Global Digital Compact (GDC) Implementation Map

CSTD 2025-2026 Inter-Sessional Panel

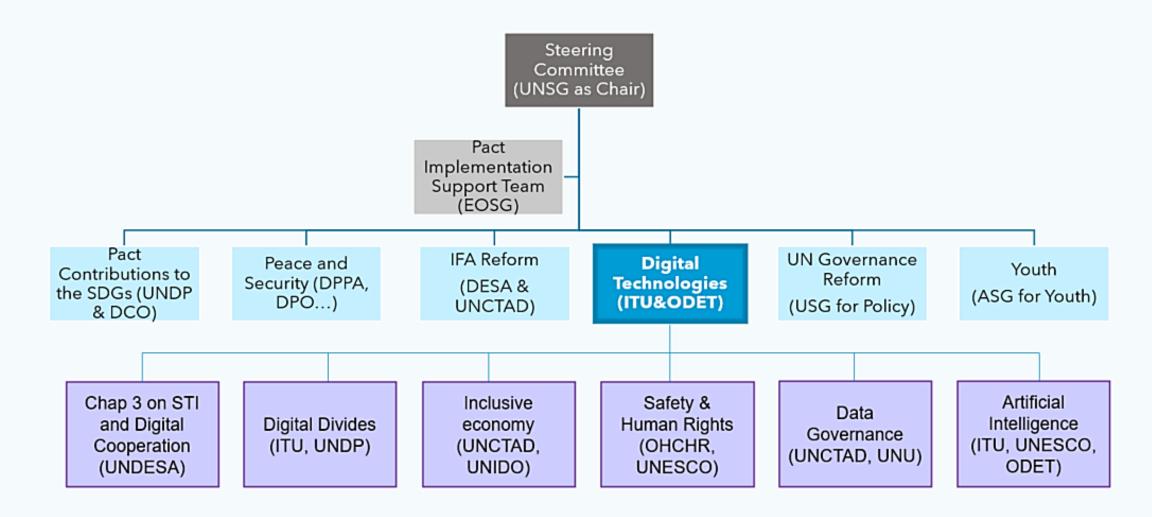


Global Digital Compact

- Adopted at the Summit of the Future 2024, as an annex to the Pact for the Future
- Aims to foster an inclusive, open, sustainable, and secure digital future for all
- Commitments in the five objective areas: universal connectivity, digital inclusion, safe & secure digital space, data governance, and artificial intelligence governance
- To track and monitor progress, the Paragraph 71 of the GDC requests:

"[T]he Secretary-General to provide a Compact implementation map for the consideration of Governments and other stakeholders that reflects the contributions of the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders and to reflect this in the report of the 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 ahead of the WSIS+20 review."

Pact for the Future Implementation



GDC Implementation Map

- Shared Vision and Commitments
- Implementation Mechanisms
- Collaborative Implementation
- UN Working Group on Digital Technologies
- Multistakeholder Engagement

GDC Implementation Map

(Draft Ver. 31 July 2025)

INTRODUCTION

The Global Digital Compact (GDC) was adopted as an annex to the Pact for the Future at the Summit of the Future in September 2024, marking a key milestone in global digital cooperation.

Paragraph 71 of the GDC: "To track and monitor progress, we request the Secretary-General to provide a Compact implementation map for the consideration of Governments and other stakeholders that reflects the contributions of the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders and to reflect this in the report of the 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 ahead of the WSIS+20 review."

Background and Context

1.1 Shared Vision and Commitment

The Global Digital Compact (GDC) presents a shared vision for a safe, inclusive, and human-centred digital future, anchored in 13 guiding principles, with commitments and actions clustered under 5 key objectives —approximately 80% of which are led by Member States and other stakeholders. This broad commitment underscores the need to align GDC implementation with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, ensuring that digital transformation advances human rights, sustainability, and multistakeholder collaboration.

1.2 Implementation Mechanisms

The GDC is being implemented by Member States, international organizations, civil society, private sector, academia, and other stakeholders. UN initiatives contributing to the GDC are outlined in the annexed GDC Implementation Map — detailed initiatives - a mapping of UN initiatives with GDC commitments and WSIS action lines. It also includes milestones for commitments where the UN is tasked to lead or support. The mapping, produced by the UN Working Group on Digital Technologies (WGDT), is built on the WSIS-2030 Agenda-GDC Matrix, originally developed by the United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS). The official channel for other stakeholders to endorse and share information related to GDC implementation is the dedicated endorsement webpage.

GDC Implementation Map

- Phased Approaches to implement the GDC: Sep. 2024 – Sep. 2027
- Resources to Support the Implementation

2.3 Phased Approach to implement the GDC: September 2024 – September 2027

Phase 1: Establishing the foundation and Early Action (until September 2025)

- Set up internal UN coordination mechanism to support GDC implementation.
- Map existing mechanisms against GDC objectives to identify gaps and opportunities for enhanced coordination.
- Build other stakeholder support through GDC endorsements.
- Act on commitments where the UN is in the lead and support.

Phase 2: Scaling up implementation, reviewing progress (until September 2026)

- Strengthen country- and regional-level implementation, including through UN Country Teams and ongoing programmatic work by UN system.
- Deepen engagement with private sector and other stakeholders, including through existing multistakeholder platforms (e.g., IGF, WSIS Forum)

Phase 3: Consolidating digital cooperation for development (September 2026 onwards)

- Prepare for the High-Level Review of the GDC by the UN General Assembly during its 82nd
 Session.
- Ensure strategic foresight approaches on digital technologies contribute to the post-2030 development framework.

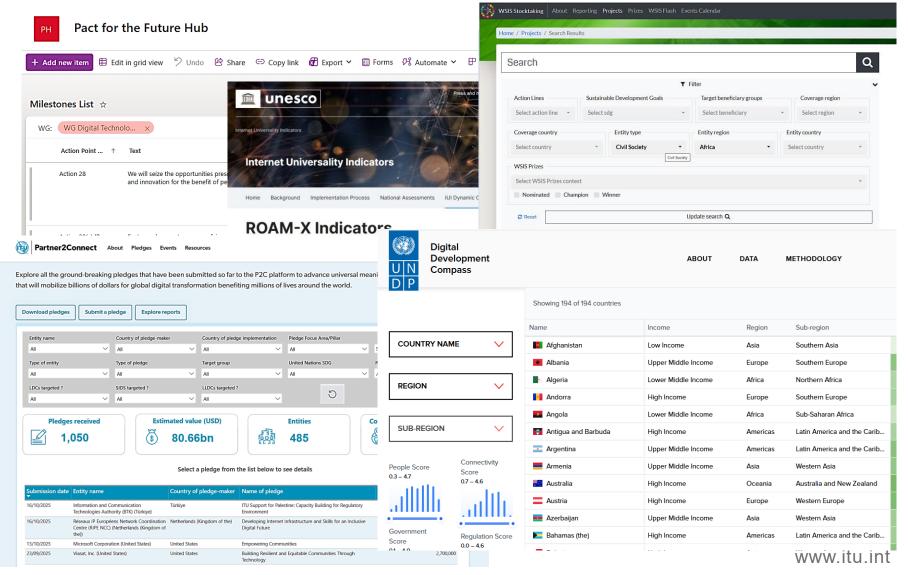
3. Resources to Support the Implementation

3.1 Financial and Human Resources

The United Nations system is harnessing financial and human resources to support implementation of the GDC. Key funding mechanisms include the UN Development Account, the Joint SDG Fund, and

GDC Implementation Map

 Monitoring and Evaluation of the Implementation



Detailed initiatives supporting the GDC

Annex: GDC Implementation Map – Detailed Initiatives (as at 30 July 2025)

Objectives (text extracted from GDC)	UN Initiatives	WGDT Milestones (For commitments where UN is in lead or support)	SDGs and WSIS Action Lines	
Objective 1: Close all digital divides and accelerate progress across the Sustainable Development Goals				
Connectivity				
11 (a) Develop and strengthen targets, indicators and metrics for universal meaningful and affordable connectivity, building on existing work, and integrate these into international, regional and national development strategies	 WSIS Architecture: WSIS Action Line facilitation, Internet Governance Forum, WSIS Forum, WSIS Stocktaking, WSIS Prizes, UNGIS ITU Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development ITU World Telecommunication Indicators Summit UNDRR Data Readiness assessments ITU DataHub ITU Universal and Meaningful Connectivity project ITU/UNESCO Broadband Commission UNCTAD Working Group on Measuring E-commerce and the Digital Economy ESCWA Digital Development Indicators Observatory ECLAC Digital Development Observatory UNDP Digital Readiness Assessment UNDP Digital Development Compass UNDP Inclusive Whole-of-Society Digital Transformation Framework FAO, ITU- E-agriculture strategy guide UNHCR, ITU- Connectivity for Refugees UNU IIGH- Digital health security and governance strategy UN United for Smart Sustainable Cities Initiative 	Q3 2025: The Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development will develop an indicator framework to monitor WSuIS action lines and GDC commitments based on available data. Q4, 2025: ITU releases Measuring Digital Development Report: Facts & Figures (ITU's Facts and Figures is an annual publication presenting current-year estimates for a selection of key digital development indicators for the world, regions, income groups, and UN special groups.)	SDG 9 WSIS Action Lines C1 C2, C3, C5, C6, C7:E- government, C7:E employment, C11, C7 E-Agriculture	
11 (b) Develop innovative and blended financing mechanisms	WSIS Architecture: WSIS Action Line facilitation, Internet Governance Forum, WSIS Forum, WSIS Stocktaking, WSIS Prizes,		SDGs 1 and 9	

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65. These efforts can only succeed with the active engagement of the private sector, technical and academic communities and civil society, whose innovations and contributions to digitalization are fundamental and irreplaceable. We will strengthen our collaboration and leverage multistakeholder cooperation to achieve the objectives set out in this Compact. 66.We invite international and regional organizations, the private sector, academia, the technical community and civil society groups to endorse the Compact and take active part in its implementation and follow-up. We request the Secretary-General to put in place modalities for the voluntary endorsement of this Compact, and to make this information public and accessible from December 2024.	WSIS Architecture: WSIS Action Line facilitation, Internet Governance Forum, WSIS Forum, WSIS Stocktaking, WSIS Prizes, UNGIS ESCWA, ITU, UNESCO, UNDESA et al: The Arab High-Level Forum on WSIS and 2030 Agenda ITC: Support in establishment of digital cross-sectoral stakeholder collaboration / governance structures and models UN ODET Endorsement process online UN Global Compact Chapters UN IGF National and regional initiatives	Create and maintain an online platform with stakeholders endorsements and commitments by the end of 2025 1000 endorsements by end of 2025	All WSIS Action Lines
67.We recognize the importance of financing to unlock the full potential of this Compact. Successful implementation will require public, private and multilateral resources, including the pooling of investments in joint	 WSIS Architecture: WSIS Action Line facilitation, Internet Governance Forum, WSIS Forum, WSIS Stocktaking, WSIS Prizes, UNGIS WSIS implementation at Regional Level, particularly through Regional Commissions UN Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development UN Joint SDG Fund, 		All WSIS Action Lines

The UN initiatives identified in this document are drawn from the WSIS-2030 Agenda—GDC Matrix developed by the United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) and further complemented by the workplan of the UN Working Group on Digital Technologies.

Thank you

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