

**COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT
(CSTD)**

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**Submissions from entities in the United Nations system, international
organizations and other stakeholders on their efforts in 2023 to
implement the outcomes of the WSIS**

Submission by

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

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 27th 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.

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Implementation of Outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)

Submission by the UNFCCC Secretariat

October 2023

Part One: Executive Summary

Since June 2023, the UNFCCC Technology Mechanism Initiative on Artificial Intelligence for Climate Action¹ (#AI4ClimateAction) explores the role of artificial intelligence (AI) as a powerful technological tool for advancing and scaling up transformative climate action in developing countries with a focus on opportunities and challenges in least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS).

Part Two: Overview

The UNFCCC Technology Mechanism supports accelerated and enhanced development, transfer and uptake of climate technologies for effective climate change adaptation and mitigation action in line with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The UNFCCC Technology Mechanism is comprised of a policy arm, the UNFCCC Technology Executive Committee (TEC)² and an implementation arm, the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN)³. At the international and regional levels, the TEC has a unique position to convene stakeholders and provide space for policy discussions on opportunities and challenges of using AI for addressing climate change. In 2023, the TEC has been organizing regional consultations with national climate technology focal points, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, academia and the private sector to identify effective endogenous AI-powered climate solutions and solicit views from the regions on challenges and opportunities regarding the use of AI for climate action. Findings from the regional consultations will inform the further work of the Technology Mechanism on AI, including the development of the #AI4ClimateAction Initiative workplan for the 2024-2027 period.

Based on the WSIS-SDG Matrix developed by WSIS Action Line Facilitators, the work of the UNFCCC Technology Mechanism directly support the implementation of WSIS Action Lines: CR Access to information and knowledge; C4 Capacity-building; C6 Enabling environments; and C7 on E-Environment.

Part Three: Future action

The TEC is preparing to launch a global AI Innovation Grand Challenge in 2023 as a climate technology and innovation competition to identify further AI solutions for climate mitigation and adaptation action from, and for, developing countries with a focus on LDCs and SIDS. In 2024, the TEC will publish a technical paper on the role of AI for climate action to support national climate technology focal points with their exploration of opportunities, challenges and risks of the use of AI for domestic technology solutions in support of the implementation of nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement.

¹ https://unfccc.int/ttclear/artificial_intelligence

² <https://unfccc.int/ttclear/tec>

³ <https://www.ctc-n.org>