

Progress report on WSIS+20 review

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Timetable

April 2024	Preliminary discussion at the 27th session of CSTD
May 2024 to January 2025	Consultations, literature review and other research
October 2024	Progress report to the intersessional meeting of CSTD
October 2024 to February 2025	Drafting of report
April 2025	Discussion of report at the 28 th session of CSTD
May 2025	Final revision of report and submission to ECOSOC
September to November 2025	Presentation by CSTD during General Assembly meeting

Multistakeholder open consultations

Global consultations

- Online survey through a questionnaire circulated: 16 September 2023
- Launch of the CSTD series of open consultations: 10 October 2023, Kyoto, Japan (hybrid)
- Second global consultation: 4 December 2023, Geneva (hybrid)

Regional consultations

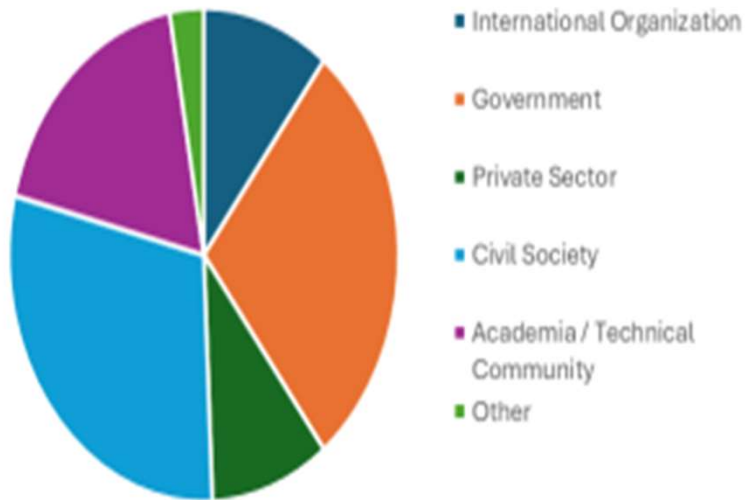
- Arab region: 22 May, Dubai, UAE (hybrid)
- Europe: 17 June, Vilnius, Lithuania (hybrid)
- Asia Pacific: 4 September, Astana, Kazakhstan
- Africa: 11 October, Dar Res Salam, Tanzania
- Latin America: mid November, Santiago, Chile

Findings from the online survey

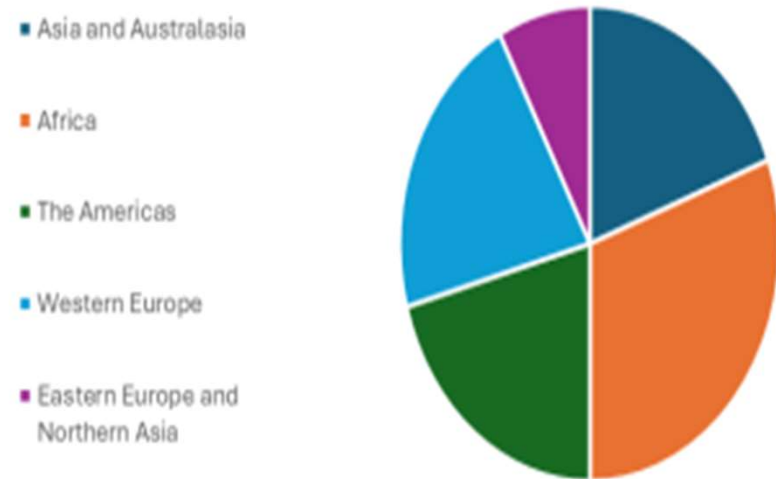
- A strong focus on issues concerning technology and infrastructure, access and inclusion, and digital priorities such as privacy and data protection.
- Fewer contributions on issues concerning economic, social and environmental development.
- Some responses provided valuable insights into their own countries' experiences while others are in more general terms.

Distribution of responses to online survey

Distribution of responses by stakeholder group



Distribution of responses by region



Key messages from hybrid global consultations

- Significant achievements have been made through WSIS.
- The inclusivity of WSIS process (multistakeholder model) should be maintained and extended to digital governance.
- There is common recognition of the value of the IGF and support for renewal of its mandate.
- Universal connectivity and a reliable ICT infrastructure remain a challenge for poor developing countries.
- In digital era, financing for public digital infrastructure and education remains crucial.
- Support to vulnerable groups should be increased.
- International cooperation frameworks should evolve to focus on today's challenge.

Key messages from regional consultations

Arab region

1. WSIS helps the Arab region make significant progress in accessibility and affordability of Internet and related services.
2. Concerns relate to digital gap, resource constraints, policy and regulatory issues, lack of funding
3. Call for support from international and regional organizations to sustain the region's efforts in WSIS implementation

Europe

1. Meaningful internet connectivity should be stressed.
2. A thorough review and potential update of the current action lines and the Tunis agenda could be conducted while continuing the multistakeholder model and the IGF.
3. Concerns relate to the current approach to addressing crucial public policy issues such as AI governance and data flow

Key messages from regional consultations (continued)

Asia Pacific

1. Scaling up innovation and enhancing digital cooperation are critical for accelerating WSIS progress.
2. Gender inclusion/equity and child online protection should be prioritized.
3. New and emerging stakeholders should be in the WSIS process.

Africa

1. The Global Digital Compact should be considered in the WSIS+20 review.
2. Support to the civil society should be increased.
3. African countries need digital infrastructure and skills to benefit from digital technologies.

Thank you for your attention!