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| **Council Working Group on WSIS and SDG37th meeting – Virtual meeting, 22-23 September 2021** |  |
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| **1 September 2021** |
| **English only** |
| Contribution by the Secretariat |
| WSIS PRIZES 2022 |
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| **Summary**This document serves to inform the Group about the activities related to the WSIS Prizes, in particular: - ongoing and planned activities related to the WSIS Prizes 2022.**Action required**Members are invited to note the document and participate in the new call for WSIS Prizes 2022 submissions.**References**[Res. A/70/125](https://unctad.org/en/PublicationsLibrary/ares70d125_en.pdf); [Res. A/70/1](https://www.un.org/ga/search/viewm_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1); [ECOSOC Res 2021/28](https://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=E/RES/2021/28); [Official Call for WSIS Prizes 2022 Submissions](http://www.wsis.org/prizes) |

**WSIS PRIZES 2022**

The new call for [WSIS Prizes 2022](http://www.wsis.org/prizes) was launched on 1 September with the deadline for submission set for 21 January 2022. All stakeholders are encouraged to continue sharing best practices and innovative ICT-related initiatives and projects to accelerate SDGs. The 11th edition of the contest of the WSIS Prizes and call for submissions ([www.wsis.org/prizes)](http://www.wsis.org/prizes%29) is an exceptional international recognition of WSIS stakeholders as Winners and Champions for their excellence in supporting the implementation of WSIS outcomes, in particular WSIS Action Lines supporting achievement of SDGs.

The eighteen Winners and Champions will be recognized at the [WSIS Forum 2022](http://www.wsis.org/forum). The winning projects will be included in the WSIS Stocktaking: Success Stories 2022 publication, while all submitted descriptions of projects and activities will be reflected in the WSIS Stocktaking Report 2022.

All stakeholders are invited to consider the ITU Secretary-General’s Official Call for Submissions by 21 January 2022 and promote this call within ICT communities and networks.

**Five Phases of the Contest**

1. The first phase: Submission phase

 1 September 2021 – 21 January 2022 (Deadline for last submission: 23:00 Geneva time)

1. The second phase: Nomination Phase. Revision of submitted projects that will result with a list of 360 nominated projects, twenty (20) projects per Action Line Category (18)

1 February – 25 February 2022 (twenty projects per each category will be nominated)

1. The third phase: Public online voting (identification of five projects per category with the highest number of votes)

 1 March – 31 March 2022 (Deadline for casting last vote: 23:00 Geneva time)

1. The fourth phase: Selection of winning projects by the ITU Expert Group that will result with a list of winning projects

 1 April – 15 April 2022

1. The fifth phase: Announcement of winners to the public during WSIS Prize 2022 Ceremony at WSIS Forum 2022, and the release of publication “WSIS Stocktaking: Success Stories 2022”, which is a compilation of extended descriptions of the 18 winning projects and 72 champion projects.

For more details about each of the phase, and to find out about the Rules and Guidelines, please visit the website [www.wsis.org/prizes](http://www.wsis.org/prizes)

Based on constructive recommendations and input received from the WSIS stakeholders, WSIS Prizes, as integral part of the WSIS Stocktaking, is continuously introducing innovations to further improve the contest highlighting social, economic, and environmental impact of the submitted projects.

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