

ITU CWG WSIS&SDG Call for Inputs on the WSIS+20 Review: Response

Response 2 – 29/08/2024 17:02

Respondent

1. Organization name

City University Bangladesh

2. Organization type

Academia / Technical Community

3. Organization country

Bangladesh

Implementation of the WSIS Process

4. What are the **main achievements** of the implementation of the WSIS process in the past 20 years?

Over the past 20 years, the WSIS (World Summit on the Information Society) process has achieved notable progress in bridging the digital divide, promoting internet access and digital literacy globally, fostering ICT development for sustainable growth, encouraging multi-stakeholder collaboration, and establishing frameworks for internet governance and cybersecurity policies.

5. What are ITUs main contributions towards the implementation of the WSIS Process in 20 Years?

The ITU has contributed to the WSIS Process by promoting global internet connectivity, enhancing digital skills, developing international ICT standards, fostering cybersecurity cooperation, supporting innovation and ICT infrastructure, and coordinating multi-stakeholder engagement to advance the information society and sustainable development goals.

6. The WSIS process stands as a strong example of global digital cooperation in action for over two decades now. How can we ensure that this inclusive multistakeholder model is sustained and further strengthened?

To sustain and strengthen the WSIS process's inclusive multistakeholder model, we must enhance collaborative frameworks, ensure equitable participation, promote digital literacy, encourage public-private partnerships, and adapt policies to evolving technological landscapes, fostering shared responsibility in global digital governance and development.

7. What are the challenges that remain in the implementation of the WSIS process?

Challenges include the digital divide, unequal access to ICTs, cybersecurity threats, privacy concerns, and limited resources for developing nations.

WSIS Action Lines

8. Which specific Action Lines have had the most significant impact, and why?

Action Lines C2 (ICT infrastructure) and C4 (capacity building) have had the most significant impact by enhancing global connectivity and digital skills.

9. Considering that the WSIS outcomes have demonstrated their relevance and applicability to new and emerging areas, how can the implementation of the WSIS principles and corresponding WSIS Action Lines be enhanced to effectively address these topics?

To enhance the WSIS principles and Action Lines for new areas, we should foster innovation, strengthen digital policies, expand partnerships, increase investment in emerging technologies, prioritize inclusivity and accessibility, and regularly update frameworks to align with evolving digital landscapes and needs.

10. Have you any suggestions and inputs on the WSIS+20 Review Action Lines, highlighting key milestones, challenges and emerging trends beyond 2025 prepared by the WSIS Action Line facilitators.

<https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2024/Home/About#actionLines>

Consider focusing on digital inclusion, cybersecurity, AI ethics, sustainable ICT growth, bridging divides, and adapting to rapid technological advancements.

WSIS Action Line for advancing the SDGs

11. How can the alignment between the WSIS Action Lines and SDGs be strengthened towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?

Strengthen WSIS-SDG alignment by integrating ICTs into development policies, fostering digital inclusion, promoting partnerships, enhancing data-driven decision-making, and prioritizing technology's role in achieving sustainable development goals by 2030.

Future Vision and WSIS beyond 2025

12. How can we further strengthen multistakeholder platforms such as the WSIS Forum as the platform for digital development and IGF as the platform for governance and policy issues?

Strengthen multistakeholder platforms by enhancing collaboration, increasing diverse representation, fostering open dialogue, sharing best practices, promoting inclusivity, and aligning agendas with emerging digital trends and sustainable development goals.

13. How can the implementation of the WSIS process and the Pact for the Future and its Global Digital Compact be aligned to achieve shared goals?

Align the WSIS process with the Pact for the Future and Global Digital Compact by fostering inclusive dialogue, integrating digital policies, promoting universal connectivity, and advancing equitable access to digital opportunities.

14. What are the key emerging digital trends and topics to be considered by ITU in the WSIS+20 review and future vision beyond 2025?

Key emerging trends include AI and machine learning, 5G and beyond, cybersecurity advancements, blockchain technology, digital equity and inclusion, smart cities, and sustainable tech solutions for climate action and development.