



WSIS | 19-23 FORUM | MARCH 2018 Geneva | Switzerland

WSIS Forum 2018 OUTCOME DOCUMENT

Template for Submission of Executive Summaries for Thematic/Country Workshop/ Action Line Facilitation Meetings/ Interactive Sessions/ High Level Dialogues/Publication Releases/Briefings

Deadline: Thursday 22 March, 2018

Exception: For sessions on Friday 23 March, please send at the latest 2 hours after the session

*Please note that the WSIS Forum 2018 Outcome Document will be released on the **23rd of March**
(the last day of the Forum)*

1) Title of your session

Achieving the SDGs through Ethically Aligned Design

2) Name of Organization/s organizing the session

IEEE

3) Relevance with the WSIS Action Lines – please specify the Action lines C1 to C11

WSIS Action Line C10: Ethical Dimensions of the Information Society

4) Key achievements, announcements, launches, agreements, and commitments (these will be reflected in the press release and Outcomes Document of the WSIS Forum 2018)

5) Main outcomes highlighting the following:

I. Debated Issues

- What are the biggest inhibitors of trust regarding ICTs in the algorithmic age?
- How does a “human-centric” narrative of purpose relate to the SDGs?
- How do we ensure equity of access to these technologies for all countries?
- Why do we need to ensure systems benefit humanity at the design phase?

II. Quotes

- “Ethics is the new green.” John Havens, IEEE



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- “There is a keen interest in getting engaged and we all need to help people innovate responsibly” Anja Kaspersen, Director for the United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs in Geneva

III. Overall outcomes of the session highlighting

- There is a need to build a new, human-centric narrative of purpose around and for technology and science.
- Society must encourage people, businesses and communities involved in technology development and deployment to collectively and individually assume their part of anticipative responsibility.
- Metrics should be developed that capture the well-being of people, not as an “externality” of global production chains and markets.
- Ensure that systems are designed in such a way that their outcomes are as much as possible truly beneficial for humanity, while mitigating predictable risks already at the inception and design phase, and not as an afterthought.
- It is important that individuals reclaim their digital identity in the algorithmic age.

IV. Main linkages with the Sustainable Development Goals

- As Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Systems become more ubiquitous, these technologies will impact the achievement of all of the Sustainable Development Goals.

V. Emerging Trends related to WSIS Action Lines identified during the meeting

- Regarding WSIS Action Line C10: Ethical Dimensions of the Information Society, the panel noted that the ethics by design should be incorporated into Artificial Intelligence and Autonomous Systems in order to ensure equitable and fair use of these technologies.

VI. Suggestions for Thematic Aspects that might be included in the WSIS Forum 2019

- The panel noted that a dedicated track on the ethics of artificial intelligence and autonomous systems would be beneficial at the WSIS Forum 2019.

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