WSIS Forum Healthy Ageing Innovation Prize 2023

Call for Submissions

Dear Sir/Madam,

On the occasion of the International Day of Older Persons (1 October), the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum 2023, the International Telecommunication Union, the Global Coalition on Aging (GCOA), and other stakeholders are pleased to invite the WSIS multistakeholder community, governments, civil society, private sector, international organizations, academia and others to submit ICT projects and initiatives to the third edition of WSIS Forum Healthy Ageing Innovation Prize.

Given the identification and release of the UN/WHO Decade of Healthy Ageing’s Action Areas, we continue to encourage innovators from all sectors to connect their submissions to this seminal global effort. Specifically, this year, we ask the candidates to connect their submissions to the category of Healthy Ageing – disease prevention and management, ongoing care of older people, and enhancing freedom and independence through mobility, access and continuing to work and be active.

The Prize addresses two global megatrends: the emergence of digital technologies and ageing populations, both of which are already bringing about important socio-economic changes worldwide. The Prize aims to promote digital ventures within the Silver Economy and support possibilities for economic, social and political growth from increased digital inclusion and age-friendly digital environments. It celebrates digital solutions that can leverage the contributions of older generations, reduce their age-related vulnerability and foster their socio-economic development to achieve healthier and wealthier inclusive societies (source: ITU Report: Ageing in a Digital World – from Vulnerable to Valuable).

The Prize will be awarded to the most innovative and impactful technology that enables healthier and more active ageing, consistent with the goals and principles of The UN Decade of Healthy Ageing, and will be presented as part of the WSIS Forum 2023 Special Track on ICTs and Older Persons. ICT projects are to be submitted on the dedicated WSIS Stocktaking webpage by the deadline of 20 January 2023. Please refer to Annex 1 for a detailed description of the contest phases, and Annex 2 to read about the Rules and Guidelines of the contest.

An Expert Panel will decide on 10 finalists, and they will be announced on 1 February 2023. The Finalists will be judged during special WSIS & SDG TalkX session on 10 February 2023, and a Winner will be announced during the WSIS Forum 2023 (13-17 March).

There will be a financial award for all Finalists and for the Winner and, once selected, the Winner and Finalists will be promoted during the WSIS Forum 2023 and will also be brought in front of GCOA’s community and cross-sector Fortune 100 members (including technology, biopharmaceuticals, financial services, elder home care, transportation, and others). Submissions will also be considered for the renowned WSIS Prize.

Sincerely,

Malcolm Johnson
Deputy Secretary-General
International Telecommunication Union

Michael W. Hodin
CEO
Global Coalition on Aging
Annex 1

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FOUR PHASES OF THE CONTEST

1. The first phase: Submission phase launched on the occasion of the International Day of Older Persons 1 October 2022 – 20 January 2023 (Deadline for last submission: 23:00 Geneva time)

2. The second phase: Selection Phase: Review of submitted projects that will result with ten finalists. Selection will be determined by an Expert Panel and announced to the public 23 January 2023 – 1 February 2023 (ten projects will be selected and notified)

3. The third phase: Pitching of Finalists’ ICT solutions to the public during the special WSIS & SDG TalkX session 10 February 2023 (Presentation of the Finalists)

4. The fourth phase: Announcement of the winner to the public during the WSIS Forum 2023 high-level week 13-17 March 2023 (Announcement of the Winner)

THE FIRST PHASE: Submission Phase

On the occasion of the International Day of Older Persons (1 October), phase one will open the call for submissions to the contest of the WSIS Forum Healthy Ageing Innovation Prize 2023. During the period from 1 October 2022 until 20 January 2023, all stakeholders are invited to submit related projects to the contest. In order to process the submission, stakeholders are requested to complete the submission form online.

The contest is open to all stakeholders, entities representing governments, members of the private sector, international and regional institutions, civil society, and academia. No more than one project from the same entity is allowed to be submitted. Stakeholders are invited to consult the rules for project submission and nomination criteria at the https://www.itu.int/go/HealthyAgeing. All WSIS Stakeholders are encouraged to submit ICT projects that they believe should be recognized and promoted, even if they do not hold ownership, however, owners and operators must be identified and consulted.

THE SECOND PHASE: Selection Phase. Review of Submitted Projects by the Expert Panel

During phase two, the projects will be reviewed based on the rules for project submission and nomination criteria. During this phase the Expert Panel will make in-depth analyses of the submitted projects, selecting ten finalists. Decisions of the Expert Panel are final and without appeal. Focal points of the finalist projects will be contacted immediately after their selection. Finalists will be announced to the public.

THE THIRD PHASE: Announcement of Ten Finalists

Following the Selection phase, the announcement of the Finalists to the public will be done during the special WSIS & SDG TalkX session on 10 February 2023. The Finalists will be invited to publicly present their solutions/products/services/platform to the Expert Panel for their final decision on the Winner.

THE FOURTH PHASE: Public Announcement of the Winner during Special Ceremony at WSIS Forum 2022

The Winner will be announced officially at the Prize Ceremony, which will be held during the High-Level week of the WSIS Forum 2023.
SUBMISSION PHASE CRITERIA

1. All projects must be submitted through the online questionnaire.
2. All projects must be current and verifiable through direct contacts with Ownership.
3. The same project may not be submitted twice.
4. All details requested in the questionnaire should be completed strictly respecting the type of stakeholder and the structure of the submission template. The incomplete submissions will not be accepted. Minimum number of words requested should be respected as requested in questionnaire.
5. All projects submitted to this competition should cover work that is completed.
6. The Short Description of the project will require minimum 200 words and maximum 250 words and this will be crucial information presented to the Expert Panel. Be advised to structure the Short Description of the project to reflect relevant, clear, and attractive information to voters, highlighting ICT component and impact.
7. Besides short description of the project, including date of activation, and established reach, the Submission Form will also request the following information in separate boxes:
   - What specific need(s) of the 60+ population does this project address and how will this project add benefit to the population, in particular to:
     - disease prevention and management,
     - ongoing care of older people, and
     - enhancing freedom and independence through mobility, access and/or work.
   - Which of the UN/WHO Decade of Healthy Ageing Action Area most closely relates to your submission – how does your product/service/platform contribute to supporting this Action Area?
   - How does this project involve the ideas and collaboration of the 60+ population?
   - How does this project relate to the overall goals of healthy ageing?
   - How does this project demonstrate/illustrate a cross-sectoral approach to your goal?
   - Describe qualitative and quantitative economic, social, and environmental impact of the project.
   - Highlight the project’s partnership activities, if applicable.
   - How does this project support the growth of the Silver Economy?
8. List main challenges and project’s future perspectives. Additional information will be required.
9. Which WSIS Action Lines is this project linked to?
10. Which SDGs is this project linked to?
11. The project submission deadline should be strictly respected. Late submissions will not be accepted.
12. Projects should be submitted in English only.

SELECTION PHASE CRITERIA

1. The submission should comply with rules for project submission. The requested information in the template should respond to all questions and provide detailed information on the goals, timeframe, project’s added value and importance, results, and challenges. Minimum number of words requested should be respected as requested in the questionnaire.
2. The project description should clearly demonstrate the following:
   - the results achieved and impact generated
   - involvement of 60+ population within levels of the project
   - ability of the project model to be replicated
   - sustainability of project
   - partnership development