



# Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to WSIS outcomes at the regional and international levels

22 January 2021, 13:00-15:00 CET

*CSTD 2020-2021 Inter-sessional Panel on  
“Using science, technology and innovation to close the gap on Sustainable Development Goal 3, on good health and well-being” and “Harnessing blockchain for sustainable development: prospects and challenges”*

# WORLD SUMMIT ON THE INFORMATION SOCIETY



Coordinated by

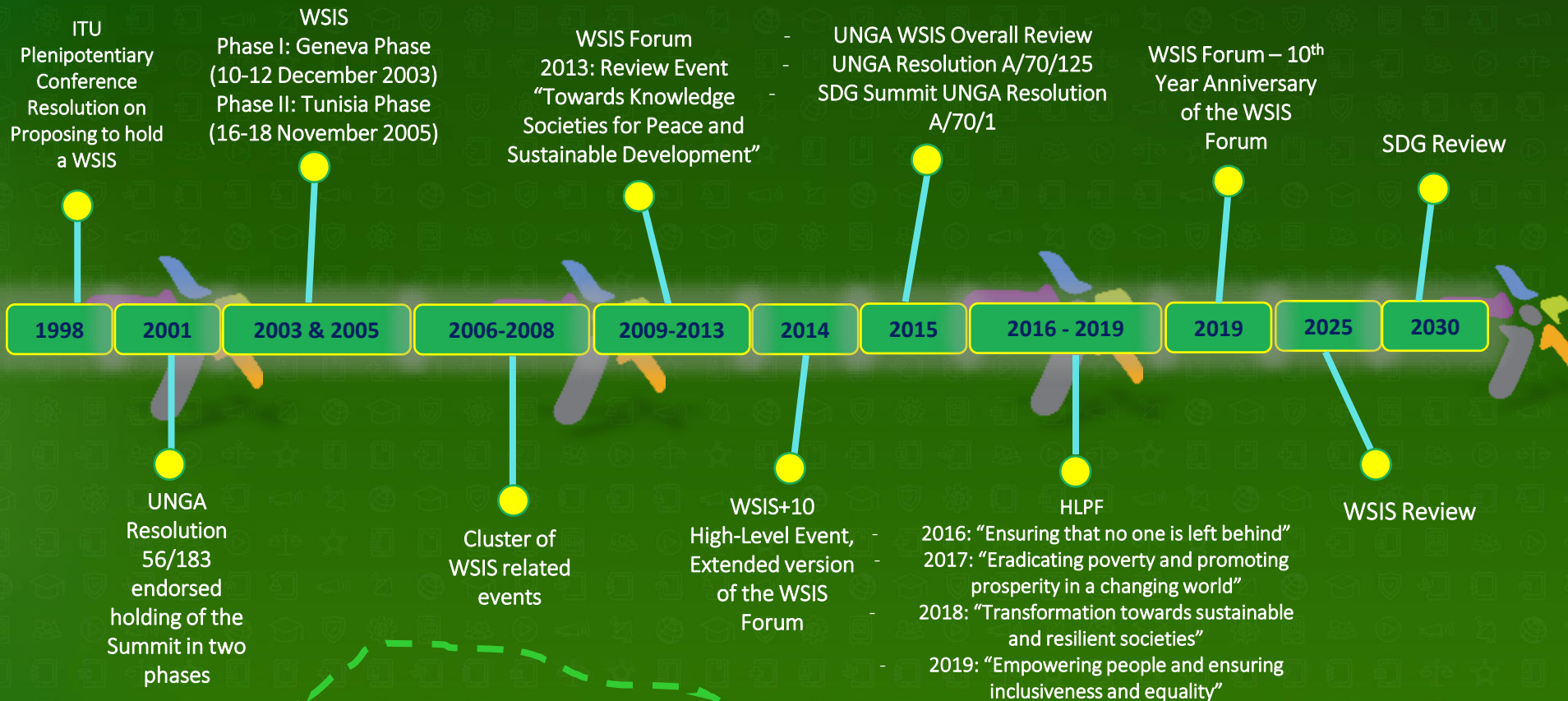


Organized by





# WSIS Process Timeline



 **WSIS FORUM IS HELD EVERY YEAR**

 2017: 12-16 June  
 2018: 21-25 May  
 2019: 8-12 April



# 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 Forum 2020: OUTCOMES

The WSIS Forum 2020 took place virtually for twelve weeks, which started on 22 June 2020 onwards and concluded in a final week from 7 to 10 September 2020 to provide an open and inclusive space for all, harnessing the potential of ICTs and accelerating the achievement of the SDGs through the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines.

Stakeholders worldwide participated with a lot of interest and commitment – with a cumulative attendance of over **15,000** attendees from around **150** countries who took part in about **160** virtual sessions organised by WSIS stakeholders to highlight the role of ICTs in sustainable development.

## Publications and Outcome documents:

1. [WSIS Forum 2020 Outcome Document](#)
2. [WSIS Forum 2020 High Level Track Outcomes and Executive Brief](#)
3. [WSIS Forum 2020: WSIS Action Lines—Contributing towards Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development](#)
4. [WSIS Stocktaking Report 2020](#)
5. [WSIS Stocktaking Success Stories 2020](#)
6. [6 Regional WSIS Stocktaking Reports 2019-2020](#)
7. [WSIS Forum 2020 Photo Contest](#)
8. [WSIS/SDGs Matrix – WSIS Forum 2020 Outcomes Linking WSIS Action Lines with the Sustainable Development Goals](#)
9. [WSIS Stocktaking ICT Case Repository: The Coronavirus Response Special Report](#)



**WSIS+15**  
**FORUM 2020**

Starting on 22 June  
Final Week 7-10 September 2020

# WSIS Forum 2020: Key Figures



**15'000 cumulative attendance**



**About 160 content-rich virtual sessions organized**

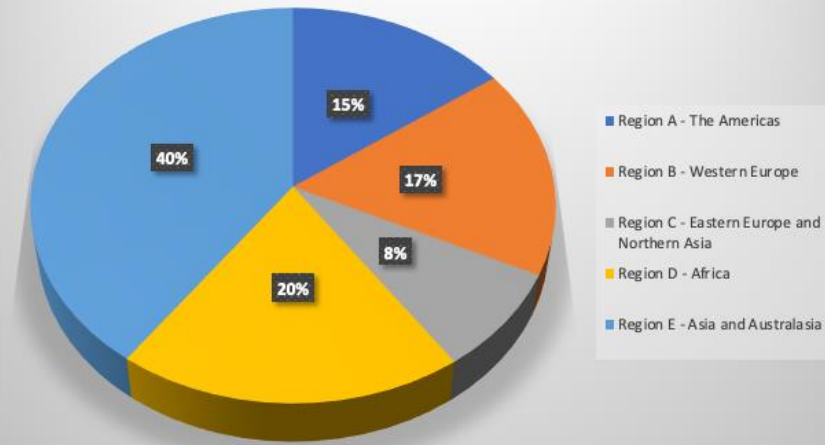


**150 countries engaged**



**770+ high-level representatives participated**

**Regional distribution of the participants to the  
WSIS Forum 2020 [22.06 - 09.09]**

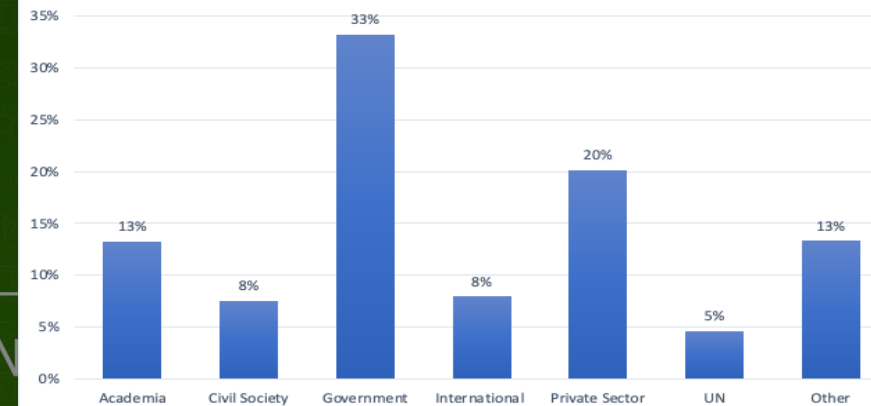


**Gender Participation in the WSIS  
Forum 2020**

**Male(55%)**

**Female (45%)**

**Stakeholder Type distribution of the participants to the  
WSIS Forum 2020 [22.06-09.09]**



# Special Track – WSIS Forum 2020

ICTs and Older Persons (12 sessions)

ICTs and Youth (4 sessions)

ICTs and Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities and Specific Needs (5 sessions)

ICTs and Gender Mainstreaming (8 sessions)

ICTs and Sports (8 sessions)

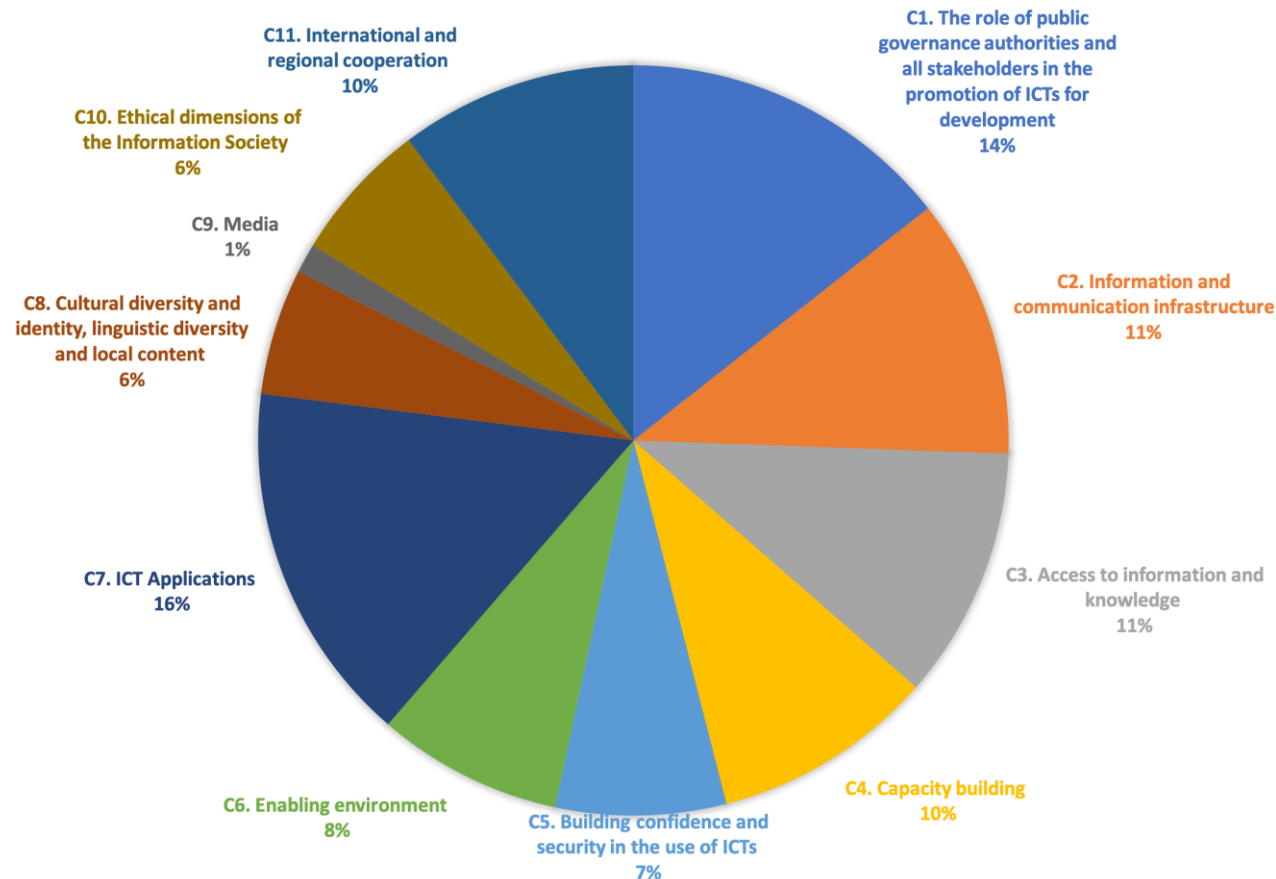


# OUTCOMES

The WSIS Action Lines serve as a key framework for progress on the achievement of SDGs. ITU has been working with all WSIS Stakeholders to strengthen the alignment of the WSIS Process with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The figure shows contribution to the WSIS Action Lines from the thematic workshops content.

VIRTUAL SESSIONS AND WSIS ACTION LINES







# OUTCOMES

## Virtual Sessions and the SDGs



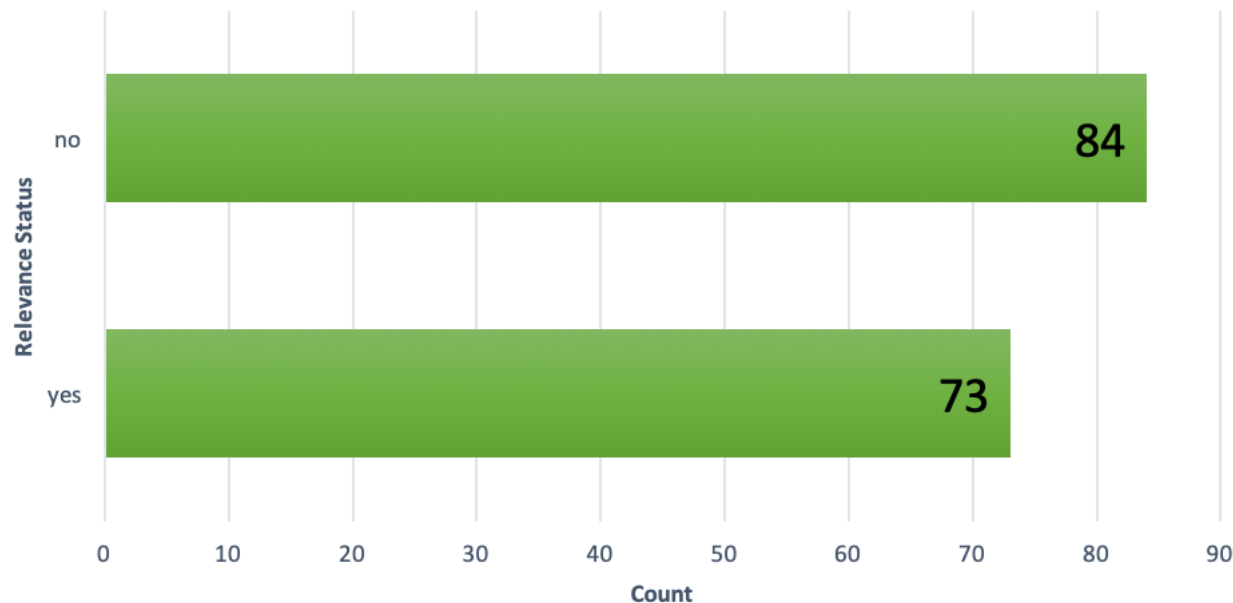
The figure shows contribution to the SDGs from the thematic workshops content.

Overall, workshop organisers highlighted the SDG 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal.



# OUTCOMES

## Virtual Sessions and COVID-19

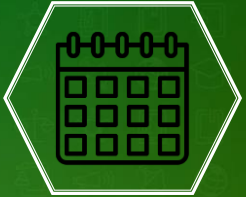


There were 73 sessions that highlighted issues related to the topic of COVID-19.

Many emphasised the importance of ICTs, in particular internet access and connectivity for all during the COVID-19 pandemic.



# HIGH-LEVEL POLICY SESSIONS OUTCOMES



From July 20 to July 29



**11** High-Level Policy Sessions covered a wide range of topics including Bridging digital Divides, ICT Applications and Services, Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs, Enabling Environment, Ethical Dimensions of the Information Society, e-Trade, Capacity building, e-Learning and Gender Mainstreaming and ICTs.



**85** High-Level speakers representing Ministers, Heads of Regulatory Authorities, Private Sector, Civil Society, Academia and International Organizations.



**> 1500** participants from more than 100 countries



# UNITED NATIONS GROUP ON THE INFORMATION SOCIETY (UNGIS)



## Digital Transformation Repository

The repository of projects by UNGIS members on digital transformation will be used as a reference guide and repository for UN Agencies on different implemented initiatives/activities showing the direct impact of the WSIS Action Lines on SDGs. (<https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/ungis/Repository>)

## Dialogue on the Role of Digitalization in the Decade of Action

Accelerating the achievement of the SDGs through better collaboration in the UN System  
(<https://unctad.org/topic/e-commerce-and-digital-economy/ungis-dialogue>)

## UNGIS Side Event at HLPF 2020

Information and Communication Technologies and Digital Transformation for Building Back Better and Accelerating SDG Achievement “Implementation of the WSIS Action Lines in Covid-19 Response and SDG Decade of Action”

15 July 16:00-17:00 CEST

[www.ungis.org](http://www.ungis.org)



# UN WSIS Regional Commissions activities



- Tuesday, 11 August 2020, 09:00-10:30: WSIS Regional Review Asia-Pacific (UN ESCAP) <https://www.unescap.org/events/fourth-session-asia-pacific-information-superhighway-ap-steering-committee-and-wsis-regional>
- Tuesday, 11 August 2020, 13:00-14:00 CEST: WSIS Arab Regional Meeting: Towards a Digital Decade of Action - through Digital Cooperation and Development - in the Arab Region (WSIS, United Nations-Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA), and ITU Arab Office.) <https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2020/Agenda/Session/283>
- Monday, 17 August 2020, 14:00-15:00 CEST: WSIS Americas Regional Meeting: Challenges of digitization and its importance for the reinvention of the economy and society (ECLAC/ITU) <https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2020/Agenda/Session/309>
- Monday, 31 August 2020, 12:00-13:00 CEST: WSIS Implementation in Africa: COVID-19: A Catalyst to Achieving WSIS Outcomes (UNECA/African Union Commission/ITU) <https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2020/Agenda/Session/351>
- Wednesday, 9 September 2020, 12:00-13:00 CEST: WSIS UN Regional Commissions Meeting Round Table (UNRegional representatives only) <https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2020/Agenda/Session/367>



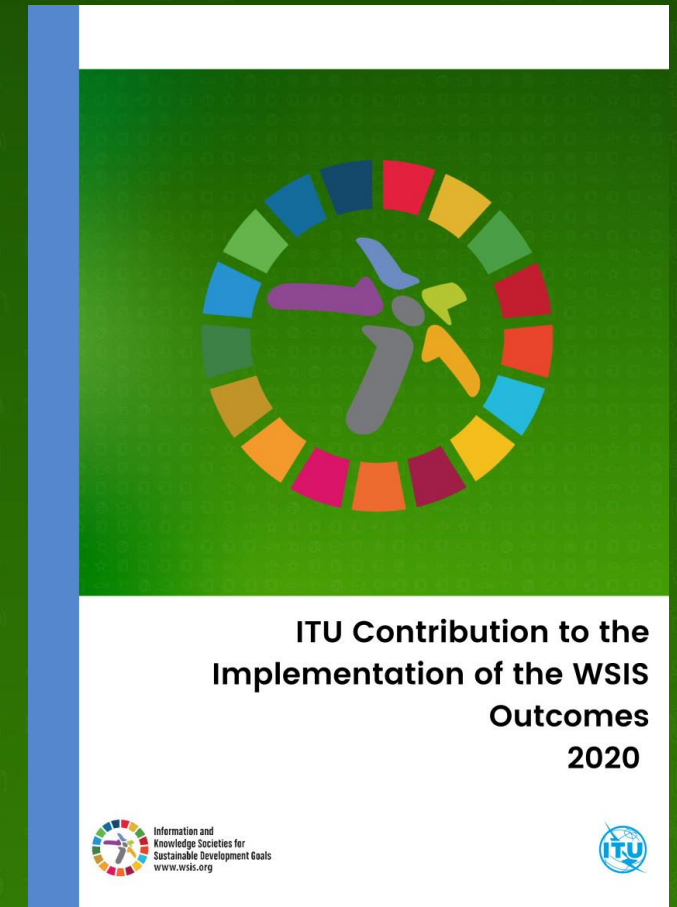


# ITU Report on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes 2020



- A comprehensive report on the ITU activities in context of WSIS carried out by the Union in 2020. The Report provides detailed information on the key WSIS related initiatives and activities carried out by the three sectors of the Union (Standardization, Radiocommunication and the Development Sector) and the General Secretariat. The Report provides updates on the tasks carried out by the ITU at the operational and policy level, covering all assigned mandates with reference to the WSIS Process.
- A draft zero report is available and will be submitted to the CSTD Secretariat.

<https://www.itu.int/en/itu-wsis/Pages/Contribution.aspx>





# ITU WSIS ACTION LINE ROADMAPS



- ITU WSIS Action Line Roadmaps for C2, C5 and C6 are detailed plans to guide progress towards achieving the WSIS Implementation goals. They provide a broad vision and detailed overview of the activities planned within the mandate of the Union also showing clear linkages with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- WSIS Action Line Roadmaps is a living document that will be updated regularly in an ongoing process. It provides a broad vision and detailed overview of the activities planned within the mandate of the Union also to guide progress towards achieving the WSIS Implementation goals.

<https://www.itu.int/en/itu-wsis/Pages/Roadmaps.aspx>



# WSIS ACTIVITIES RELATED TO COVID-19 RESPONSE



## 1. WSIS TalkX

In April 2020, at the request of WSIS stakeholders, the WSIS Team hosted regular weekly virtual WSIS TalkX for the WSIS Stakeholders to interact, connect and collaborate. The virtual WSIS TalkX sessions explore an aspect of the global response to COVID-19, providing WSIS Stakeholders with a platform to create partnerships for on-the-ground action. The sessions have been adapted to podcasts and are available to listen and download at [WSIS TalkX Podcast](#).

## 2. The Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response – ICT Case Repository

As part of the WSIS Stocktaking ongoing efforts to promote the good use of ICTs in making social impact, and in order to provide useful, replicable and actionable information to all WSIS community and beyond, the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response – ICT Case Repository was initiated for collecting projects and activities on how ICTs are assisting stakeholders in their everyday life, work, and combating challenges caused by this extraordinary pandemic. The Coronavirus Response is now available here: <http://www.itu.int/go/wsis2020outcomes>

## 3. Workshops at WSIS Forum 2020

More than 70 workshops organised by various stakeholders highlighted issues and efforts related to the topic of COVID-19 at the WSIS Forum 2020. Many emphasised the importance of ICTs, in particular internet access and connectivity for all during the COVID-19 pandemic.



# WSIS FORUM 2021

Starting from January and  
concluding in the Final Week  
17-21 May 2021

WSIS Forum 2021 components: Forum Track, High-Level Track, Special Tracks, Hackathon, 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 2021 is structured in five phases as follows:

Launch of the OCP  
9 September 2020

1<sup>st</sup> Virtual Meeting  
6 November 2020 – 09:10-10:10 CEST  
(during IGF 2020)

2<sup>nd</sup> Virtual Meeting  
1 February 2021, 14:00-15:00 CET

Deadline for Submissions  
8 March 2021

Final Brief  
19 April 2021

Open Consultation  
Process

Best Practices

WSIS Prizes

Special Tracks

Partner with us

## Open Call WSIS Forum 2021: 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 2021.
- 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 Policy Sessions will be moderated by 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](mailto:wsis-info@itu.int) by 8 March 2021

### High-Level Track Facilitators



**Ms. Supavadee Aramvith**  
Associate Professor,  
Department of  
Electrical  
Engineering  
Chulalongkorn  
University



**Mr. Mina Hanna**  
Vice Chair  
Institute of  
Electrical and  
Electronic  
Engineers



**Ms. Merle Maigre**  
Executive Vice  
President  
CybExer  
Technologies



**Mr. Giacomo Mazzone**  
Head of  
Institutional  
Relations and  
Member Relations  
South  
European  
Broadcasting Union



**Mr. Babusi Nyoni**  
Chief Executive  
Officer  
Sila Health



**Dr. Abdulkarim Oloyede**  
Senior Lecturer,  
Department of  
Telecommunication  
Sciences  
University of Ilorin



**Dr. Gurvirender Tejay**  
Associate Professor  
of Information  
Systems  
College of Business  
University of  
Colorado



**Mr. David Wright**  
Director  
UK Safer Internet  
Center



**Ms. Timea Suto**  
Knowledge  
Manager  
International  
Chamber of  
Commerce



**Mr. Juan Peirano**  
Senior Policy  
Advisor, Global  
Policy Development  
Internet Society



**Ms. Denisse Salas**  
IT Consultant,  
Master Scrum  
Swiss Engineering  
Geneva



# WSIS PRIZES

## New Call for Submission - 2021

Submit your ICT Projects to the Most Globally Recognized ICT for Development International Annual Awards.

Deadline for Submissions: **25 January 2021**

Entities: Government, Private Sector, Civil Society, Academia, Technical Communities, International Organizations, and Others

Information and Communication Technologies  
achieving Sustainable Development Goals

[www.wsis.org/prizes](http://www.wsis.org/prizes)





# WSIS Prizes 2021: Calls for Submiss

## FIVE PHASES OF THE CONTEST

The first phase: Submission phase

5 November 2020 – 25 January 2021 (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 – 26 February 2021 (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 2021 (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 – 12 April 2021

The fifth phase: Announcement of winners to the public during WSIS Prize 2021 Ceremony at WSIS Forum 2021, and the release of publication “WSIS Stocktaking: Success Stories 2021”, which is a compilation of extended descriptions of the 18 winning projects and 72 champion projects.

[www.wsis.org/prizes](http://www.wsis.org/prizes)





# WSIS Stocktaking

Your Opportunity to Search, Submit, Promote  
Your ICT Projects and Databases

Call for Update and New Entries: WSIS Stocktaking 2021

Submitted activities will be reflected in the **WSIS Stocktaking Report 2021**, which will be released at the WSIS Forum 2021.

**Deadline: 25 January 2021**

Database reached 12.000+ entries and a growing  
community of 350,000 stakeholders.

[www.wsis.org/stocktaking](http://www.wsis.org/stocktaking)





# WSIS Stocktaking Publications

Nine annual publications:

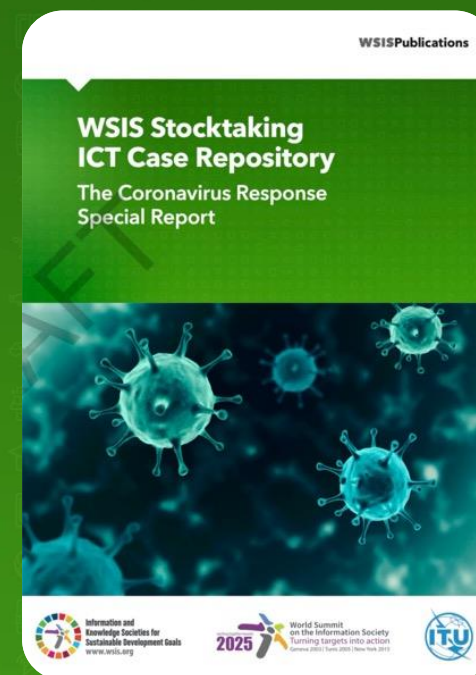
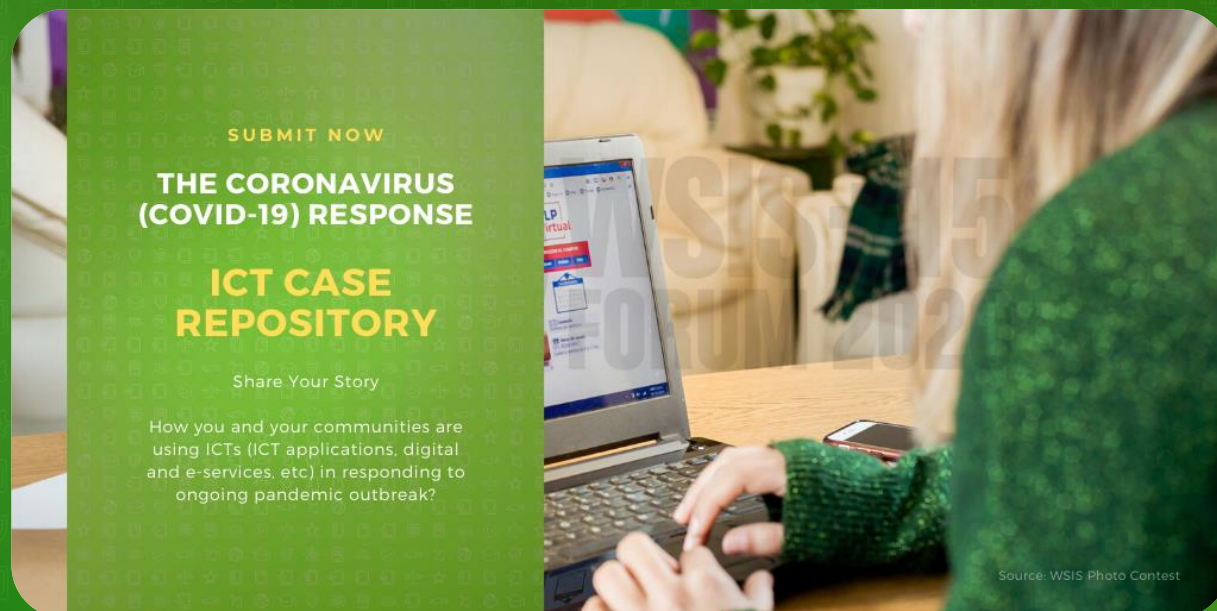
1. WSIS Stocktaking Report 2021
2. WSIS Stocktaking Success Stories 2021
3. ICT Projects and WSIS Action Line Related Activities in Africa
4. ICT Projects and WSIS Action Line Related Activities in Americas
5. ICT Projects and WSIS Action Line Related Activities in Arab States
6. ICT Projects and WSIS Action Line Related Activities in Asia and Pacific
7. ICT Projects and WSIS Action Line Related Activities in CIS
8. ICT Projects and WSIS Action Line Related Activities in Europe
9. WSIS Stocktaking ICT Case Repository





# WSIS Stocktaking: COVID-19 ICT Case Repository

The call for submission to COVID-19 Repository, as a part of the WSIS Stocktaking ongoing efforts, aims to encourage various stakeholders to submit reports on how they used ICT tools and technologies to help their communities respond to the coronavirus pandemic whilst meeting the WSIS Action Lines and SDG goals during this global pandemic.



Ongoing Call for Submission to WSIS Stocktaking COVID-19 Repository



Information and Knowledge Societies for Sustainable Development Goals  
[www.wsis.org](http://www.wsis.org)



Open Consultation  
Process

Best Practices

WSIS Prizes

Special Tracks

Partner with us



## WSIS Forum 2021 Photo Contest: Call for New Entries



Following the successful of previous Photo Contests editions, WSIS Forum continues to exercise the Photo Contest in 2021 and invite 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 2021.

Deadline: **8 March 2021**

Submit: <https://forms.gle/YRZ5BAqkYgYvmQh96>

Open Consultation  
Process

Best Practices

WSIS Prizes

Special Tracks

Partner with us

## Special Tracks emerging for WSIS Forum 2021



**ICTs and Youth**



**ICTs and Accessibility for  
Persons with Disabilities  
and Specific Needs**



**ICTs and Gender  
Mainstreaming**



**Extended Reality for  
SDGs**



**ICTs and Older Persons**



**Cybersecurity**



**ICT and Sports : Sports  
for Peace and e Sport**



Open Consultation  
Process

Best Practices

WSIS Prizes

Special Tracks

Partner with us

# WSIS Forum 2021 - Visibility and Partnership Packages

## **I. STRATEGIC PARTNER: PLATINUM**

Enhanced visibility  
offer for strategic  
partner platinum  
(exclusive)

## **II. STRATEGIC PARTNER: GOLD PLUS**

Enhanced visibility offer  
for strategic partner  
gold plus

## **III. STRATEGIC PARTNER: GOLD**

Enhanced visibility offer  
for strategic partner gold

## **IV. PARTNER: SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES**

Enhanced visibility offer  
for partner for specific  
activities

## **V. PARTNER: CONTRIBUTING**

Enhanced visibility offer  
for contributing partner

<https://www.itu.int/go/wsifund>



## Theme 1: Using science, technology and innovation to close the gap on Sustainable Development Goal 3, on good health and well-being

All the three sectors of ITU: the Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R), the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), and the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D) have worked in all regions of the world and developed tailored programmes to promote good health and well-being using ICTs.

Using STI to close the gap on SDG 3, good health and well-being

- The ITU/WHO Focus Group on artificial intelligence for health (FG-AI4H) works to establish a standardized assessment framework for the evaluation of AI-based methods for health, diagnosis, triage or treatment decisions.
- ITU-R Study Group 1 identified some frequency ranges for Short Range Devices (SRDs) that are used in some health applications (e.g. Assistive Listening Systems).
- ITU-R Study Group 5 developed Recommendation ITU-R M.1076 on impaired hearing solutions.
- In collaboration with the WHO, ITU-D has worked on National eHealth Strategy Toolkit in 2012. The National eHealth Strategy Toolkit is an expert, practical guide that provides governments, their ministries and stakeholders with a solid foundation and method for the development and implementation of a national eHealth vision, action plan and monitoring framework.
- ITU-D launched the 'Be he@lthy, be mobile programme', which works with governments to introduce evidence-based mHealth services into national health systems, institutionalize them nationally on a large-scale, evaluate their impact, and share best practices.
- ITU standards provide for medical-grade e-health devices, supporting the trend towards wearable e-health technologies and 'personal connected health'

WSIS Action Line C7 on e-Health is directly linked to SDG 3 (good health and well being). Together with WHO, ITU is the co-facilitator of this Action Line.

- WSIS Forum 2021 will organise a **Hackathon on ICTs and Older Persons** that focuses on how aging in today's increasingly digital world can be enhanced through the use and applications of ICTs and building on insights from the experience of COVID-19.

In 2020 a big increase of e-Health related projects was celebrated in the annual contest of the WSIS Prizes. Out of 776 submitted entries, 64 projects were submitted in the WSIS Action Line category e-Health, with the winning project the Early diagnosis of breast cancer using artificial intelligence (AI) by the Ministry of Health from Oman.

As a part of the WSIS Stocktaking ongoing efforts, the COVID-19 Response - ICT Case Repository is collecting ICTs projects in response to COVID-19. More than 300 submissions were received so far, all describing how ICT are enabling better health and well-being.



## Theme 2: Harnessing blockchain for sustainable development: prospects and challenges

- Blockchain applications have a big potential for sustainable development, to boost economies on the local level and on the traceability and trust in our food systems and value chains.
- ITU standards provide potential blockchain adopters with a clear view of this new technology and how it could best be applied. These standards can help industry and government to navigate their blockchain journeys with greater certainty.
- In 2019, the ITU Focus Group on the 'Application of Distributed Ledger Technology' (DLT) issued guidance on the adoption of blockchain. ITU standards also provide a toolkit built to serve all blockchain innovators and practitioners, recognizing that blockchain applications will take a wide variety of forms.
- The Focus Group has documented and analyzed some 60 use cases of DLT, an analysis that includes insight into the relevance of DLT to the pursuit of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.
- In addition to DLT, ITU is also working on Recommendations for blockchain as a service (cloud computing) and blockchain for smart cities and communities.
- Blockchain is directly linked to WSIS Action Line C5: Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs. Each year, stakeholders organised sessions at the WSIS Forum that highlight the emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence, cloud computing, 5G, Internet of Things, including blockchain.
- There were 12 projects submitted for the WSIS Prizes 2020 which used blockchain technology to make economic, social and environmental impact, with 6 of them being nominated for the annual awards, and 2 WSIS Prize Winners were awarded as the best practice examples in using blockchain technology.



# Social Media channels

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

WSIS Process  
@WSISprocess

Home  
About  
Photos  
Notes  
Videos  
Posts  
Events  
Services  
Shop  
Offers  
Jobs  
Community

ALERT:  
Please be informed that the dates for the #WSIS Forum 2020 have been changed and we now look forward to welcoming you to Geneva on 6-9 April 2020 with pre-events& Hackathon on 4-5 April.  
Book your calendars, update your traveling arrangements and stay tuned for more news towards WSIS+15 event... See More

**WSIS+15 FORUM 2020**  
6-9 April  
Geneva, Switzerland

World Summit on the Information Society  
@WSISprocess

#WSIS Forum 2020 - Launch of the Open Consultations will take place on 4 June 2019 at 1600-1700h (CET). You are invited! Please join us remotely at [connect.itu.int/itu-spm-roomg2/](https://connect.itu.int/itu-spm-roomg2/)

7:05 AM - 31 May 2019

6 Retweets 11 Likes

wsis\_process  
377 posts 1,343 followers 436 following

WSIS Process  
World Summit on the Information Society. The major global #UN multistakeholder platform for discussing #icts role in achieving UN's #sdgs. bit.ly/2oiZAZP

WSIS+15  
SDGs  
PhotoCont...  
WSISPrize...  
WSIS Prize...  
Regional re...  
HLP2019

POSTS TAGGED

ICTs and Youth  
PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES  
Extended Reality for SDGs  
WSIS PRIZES  
ICTs and Sports

WSISFLASH  
WORLD SUMMIT ON THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

WSIS FORUM 2020  
6-9 April, Geneva

The WSIS Forum agenda and programme are completely crowdsourced through the Open Consultation Process (OCP). The process aims at ensuring a participatory and inclusive spirit of the Forum through the engagement of all stakeholders in the preparatory process. The Open Consultation Process is structured in six phases and will include a collection of inputs...





# Reminder of Open Calls



## WSIS Prizes 2021

Submit your outstanding project that leverage the power of ICTs

**Deadline:**  
25 January 2021



## Open Consultation Process

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

**Deadline:**  
8 March 2021



## WSIS Photo Contest 2021

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

**Deadline:**  
8 March 2021



## High-Level Track Facilitators (HLTF)

Nominate your representative for the HLTF

**Deadline:**  
8 March 2021

# THANK YOU

[www.wsis.org](http://www.wsis.org)

[www.wsis.org/sdg](http://www.wsis.org/sdg)

[www.wsis.org/forum](http://www.wsis.org/forum)

[www.wsis.org/prizes](http://www.wsis.org/prizes)

[www.wsis.org/stocktaking](http://www.wsis.org/stocktaking)

[www.wsis.org/review](http://www.wsis.org/review)

[wsis-info@itu.int](mailto:wsis-info@itu.int)