20TH WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION/ICT
INDICATORS SYMPOSIUM

ITU WTIS
GENEVA2025

22–23 September 2025
Geneva, Switzerland

# Broadening the scope: Monitoring global digital commitments

**Ms Scarlett Fondeur Gil**

**(Moderator)**

Economic Affairs Officer
UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

PARTNERSHIP ON MEASURING ICT FOR DEVELOPMENT

# Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development

- Global initiative to improve availability and quality of internationally comparable ICT statistics
- Main mechanism for the coordination of ICT statistics internationally
- Members: 14 international and regional agencies involved in official ICT statistics
- Steering Committee (2023-2025): ITU, UNCTAD, and UN DESA
- Core List of ICT Indicators endorsed by UN Statistical Commission
- Conducted regional workshops and trainings to help countries develop capacity

ILO · ITU · eurostat · OECD BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES · unesco Institute for Statistics · UN trade & development UNCTAD · United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs · THE WORLD BANK

UNEP · BASEL CONVENTION · unitar United Nations Institute for Training and Research · UNITED NATIONS ECLAC · ESCAP Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific · ECA · UNITED NATIONS ESCWA

# Core list of ICT indicators

The core list of ICT indicators is composed of over 50 indicators in the following areas:

- ICT infrastructure and access
- ICT access and use by households and individuals
- ICT access and use by enterprises
- ICT sector and trade in ICT goods
- ICT in education
- ICT in government
- E-waste indicators

https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Documents/coreindicators/Core-List-of-Indicators_March2022.pdf

# The Role of ICT Measurement Today

- ICTs are drivers of development and inclusion.
- Universal Meaningful Connectivity (UMC), WSIS Action Lines, and the Global Digital Compact (GDC) require measurement for implementation.
- Data helps monitor progress, identify gaps, and guide policy.

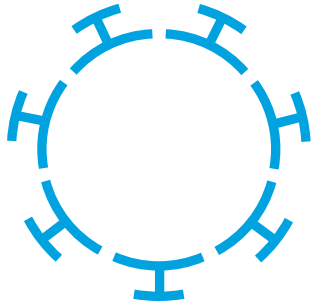
## Research and Analysis

*Digital Economy Report, Technical Notes, Manuals, Handbook*

*Core indicators on the digital economy*

*Regular data compilation*

*UNCTAD Data Hub statistical portal*



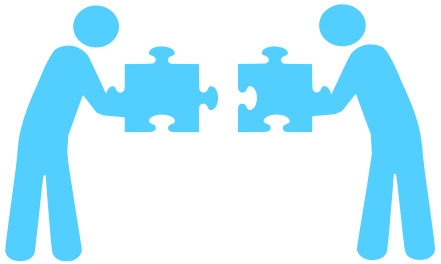
## Consensus Building

*Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development*

*Working Group on Measuring E-Commerce and the Digital Economy, 4-5 December 2025*

*Measuring Digital Trade*

*Other expert groups*



## Technical Assistance

*Workshops on measuring digital trade*

*In-person and online training courses based on UNCTAD Manual*

*Advisory services*

*Depending on availability of resources*

Mandate to be renewed in October 2025: will consider digital economy measurement to support digital economy policy, WSIS+20 Review, and GDC commitments.

# Mapping GDC, UMC, WSIS Action Lines against ICT Core Indicators

**Ms Esperanza Magpantay,**
Senior Statistician
International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

# Mapping ICT Indicators to WSIS Action Lines, UMC and the GDC

| Indicator Group | Core ICT Indicators | WSIS Targets | WSIS Action line | GDC | UMC |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ICT infrastructure and access | A10 Multichannel TV subscriptions per 100 inhabitants | | | hospitals to the Internet | |
| ICT access and use by households and individuals | HH1 Proportion of households with a radio | Target 8. Ensure that all of the world's population has access to television and radio services | C2. Information and communication infrastructure<br>C3. Access to information | | |
| ICT access and use by households and individuals | HH2 Proportion of households with a TV | Target 8. Ensure that all of the world's population has access to television and radio services | C2. Information and communication infrastructure<br>C3. Access to information | | |
| ICT access and use by households and individuals | HH3 Proportion of households with telephone | Target 1 - Connect all villages with ICTs and establish community access points | C2. Information and communication infrastructure<br>C3. Access to information | | |
| ICT access and use by households and individuals | HH4 Proportion of households with a computer | | | Objective 1.1 - Connect all people, schools and hospitals to the Internet | |
| ICT access and use by households and individuals | HH5 Proportion of individuals using a computer | | | Objective 1.1 - Connect all people, schools and hospitals to the Internet | |
| ICT access and use by households and individuals | HH6 Proportion of households with Internet | | | Objective 1.1 - Connect all people, schools and hospitals to the Internet | Universality targets |
| ICT access and use by households and individuals | HH7 Proportion of individuals using the Internet | Target 1 - Connect all villages with ICTs and establish community access points | C2. Information and communication infrastructure<br>C3. Access to information and | Objective 1.1 - Connect all people, schools and hospitals to the Internet<br>Objective 1.2 - Make digital technologies more | Universality targets |
| ICT access and use by households and individuals | HH8 Proportion of individuals using the Internet, by location | | | Objective 1.1 - Connect all people, schools and hospitals to the Internet | |
| ICT access and use by households and individuals | HH9 Proportion of individuals using the Internet, by type of activity | | | Objective 1.1 - Connect all people, schools and hospitals to the Internet | |
| | | Target 10. Ensure that more than half the world's inhabitants have access to ICTs within | C2. Information and communication infrastructure<br>C3. Access to information | Objective 1.1 - Connect all people, schools and hospitals to the Internet<br>Objective 1.2 - Make | |

# Why This Mapping Matters?

1. Assessment and Monitoring tools for:
   a. Global Digital Compact
   b. UMC Targets
   c. WSIS targets and action lines
2. Identifying areas where core indicators are missing.

**Early insights**:

- Indicators needed in areas such as employment, health, security, governance, AI, etc.

## Next steps:

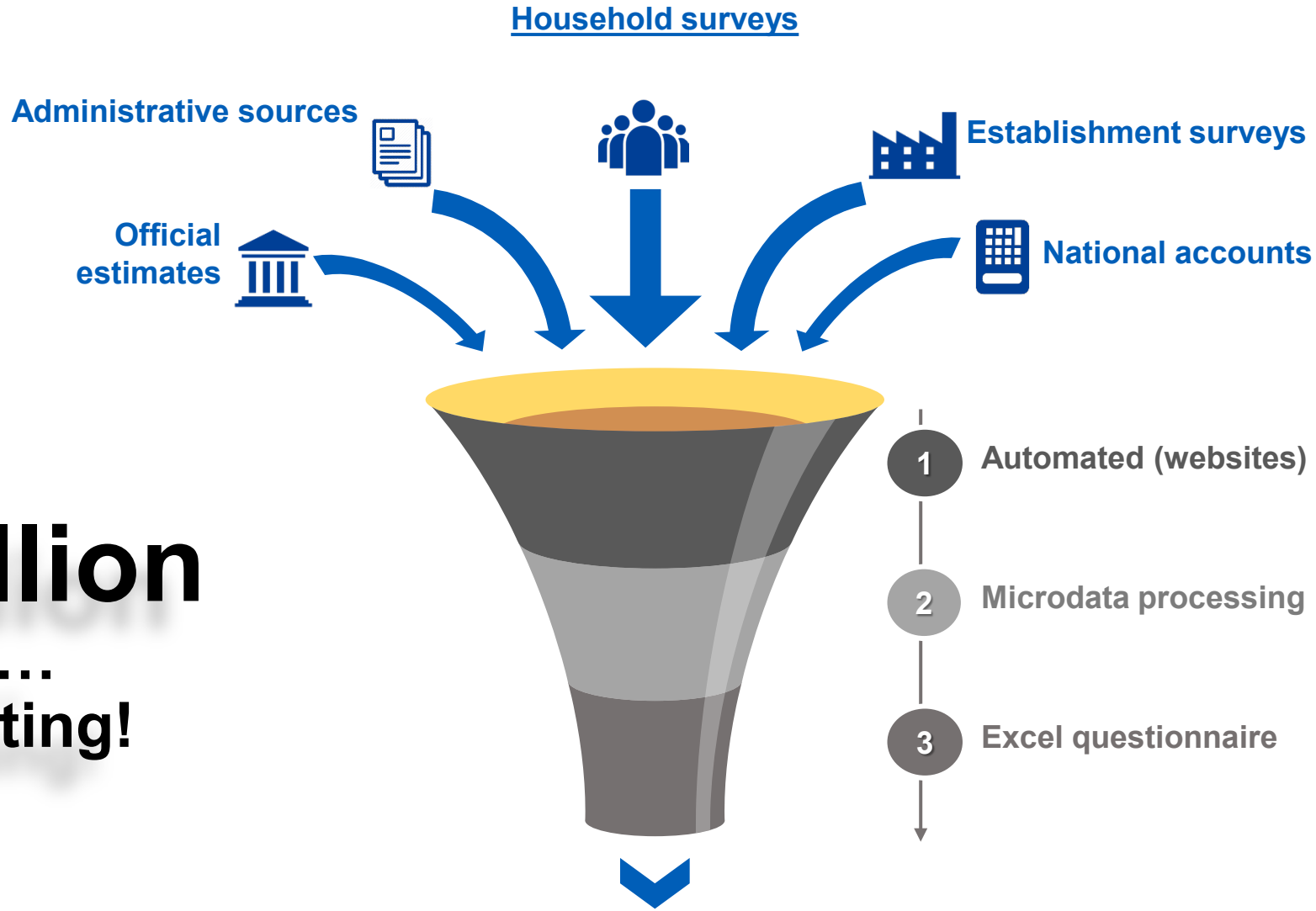
- Finalize and publish the mapping matrix
- Identify indicators that are needed for areas not covered by current core list
- Publish available data on the Partnership core indicators in the ITU DataHub
- Conduct a quantitative assessment of WSIS+20 action lines implementation (Zero Draft, paragraph on Monitoring and Measurement)
- Improve data availability – financing for data is needed - as outlined in the Compromiso de Sevilla – FFD4 Document
  - '23. We recognize that high quality and disaggregated data and statistics enable evidence-based policy decisions and enhance accountability and transparency, fostering public trust and international cooperation. We will support programmes that strengthen national data collection and statistics…."

# Employment related ICT indicators

**Mr Michael Frosch**

Senior Statistician
International Labour Organization (ILO)

# 343 million
values…
and counting!



# Creating employment related ICT indicators

- **Based on the available data in ILOSTAT it would be possible to create employment related ICT indicators.**
- Particular: *The proportion of employed persons in the ICT-sector, could be a core indicator.*
- This would reflect the importance of the ICT-sector in terms of creating employment, to track trends and development over time.
- Further disaggregation could describe the characteristics and structure of the persons employed in the sector. (*sex, occupation (1-digit), institutional sector (private/public/total), and by status in employment.*)
- For an alignment to the definition of the ICT sector this requires access to 3-digit ISIC level.

## 3-digit ISIC level-based definition

**Countries with 3-digit ISIC available for 2022-2024**

| Regions | Number of countries |
|---|---|
| Africa | 12 |
| Americas | 14 |
| Arab States | 3 |
| Asia and the Pacific | 20 |
| Europe and Central Asia | 6 |
| **Total countries** | **55** |

100 countries with any available data point
This could be produced for example twice per year.
Based on countries micro data,

## 2-digit ISIC level-based definition

**Countries with 3-digit ISIC available for 2022-2024**

| Regions | Number of countries |
|---|---|
| Africa | 24 |
| Americas | 17 |
| Arab States | 4 |
| Asia and the Pacific | 24 |
| Europe and Central Asia | 20 |
| **Total countries** | **89** |

Could complement the narrower/precise definition, 155 countries with any data point
While less precise it would still give insights on the size and development of the ICT sector in terms of employment, This is already available in ILOSTAT.

# Measuring AI uptake in the EU surveys on ICT usage

**Mr Alvaro Diez Soto**

Head of Unit
Eurostat

# AI Indicators in the ICT ENT survey

- Use of AI technologies
- Purpose of using AI
- Means of acquisition of AI technologies
- Reasons for not using AI technologies
- Processing of data on individuals using AI technologies
- Implementing measures to prevent bias using AI

# AI indicators in the ICT HH survey

- Use of generative AI
- Purpose of using generative AI (question for users)
- Reasons for not using generative AI (question for non-users)

# Challenges in measuring AI use

## Rapid evolution and hype

extremely fast-changing field, a lot of new tools and services – difficult to distinguish between real innovations and buzzwords/hype

## Ambiguity, "AI" is everywhere

Many systems and tools are now integrating AI or claiming to do so **– what counts as AI?** (background automation, differentiation between algorithms and AI)

## Societal impact

AI touches many domains (work, ethics, society), making it hard to capture the implications comprehensively

## Make questions understandable to respondents

The complexity of the technology and the rapid technological advances in the field make it also difficult for respondents to understand the questions

## Balance relevance and time series

Balance capturing new developments in AI and measuring their usage over time.

# E-waste Statistics Guidelines Edition III

**Mr Oliver Lysaght**

Lead
E-waste Statistics Guidelines
UNITAR SCYCLE

# E-waste Statistics Guidelines

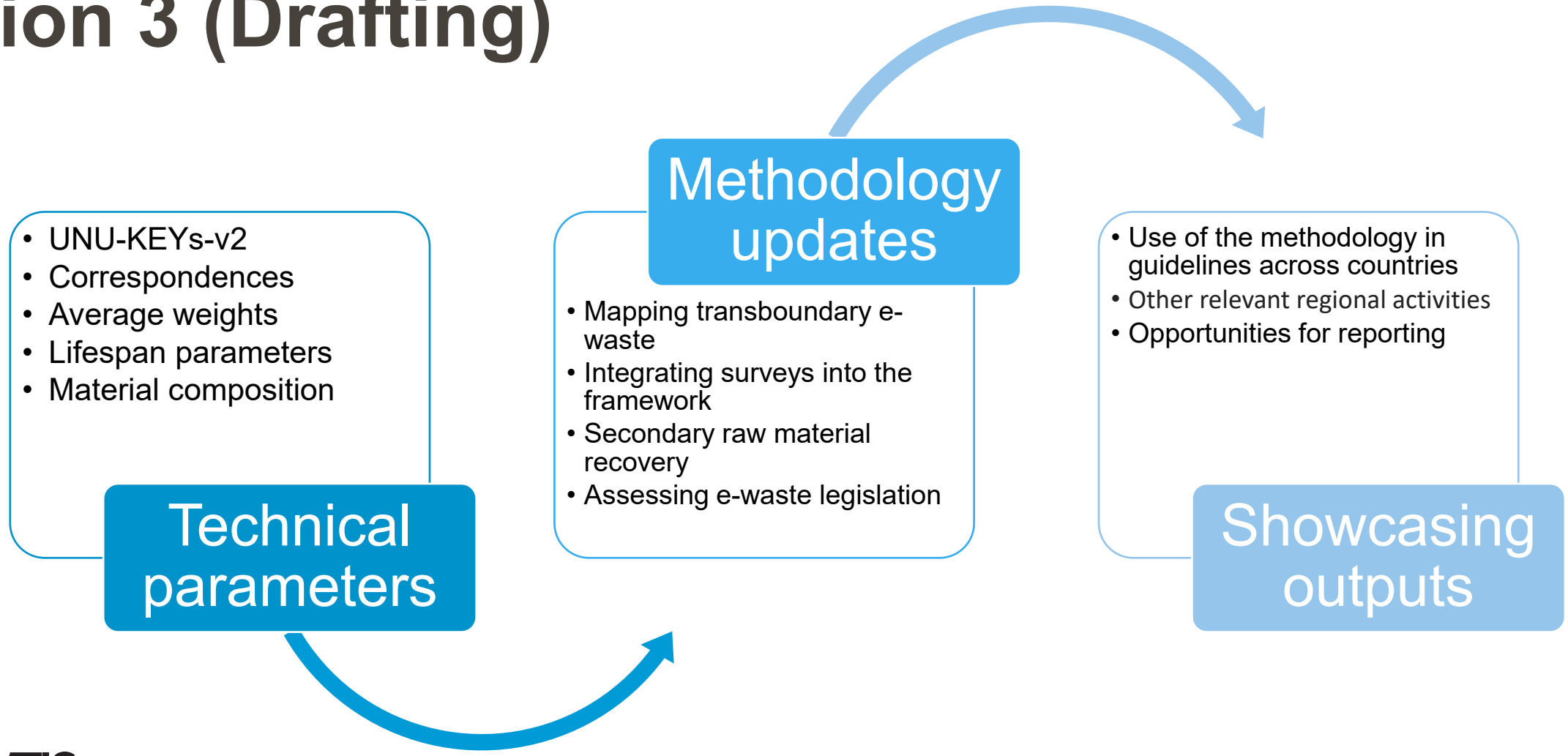
Task Group on Measuring E-Waste established to aid the compilation of reliable and comparable data on e-waste across countries

- 1st edition of the E-Waste Statistics guidelines published in 2015
- 2nd edition published in 2018

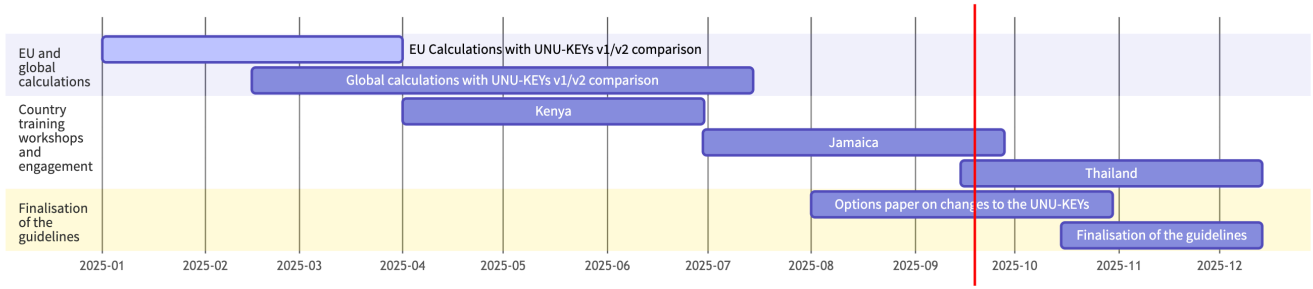
The guidelines:

- Define a measurement framework based on standardised definitions
- Incorporates widely available data sources mapped to a statistical classification of electronic products (the UNU-KEYs)
- Detail processing and calculation steps to derive indicators on the scale of e-waste and its fate

# Edition 3 (Drafting)



# Pilot testing




- Pilot testing (2025)
  - Pilot testing in 3 project countries through the International Workshop Series on E-waste Statistics:
    - Kenya (April 2025)
    - Jamaica (July 2025)
    - Thailand (September – October 2025)
  - Dissemination and uptake (2026)

# Contact

oliver.lysaght@unitar.org

balde@unitar.org

https://www.scycle.info

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Sustainable Cycles (SCYCLE) Programme

# WSIS+20 review Zero Draft

**Mr Deniz Susar**

Governance and Public Administration Officer
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
(UNDESA)

# WSIS+20 overall review by the United Nations General Assembly

## Overview

Latest News

Background

UN GA High-Level-Meeting

Preparatory Process Roadmap

Relevant Events

Documents

FAQs

## Contact Us

## Background

WSIS commits to build a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society, where everyone can create, access, utilize and share information and knowledge, enabling individuals, communities and peoples to achieve their full potential in promotin their sustainable development and improving their quality of life.

# Monitoring, Measurement, and Targets

- Acknowledge importance of data and statistics for ICT for development; call for more quantitative data for evidence-based decision-making (¶132)
- Commit to strengthen international cooperation, close serious data gaps, and champion responsible data use to advance SDGs (¶133)
- Note with appreciation the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development, which since WSIS has contributed to indicators, data gathering, and dissemination (¶134)
- Commit to further develop internationally agreed targets, indicators, and metrics for universal, meaningful, and affordable connectivity, including gender-disaggregated data, aligned with the SDGs and integrated into development strategies (¶135)

# Next Steps and Support

- Request the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development, with Action Line facilitators, to review existing indicators and methodologies, and report to CSTD in 2026 with a consolidated progress report in 2027 (¶136)
- Call on UN and relevant organizations to review methodologies, consider national circumstances, put in place ICT data infrastructure, and share country case studies (¶137)
- Recognize the need for funding and capacity-building of national statistical systems; call on partners to provide resources and share best practices (¶138)
- Urge the private sector to make appropriate data available to strengthen evidence, policy, and research on the Information Society (¶138)

## Contact Us

Secretariat
Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG)
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)
Email: **ungawsisreview@un.org**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 29 August 2025 | Zero Draft | Written inputs in the form of text proposals should be sent by email (ungawsisreview@un.org) to the Secretariat in MS Word format no later than **26 September**. All submissions will be made available online. |
| 13-14 October 2025 | Consultations with Stakeholders and Member States | Virtual:<br>• 13 October, 10:15pm EST<br>• 14 October, 10am EST |
| 15 October 2025 | 2nd Preparatory Meeting | ECOSOC Chamber, 10:00-13:00, UNHQ |
| 16-17 / 20-21 October 2025 | Informal Negotiations | UNHQ |
| 27-28 October 2025 | Consultations with Stakeholders and Member States | In person and virtual, at the ICANN84 Annual General Meeting in Dublin, Ireland |
| November 2025 | Draft Outcome Document | |
| November 2025 | Informal Negotiations | UNHQ |
| November 2025 | Consultations with Stakeholders and Member States | UNHQ |
| 16-17 December 2025 | High-level meeting of the General Assembly | UNHQ |

ITUWTIS
GENEVA2025

# Thank you