ITU & AI

Artificial intelligence – Areas of action

Technical standards

Capacity development

Policy & regulatory assistance

UN system-wide coordination

Multi-stakeholder dialogue platform

Technical Standards

- **Develop** international technical standards for digital technologies
- **Bridge the standardization gap** between developed and developing countries
- **Foster cooperation** among national, regional and international standards bodies

ITU standards community

Study Groups

Membership-driven Study Groups develop international standards.

Focus Groups

Open to all interested parties, Focus Groups define new directions in ITU standardization.

Workshops and symposia

Open-to-all events analyze emerging trends and encourage peer-learning

| Examples of AI-leading ITU industry members

ITU standardization: Technical foundations

Of the **over 4,000 published standards** in force, around **100 are AI-related**

Each year, our standardization work is driven by around **5,000 experts.**

Our Bridging the Standardization Gap programme assists developing countries in maximizing the value of their participation in our work.

Our Network of Women champions women role models in standardization, supported by a training programme on standardization skills.

ITU AI standards

+220

AI standards published or under development

Quality assessment

Energy efficiency

Multimedia

Network orchestration and management

Security

Protocols & test specs

Cable networks

Network operations & maintenance

Including standard frameworks to integrate AI/ML in networks, standard terms and definitions, standards to evaluate AI/ML models and their results, standards for data handling

Partnerships laying groundwork for new standards on AI for health (ITU, WHO, WIPO), natural disaster management (ITU, WMO, UNEP), and digital agriculture (ITU and FAO)

| AI-RELATED FOCUS GROUPS & INITIATIVES

AI for Health

World Health Organization

WIPO

AI and Internet of Things for Digital Agriculture

ITU Focus Group

FAO

AI for Natural Disaster Management

ITU Focus Group

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION + UN environment programme

Machine Learning and 5G

ITU Focus Group

AI for Environmental Efficiency

ITU Focus Group

AI and Data Commons

Global Initiative

AI for Road Safety

Global Initiative

=

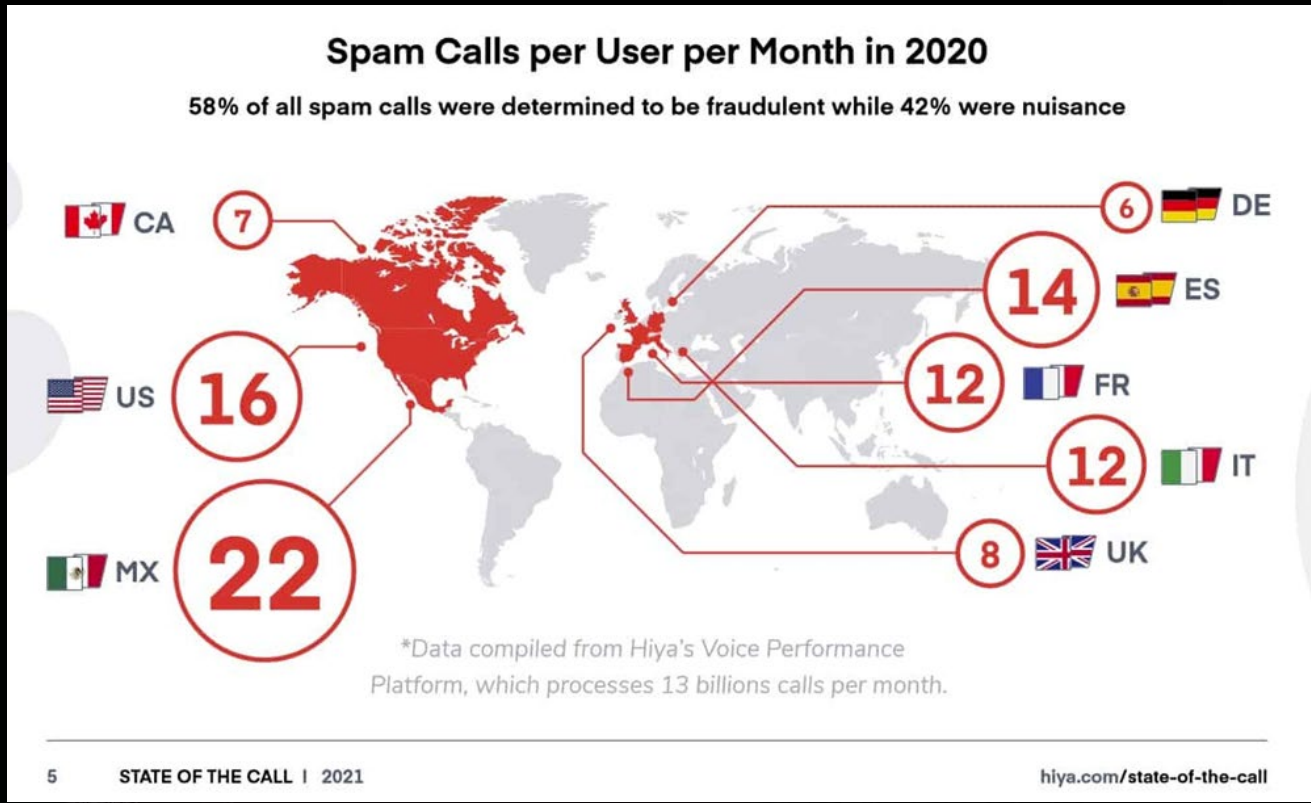
AI for Autonomous and Assisted Driving

ITU Focus Group

+ UN Special Envoy for Road Safety + UN Envoy on Technology

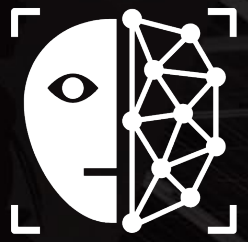
ITU

ITU standards authenticate voice calls to combat AI-generated voice



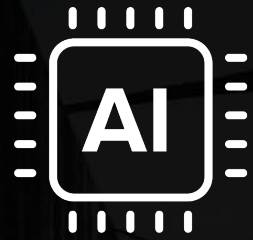
| Deepfake detection

How can the watermark detector(s) be trusted?

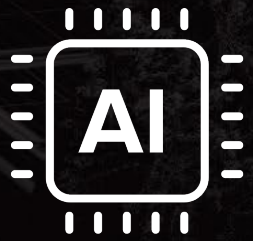


US government has mandated tech companies to find ways to identify AI-generated content.

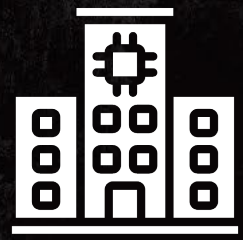
The EU is also looking at enshrining watermarking requirements in law (AI Act Dec 2023).



China has mandated that AI-generated content be clearly **labelled**.



AI watermarking and multimedia authenticity initiatives need standards and governance



Different tech companies have their own solutions with no interoperability

Launching AI Watermarking and Multimedia Authenticity Standards Collaboration

31 May 2024

ITU Events

AI for Good

Accelerating the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

aiforgood.itu.int

40 UN PARTNERS

ITU

AI for Good

THE leading action-oriented, global & inclusive United Nations platform on AI

AII YEAR, ALWAYS ONLINE

Organizer

40 UN Orgs

Co-convener

AI for Good | 40+ UN Organizations

AI for Good | **Multi-stakeholder**
Interdisciplinary
Inter-generational

AI for Good | AI for Good programming and reach

5
AI for Good Global Summits

650+
AI for Good Online events

50+
ML challenges & AI Start-up competitions

26K+
Neural Network profiles

100K+
Online community

180+
Countries

1.5K+
UN staff on Neural Network

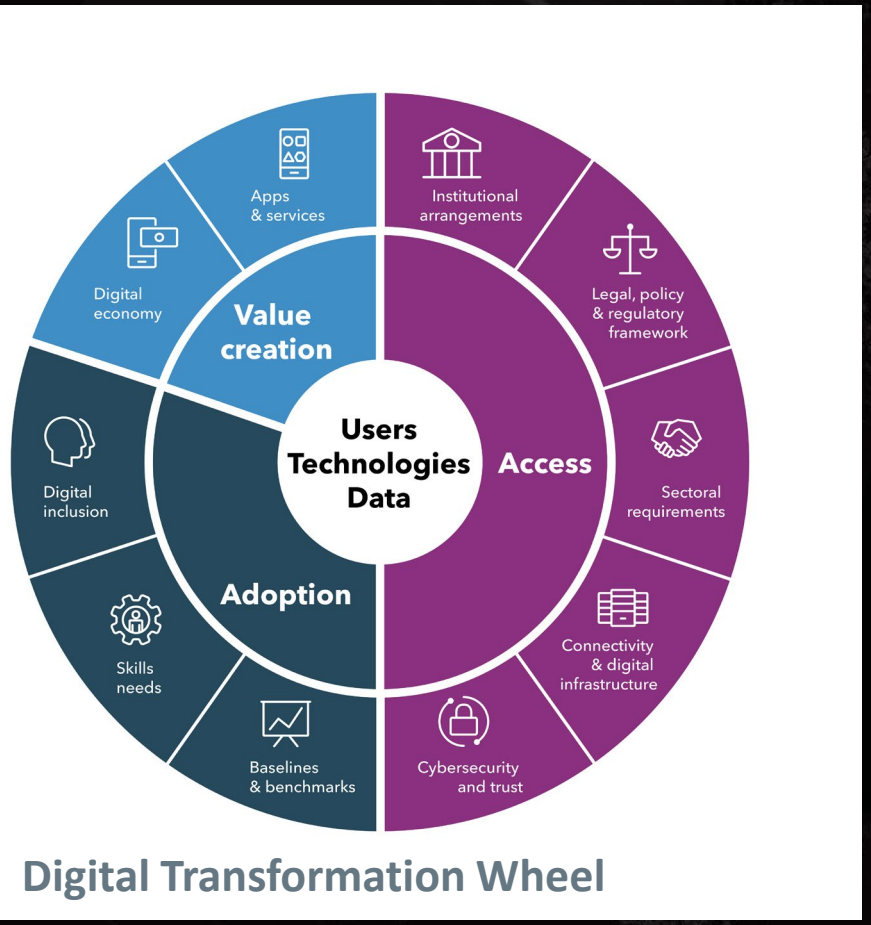
540+
UN staff at AI for Good Global Summits


ITU Events
AI for Good
Global Summit
Accelerating the United Nations
Sustainable Development Goals
30-31 May 2024
Geneva, Switzerland
aiforgood.itu.int/
40 UN PARTNERS
ITU

AI for Good Global Summit | Summit week snapshot

27 MONDAY	28 TUESDAY	29 WEDNESDAY	30 THURSDAY	31 FRIDAY
		Day Zero AI Governance Day	AI for Good Global Summit	AI for Good Global Summit
WSIS	WSIS	WSIS	WSIS	WSIS

| Capacity Development



Digital Transformation Wheel

AI for Good
Impact Initiative

ITUAcademy
Empowering minds

GovStack
Accelerating the digital transformation of government services

giga

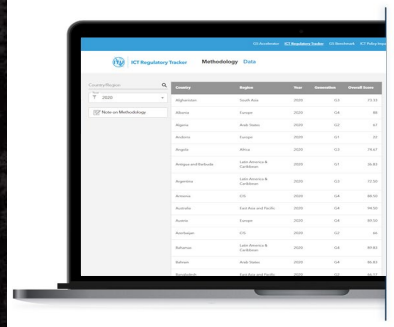
Bridging the Standardization Gap

Policy and Regulatory

ITUGSR
KAMPALA2024
#ITUGSR

ITUWTPF

Digital Regulation Network (DRN)
A collaborative network of networks



ICT Regulatory Tracker

Evidence-based tool for decision-makers and regulators in the journey from G1 through G4

G5 Accelerator

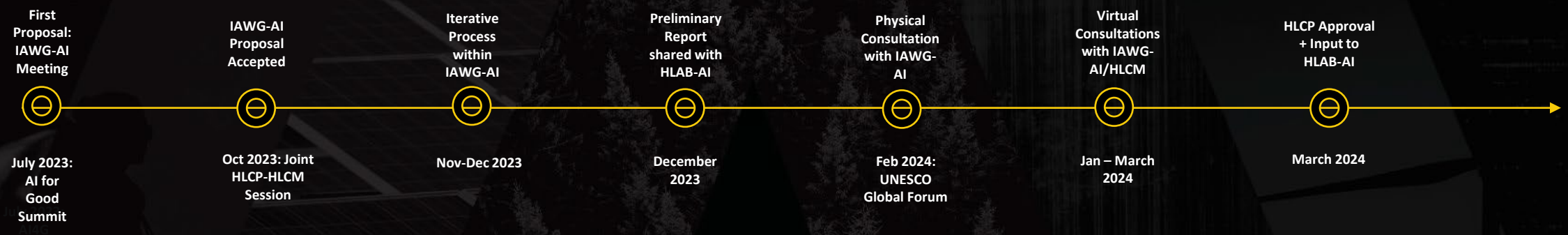
AI Landscape Survey

AI-related policy and regulatory initiatives

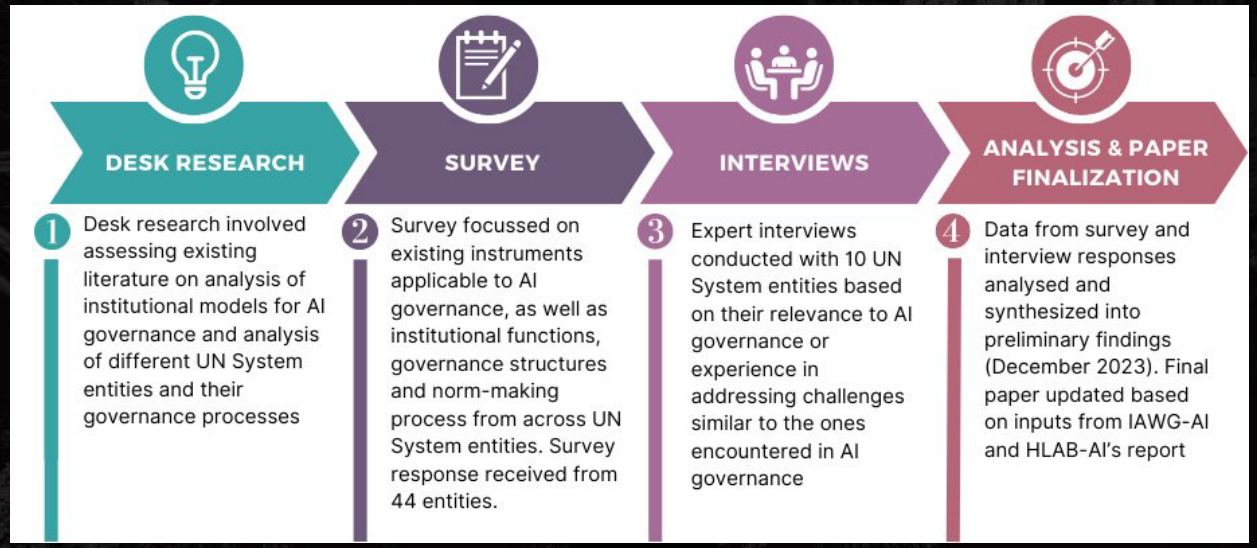
CEB HLCP Interagency Working Group on AI (IAWG-AI)

- Established in 2020
- Co-led by ITU (DSG Lamanauskas) and UNESCO (ADG Ramos)
- 40+ entities
- 10+ workstreams
- Examples of collaborative efforts
  - Input to the UNESCO process on the AI Ethics Recommendations
  - Principles for Ethical Use of AI in the UN System
  - AI/SME Toolkit
  - AI Readiness Tools

UN System White Paper on AI Governance



57 UN System entities participated, **44** surveyed, **10** deep dive interviews, **Multiple** Consultations

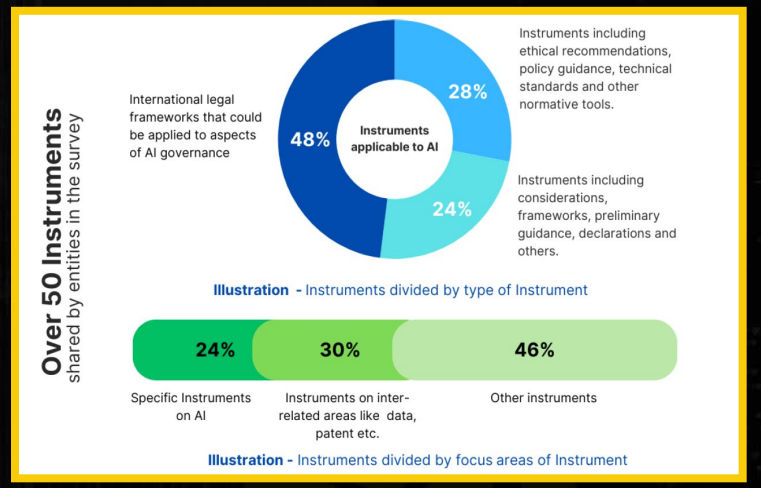


UN System White Paper on AI Governance

Three Focus Areas:

1. Existing normative and policy instruments in the UN system to inform and shape AI governance
2. Institutional functions that inform global AI governance
3. Existing governance structures, inclusive normative processes and agile & anticipatory approaches

Focus Area 1



Focus Area 2

- **Scientific consensus through technical and authoritative assessments and research**
- **Consensus-building and norm-setting around risks and opportunities**
- **Regulatory coordination, monitoring, and enforcement**
- **Addressing the developmental needs of AI, including capacity building**

Focus Area 3

- Inclusivity in norm-making processes
- Private Sector Engagement
- Capacity development and detailed technical guidance
- Flexible and dynamic decision-making
- Agile and reflexive governance
- Anticipatory governance and foresight-based research

Recommendations of the White Paper

Recommendations for the HLAB-AI

1. It's important to leverage the UN System's convening power, normative and policy instruments, institutional functions and frameworks, stakeholder networks and resources – especially keeping in mind the growing AI divide and the interests of the bottom billion.
2. AI governance efforts in the UN System are anchored in international law, including the UN Charter, International Human Rights Law, and other agreed international commitments such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
3. To adequately cater to the specific requirements and economic, social, and environmental priorities of different sectors, UN instruments and frameworks providing sector-specific guidance are key.
4. The important functions to deliver on global AI governance have been tested by entities surveyed, and this experience can deliver tailored approaches on the basis of the specific networks of focus areas and diverse stakeholder groups within the UN System,
5. The fast pace of technology development, compared to the relatively slow processes to develop new international law instruments of institutional structures, and the need for regional or industry/sector-specific approaches are important considerations.

Recommendations to enhance UN System AI governance efforts

1. Present the UN System's tools and instruments in AI governance as a combined toolbox to better inform Member States and stakeholders on the tools available:
2. Expand taxonomies that can facilitate technical and normative guidance for existing instruments
3. Leverage, enhance, and scale observatories on AI
4. Leverage existing networks for building consensus and serve as a platform for communicating key technological milestones and developments in AI
5. Invest in and develop in-house granular and comprehensive AI expertise to support Member States effectively, engage with stakeholder groups, and build trust
6. Enable sandboxes to facilitate the development of internationally harmonized approaches for AI risk assessments and monitoring efforts
7. Proactively manage risks and mainstream foresight capabilities
8. Invest in talent, data, and compute resources, as well as regulatory and procurement capacity