

**World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Process**

CSTD 2024-2025 Inter-sessional Panel

# **WSIS Process: Celebrating Twenty Years and Achieving Future Milestones Together**

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Strategy and Policy Coordinator  
International Telecommunication Union  
(ITU)

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# WSIS Process milestones

ITU Plenipotentiary  
Conference in in  
Minneapolis, United States

**1998**

UN General Assembly (UNGA)  
Resolution 56/183 endorsed  
the holding of WSIS

**2001**

WSIS  
Phase I: Geneva, 2003  
Phase II: Tunisia, 2005

**2003 / 2005**

Cluster of WSIS related events  
~  
WSIS Forum

**2006**

UNGA High-Level Meeting on  
the overall review of WSIS  
(WSIS+10)

**2015**

WSIS+20 High-Level Event  
2025

**2025**

UNGA High-Level Meeting  
on the overall review of  
WSIS (WSIS+20)

**2025**

WSIS Beyond

**2025**

# Governance

UNGA Resolutions

ECOSOC Resolutions

CEB through the United Nations Group on Information Society (UN  
CSTD

Annual WSIS Forum

Annual Internet Governance Forum (IGF)

UN Agencies mandated to implement WSIS Action Lines

UN Regional Commissions mandated  
to implement WSIS at regional level

WSIS Prizes | WSIS Stocktaking |

Partnership for Measuring ICT development |

WSIS Special Initiatives





## Guided by key principles: WSIS Action Lines

- |    |                            |     |                            |
|----|----------------------------|-----|----------------------------|
| C1 | ICTs for development       | C7  | eHealth                    |
| C2 | Infrastructure             | C7  | eEmployment                |
| C3 | Access to info & knowledge | C7  | eEnvironment               |
| C4 | Capacity building          | C7  | eAgriculture               |
| C5 | Confidence & security      | C7  | eScience                   |
| C7 | Enabling environment       | C8  | Diversity & local content  |
| C7 | eGovernment                | C9  | Media                      |
| C7 | eBusiness                  | C10 | Ethical dimensions         |
| C7 | eLearning                  | C11 | Int & regional cooperation |

**13 000+** digital projects aligned with SDGs



# WSIS Process: Multistakeholder in nature, involving all stakeholders



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**Partnership on Measuring  
ICT for Development**

**WSIS Special  
Initiatives**

**WSIS&SDG TalkX**

**Alignment of the WSIS process  
with the 2030 Agenda**

**WSIS Action Lines**

**WSIS Forum**

**WSIS Stocktaking**

**United Nations Group  
on Information Society**



# **WSIS&SDG Implementation**



# WSIS: An overall framework incorporating all aspects of digital

## WSIS Framework: Implementation and follow-up to GDC



WSIS Process and 2030 Agenda - GDC Matrix being prepared in consultation with WSIS Action Lines facilitators

# WSIS Targets : achievements since 2003



**5.4**

Billion people online



**250 000+**

Connected schools  
according to Giga Maps



WHO& ITU  
collecting  
Data

Connected hospitals



**65%**

Women using the Internet



**80%**

Youth (15-24 years old)  
use the internet





# WSIS: continuously evolving process addressing impacts of emerging technologies



Hackathons



WSIS Forum agenda and programme continuously updated to encompass discussions on new and emerging technologies



AI for Good and WSIS Forum organized concurrently



Exhibition spaces showcasing latest technologies



WSIS Special Innovation Prizes

# WSIS Forum

**15**  
years

**160**  
countries

**50,000**  
multi-stakeholder participants  
(onsite and virtual)

**40+**  
UN Agencies  
involved

**10+**  
Special Tracks  
Gender, Youth ...



Co-organizers



# WSIS Prizes

Since 2012



**5000+**  
submissions

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**112**  
countries

**234**  
Winners

**648**  
Champions

**WSIS+20 Forum  
High-Level Event:  
Outcome document  
2024**



**WSIS+20 FORUM**  
HIGH-LEVEL EVENT 2024  
27-31 May 2024  
Geneva, Switzerland



# WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event 2024: Outcomes





**WSIS+20 FORUM**  
HIGH-LEVEL EVENT 2024

27-31 May 2024  
Geneva, Switzerland

## Outcomes : key figures

**4000+**

**on-site and remote participants**  
(+3,000 onsite and +1,000 remote)

**160**

**Countries**

**45+**

**Ministers and Deputies**

**200**

**Sessions**

**500+**

**High-Level Participants**

**100+**

**Speakers**



**WSIS+20 FORUM**  
HIGH-LEVEL EVENT 2024

27-31 May 2024  
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# High-Level Engagements

**14**

Leaders TalkX

**11**

High-Level Dialogues

**500+**

High-Level Participants

**46**

Ministers and Deputies

**40**

Heads of Regulatory  
Authorities

**25**

Heads and Deputies  
of UN Agencies



# WSIS PRIZES CEREMONY 2024



18

Winners

72

Champions

# Ministerial Roundtable Summary



## Key themes from the Ministers' interventions include

- Connectivity and Infrastructure Development
- Inclusivity and Bridging the Digital Divide
- Digital Literacy and Capacity Building
- Cross-border Data Flow and Cybersecurity
- E-Government and Digital Services
- Financial Inclusion and E-Payment Systems
- Regulatory Frameworks and Policy Development
- Collaboration and Global Partnerships
- Technological Innovation and Emerging Technologies





# Chair's Summary

**"WSIS Plus"** a strengthened and further developed inclusive framework for digital governance and cooperation which will be fit-for-purpose and serve us well as we enter an era of fast and uncertain AI and digital developments.



**H.E. Mr. Albert Rösti**  
Federal Councillor  
Federal Department of the Environment,  
Transport, Energy and Communications  
Switzerland (Confederation of)

## Broad spectrum of topics



Cybersecurity  
and trust



Artificial  
Intelligence



Digital  
Divides



Meaningful access  
to infrastructure as  
well as content



Emerging  
Technologies

## Institutional Frameworks

Based on the WSIS outcomes of 2003 and 2005, a robust and agile institutional framework for dealing with digital issues has been created:

**UNGIS**

**IGF**

**WSIS Forum**

**CSTD**

**WSIS Action Lines**

**WSIS  
Stocktaking**

**Partnership on  
Measuring ICT  
for Development**

# United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS)

**Established in 2006**, approved by the UN  
Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB).

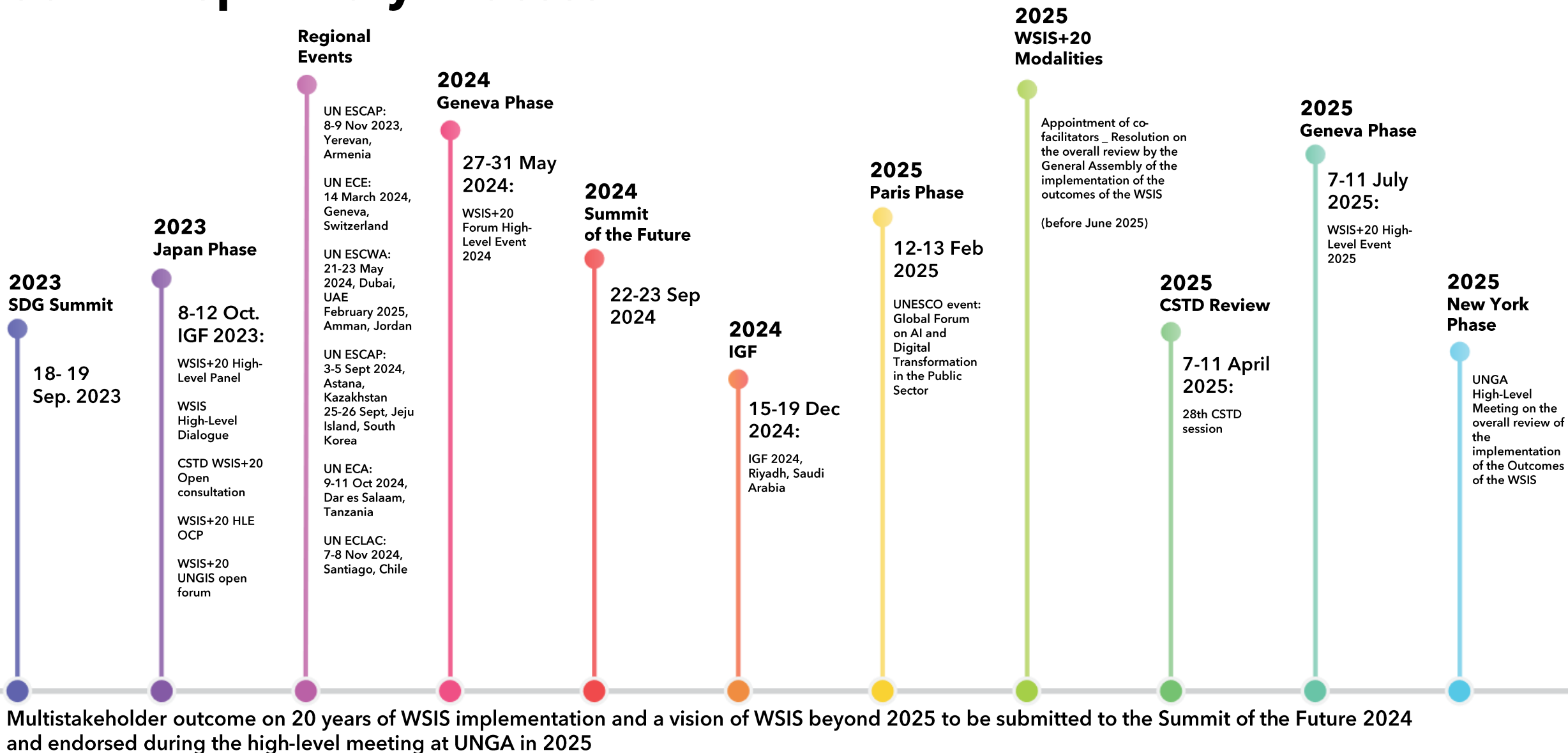
**2024 - 2025 Current Chair:** UNESCO / **Vice-Chairs:**  
ITU, UNDP, UNCTAD and UN ECLAC



- Contributions to the Global Digital Compact
- UNGIS High-Level Roundtable Meeting  
28 May 2024
- UNGIS Working-Level Meeting  
30 May 2024
- UNGIS Side Event during HLPF2024  
10 July 2024
- UNGIS Side event during Summit of the Future Action Days  
20 September 2024
- UNGIS sessions at IGF 2024 and LLDC3



# WSIS+20 Review Joint Preparatory Process



# WSIS+20 Roadmaps



World Summit on the  
Information Society  
(WSIS)+20: WSIS beyond  
2025 - WSIS+20  
Roadmap



Report of the UNESCO  
Director-General on the  
implementation of the World  
Summit on the Information  
Society (WSIS) outcomes



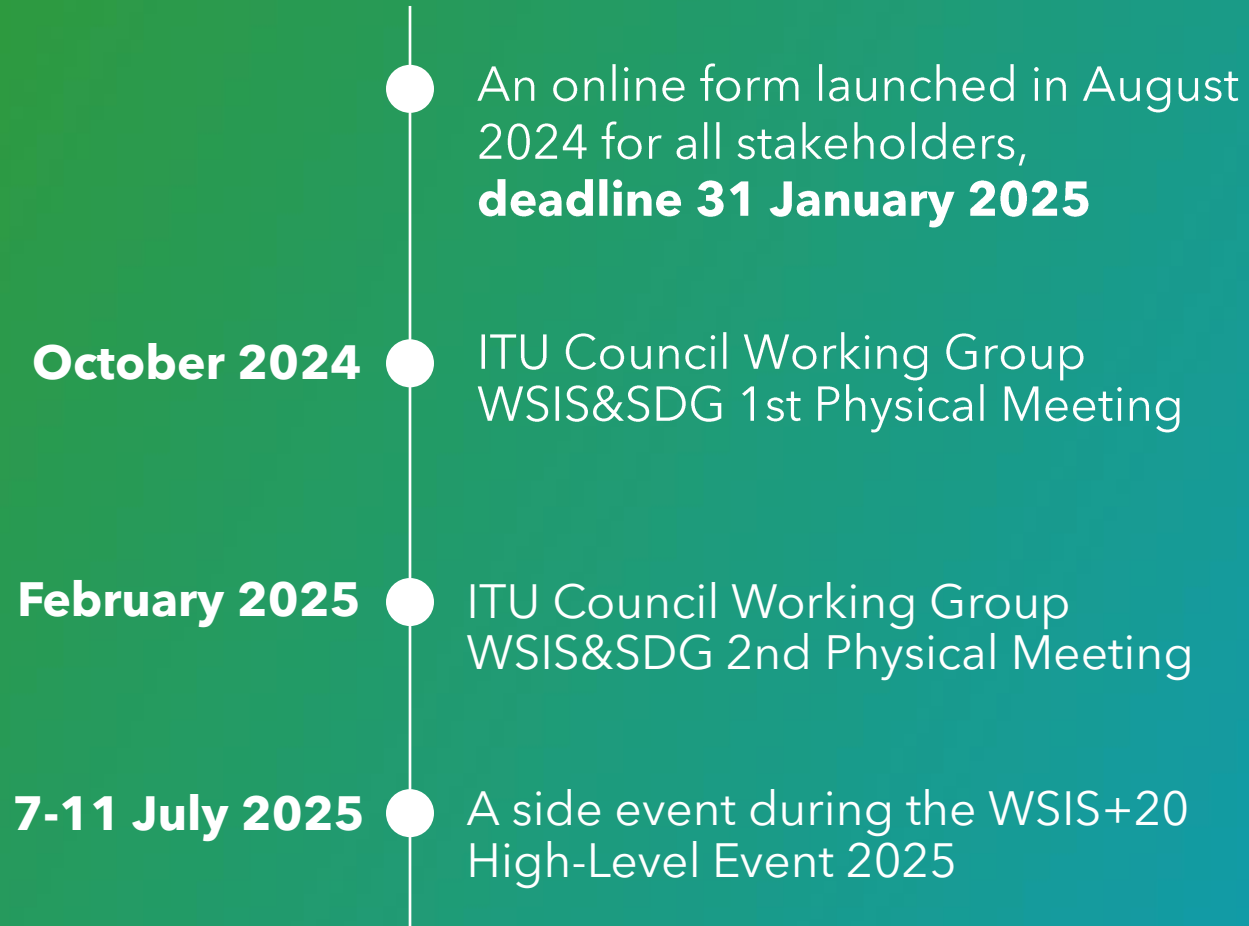
Commission on Science and  
Technology for Development  
Roadmap for the WSIS+20





# Contribute: Call for Inputs on the WSIS+20 Review

In accordance with ITU Council Resolution 1332, members and other stakeholders are invited to contribute their views on the work of the ITU in the WSIS+20 review, including ideas related to the review of the WSIS Action Lines.



Learn more

# WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025

## Objectives

A platform for multistakeholder discussions on the progress made since the inception of WSIS and take stock of the achievements/success in 20 years to bridge the digital divide and promote meaningful connectivity, both today and beyond 2025.

## Outcome

Multistakeholder outcome to be submitted to the UNGA overall review in 2025

## Format

Leaders TalkX  
High-Level Dialogue  
Interactive sessions  
Ministerial Roundtable  
Exhibition  
Social Events  
Sharing sessions, etc.

# WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025 : Calls for Contributions

## OPEN CONSULTATION PROCESS

First physical meeting: Monday 18 November 14:00 – 15:00 CET  
Deadline: 14 March 2025



## WSIS STOCKTAKING & WSIS PRIZES 2025

Submit your best digital projects for development and be recognized globally  
Deadline: 10 February 2025



## WSIS Photo Contest, WSIS Special Prizes and Hackathon

Coming soon!



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

## Takeaways

WSIS Process is an **existing, well-functioning, multistakeholder UN mandated process** for digital governance

Related mechanisms – IGF, WSIS Forum, UNGIS and others have proven to be robust and flexible

Continues to evolve for future needs

WSIS should be leveraged to avoid duplication and wastage of resources, especially in the context of other UN processes





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## Moving forward, consider:

Reinforcing the leading UN agencies' role in implementing WSIS outcomes and the 20-year review process

Building upon the outcomes of the WSIS+20 Forum HLE 2024 and Summit of the Future

Participating actively in the WSIS 20-year Review and GDC Implementation

Contribute to the preparatory process of the WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025



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**Save the date**  
**7-11 July 2025**  
**Geneva, Switzerland**

# Thank You

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

#WSIS

@WSISprocess

