



## **Session Outcome Document**

### **Harnessing Innovation and Balancing Risks and Opportunities in the Digital Space: Country Insight - Georgia's Experience**

**Georgian National Communications Commission (ComCom)**

**8 July, 2025 09:00–09:45 (UTC+02:00)**

**<https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2025/en/Agenda/Session/371>**

#### **Key Issues discussed: Looking Beyond 2025**

- Georgia presented its national vision to become a digital hub bridging Europe and Asia, driven by strategic reforms, connectivity initiatives, and regional cooperation;
- The session spotlighted Log-in Georgia, a large-scale broadband connectivity and digital inclusion project supported by the World Bank and European Investment Bank, aiming to bring high-speed internet and digital skills to rural and remote areas.
- The session underscored ComCom's dual responsibility — as a regulator enabling open, high-quality internet access across Georgia, and as a national driver of media and digital literacy. Special emphasis was placed on outreach to underserved communities through the Digital Adoption Programme, equipping citizens with the skills to safely and meaningfully engage in the digital space.

#### **Session Highlights:**

- Deputy Permanent Representative of Georgia to the UN Office in Geneva, Mr. Irakli Zhghenti, opened the session with remarks on Georgia's strategic choice to prioritize digital transformation as the engine of national and regional development.
- OpenNet Director Mariam Sulaberidze introduced the Log-in Georgia project, partnered by the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development and ComCom - highlighting how infrastructure development, participation, and inclusion come together to deliver meaningful digital connectivity.
- ComCom Commissioner Ekaterine Imedadze presented Georgia's vision of becoming a regional digital hub connecting Europe and Asia, emphasizing strategic reforms, secure infrastructure, and values-based regulation.
- World Bank Digital Development Specialist Goran Vranić emphasized the importance of strategic planning and institutional collaboration, commending Georgia's multi-stakeholder approach as a replicable success model.



- Session was moderated by Ms. Nino Grdzlishvili – Head of International Relations Office at ComCom. Georgia’s multi-stakeholder collaboration model was recognized as a key factor in the success of its digital transformation — bringing together government agencies, regulator, local communities, and international partners.
- Panelists explored lessons learned from implementing infrastructure in difficult terrain and highlighted the importance of institutional cooperation, proper planning, and community engagement for sustainable success.

### **Tangible Outcomes of the session**

- Increased visibility of Georgia’s strategic positioning as an emerging digital a digital hub bridging Europe and Asia, driven by strategic reforms, connectivity initiatives, and regional cooperation;
- Recognition of Log-in Georgia as a best-practice model combining infrastructure rollout with digital skills and rural engagement, understanding of Log-in Georgia as a replicable model that combines broadband rollout with digital literacy to reduce inequality and foster inclusive development.
- Raised awareness among partners and peers of the benefits of combining strategic infrastructure with long-term human capacity development.

### **Key Recommendations and Forward-Looking Action Plan for the WSIS+20 Review and Beyond**

- Encourage donors and international partners to prioritize inclusive digital transformation — infrastructure expansion is tied to education, youth engagement, and rural development goals;
- Support emerging digital hubs - such as Georgia — through international visibility, capacity-building, and cross-border cooperation.
- Encourage replication of projects and programs Log-in Georgia that combine infrastructure rollout with digital literacy and engagement in rural communities. WSIS+20 should support models that go beyond infrastructure and address socioeconomic barriers to adoption.