COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD)

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Submissions from entities in the United Nations system and elsewhere on their efforts in 2017 to implement the outcome of the WSIS

Submission by

World Bank Group

This submission was prepared as an input to the report of the UN Secretary-General on "Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels" (to the 21st session of the CSTD), in response to the request by the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2006/46, to the UN Secretary-General to inform the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS as part of his annual reporting to the Commission.

Response to UNCTAD CSTD Questionnaire: Implementation of the WSIS Action Plan

Dear Shamika Shirimanne,

We acknowledge receipt of the letter addressed to Mr Jim Yong Kim, dated 2 November 2017, requesting inputs to the CSTD in monitoring the follow-up of implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS). We affirm the continued support and commitment of the World Bank Group (WBG) to the achievement of the WSIS principles and the implementation of the WSIS Action Plan. We have consulted with our colleagues in the ICT unit and LEG and below please find the WBG submission to your request.

We note that the request for information is addressed to action line facilitators. The WBG has not been nominated as an action line facilitator for any of the action lines, nor are we co-facilitators. For that reason, **it would not be appropriate to respond to the questionnaire**, as that would imply usurping the role of the nominated facilitators. Nevertheless, we are pleased to provide the following inputs and background papers which may assist the action line facilitators in developing their own reports. We should emphasize that the work of the World Bank Group is complex in scale and breadth, and therefore it is likely that we may have missed many important activities in providing this summary. More information can be found in the annual reports of the WBG. Nevertheless, we hope that this will prove useful.

World Development Report 2016: Digital Dividends

The main analytical contribution of the WBG to the achievement of the WSIS action lines in the 2016 World Development Report (WDR), on the theme of Digital Dividends. The report is also accompanied by a large number of background papers. The report is of particular significance to action lines C1, C2, C6 and C7. In March 2017, a regional follow up report was published on reaping digital dividends in Europe and Central Asia.

We would also inform you ton: (i) this year's WBG report: Trouble in the Making. The future of manufacturing led development; and (ii) the upcoming 2019 WDR, on the theme of "Work", for which the consultation and drafting process is currently underway. The both these reports are of particular relevance to action lines C4 and C7 – eLearning and eEmployment.

Digital Development Partnership

In order to implement the recommendations of the WDR16, the Bank has partnered with a number of other stakeholders (including the Governments of Finland, Japan and the Republic of Korea; GSMA and Microsoft) to form the Digital Development Partnership (DDP), created in late 2016. The multistakeholder nature of the DDP is aligned with action line C1. The first annual report of the DDP will be published in December 2017, and contains a wealth of information of WSIS-related activities. The table below provides a non-exhaustive indication of the alignment between DDP activities and WSIS action lines:

DDP activity / Pillar	Corresponding WSIS action line(s)
1. Data and Indicators, including "Doing Business Digitally" and "IC4D2018: Data Driven Development	Partnership for Measuring the Information Society C11 – International Co-operation

2. Digital Economy Enabling Environment, including "Toolbox for the Digital Economy"	C6 – enabling environment
3. Cybersecurity, including "Cybersecurity Maturity Model Assessments" and "Capacity-building for policy makers	C4 – capacity building C5 – Global culture of cybersecurity
4. Internet for all, including "Innovative business models for closing the access gap"	C2 – Infrastructure
5. Digital Government, including "WDR16 MOOC" and "Digital Government Assessment Framework" to be tested in select countries based on strong counterpart's demand.	C3-Access to information and knowledge C4 – capacity building C6- enabling environment C7 eGovernment
6. Mainstreaming digital services, applications and platforms, including "Big Data Analytics"	C3 – Access to information and knowledge C7 (all)

Contributions to individual action lines

In addition to the above, the regular work of the World Bank Group in investment lending and technical assistance contributes to the achievement of a number of different action lines. During 2017, we would specifically highlight the following activities:

Action Line C2: Information and Communication Infrastructure:

- In Comoros, the RCIP-4 program financed construction of a new undersea cable, connecting Comoros with Mayotte and Madagascar
- In Somalia, the ICT sector support program helped finance a 50km government backbone network, serving 26 Ministries in Mogadishu, as well as provision of international connectivity for 14 Somali Universities
- In Tanzania, the RCIP-3 program, which closed in 2017, had bought mobile connectivity for the first time to some 2.5 m people, through its focus on extending mobile connectivity in rural areas.
- A series of regional investment programs has been launched in the Central Asia South Asia (CASA) region, with Afghanistan and the Kyrgyz Republic amongst the first to benefit. Digital CASA will improve interconnectivity within the region.
- In Nicaragua, the CARCIP-Nicaragua project was launched. The project will provide connectivity for at least 44 locations in the Nicaragua's Caribbean coast, an area with one of the lowest internet penetration rates and one of the highest poverty rates in Latin America and the Caribbean.

- The World Bank assisted the Government of Mexico City (CDMX) in designing a connectivity plan to create a government connectivity network by leveraging existing infrastructures, taking advantage of the right-of-way of Metro lines, Light Rail, Data Center facilities and back-light, through a public-private partnership.
- Through the ongoing Pacific Region Connectivity Project the World Bank (with co-financiers) has financed the supply and installation of new submarine cables for the Federated States of Micronesia (Yap, Chuuk states), Samoa, Fiji (Vanua Levu), and approved financing for the new East Micronesia Cable (EMC) to connect FSM (Pohnpei, Kosrae) with Nauru and Kiribati

(Tarawa). A connectivity project for Tuvalu is also under preparation. This program aims to bring more reliable and affordable internet to some of the world's remotest communities.

Action Line C3: Access to Information

- In Mauritius, a WB program of technical assistance, including an open data readiness assessment, led to the launch of the Open data portal at: od.govmu.org/dkan with 21 live datasets published so far
- The World Bank is assisting the government of Burkina Faso connect its public administration via a private government cloud linking to a shared data center operating the large government management information systems and shared services with a focus on access to information for farmers and a mobile based market place "eMondeRural"
- Similar activities are underway in a number of Caribbean islands, and in Serbia

Action Lines C4: Capacity-building

- With the support of the Government of Israel, a week of capacity building on cybersecurity has been offered to representatives from developing countries in January 2017. The course will be repeated in 2018.
- With the support of SIDA and ID4D we have supported three major workshops in East Africa on the topic of national identity for cross border services, towards implementation of the EAC Common Market protocol aiming at regional integration and access to cross-border services (health, education, trade and logistic). The World Bank's ID4D program has also supported a large group of clients participate in the annual ID4Africa workshops since 2015.
- In Lebanon, in collaboration with ESCWA, ITU, UNDESA & UNCTAD we delivered a workshop on ICTs and innovation for SDGs for an audience of policy makers from 12 MNA countries.
- In the Pacific we are supporting a regional ICT regulatory capacity development project, managed by the University of the South Pacific.
- The WBG's Open Learning campus, in partnership with the ICT unit and several academic and private sector partners have produced a six weeks MOOC based on the WDR 2016 Digital dividends publication. More than 3600 people are currently enrolled in the course and participating in it from 16 countries.

Action Line C5: Cybersecurity

- With the Support of the Government of Korea, the World Bank, together with the following partners (UNCTAD, UNODC, UNICRI, ITU, Council of Europe, the Global Cybersecurity Capacity Centre at Oxford University (Oxford), the International Association of Penal Law and the Korea Supreme Prosecutors Office) launched the toolkit, "Combatting Cybercrime: Tools and Capacity Building for Emerging Economies" in 2017; available at: www.combattingcybercrime.org .
- With the support of the Government of Korea, the World Bank in collaboration Oxford, conducts Cybersecurity Maturity Models for a number of economies, including Armenia, Bhutan, Kosovo and Montenegro have been undertaken, with a study of Ghana due to start in 2018.
- Focusing on cybersecurity regulations in the financial sector, Bank Staff in the Finance and Markets Global Practice are pulling together a set of notes and reports on the subject.

- The World Bank is collaborating with Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility partners on new analytical work on secure electronic transactions and cybersecurity in the Pacific region; and supported advisory assistance on privacy, data confidentiality and cybersecurity in Timor-Leste .

Action Line C6: Enabling environment

- Under the ICT Sector Support for Somalia program, the World Bank provided assistance to the Federal Government of Somali in passing the Communications Act, which was signed by the President on 2 October 2017. The focus of technical assistance is now on establishing the new ICT regulatory agency, the National Communications Authority.
- In Rwanda, the Bank provided technical assistance to the regulator, RURA, in establishing new benchmarks for mobile termination rates. The new rates, around a quarter of those previously used, came into force on 1 September 2017.
- In Timor-Leste the World Bank supported the development of a new National ICT Policy
- In Indonesia the WB is working with the government on prioritizing enabling policies for digital economy development.

Action Line C7: eGovernment

- Under the Digital Malawi program, approved by the World Bank Board in June 2017, a US$72.4m program of support is planned, including a focus on enhancing government connectivity, and developing a shared digital eGovernment Platform.
- The Bank is promoting eBusiness, in particular through its support for tech hubs in Africa, for the infoDev program on business acceleration (XL Africa), and in the Caribbean through the support of business incubation centers through the Caribbean Regional Communications Infrastructure Program (CARCIP).
- During November – December 2017, the Bank's Open Learning Centre ran a Massively Open Online Course (MOOC), for eLearning, based around the content of the 2016 World Development Report – Digital Dividends -- with more than 3'600 participants from 148 countries.
- In Tanzania, a program of eHealth has been supported under the RCIP program, including telemedicine pilots, and digitization of birth certificates.
- In collaboration with the Rockefeller Foundation, the Bank launched the Digital Jobs Africa initiative, to catalyze new opportunities for eEmployment amongst the continent's young people, including microwork. In Nicaragua, the CARCIP-Nicaragua project launched in February 2017, will develop relevant online courseware aimed at boosting skills related to online outsourcing, freelancing, microwork, and innovation.
- In Mauritius, a program focused on the development of the ocean economy made recommendations on the use of deep ocean water for cooling data centres, an example of eEnvironment initiatives.
- To support eAgriculture, the Bank updated the ICT in Agriculture Sourcebook, an online resource for smallholder farmers.
- eAgriculture is supported through a large component of the recently approved eBurkina project – which also includes basic ICT training for farmers with a focus on women.

- To support the development of <u>eScience</u> applications, the Bank is supporting the connectivity requirements of Research and Education Networks (RENs) in a number of countries, including Gambia, Ghana, Malawi, Mozambique and Somalia.
- In the Philippines the World Bank has provided advisory assistance on key enablers for digital government, and government to citizen service delivery.
- In Indonesia, the World Bank is advising national and selected local governments on leveraging connectivity and digital technologies (e.g. cloud) for improved service delivery.
- In Russia, the Bank supported the design of the new Digital Economy Program and piloted digital economy assessments at federal and subnational levels.
- In Central Asia, World Bank is preparing a comprehensive digital economy investment program Digital CASA and supported development of national digital strategies in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan.
- In Armenia, the Bank provided just-in-time support for the design of Digital Transformation Agenda
- To support the design of the Digital Agenda for Eurasian Economic Union, the Bank conducted research on potential digital dividends from Eurasian integration.
- Digital Identification is an area our clients want to invest in, especially in Africa, for mutual recognition and access to services cross borders. Two large regional projects in West and East Africa respectively are being prepared by cross-sectoral WB team from ICT unit, Social protection, and ID4D - so identification can enable our client countries securely access to digital services while maintaining safe and orderly migration.