaches to better prepare countries to face cyber threats and solve cyber-attacks. This is achieved through information sharing, awareness raising and trainings programs. The momentum generated by the GCA and the broad nature of this ITU initiative have resulted in interest from other stakeholders and opportunities for

collaboration and cooperation. More on activities under the GCA can be found in the Section on Action Line C5: Building Confidence and Security in the use of ICTs.

### (g) Connect 2020 Agenda for global telecommunication/ICT development

396. The agenda was unanimously adopted at the ITU 2014 Plenipotentiary Conference (PP-14) by Resolution 200 'Connect 2020 Agenda for Global Telecommunication/ICT Development', setting out the shared vision, goals and targets that Member States have committed to achieve by 2020 in collaboration with all stakeholders across the ICT ecosystem.

397. The Connect 2020 framework was developed through an open and transparent process led by ITU Membership which lasted for more than a year, engaging key stakeholders including vendors, operators, international, regional and national associations and organizations, civil society, academia, private sector organizations, as well as public administrations.

#### Connect 2020 Vision

398. Through the Connect 2020 Agenda, ITU Member States have committed to working towards the shared vision of “an information society, empowered by the interconnected world, where telecommunication/ICT enables and accelerates socially, economically and environmentally sustainable growth and development for everyone” and invited all stakeholders to contribute their initiatives, experience and expertise to ensure the successful implementation of the Connect 2020 Agenda.


#### Connect 2020 Goals

399. The Connect 2020 Agenda establishes 4 goals and 17 targets to be achieved by all ITU Member States by 2020:

1. **Growth** – enable and foster access to and increased use of ICTs
2. **Inclusiveness** – bridge the digital divide and provide broadband for all
3. **Sustainability** – manage challenges resulting from ICT development
4. **Innovation** and **Partnership** – lead, improve and adapt to the changing technology environment.

400. The targets establish the strategic impact and change in the ICT sector that ITU Member States want to see in the world by 2020.

#### Connect 2020 Targets

GOAL 1: GROWTH	
 GROWTH	Enable and foster access to and increased use of
telecommunication/ICT	
Targets:	

GOAL 2: INCLUSIVENESS	
 INCLUSIVENESS	Bridge the digital divide and provide broadband for all
Targets:	

Target **1.1**: Worldwide, **55%** of households should have access to the Internet by 2020

Target **1.2**: Worldwide, **60%** of individuals should be using the Internet by 2020

Target **1.3**: Worldwide, telecommunication/ICT should be **40%** more affordable by 2020

Target **2.1.A**: In the developing world, **50%** of households should have access to the Internet by 2020

Target **2.1.B**: In the least developed countries (LDCs), **15%** of households should have access to the Internet by 2020

Target **2.2.A**: In the developing world, **50%** of individuals should be using the Internet by 2020

Target **2.2.B**: In the least developed countries (LDCs), **20%** of individuals should be using the Internet by 2020

Target **2.3.A**: The affordability gap between developed and developing countries should be reduced by **40%** by 2020

Target **2.3.B**: Broadband services should cost no more than **5%** of average monthly income in developing countries by 2020

Target **2.4**: Worldwide, **90%** of the rural population should be covered by broadband services by 2020

Target **2.5.A**: Gender equality among Internet users should be reached by 2020

Target **2.5.B**: Enabling environments ensuring accessible telecommunication/ICT for persons with disabilities should be established in all countries by 2020

### GOAL 3: SUSTAINABILITY



SUSTAINABILITY

Manage challenges resulting from

telecommunication/ICT development

#### Targets:

Target **3.1**: Cybersecurity readiness should be improved by **40%** by 2020

Target **3.2**: Volume of redundant e-waste to be reduced by **50%** by 2020

Target **3.3**: Green House Gas emissions generated by the telecommunication/ICT

### GOAL 4: INNOVATION & PARTNERSHIP



INNOVATION  
& PARTNERSHIP

Lead, improve and adapt to the changing

telecommunication/ICT environment

#### Targets:

Target **4.1**: Telecommunication/ICT environment conducive to innovation

Target **4.2**: Effective partnerships of stakeholders in telecommunication/ICT environment



sector to be decreased per device by **30%**  
by 2020

401. Each goal reinforces the other. Goal 1 aims to foster growth in the use of ICTs and create a positive impact on short and long-term socioeconomic development by encouraging a significant increase in access to, and use of, the Internet by bringing 1.5 billion addition users online by 2020, and making telecommunications/ICTs significantly more affordable.
402. By including everyone, the benefits of ICTs would be extended to all, bridging the digital divide between the developed and developing worlds and reaching marginal and vulnerable populations. Specific targets are defined in Goal 2 for providing broadband for all, with an emphasis on developing countries, LDCs and rural populations in particular, as well as to ensure gender equality online and enable persons with disabilities to effectively use telecommunications/ICTs.
403. The ability to sustain the tremendous benefits delivered by ICTs is key, since growth also brings challenges and risks that need to be managed. The aim of Goal 3 is to minimize the potential negative impact of ICTs, such as cybersecurity threats, and environmental impacts, including reducing e-waste and GHG emissions resulting from telecommunications and ICT development.
404. By encouraging innovation and partnerships, the evolving ICT ecosystem can adapt to the rapidly changing technological and social environment. Goal 4 recognizes that due to the particularly dynamic nature of the sector, it is important to ensure that the telecommunication/ICT environment is conducive to innovation. As the ICT ecosystem becomes increasingly complex, with a multitude of stakeholders playing a role in its development, effective partnerships are crucial for the successful development of telecommunications/ICT.
405. The targets were inspired by, and evolved from, the targets of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development, which were also adopted by other initiatives such as the Alliance for Affordable Internet (A4AI).

#### **(h) Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development**

406. In May 2010, ITU and UNESCO established the Broadband Commission for Digital Development, in response to calls by the UN Secretary-General Mr. Ban Ki-moon to step up efforts by the UN to accelerate progress towards the MDGs. Expanding broadband access in every country is key to accelerate attainment of the MDGs by the target date of 2015. The Broadband Commission therefore defines practical ways in which countries – at all stages of development – can achieve this, in cooperation with the private sector.
407. The Broadband Commission was established in 2010, five years after the WSIS, and ten years after the launch of the MDGs. The Commission is a significant UN inter-agency initiative, innovative private-public partnership and high-profile advocacy group for the benefits of broadband and has succeeded in boosting broadband on the international agenda.

In 2015, as the international development community stands poised to begin implementation of a new set of universal goals and targets, the Broadband Commission is uniquely placed as a vehicle to showcase and document ICT and broadband based technologies for sustainable development. In view of this shift, the Broadband Commission is being relaunched in September 2015 as the UN Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development. The Commission will carry out the activities related to the crucial role that ICTs will play in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

408. The Broadband Commission believes that high-speed, high-capacity broadband connectivity to the Internet is essential in modern society, with wide economic and social benefits. It aims to promote the adoption of broadband-friendly practice and policies, so the entire world can take advantage of the benefits. It defines strategies for accelerating broadband roll-out worldwide and examine applications that could see broadband networks improve ICT delivery in healthcare, education, environmental management, safety and across society.

- The Broadband Commission aims to demonstrate that broadband networks:
  - ❖ have the same level of importance as roads and electricity networks; and are basic infrastructure in a modern society;
  - ❖ are uniquely powerful tools for achieving the MDGs;
  - ❖ are remarkably cost-effective and can offer impressive rates of return-on-investment (ROI) for both developed and developing economies;
  - ❖ underpin all industrial sectors and are increasingly the foundation of public services and social progress ;
  - ❖ must be coordinated nationally by governments in partnership with industry, in order to reap the full benefit of these powerful tools.
- The Broadband Commission set 5 Global Broadband Advocacy Targets with the due date of 2015 and 2020:
  - ❖ Target 1: Making broadband policy universal
  - ❖ Target 2: Making broadband affordable
  - ❖ Target 3: Connecting homes to broadband
  - ❖ Target 4: Getting people online
  - ❖ Target 5: Achieving gender equality in access to broadband by 2020

409. Commissioners represent governments from around the world, academia, relevant industries, international agencies and development organizations, and are all leaders in their field. The group is co-chaired by H.E. President Paul Kagame of Rwanda and Mr Carlos Slim Helú, President of Carlos Slim Foudation, with ITU Secretary-General Mr Houlin Zhao, and UNESCO Director-General, Ms Irina Bokova, serving as joint Vice-Chairs.

410. Every year, the UN Broadband Commission published its annual 'State of Broadband' report to take the pulse of the global broadband industry and to explore progress in connecting everyone on the planet via broadband. In 2015 the Commission issued the 4th edition of its annual report: *The State of Broadband 2015: Broadband as a Foundation for Sustainable Development*. Released every year in September in New York, it is the only report that features country-by-country rankings based on access and affordability for over 160 economies worldwide. By issuing these reports, the UN Broadband Commission for Digital Development has made a worthy contribution to the debate on how best to expand broadband access and achieve digital inclusion for all. As the Commission concluded its work programme for 2010-2015, and entered into a new work programme for post-2015 onwards, the Commission will continue working with many different stakeholders to achieve digital inclusion for all towards the forthcoming sustainable development goals (SDGs).
411. In addition to these reports, the Commission maintains an online portal with a wealth of online resources, country case studies, best practices and regulatory information. Its work is conducted through thematic working groups which focus on vital policy priorities including health, education, LDCs, climate change, gender, multilingualism and the involvement of youth.
412. In 2014 the Broadband Commission's Working Groups launched 2 reports focused on finance and investment and the post 2015 agenda. The Working Group on Financing and Investment led by the Inter-American Development Bank issued report which identified actions, policies and regulatory approaches which may enhance cooperation between market players and public authorities to encourage financing and investment in broadband. The measures identified are primarily designed to promote private investment, thus permitting public capital efficiently to be deployed to meet the needs of disadvantaged groups and those in remote areas - where funding from private investors is harder to attract, but where the need for connectivity is at least as great.
413. The Task Force on Sustainable Development and the Post 2015 Development Agenda led by Ericsson released its second report entitled *Means of Transformation: Harnessing Broadband for the Post-2015 Development Agenda*. The report sought to identify concrete opportunities for countries to leverage broadband as an enabling, crosscutting infrastructure to deliver on the post-2015 development agenda. It also outlined opportunities, best practice examples and key success factors for using broadband to achieve sustainable development objectives. With a list of the recommendations this Task Force report aimed is to provide inspiration for governments launching – or reviewing– their own national development agendas and broadband plans, and an invitation to envision ICT and broadband not just as means of implementation, but as means of transformation across all sectors involved in meeting sustainable development objectives.
414. In January 2014 and 2015 there were two special sessions of the UN Broadband Commission for Digital Development held at the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum (WEF) co-organized with the Ministry of Communications and High Technologies of the Republic of Azerbaijan, World Economic Forum and International Telecommunication Union at Davos. The side event in 2014 explored the opportunity that broadband and ICTs provide towards achieving a sustainable development agenda beyond 2015, looking at the role of infrastructure as a platform for progress and social development. In 2015 this special

session at the annual meeting of the WEF 2015, addressed the question of creating sustainable finance and investment models for global roll-out of broadband networks.

415. In addition to the working group activities, the Broadband Commission, hosts two regular face-to-face meetings each year to solicit feedback from regional constituents, including ministers and regulators, as well as members of the private sector. Broadband Commissioners debate key issues advance the work of the Commission and typically offer expertise and guidance to guest Ministers and VIPs.
416. The Ninth Meeting of the Commission was held in Dublin, Ireland on March 22-23 at the kind invitation of Mr Denis O'Brien, Chairman of the Digicel Group and the Broadband Commissioner. The meeting discussion included the role of broadband /ICTs in the post 2015 agenda and to date developments of the Commission with regards to the successor framework of the MDGs. Moreover, the Commission debated new ideas on the priorities for the sustainable development agenda.
417. The Tenth meeting of the Commission was held in New York, on 21 September 2014 coinciding with the 69th Session of the UN General Assembly. The Commission released its annual report: "The State of Broadband 2014: Broadband for All" with a country-by-country snapshot of the state of broadband deployment worldwide and measuring progress towards five key targets: price, household and individual access, government broadband policy and gender, and access to high-speed technology. The report revealed that more than 40% of the world's people are already online, with the number of Internet users rising from 2.3 billion in 2013 to 2.9 billion by the end of this year. The report stated that over 50% of the global population will have Internet access within three years' time, with mobile broadband over smartphones and tablets now the fastest growing technology in human history.
418. The Eleventh meeting of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development took place in Paris on 26-27 February 2015 at the invitation of Ms Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO and Co-Vice Chair of the Commission. The meeting took place in conjunction with the UNESCO's flagship Mobile Learning Week, co-organized in 2015 with UN Women. The Commissioners participated to the key event on the agendas of educators and the global ICT community and the Mobile Learning Week High-Level Policy Forum. The Commissioners had the opportunity to share the objectives and work of the Commission. During the special open session with UNESCO Member States the Commissioners could learn about governments concerns, information gaps, and the evolving needs of educators in a fast-changing digital environment.

419. The recent meeting of the Commission took place in New York on 26th September 2015, during the UN Summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda. All Commissioner affirmed new focus on Sustainable Development Goals where broadband networks and services can act as a powerful catalyst to accelerate development actions and transform lives and communities. The Commission is being relaunched as the UN Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development. The meeting on 26th September served therefore an inaugural meeting of the new Commission with new members joining and revised strategy and branding. The Commission enter a new phase, with more than 20 new members drawn from a range of sectors including the global technology industry, government ministers, leaders in education and healthcare, and two additional UN bodies who join existing Commissioners from ITU, UNDP, UNESCO, UN-ORHLLS, WIPO and the UN Foundation.



### (i) m-Powering Development Initiative

420. In the past years, mobile communications has seen enormous growth worldwide. The mobile phone now offers the potential of becoming a universal communications tool and going well beyond voice and data to deliver new, sophisticated ICT services to improve people's lives.

421. The m-Powering Development Initiative is designed to create a resource and an action plan to deploy ICT services, from m-Health, m-Learning, m-Governance to m-Commerce and m-Sport. In doing so, it can cut costs and reshape, for the better, public service delivery for many millions of individuals, particularly those living in remote or rural areas of the world.

422. In its first report, the m-Powering Development Initiative has already identified many particular approaches and real-life examples from around the world that could prospectively be adopted elsewhere.

423. The Telecommunication Development Bureau is coordinating the Initiative with an Advisory Board of senior experts drawn from the public and private sectors.

424. The objectives of the m-Powering Development Initiative is to:

- Harness mobile communications for sustainable development.
- Increase the uptake and usage of mobile services in rural and remote areas.
- Create an enabling environment to foster mobile services, particularly where there is a social need.
- Create synergies with existing initiatives and avoid duplication between initiatives.

REPORT 2015  
BY THE m-POWERING DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE ADVISORY BOARD  
m-POWERING  
DEVELOPMENT  
INITIATIVE



- Optimize the use of scarce resources.
- Encourage partnerships between different stakeholders, and on as large a scale as possible.

425. The m-Powering Development Initiative Advisory Board is designed to provide strategic guidance to the leadership of the Telecommunication Development Bureau. The Advisory Board is composed of eminent personalities from diverse backgrounds. Members of the Board serve Telecom World 2015.

426. The Advisory Board reviewed the reports prepared by the m-Powering Working groups during the past year. The reports focus on advocacy efforts, global dialogue, innovation and resource mobilization.

427. They also discussed future activities, which will be based on promoting the benefits of mobile technology for sustainable development.

428. The meeting also marked the end of the first cycle of the Advisory Board. The composition of the new Board will be announced soon.

429. The m-Powering Development Initiative is designed to create a resource and an action plan to deploy ICT services, from m-Health, m-Learning, m-Governance to m-Commerce and m-Sport.

**For more information, please visit:**

<http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Initiatives/m-Powering/Pages/default.aspx>

**(j) Smart Sustainable Development Model Initiative**

430. The number of natural disasters are on the rise. Information and communication technology for disaster management – ICT4DM – can help respond to and recover from the hardship and damage caused to millions of people. At the same time, ICT for development – ICT4D – remains a pressing challenge to enable people and communities to truly participate in the global digital world.

431. The Smart Sustainable Development Model Initiative (SSDM) seeks to ensure that information and communication technologies are used for both development and for disaster management with the aim of improving the lives of millions of people across the globe.

432. SSDM is both smart and sustainable. Making this approach pro-active, flexible and configured to both uses is “smart”, and giving it a roadmap for the future is “sustainable”.

433. The Telecommunication Development Bureau is coordinating the Initiative with an Advisory Board of senior experts drawn from the public and private sectors.

434. The SSDM approach to ICT4D and ICT4DM will:

- Better harness the potential for ICT and its likely future roadmaps in both development and disaster management.
- Identify, share and transfer best practices in each sector worldwide.
- Optimize the use of scarce resources.
- Encourage planning and co-ordination at national and intergovernmental levels for ICT4D and ICT4DM that takes account of dual-use deployments.
- Encourage stakeholders to work together for sustainable development and to avoid duplication

REPORT 2015  
BY THE SMART SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT MODEL ADVISORY BOARD  
**SMART  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
MODEL**



435. The Third Advisory Board Meeting of the Smart Sustainable Development Model (SSDM) Initiative was held on 11 October 2015 in Budapest, Hungary on the eve of the ITU Telecom World 2015. The Advisory Board reviewed the reports prepared by the SSDM Task Forces during the past year. The reports focus on advocacy efforts, global dialogue, innovation and resource mobilization. They also discussed future activities, which will be based on promoting the benefits of mobile technology for sustainable development and strengthening the relation between ICT for development (ICT4D) and ICT for disaster management (ICT4DM). The meeting also marked the end of the first cycle of the Advisory Board. The composition of the new Board will be announced soon. The Smart Sustainable Development Model Initiative (SSDM) seeks to ensure that information and communication technologies are used for both development and for disaster management with the aim of improving the lives of millions of people across the globe

To find out more about the Initiative or get involved please visit <http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Initiatives/SSDM/Pages/default.aspx>

### (k) Girls in ICT Day

436. In 2015, over 1800 Girls in ICT Day events were organized in 130 countries empowering more than 66,000 girls to understand that they can become ICT creators. To ensure more women chose ICT careers, these events highlight the need for strong and committed support from industry; the importance of role models and mentoring opportunities, the need for countries to focus on STEM curricula and adapt STEM studies to today’s needs such as teaching coding, as well as using hands-on workshops to encourage girls and young women to become ICT creators.



437. With over 5,300 Girls in ICT events developed in 150 countries in the last 5 years, ITU created a global environment that empowered and encouraged over 177,000 girls and young women to consider careers in the growing field of information and communication technologies (ICTs).

### (k) GEM-TECH Awards 2015

438. The annual GEM-Tech Awards, jointly organized by ITU and UN Women, celebrate personal or organizational achievements and innovative strategies to advance Gender Equality and Mainstreaming in the area of ICTs. GEM-Tech Awards provides a platform for advancing women’s meaningful engagement with ICTs and their role as decision-makers and producers in the technology sector.

439. The only international prizes of their kind, GEM-Tech Awards were celebrated for the first time at ITU’s Plenipotentiary Conference in Busan, Republic of Korea in October 2014. Seven inspiring winners were awarded for their outstanding achievements in advancing digital equality for women and girls. In addition, as part of the GEM-Tech Awards 2014, six global achievers were recognized for their efforts in the area. For more information on GEM-Tech Awards 2014, please see: <http://www.itu.int/en/action/women/gem/Pages/award-2014.aspx>.

440. Building on last year’s success, this year’s awards welcomed nominations from individuals, civil society, public and private sectors, UN system and international organizations for three categories reflecting different dimensions of advancing digital equality of women and girls. The three categories are:



- **Apply Technology for Women's Empowerment** including around ending violence, social, economic, political empowerment and sustainable development.
- **Promote Women in the Technology Sector** including girls and women as creators, developers, leaders and decision-makers in the technology sector.
- **Develop Gender Responsive ICT Governance, Policy and Access** including efforts that, both in intent and in implementation, ensure that enabling and foundational factors for women's access, connectivity, security, digital literacy/citizenship and skill development.



441. The call for nominations was announced on 28 May at WSIS Forum 2015 during a [High-Level Dialogue on Empowering Women to Innovate through Technology](#). The nomination period closed on 31 July 2015. GEM-Tech Awards 2015 has received nearly 150 nominations from 55 countries.

442. This year, the award ceremony will be hosted by UN Women in New York in conjunction with the WSIS+10 event. More details on GEM-Tech Awards 2015 can be found at: [www.itu.int/en/action/women/gem/pages/award-2015.aspx](http://www.itu.int/en/action/women/gem/pages/award-2015.aspx).

#### (I) Roadmaps for WSIS Action Lines C2, C5, C6

443. In line with its mandate and the WSIS outcome documents, the ITU continues to play a key role in the WSIS implementation and follow-up process, in particular, as the WSIS Action Lines Sole Facilitator for AL C2 (Information and Communication Infrastructure), AL C5 (Building Confidence and Security in the Use of ICTs), and AL C6 (Enabling Environment).

444. With the aim of strengthening the implementation mechanism, ITU Council 2009 agreed on the framework for roadmaps of ITU's activities in its role as the sole facilitator for the above mentioned WSIS action lines in the implementation of WSIS up to 2015. Roadmaps are detailed plans to guide progress towards achieving WSIS goals. They provide broad vision and detailed overview of the activities planned within the mandate of the Union. Direct links between the activities and the strategic goals and relevant resolutions, programmes and initiatives of the ITU are highlighted. The roadmaps include timeframes, expected results, impact on ITU's human and financial resources as well as list relevant partners. In 2012 the Roadmaps were updated and made available at the ITU portal for WSIS related activities [www.itu.int/itu-wsis](http://www.itu.int/itu-wsis).

445. Elaborated framework may serve as a template for the other WSIS Action Line moderators/facilitators to strengthen the implementation mechanism of WSIS process. It has been widely disseminated amongst the WSIS Action Line Facilitators, members of the United Group on the Information Society as well as WSIS stakeholders. The Roadmaps can be accessed at [www.itu.int/itu-wsis](http://www.itu.int/itu-wsis).



## (m) Communication and Outreach

446. WSIS Flash: is a monthly newsletter on WSIS Related news, projects and activities. <http://groups.itu.int/stocktaking/WSISFlash.aspx>.

447. iwrite4WSISForum is a campaign that aims to empower stakeholders to write and report on all WSIS related events and activities, sharing their work and ideas with thousands of WSIS stakeholders online worldwide. This twitter campaign was introduced for effective and far reaching communication for and amongst WSIS Stakeholders. This empowers all the WSIS Stakeholders to become WSIS reporters and tweet information about their projects and community. <http://www.wsis.org/iwrite>



448. imeetyouatWSISForum provides all registered onsite participants of the WSIS Forum 2015 with an online social networking community experience. This component of the WSIS Forum has been specially designed for the WSIS Forum 2015 onsite participants [www.wsis.org/imeet](http://www.wsis.org/imeet).



449. WSIS Process on Facebook: The WSIS Facebook page gives opportunity to fans to get informed and actively contribute to the page <http://www.facebook.com/WSISprocess>

450. @WSISprocess on Twitter: The WSIS Twitter page gives opportunity to fans to get informed and actively participate at the page <https://twitter.com/WSISprocess>



451. WSIS Process on YouTube: WSIS Forum highlights, interviews and all the important WSIS Related Videos are available on the WSIS Forum You Tube site: <http://www.youtube.com/wsisprocess>.

452. WSIS Process on LinkedIn: WSIS Process has a LinkedIn group: [https://www.linkedin.com/groups/WSIS-Process-World-Summit-on-2599279?gid=2599279&trk=hb\\_side\\_g](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/WSIS-Process-World-Summit-on-2599279?gid=2599279&trk=hb_side_g).

453. WSIS in ITU News: The ITU News is a media partner of the WSIS Process and regularly publishes WSIS Process related articles in several issues <https://itunews.itu.int/en/>

## (n) WSIS Fund in Trust

454. The Plenipotentiary Conference 2014 Resolution 140 (Rev. Busan, 2014) invites all Member States, Sector Members, Associates and other stakeholders to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund that has been set up by ITU to support activities relating to the implementation of the WSIS outcomes. For more information visit WSIS Fund in Trust ([www.itu.int/itu-wsis/fund](http://www.itu.int/itu-wsis/fund)), and contact us: [wsis-info@itu.int](mailto:wsis-info@itu.int)
455. In light of 2015 as the year set for achieving the WSIS targets and upcoming overall review of the implementation of the WSIS outcomes, PP-14 Resolution 140 on ITU's Role in Implementing the Outcomes of WSIS, PP-14 strengthened the Union's mandate in relation to WSIS implementation and invited all member states, sector members and associates to participate actively in implementing WSIS outcomes as well as to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund set up by ITU to support activities relating to the implementation of the WSIS outcomes. During Council 2015, the importance of the WSIS Fund in Trust to ensure efficient and effective implementation was reemphasized in Resolution 1334 (Modified 2015), in particular in the context of the WSIS+10 Review Process.
456. Resolution 1334 (Modified 2015) on the ITU Role in the Overall Review of the Implementation of the Outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society recognizes that ITU should play a leading managerial role in the process of the Overall Review of the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes (WSIS+10) and encourages all Member States to contribute to the WSIS Fund in Trust of the ITU corresponding to the financial requirements of the WSIS+10 related activities.
457. In this context, ITU has set up the WSIS Fund in Trust offering the member states, sector members and associates the opportunity to contribute towards strengthening the implementation of the WSIS outcomes, while addressing the needs of the WSIS process and its stakeholders. All stakeholders are encouraged to contribute to the WSIS Fund in Trust. Your financial contribution will help accelerate the implementation of the WSIS related activities undertaken by ITU.
458. The call for WSIS Fund in Trust 2016 is now open <http://www.itu.int/en/itu-wsis/Pages/WSIS-Fund-in-Trust.aspx>.
459. The ITU would like to thank all WSIS Stakeholders who have generously contributed to the WSIS Fund in Trust, the names of all contributors are reflected in the dedicated site of the WSIS Fund in Trust <http://www.itu.int/en/itu-wsis/Pages/WSIS-Fund-in-Trust.aspx>. We thank DR Congo, Japan, Kuwait, Poland, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, Intel Corporation, IFIP, ICANN and ISOC for their contribution to the WSIS Fund in Trust in 2015 to accelerate the implementation of the WSIS related activities undertaken by ITU.

### Strategic Partner: Platinum



**United Arab Emirates**

### Strategic Partner: Gold

Government



**Democratic Republic of the Congo**

### Strategic Partner: Gold

Private Sector



**Intel Corporation**

### Partners for Specific Activities



**Japan**



**Kuwait  
(State of)**



**Saudi Arabia  
(Kingdom of)**



**Switzerland  
(Confederation of)**

### Contributing Partners



**Poland  
(Republic of)**



**Rwanda  
(Republic of)**



**IFIP**



**ICANN**



**ISOC**

### (o) WSIS Action Lines and SDGs

460. The new post-2015 development agenda, “Transforming our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” was adopted at the UN General Assembly Summit held from 25-27 September 2015. The agenda has four sections: a Preamble and Declaration, Goals and Targets, Means of Implementation and Global Partnerships, and Follow-up and Review.



461. The Declaration, section “Our world today,” addresses key challenges and opportunities to the existing inequalities within and among countries. It also recognizes that “the spread of information and communication technology and global interconnectedness has great potential to accelerate human progress, to bridge the digital divide and to develop knowledge societies, as does scientific and technological innovation across areas as diverse as medicine and energy” (para. 15).

462. The SDGs contain 17 goals and 169 targets and are intended to be action-oriented, concise and easy to communicate, limited in number, aspirational, global in nature and universally applicable to all countries, and focused on priority areas for the achievement of sustainable development; Equally important is the need to assess progress towards the achievement of the goals, accompanied by targets and indicators, while taking into account different national circumstances, capacities and levels of development.

463. Four targets of the SDGs explicitly recognize the role of ICTs. This applies to the targets on Education and scholarships (4.b) on Gender empowerment (5.b) on Infrastructure for Universal and Affordable access to ICTs and the Internet in the Least Developed Countries (9.c) and more broadly, Goal 17 on Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development, which calls to enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular ICTs. There are also several references to technology in general throughout the SDGs in which ICTs play an important direct or indirect role.

464. The Agenda notes that the Means of Implementation (MOI) targets under each SDG and Goal 17 are key to realizing the agenda and of equal importance with other Goals and targets. Science, Technology (in particular ICTs), Innovation, the Technology Bank, and new technology facilitation mechanism are called to play a relevant role as MOI’s in achieving the SDGs.

### (p) WSIS Action Lines and SDGs Matrix

465. Earlier this year, at the WSIS Forum 2015, ITU coordinated the **WSIS Action Lines and SDG matrix**, a new tool developed by a number of United Nations agencies to map how ICTs may contribute to the implementation of the new SDGs. We hope that the Matrix will serve as an easy reference for stakeholders engaged in shaping the future of both, the SDGs and the WSIS processes beyond 2015.

466. This mapping exercise draws direct linkages of the WSIS Action Lines with the proposed SDGs to continue strengthening the impact of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) for sustainable development. Each UN Action Line Facilitator has analyzed the connections and relations of their respective Action Line with the proposed SDGs and their targets.

	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	e-gov	e-bus	e-lea	e-hea	e-emp	e-env	e-agr	e-sci	C8	C9	C10	C11	
SDG 1																			
SDG 2																			
SDG 3																			
SDG 4																			
SDG 5																			
SDG 6																			
SDG 7																			
SDG 8																			
SDG 9																			
SDG 10																			
SDG 11																			
SDG 12																			
SDG 13																			
SDG 14																			
SDG 15																			
SDG 16																			
SDG 17																			

467. The goal is to create a clear and direct link and an explicit connection between the key aim of the WSIS, that of harnessing the potential of ICTs to promote and realize the development goals, and the post 2015 development agenda, so as to contribute to the realisation of the latter.

WSIS Action Line	SDG	Linkage
Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs	16, 11, 4, 9, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27	ICT for Justice - Rule of Law
Building confidence	16, 11, 4, 9, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27	ICT for Justice - Rule of Law
ICT Application - e-government	9, 10, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20	ICT for Justice - Rule of Law
Information and communication technologies as essential enablers for the Information Society	1, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15	ICT for Justice - Rule of Law
Access to Information Knowledge	1, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27	ICT for Justice - Rule of Law
Capacity building	4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27	ICT for Justice - Rule of Law

468. The WSIS Forum will continue to evolve and adapt, by strengthening the synergies between the WSIS Action Lines and SDGs, and taking into account the outcomes of the UNGA Overall Review. In this regard, we invite all of you to the Open Consultation Process on thematic aspects and innovations on the format of the 2016 edition. The open consultations process actively engages governments, civil society, the private sector in the formulation of the programme and agenda of the Forum. The Forum itself has been scheduled to take place from **2-6 May 2016** at the ITU Headquarters in Geneva.

Sustainable Development Goal	Relevant WSIS Action Line	Linkage
Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere	WSIS Action Line 1	Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs
Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture	WSIS Action Line 2	Building confidence
Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages	WSIS Action Line 3	ICT Application - e-health
Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all	WSIS Action Line 4	ICT Application - e-learning
Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls	WSIS Action Line 5	ICT Application - e-empowerment
Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all	WSIS Action Line 6	ICT Application - e-water
Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	WSIS Action Line 7	ICT Application - e-energy
Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all	WSIS Action Line 8	ICT Application - e-employment
Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and innovation	WSIS Action Line 9	ICT Application - e-infrastructure
Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries	WSIS Action Line 10	ICT Application - e-inequality
Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable	WSIS Action Line 11	ICT Application - e-cities
Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns	WSIS Action Line 12	ICT Application - e-consumption
Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	WSIS Action Line 13	ICT Application - e-climate
Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development	WSIS Action Line 14	ICT Application - e-oceans
Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, conserve and enhance freshwater ecosystems and enhance resilience	WSIS Action Line 15	ICT Application - e-ecosystems
Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective and accountable institutions at all levels	WSIS Action Line 16	ICT for Justice - Rule of Law
Goal 17: Strengthen partnerships for sustainable development	WSIS Action Line 17	ICT Application - e-partnerships

469. In addition, a **unique global repository of best practices** showcasing ICTs as enablers of sustainable development was recently published by the ITU. This publication invites you to explore through case studies, experiences and models on how WSIS Action Lines are capable of advancing particular SDGs thereby clearly demonstrating the power of ICTs in making sustainable development a reality.

Please read the complete document at [www.wsis.org/sdg](http://www.wsis.org/sdg)

### (q) Future Actions

#### WSIS Forum 2016

470. Following the outcomes of the WSIS Action Line Facilitators meetings held since 2006, and the exchange of views amongst several WSIS stakeholders, the organizers of the WSIS Forum, ITU, UNESCO, UNCTAD and UNDP are pleased to announce herewith the Open Consultation Process on thematic aspects and innovations on the format of the WSIS Forum 2016. Please note that the deadline for submitting formal inputs on the topics and format of the WSIS Forum 2016 is **30<sup>th</sup> January 2016** <http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2016/OCP/Submissions>

471. The process aims at ensuring the participatory and inclusive spirit of the WSIS Forum 2015, scheduled to be held from 2-6 May 2016 at the International Telecommunication Union

(ITU) in Geneva. This process actively engages governments, civil society, the private sector and intergovernmental organizations in the preparatory process and ensures broad ownership and a constant evolution of this Forum.

472. The principal role of the WSIS Stocktaking exercise is to serve as global repository of projects and initiatives relating to the use of ICTs for development purposes. In the framework of WSIS Stocktaking process, ITU continues to maintain a portal of best practices for stakeholders seeking updated information on the progress of implementation of WSIS outcomes (Geneva Plan of Action, §28.e). In the light of newly proposed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), WSIS Stocktaking process is also called to reflect the potential of ICTs as enablers for sustainable development, by investing the third dimension of the issue: that of reporting ICT success stories to best showcase the possible achievement of SDGs, through the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines related projects.
473. The call for update and new entries 2015-2016 is issued and all stakeholders are invited to submit entries online at [www.wsis.org/stocktaking](http://www.wsis.org/stocktaking). Submitted activities will be reflected in the WSIS Stocktaking Report 2016 which will be released at WSIS Forum 2016 (2-6 May 2016). The deadline for submissions is **15 February 2016**. If you should have any questions or need for assistance, please contact the WSIS Stocktaking Team at [wsis-stocktaking@itu.int](mailto:wsis-stocktaking@itu.int).
474. While continuing to highlight progress made towards achieving the WSIS goals, WSIS Prizes 2016 will start reflecting to which of the newly proposed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are the submitted projects mostly linked to. ICTs are enablers for sustainable development, and reporting on ICT success stories to best showcase the possible achievement of SDGs, through the implementation of WSIS Action Lines related projects, is the new objective of WSIS Stocktaking process, including WSIS Prizes. The contest of WSIS Prize 2016 is organized in five phases from 20 September 2015 till 10 March 2016. The WSIS Prize 2016 ceremony will be held during the WSIS Forum 2016 (2-6 May 2016) in Geneva, Switzerland, where 18 winners of WSIS Prizes contest will be honored, recognized and presented with an award. ICT for development (ICT4D) community is encouraged to continue following WSIS Stocktaking process, and submit their project descriptions for WSIS Prizes 2016 using the WSIS Stocktaking online platform ([www.wsis.org/stocktaking](http://www.wsis.org/stocktaking)).

## V. Final conclusions

475. In December of 2003, the world came together in Geneva at the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) to declare a “common desire and commitment to build a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society”, and thereby ushered in an era of harnessing the power of information and communication technology (ICT) to contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The resulting Geneva Plan of Action established targets and the eleven action lines, which guide development in specific areas. The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) recognized the achievements of the Geneva phase in its resolution [59/220](https://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2003/20031203.sgsm10000.html).
476. The second phase of WSIS, conducted in Tunis in 2005, built upon the achievements of the Geneva Plan, with the resulting Tunis Agenda addressing additional issues, such as financing and internet governance. It also requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chief Executive Board for Coordination (CEB) to establish within the CEB, a United

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Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS), consisting of the relevant UN organizations with the mandate to facilitate the implementation of the WSIS outcomes. WSIS implementation mechanism has been established that evolved into the WSIS Forum.

477. The ITU is committed to connecting the world and in its capacity as one of lead facilitating organizations for the WSIS Process ITU initiated, facilitated and implemented several activities related to the implementation of the WSIS outcomes. The three ITU sectors, ITU-R, ITU-T, ITU-D, and the General Secretariat played an active role in this process in their respective areas of expertise and brought out the complimentary role between the sectors with reference to WSIS.
478. As the leading UN specialized agency focusing on ICTs, ITU has been organizing numerous activities on its own and in partnership, highlighting and prioritizing the importance of multistakeholder collaboration. Participation from the governments, international organizations, civil society and private sector from all over the world was noted in all these efforts, which significantly contributed to the progress towards achievement of the WSIS goals.
479. As the General Assembly undertakes the Overall Review of the Implementation of the Outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society this year, it creates new opportunities for strengthening implementation component of the WSIS process, in order to ensure that ICTs are placed high on the political agenda and are integrated in a global strategy for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, agreed at the UN Summit in 2015.



## ANNEX: 1

### List of signed BDT projects 2014-2015

	Project Number	Project Name	Signature Date
<b>AFRICA S REGION</b>			
1	2BDI15002	Strengthening institutional, regulatory and technical capabilities of Burundi for sustainable broadband development	25 February 2015
<b>AMERICAS REGION</b>			
2	2RLA14011	Transition from Analogue to Digital Broadcasting	01 Jan. 2014
3	9RLA14012	Master Plans for Spectrum Management (Caribbean countries)	06 Nov. 2014
<b>ARAB REGION</b>			
4	SAU14006	Advisory Services to Saudi "Communications & Information Technology Commission (CITC)"	23 Mar. 2014
5	7PLS14004	Connect a School, Connect a Community - State of Palestine II	30 Mar. 2014
6	2COM15001	Connect a School, Connect a Community in the Comoros	05 Feb. 2015
<b>ASIA AND PACIFIC REGION</b>			
7	9THA14022	DTTB Frequency Planning and Measurement	09 Jan. 2014
8	9THA14024	Development of a Roadmap for Mobile Television Broadcasting Deployment and Regulation in Thailand	22 Apr. 2014
9	9PHI14003	Feasibility study of restoring connectivity through the use of the Moveable and Deployable ICT Resource Unit (MDRU)	13 May 2014
10	9RAS14052	Development of Satellite Communications Capacity and Emergency Communications Solutions for the Pacific Islands	2 Sep. 2014
11	9RAS14047 Add 1	Master Plans for Spectrum Management	01 Nov. 2014
12	9THA14026	DTTB Frequency Planning for Additional Sites	06 Oct. 2014
13	7RAS14050	Development of Satellite Communications Capacity and Emergency Communications Solutions for the Pacific Islands	02 Sep. 2014

14	9RAS14051	Supporting implementation of the ITU Asia-Pacific Regional Initiatives	11 Sep. 2014
15	9THA15028	Development of a framework for introducing community TV broadcasting services in Thailand	20 Jul. 2015
16	9THA15029	Terrestrial Radio Broadcasting Frequency Planning in Thailand (Phase 1)	24 Jul. 2015
<b>GLOBAL</b>			
17	9GLO13073	Further developments to Spectrum Management System for Developing Countries (SMS4DC) software	18 Nov. 2013
18	2GLO15074	Development of platform to foster open access to international fibre	25 Mar. 2015
19	9GLO15075	Development of a toolkit for ICT innovation policy/governance and ICT innovation ecosystem	18 May 2015