

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

Response 83 – 11/02/2025 16:12

## Respondent

1. Organization name

Ocgrow Group

2. Organization type

Private Sector

3. Organization country

Canada

## 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 process has significantly contributed to bridging the digital divide, fostering international cooperation for ICT development, and advancing digital inclusivity through capacity-building initiatives. It has played a crucial role in setting global frameworks for digital transformation, including ICT accessibility, cybersecurity, and broadband connectivity.

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

The ITU has been instrumental in leading global coordination for ICT development, establishing technical standards, and fostering capacity-building efforts to promote inclusive connectivity. Its efforts have driven advancements in spectrum management, digital skills development, and policy frameworks to support smart and sustainable digital economies.

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 inclusive multistakeholder model, it is essential to promote continuous collaboration among governments, private sector actors, academia, and civil society. Expanding digital literacy and ensuring equitable representation of marginalized voices in decision-making processes will foster a more inclusive and dynamic digital ecosystem.

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

Persistent challenges include closing the digital divide in underserved regions, addressing cybersecurity threats, and ensuring data privacy and protection. Additionally, the rapid pace of technological advancement necessitates continuous policy adaptation and global cooperation to maintain alignment with evolving digital needs.

## WSIS Action Lines

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

The "C2: Information and Communication Infrastructure" and "C7: ICT Applications" have had the most significant impact due to their role in fostering connectivity and developing practical digital solutions across industries. These initiatives have directly supported smart city developments and enhanced access to essential services in both urban and remote areas.

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 implementation, WSIS principles must further integrate AI-driven technologies, autonomous systems, and public-private collaborations for digital transformation. Strengthening cross-regional knowledge sharing and capacity-building initiatives will also ensure inclusive progress and effective adoption of emerging technologies.

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>

Key milestones should emphasize the adoption of smart city frameworks, AI governance, and green ICT solutions. Challenges include the digital divide, ethical concerns surrounding AI, and cybersecurity risks. Emerging trends such as Web3 technologies, digital twin applications, and metaverse-driven services should also be prioritized to ensure continued relevance and innovation

## 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?

Strengthening the alignment requires embedding digital transformation into SDG strategies, focusing on initiatives like "C7: ICT Applications" to promote education, health, and environmental sustainability. Cross-sector partnerships should be prioritized to leverage technological advancements for SDG-specific outcomes, while integrating AI, data analytics, and connectivity solutions to monitor and accelerate progress toward the 2030 Agenda. Additionally, enhancing digital literacy and inclusivity ensures no one is left behind.

## 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?

Strengthening these platforms requires fostering more inclusive participation by involving underrepresented groups, including SMEs and civil society. Establishing regular thematic task forces and promoting actionable outcomes with measurable KPIs will ensure better collaboration. Enhanced partnerships between the WSIS Forum and IGF can drive holistic solutions that balance innovation with effective governance.

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?

Alignment can be achieved by establishing a unified framework that integrates WSIS principles with the Pact for the Future objectives. This includes harmonizing policies on digital inclusivity, ethical AI, and sustainable digital infrastructure. Regular cross-platform dialogues and joint reporting mechanisms will help maintain consistency and promote shared accountability.

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 trends include AI governance, Web3 technologies, digital twins, the metaverse, and autonomous systems. Sustainable digital infrastructure, green ICT practices, and cybersecurity resilience must also be prioritized. The rapid evolution of quantum computing and its potential impact on global digital security should be closely monitored as well.