



## WSIS+10 High-Level Event

### Open Consultation Process

# Official Submission Form #1 on the Outcome Documents of the WSIS +10 High-Level Event 13-17 April 2014, Sharm el-Sheikh

**Background:** The WSIS+10 High-Level Event will be an extended version of the WSIS Forum to address the progress made in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes related to the WSIS Action Lines under mandates of the participating agencies, while providing a platform for multistakeholder 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 WSIS+10 High-Level Event will review the WSIS Outcomes (2003 and 2005) , in particular, related to the Action Lines with a view to developing proposals on a new vision beyond 2015, potentially also exploring new targets. The meeting will be organized taking into account decisions of the 68th Session of the UN General Assembly.

This open and inclusive open consultation process will result in:

- Draft Outcome Documents for consideration by the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, by 1st March 2014:
  - Draft WSIS+10 Statement on Implementation of WSIS Outcomes
  - Draft WSIS+10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015 under mandates of the participating Agencies

*(Please see the Official Submission Form #1)*

- Multistakeholder guidance on the Thematic Aspects and Innovations on the Format of the WSIS +10 High-Level Event.

*(Please see the Official Submission Form #2)*

Please note that formal submission should be sent to the [wsis-info@itu.int](mailto:wsis-info@itu.int) not later than **20 September 2013**.

## A. Your Information

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**Title:** Choose an item.

**First name:** Click here to enter text.      **Last name:** Click here to enter text.

**Organization:** UNESCO

**Organization type:** International organization      **Country:** Click here to enter text.

## B. Formal Input on the WSIS+10 High-Level Event Outcome Documents

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Referring to the background documents i.e. the WSIS +10 Visioning Challenge, the Final Statement and Final Recommendations from the WSIS+10 Review Event Towards Knowledge Societies for Peace and Sustainable Development, the Booklet WSIS Forum 2012 & 2013: Identifying Emerging Trends and a Vision Beyond 2015 and the WSIS Forum 2013 Outcome Document, all WSIS Stakeholders are kindly invited to provide formal submissions and inputs towards the Outcome Documents of the WSIS+10 High-Level Event.

### 1. Draft WSIS+10 Statement on Implementation of WSIS Outcomes

*(Please note that the anticipated length of this Statement is two pages)*

Since the two Summits, in 2003 and 2005, WSIS Stakeholders have made every effort in implementing a common vision of the Information Society.

Overall;

- a) What are the main achievements in the area of the information society, in particular, in the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines, in the past ten years?

In the area of e-Science the WSIS process was instrumental in supporting research on emerging trends in e-Science which provided a better understanding of these trends, its impact and future direction.

Clear examples of major achievements of e-Science are the application of IT to organize the findings of molecular biology research (bioinformatics) and to the management and exchange of biological and ecological data (computational biology and biodiversity informatics), as well as the design of novel systems reproducing biological systems (synthetic biology). Computer-based modeling and its application to problems such as climate change and related projections is another example of application of e-Science.

The 2013 Report of the High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda states that there have been innovative initiatives to use mobile technology and other advances to enable real-time monitoring of development results. At the same time, the Report calls for a new data revolution to strengthen data and statistics for accountability and decision-making purposes, on the basis of information technology. The Rio+20 process acknowledged the need for a global sustainable development report. Potentially E-Science has a unique role to play in the implementation of these recommendations by proposing a web-based platform (with complementary mobile applications) that critically reviews and synthesizes new knowledge in as a real time as possible to strengthen the interface between science, policy and society. E-Science plays a major role also in relation to including various groups and communities in the scientific process and this also improves science, society and policy relations.

With the rapid emergence of mobile technologies, the past decade has also seen a significant expansion of e-citizen science. The most innovative projects, such as the Extreme Citizen Science (ExCiteS) project (United Kingdom), the Red Fractal project (Spain), the Igliniit project (Canada) or Cybertracker (South Africa), use a science co-creation approach in which non-scientist stakeholders participate in all stages of the scientific process. This approach not only improves understanding and trust of science and scientists, but also makes science more inclusive, with improved rigour and real-world applicability.

b) What key identified challenges would need to be addressed in the next 10 years?

One major challenge will be how to identify best practices in e-science and provide policy guidance on how they may be mainstreamed. Another would be how to provide greater support (including financial) to implementing the recommendations of the WSIS +10 review process.

Another major challenge has been to ensure more inclusivity. E-science has great potential to open up science to the most marginalized, but more progress must be made in this area.

c) What do the WSIS Stakeholders envision for an information/ knowledge society ensuring that the youth, women, poor, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples benefit from the enormous opportunities provided by the ICTs?

One way to address this concern is by ensuring greater use of mobile technology, which is more widely available to rural people and easily adaptable to accommodate local languages.

With regards to e-science, an important step towards increased inclusivity is following bottom-up and inclusive approaches to science, including a citizen science approach, where local communities, indigenous peoples, youth, women, the poor, people with disabilities etc. can participate fully in the scientific process. If this is genuinely opened up, as for example in the Extreme Citizen Science programme based at University College London, the concerns of these marginalized segments of society can be placed more centrally in the scientific agenda. An innovative use of ICTs is key to enabling a citizen science approach.

## 2. Draft WSIS +10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015 under mandates of the participating agencies (Definition of new priorities and objectives for WSIS Action Lines beyond 2015)

*Please note: Participating agency refers to the Agencies tasked by the WSIS Outcomes to lead facilitation of WSIS Action Lines; See Annex to the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society.*

a) In your opinion, what are the **key emerging trends** in the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) landscape that should be considered in the implementation of WSIS Action Lines beyond 2015? **Please specify the Action Line you are providing an input for.**

*Please note: You may wish to refer to the WSIS Forum 2012 & 2013 Booklet on Identifying Emerging Trends and a Vision Beyond 2015, available at [www.wsis.org/review/mpp](http://www.wsis.org/review/mpp).*

- C1. The role of public governance authorities and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development
  - Click here to enter text.
- C2. Information and communication infrastructure
  - Click here to enter text.
- C3. Access to information and knowledge

- Click here to enter text.
- C4. Capacity building
  - Click here to enter text.
- C5. Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs
  - Click here to enter text.
- C6. Enabling environment
  - Click here to enter text.
- C7. ICT Applications:
  - E-government
    - Click here to enter text.
  - E-business
    - Click here to enter text.
  - E-learning
    - Click here to enter text.
  - E-health
    - Click here to enter text.
  - E-employment
    - Click here to enter text.
  - E-environment
    - Click here to enter text.
  - E-agriculture
    - Click here to enter text.
  - E-science
    - ‘Citizen Science’ using the internet and mobile technologies to enable the participation of civil society and the public in the entire scientific process has the potential to revolutionize science, to improve science- society relations and standards of living of many communities. It ensures a more open and responsive scientific process and provides relevant and timely information for scientists and policy-makers. It is also improves the inclusion of isolated and marginalized groups and is a very effective way of mobilizing and involving the youth in science.

Another emerging trend is the increasing role of e-science in providing web and mobile solutions which improves the interface between science, policy and society. E-Science can act as an important tool in the development of applications in sectors critical to society such as natural disasters, agriculture, water security, health, poverty, education, research and innovation and intellectual property. There is a clear enabling environment to use e-Science to enhance the effectiveness of the science-policy interface through the post-2015 MDGs and SDGs processes, the Rio+20 Conference outcomes and the newly-formed Scientific Advisory Board to the UN Secretary-General and the UN system. Scientific assessments that are carried out so far in relation to climate change, biodiversity and ecosystem services and agriculture call for a web-based (with complementary mobile applications) multidisciplinary knowledge system that critically reviews and synthesizes new knowledge in as a real time as possible.

UNESCO is looking at the possibility of developing a web-based platform to use e-Science in support of policy and for the benefit of science and society. This platform will allow open and free access to scientific knowledge and allow countries to optimize their capacities to use the Internet to pursue their development and learning objectives. It will be designed and tailored to reflect the

dynamics of the science-policy interface at the national, sub-regional and regional and global levels. The web-based platform will also assist in linking the current discussions on international targets such as the post-2015 MDGs and the SDGs to the WSIS +10 review process. It will be demand driven and built on with strong public private partnerships to facilitate the necessary technological and financial support needed to ensure its sustainability.

- C8. Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content
  - [Click here to enter text.](#)
- C9. Media
  - [Click here to enter text.](#)
- C10. Ethical dimensions of the Information Society
  - [Click here to enter text.](#)
- C11. International and regional cooperation
  - [Click here to enter text.](#)

b) What are areas that have **not been adequately captured by the framework of the existing 11 WSIS Action Lines** and would need to be addressed beyond 2015? **Please specify the Action Line you are providing an input for.**

- C1. The role of public governance authorities and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development
  - [Click here to enter text.](#)
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  - E-health
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  - E-employment
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  - E-environment
    - [Click here to enter text.](#)
  - E-agriculture
    - [Click here to enter text.](#)

- E-science
    - [Click here to enter text.](#)
  - C8. Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content
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  - C11. International and regional cooperation
    - [Click here to enter text.](#)
- c) In your opinion are there any priority areas that need to be addressed in the implementation of WSIS Beyond 2015.

Practical mechanisms to support the implementation of the e-Science related recommendations of the WSIS +10 Review process at the national, regional and global level. This includes funding modalities and financial support.

### 3. Ensuring accountability of the WSIS Action Lines beyond 2015 (Targets and Indicators for an open and inclusive information/knowledge society for all beyond 2015)

*Please note that information provided under this point will be relevant to the second physical meeting of the open consultation process on WSIS+10 High-Level Event.*

- a) How can the **monitoring and evaluation** of future implementation of the WSIS process, in particular, the Action Lines be better enabled?

To appropriately monitor and evaluate implementation of a global process, sufficient resources are required. Dedicated funding for such a task is necessary. Apart from this, greater efforts should be made to involve local and national organizations in the monitoring and reporting of WSIS related activities.

- b) What are the **priority areas** that the post-2015 WSIS process should focus on and which goals and targets could monitor the new vision for WSIS beyond 2015?

Supporting activities in e-Science that promote improved relations between science, policy and society, with a particular view to greater inclusivity, including youth, women, indigenous peoples, people with disabilities and the poor.

### 4. Any additional comments or suggestions

[Click here to enter text.](#)