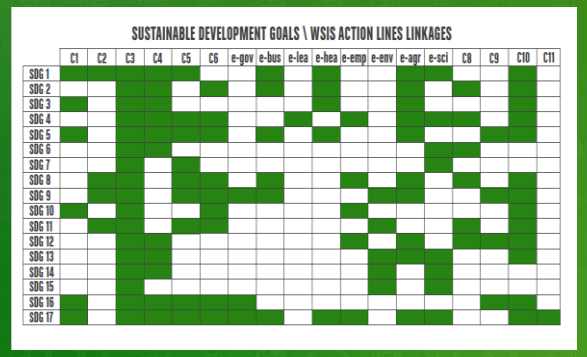
WSIS Special Initiatives: ICTs and Gender Mainstreaming special track

working together towards 2025

World Summit on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

WSIS Action Lines – Sustainable Development Goals

Impact of WSIS Action Lines on Sustainable Development Goals



The WSIS implementation mechanism at the international level is organised taking into account the themes and action lines in the Geneva Plan of Action, and moderated or facilitated by UN agencies when appropriate.

WSIS-SDG Matrix: https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/sdg/

Background

- WSIS Forum is a global UN multistakeholder platform facilitating the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines for advancing sustainable development. The Forum is co-organized by the ITU, UNCTAD, UNDP, and UNESCO, in close collaboration with all WSIS Action Line co-facilitators and other UN organizations. It represents the largest annual gathering of the information and communication technologies (ICTs) community discussing the trends, evolution, and challenges of digital topics.
- The Forum provides an opportunity for information exchange, knowledge creation and sharing of best practices, while identifying emerging trends and fostering partnerships, taking into account the evolving information and knowledge societies. The WSIS Forum will therefore serves as a key forum for discussing the role of ICTs as a means of implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, with due regard to the global mechanism for follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- The WSIS Forum, each year encourages the participation of all stakeholders, governments, private sector, civil society, technical community and the academia to showcase innovative ICTs technologies and policies that have brought about social change and more importantly economic empowerment.
- The ICTs and Gender Mainstreaming special track is dedicated to the issues of bridging gender divide, women empowerment and promoting equality perspective through the use of ICTs. The special track aims to engage multistakeholders through a holistic cross-sectoral intersectional approach.

Objectives

Mainstream and promote gender equality in the field of ICTs

Recognize and engage Women in Technology

Encourage Girls to pursue careers in STEM

Raise awareness on social and economic issues women and girls face around the world

Share best practices on the use of ICTs to help tackle the gender issues

Promote gender issues as a cross-cutting solution to existing opportunities and challenges in the implementation of WSIS Action Lines in line with the SDGs

Strive for 50/50 gender balance participation at the WSIS Forum

Activities

Develop gender policy and recommendations for guiding efforts to achieve gender equality through the use of ICTs

Organise networking and educational activities:

- Women's Breakfast and networking events
- Sessions with women leaders in ICTs
- Workshops and Knowledge Café'
- Tech courses to promote digital skills for young women and girls
- Bootcamp events
- Hackathon
- Interviews

List of Gender Workshops at the WSIS Forum 2021

- Opening of the ICTs and Gender Mainstreaming special track
- Raising the voice of women entrepreneurs in strategic socioeconomic sectors
- Women engineers and scientists unlocking their potential
- Experience of young women and girls in STEM
- Conversation with ITU Deputy Secretary-General on ICTs and Gender Mainstreaming
- Covid chk - Case Study- Innovative application created during emerging COVID-19 pandemic first wave
- Women Empowerment using the Digital Technology
- Hack the Gender Gap

- Agribusiness tech solutions for a sustainable society in rural regions of the world
- Experiences of Women in Tech in the UN
- Inspiring women leaders in ICT landscape
- Tech as a driver of gender equality in the digital economy
- Telehealth facilitated health ecosystems in rural/war afflicted areas during covid - Case Studies
- High-Level Policy Session 11: ICTs and Gender Mainstreaming
- From Discriminators to Characteristics: How a Fair A.I. will Improve Human Life
- International Day of Sport for Development and Peace: Girls in ICT and Sport

WSIS Forum Photo Contests depicting ICTs and Gender Mainstreaming

WSIS Forum 2021 Photo Contest winner

Incubating the next generation of digital leaders with Raspberry Pi

This picture shows our Learning Cascade projects in a Digital Literacy Center we sponsor in Odisha, India. Through SoCCs (Social Capital Credits), our community currency for social good, girls earn SoCCs tutoring 2 younger students who are three years or more younger than them, thrice a week. – Odisha, India

WSIS Forum 2021 Photo Contest winner

ICT Use among Micro, Small, Medium Scale Enterprises

An SME operator digitizing daily purchase of items. - Wenchi, Ghana

WSIS Forum 2021 Photo Contest finalist

Digitize to Equalize

Bahawalpur Entrepreneurs are tapping into opportunities and global economy via AanganPk.com, a digital e-commerce platform. Kaarvan Crafts Foundation and Samsung are taking technology to the grassroots! Kaarvan has created an online shop with, by and for rural artisans — digital courtyard where female artisans can upload their crafts — take orders, sell, and receive payments from national and international customers through Android Mobile Devices provided by Partner Samsung. - Bahawalpur

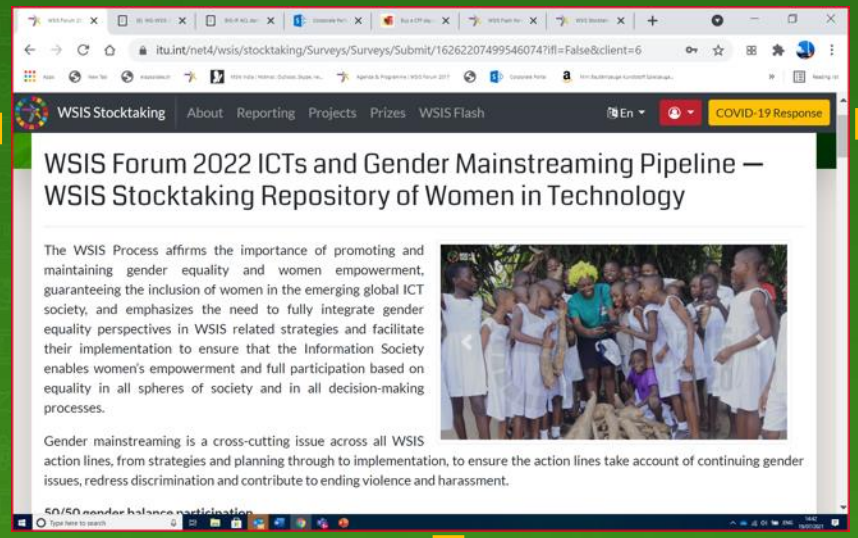
WSIS Stocktaking Repository of Women in Technology

http://www.itu.int/go/WSISGender

The WSIS Process affirms the **importance of promoting and maintaining gender equality and women empowerment**, guaranteeing the inclusion of women in the emerging global ICT society, and emphasizes the need to fully integrate gender equality perspectives in WSIS related strategies and facilitate their implementation to ensure that the Information Society enables women's empowerment and full participation based on equality in all spheres of society and in all decision-making processes.

Repository of Women in Tech

At the request of and in collaboration with WSIS Stakeholders a repository of Women in Tech has been launched. The goal is to identify and connect women leaders and practitioners in all sectors of the ICT industry from all regions and engage them in events, forums and activities.



50/50 gender balance participation

The WSIS Forum launched a 50/50 gender balance challenge in the wake of a call to realise equal participation at the WSIS Forum. This collaborative effort is also addressing the gender gap in ICTs that aligns with Sustainable Development Goal 5 "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls". The cross-cutting commitments on gender equality are further echoed across all WSIS Action Lines.

Activities

- Identify women speakers
- Networking events
- Interview series
- Mentorship sessions for women and girls in STEM, for young graduates
- Documentation of best practices

WSIS Gender Trendsetters
Launching – 26 November 2021

1. Gather inspiring trail blazers for Gender Equality all around the world, create a community
2. Identify the current ICTs trends on gender issues to promote gender mainstreaming and equality
3. Organize workshops in the WSIS Forum ICTs and Gender Mainstreaming special track
4. Promote the WSIS Forum 50/50 gender balance challenge
5. Promote and encourage stakeholders to join the WSIS gender repository.
6. Advocate for the inclusion of gender issues and gender digital equity in ICT discussions

If you know someone who is capable of fulfilling these 6 objectives, nominate them as ambassadors for gender equality here - https://forms.gle/WnzqX59xXYdF1uqx6

#WomeninSTEM #ChangetheNarrative #GenderEquality #WomeninTech #WomeninICTs

WSIS FORUM 2022

Starting 15 March 2022 with

Final Week: 30 May – 3 June 2022

WSIS Forum 2022 components: Forum Track, High-Level Track, Special Tracks, Hackathon (ICTs and Indigenous Languages), Exhibition Space, WSIS TalkX, etc.

Open Consultation Process

Best Practices

WSIS Prizes

Special Tracks

Partner with us

Open Consultation Process | Best Practices | WSIS Prizes | Special Tracks | Partner with us

The Open Consultation process (OCP) aims at ensuring a participatory and inclusive spirit of the Forum. This process actively engages multistakeholders in the preparatory process to ensure broad ownership and further improvements of the Forum. The Open Consultation Process will include a collection of inputs from regional and national WSIS related events.

The Open Consultation Process for the WSIS Forum 2022 is structured in five phases as follows:

Launch of the OCP
19 August 2021

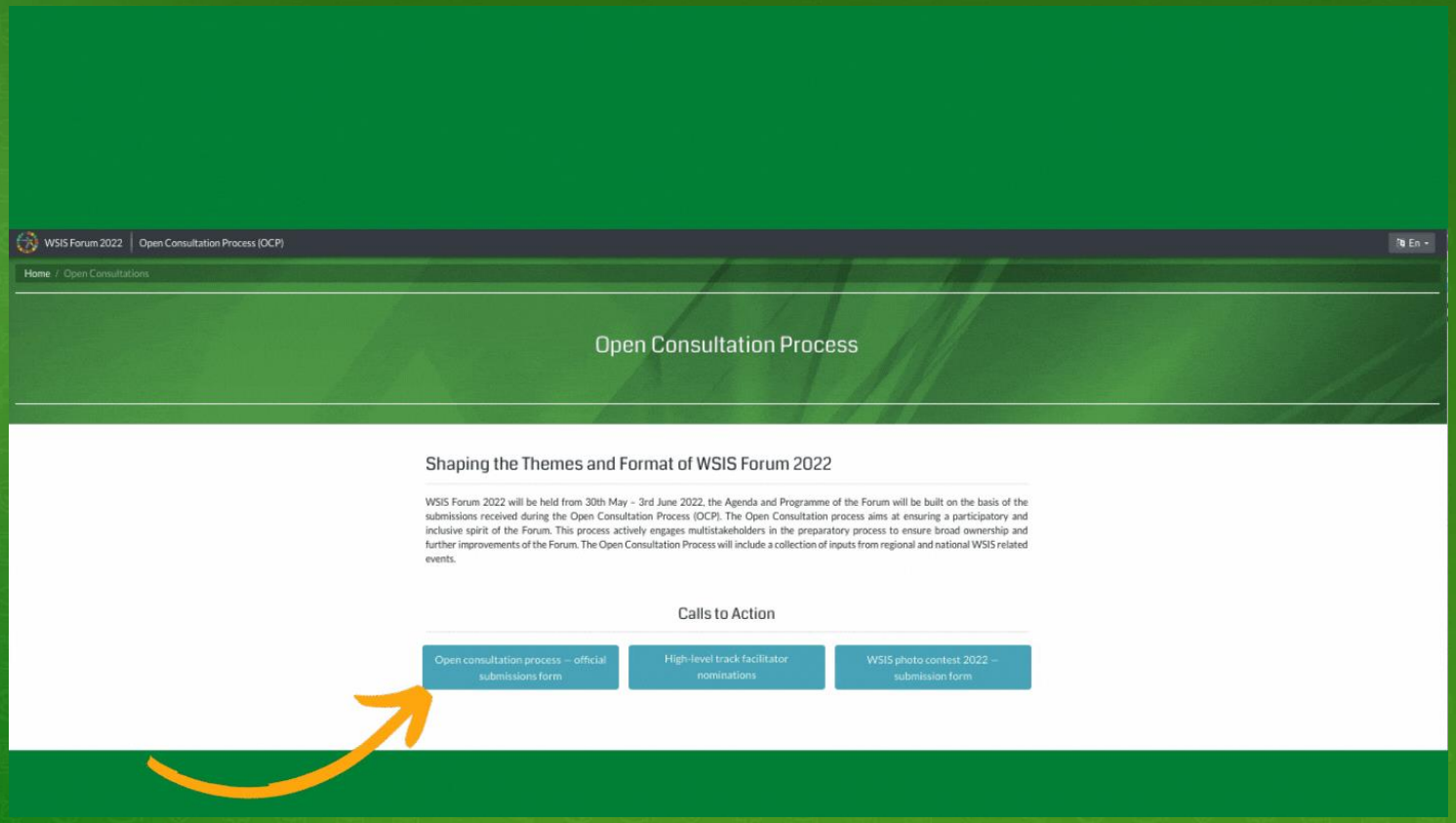
1st Meeting
8 December 2021
13:50-14:50 CEST
Katowice, Poland (during IGF 2021)

2nd Meeting
31 January 2022
14:00-15:00 CET

Deadline for Submissions
7 March 2022

3rd Meeting
2 May 2022
14:00-15:00 CEST

Open Consultation Process | Best Practices | WSIS Prizes | Special Tracks | Partner with us



Official submissions to the WSIS Secretariat on the Thematic Aspects and Innovations on the Format

1) Login with your existing account or Sign up as a new user
2) Fill out the OCP Form

www.wsis.org/forum

Deadline: 7 March 2022

Open Call WSIS Forum 2022: High-Level Track Facilitators

- Open Call for Major Stakeholder Coordination Mechanisms following the WSIS Process to Identify and Nominate High-Level Track Facilitators (HLTF) for the WSIS Forum 2022.
- The main task of the HLTF is to capture the vision, Identify emerging trends, opportunities and challenges shared by the leaders of their session.
- The High-Level Policy Sessions will be moderated by the High-Level Track Facilitators nominated and identified by each stakeholder type i.e Government, Private Sector, Civil Society, Technical/ Academic community and International Organization.
- Each stakeholder type is invited to launch an Open Call to identify HLTF to represent their respective communities.

Nominations should be submitted to the WSIS Secretariat at wsis-info@itu.int by 7 March 2022

WSIS PRIZES 2022

New Call for Submission - 2022

Submit your ICTs projects to the most globally recognised ICT for Development international annual award.

FIVE PHASES OF THE CONTEST

- The first phase: Submission phase
  1 September 2021 – 21 January 2022 (Deadline for last submission: 23:00 Geneva time)
- The second phase: Nomination Phase. Revision of submitted projects that will result with a list of 360 nominated projects, twenty (20) projects per Action Line Category (18) 1 February – 25 February 2022 (twenty projects per each category will be nominated)
- The third phase: Public online voting (identification of five projects per category with the highest number of votes)
  1 March – 31 March 2022 (Deadline for casting last vote: 23:00 Geneva time)
- The fourth phase: Selection of winning projects by the ITU Expert Group that will result with a list of winning projects
  1 April – 15 April 2022
- The fifth phase: Announcement of winners to the public during WSIS Prize 2022 Ceremony at WSIS Forum 2022, and the release of publication "WSIS Stocktaking: Success Stories 2022", which is a compilation of extended descriptions of the 18 winning projects and 72 champion projects.

Deadline: 21 January 2022

www.wsis.org/prizes

Open Consultation Process | Best Practices | WSIS Prizes | Special Tracks | Partner with us

WSIS Stocktaking: 2021-2022 Call for Update and New Entries

Publicly accessible WSIS Stocktaking database www.wsis.org/stocktaking currently with 13,000+ submitted projects and initiatives from 350,000+ registered stakeholders has been vigilant and started collecting projects and activities on how ICTs are assisting stakeholders in their everyday life, work, and combating challenges caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

UN General Assembly called for a close alignment between the WSIS process and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: WSIS Stocktaking is highlighting the contribution of 11 WSIS Action Lines to the achievement 17 SDGs;

ECOSOC resolution 2019/24 reiterates the importance of sharing best practices at the global level, and encourages all stakeholders to submit ICT-related projects and initiatives to the WSIS Stocktaking platform.

NEW Call for Submission:
www.wsis.org/stocktaking

WSIS Forum 2022 Photo Contest: Call for New Entries

Following the successful of previous Photo Contests editions, WSIS Forum continues to exercise the Photo Contest in 2022 and invites the community to picture how Information and Communication Technologies are playing an enabling role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Participate in building a collage of ICT for Sustainable Development photographs from around the world by promoting the Photo Contest within your networks and communities.

The three winning entries in the WSIS photo contest will be awarded and presented at the WSIS Forum 2022.

Deadline: 7 March 2022

Reminder of Open Calls

WSIS Prizes 2022

Submit your outstanding project that leverage the power of ICTs

Deadline:
21 January 2022

Open Consultation Process

Request workshops/exhibition space/speakers and provide inputs on the format and themes

Deadline:
7 March 2022

WSIS Photo Contest 2022

Submit your photo that shows how ICTs are playing an enabling role in achieving the SDGs

Deadline:
7 March 2022

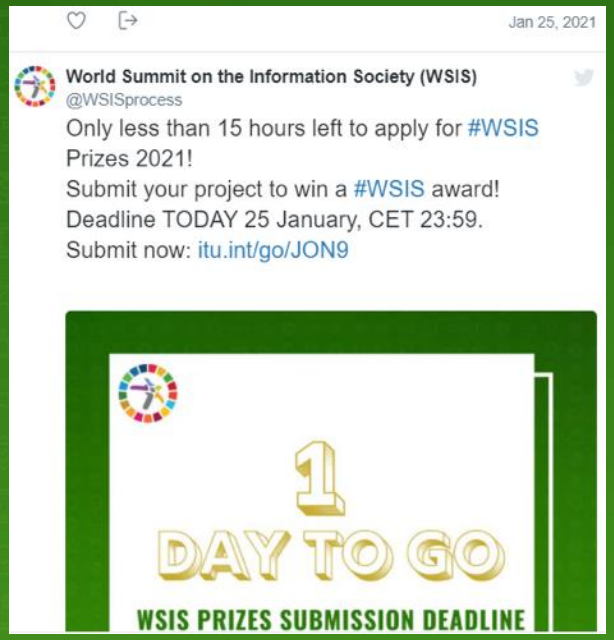
High-Level Track Facilitators (HLTF)

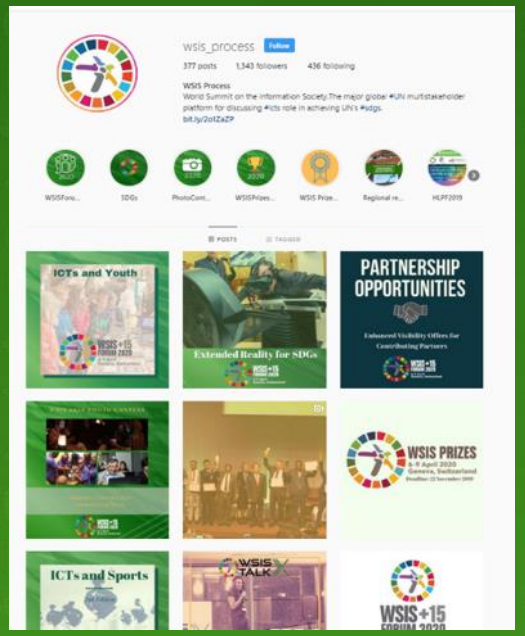
Nominate your representative for the HLTF

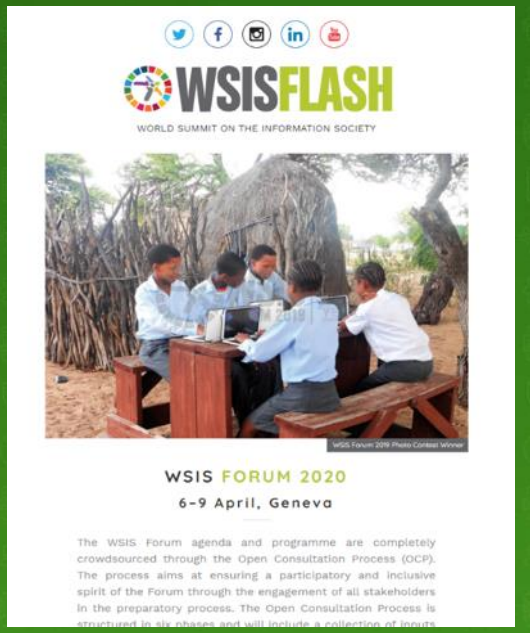
Deadline:
7 March 2022

Social Media channels

Follow **#WSIS** and stay up to date with our latest news across our different social media channels







THANK YOU

www.wsis.org
www.wsis.org/sdg
www.wsis.org/forum
www.wsis.org/prizes
www.wsis.org/stocktaking
www.wsis.org/review

wsis-info@itu.int