WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SOCIETY DAY

17 May 2020

TOOLKIT

"Connect 2030:

ICTs for the Sustainable

Development Goals"

WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SOCIETY DAY 2020

2020 is a key milestone for the future of ICT development and deployment. **"Connect 2030 Agenda for Global Telecommunication/ICT Development"** - Resolution 200 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference sets out a shared global vision "where telecommunications/ICTs enable and accelerate social, economic and environmentally sustainable growth and development for everyone."

2020 also marks the final 10 years of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Goals (SDGs), and as part of the UN family, ITU will join the celebrations of the UN's 75th anniversary.

THEME AND OBJECTIVES

The theme for WTISD-20, **"Connect 2030: ICTs for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)"**, will allow ITU membership to focus on specific ICT-enabled solutions and emerging trends for fostering economic, environmental and social sustainability – key themes of both the Connect 2030 Agenda and SDGs.

WTISD-20 will give ITU's membership an opportunity to commemorate ICT's contribution to the past and future advancement of the Information Society and take a look at how technological progress in the coming 10 years will help accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Now is the time to act.

While the latest statistics, from the Facts and figures 2019: Measuring the digital development, show that Internet usage keeps growing with global penetration rate increased from nearly 17 per cent in 2005 to over 53 per cent in 2019, barriers still lie ahead. In least developed countries (LDCs), for example, only 19 per cent of individuals are online in 2019.

Owing to the rapid growth in the number of male Internet users in developing countries, the global Internet user gender gap has increased; 48 per cent of women now use the Internet globally compared to 58 per cent of men.

Furthermore, statistics show that 93 per cent of the world's population lives within reach of a mobile broadband (or Internet) service, but just over 53 per cent actually uses the Internet. We need to understand how to better engage these users on the demand side if want to ensure no one is left behind.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

You can join the celebrations and promote WTISD-20 in different ways:

- Celebrating WTISD-20 in your country.
- Organizing activities to promote the Connect 2030 Agenda within your country or region.
- Posting the activities, you are developing to achieve the Connect 2030 Agenda Goals in the WTISD webpage
- Participating actively in the ITU meetings, where different activities and tools will be presented to help the membership achieve the Connect 2030 Agenda.

What types of activities can you organize?

National events: Dialogues, Seminars, Workshops, Webinars to promote the Connect 2030 Agenda and show how ICTs can accelerate the achievement of the SDGs.

Regional events: High level round tables, exchange of Success Stories, Best practices, Seminars within regional events already scheduled for 2020.

National projects: National initiatives to achieve the Connect 2030 Agenda Goals.

You name it! Share with us your own WTISD activities to promote the Connect 2030 Agenda so we can give you visibility and provide you content support!

How will ITU support your activities?

The ITU General Secretariat and the three Sectors (Radiocommunication, Standardization and Development) will be at membership's disposal to support with:

Branded campaign materials to promote the ITU celebration and the Connect 2030 Agenda, together with a detailed set of guidelines on how to use the material.

Content and tools already available in the three Sectors (Radiocommunication, Standardization and Development) such as reports, guidelines, Recommendations and other tools which we have produce to help the membership achieve the Connect 2030 Agenda Goals.

Capacity building and seminars to help Member States to incorporate the Connect 2030 Agenda in their national agendas.

Promotion and visibility by including your activities in the WTISD webpage.

JOIN US and celebrate the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day 2020!

BACKGROUND

World Telecommunication Day has been celebrated annually on 17 May since 1969, to mark the founding of ITU and the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention in 1865.

In 2006, the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in Antalya, Turkey, decided to start celebrating the **World Telecommunication and Information Society Day** (WTISD), on 17 of May, to help raise awareness of the possibilities that the use of the Internet and other information and communication technologies (ICT) can bring to societies and economies, as well as ways to bridge the digital divide.

ABOUT THE CONNECT 2030 AGENDA

In 2020, the **"Connect 2030 Agenda for Global Telecommunication/ICT Development"** - Resolution 200 (Rev. Dubai, 2018) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, which is linked to the Strategic Plan of the Union (2020-2023), will be presented to ITU membership for their awareness and commitment.

The Connect 2030 Agenda is a shared global vision for the development of the telecommunication/ICT sector. Under its five strategic goals – Growth, Inclusiveness, Sustainability, Innovation and Partnership – the Connect 2030 will contribute to:

Strengthening the role of ICTs to accelerate the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Raising awareness of the importance of connectivity, as well as specific ICT-enabled solutions and emerging trends for fostering economic, environmental and social sustainability.

Increasing the usage of ICTs, including a view from the demand side.

Reducing the Digital Divide between countries and within countries, taking also into consideration the need to reduce the **Digital Gender Divide.**

Enhancing collaboration by sharing the experiences in implementing the "Connect 2030 Agenda" to reflect on the ICTs advances for transition to smart and sustainable development.

Highlighting the work of the ICT sector by inviting the ITU membership (including ITU Member States, Sector Members, Associates, SMEs and Academia) to celebrate this day by adopting the Connect 2030 Agenda and considering achieving its goals in their daily activities.

For more information visit www.itu.int/wtisd