working together towards 2025

World Summit on the Information Society
Turning targets into action
Geneva 2003 | Tunis 2005 | New York 2015

WSIS Forum 2022: Briefing

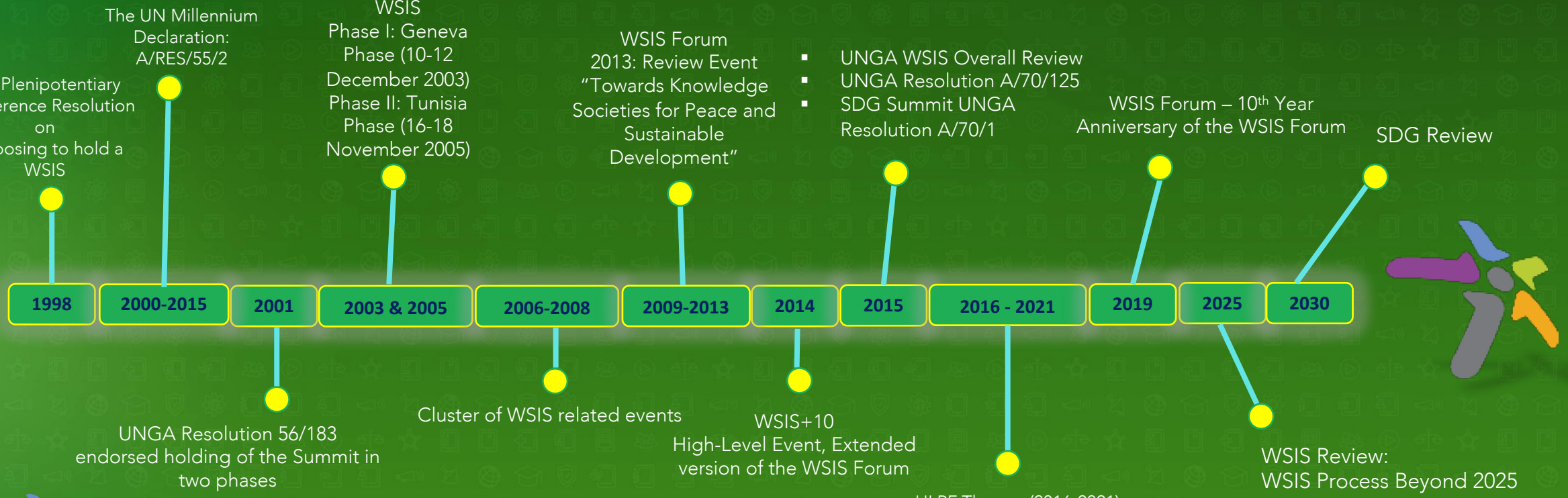
WSIS FORUM 2022

Starting on 15 March
Final week 30 May – 3 June

Coordinated by:

Organized by:

WSIS Process Timeline



WSIS FORUM IS HELD EVERY YEAR

2017: 12-16 June
2018: 21-25 May
2019: 8-12 April
2020: 22 June - final week (7-10 September)
2021: January onwards - final week (17-21 May)
2022: March Onwards – final week 30 May – 3 June

HLPF Themes (2016-2021)

- 2016: "Ensuring that no one is left behind"
- 2017: "Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world"
- 2018: "Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies"
- 2019: "Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality"
- 2020: "Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development "
- 2021: "Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development".
- 2022: "Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".

WSIS Action Lines – Sustainable Development Goals

Impact of the WSIS Action Lines on Sustainable Development Goals

WSIS-SDG Matrix: https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/sdg/

The WSIS implementation mechanism at the international level is organised taking into account the themes and action lines in the Geneva Plan of Action, and moderated or facilitated by UN agencies when appropriate.

WSIS Forum 2022 is starting soon!

Starting 15 March 2022 with

Final Week: 30 May – 3 June 2022

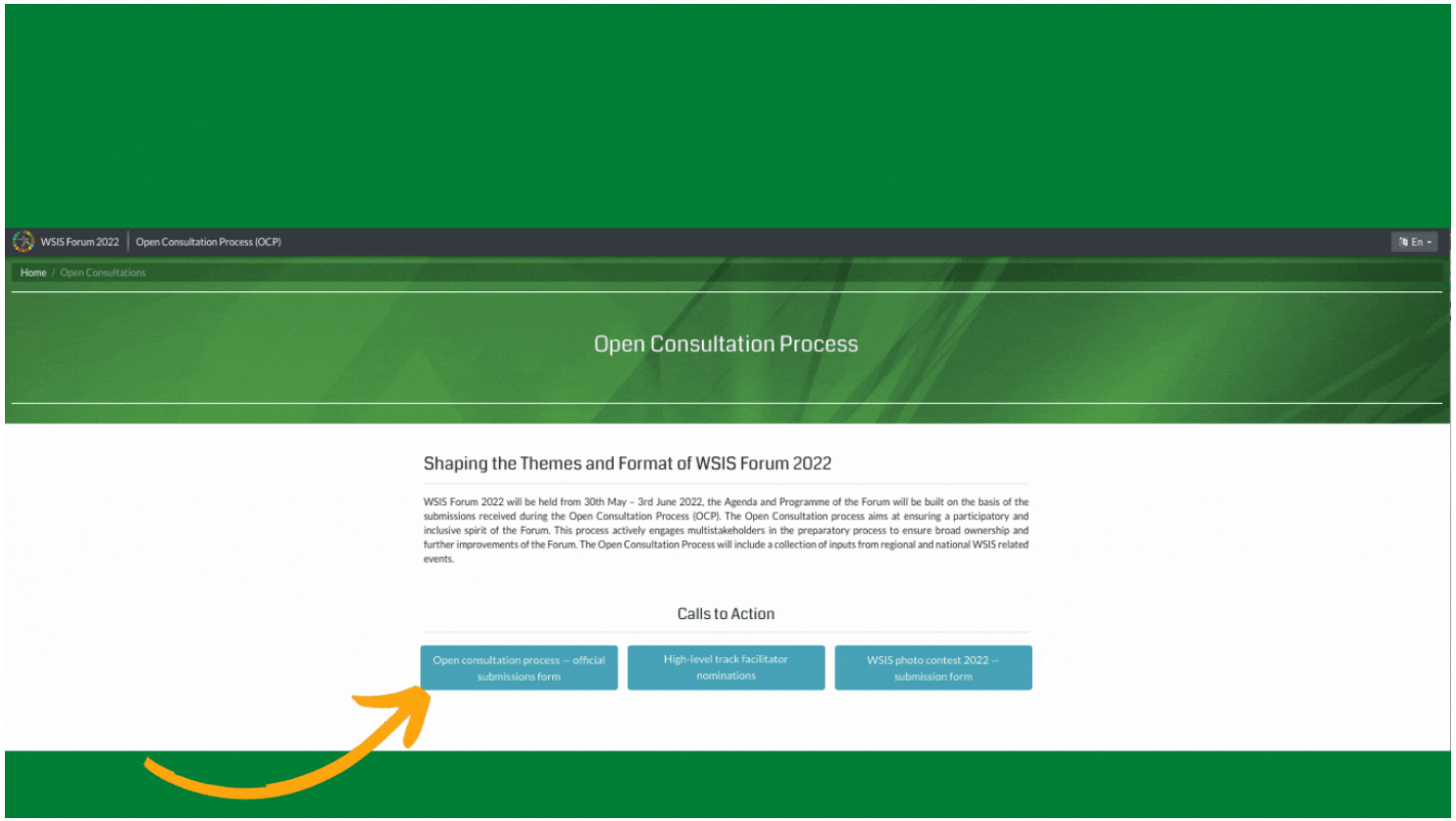
WSIS Forum 2022 components: Forum Track, High-Level Track, Special Tracks, Hackathons (ICTs and Indigenous Languages & Designing A Sustainable Future using ICTs), Exhibition Space, WSIS TalkX, etc.

Open Consultation Process

The Open Consultation process (OCP) aims at ensuring a participatory and inclusive spirit of the Forum. This process actively engages multistakeholders in the preparatory process to ensure broad ownership and further improvements of the Forum. The Open Consultation Process will include a collection of inputs from regional and national WSIS related events.

The Open Consultation Process for the WSIS Forum 2022 is structured in five phases as follows:

Open Consultation Process



Official submissions to the WSIS Secretariat on the Thematic Aspects and Innovations on the Format

1) Login with your existing account or Sign up as a new user
2) Fill out the OCP Form

www.wsis.org/forum

Deadline: 7 March 2022

High-Level Track

- High-level Policy Sessions
- Ministerial Round Table
- High-level Dialogues
- Mayors Round Table

World Telecommunication & Information Society Day (WTISD) 17 May 2022

17 May marks the anniversary of the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention and the **creation of the International Telecommunication Union** and is celebrated every year as the **World Telecommunication and Information Society Day**.

The theme for the World Telecommunication and Information Society Day 2022 (WTISD-22) is
"Digital technologies for Older Persons and Healthy Ageing".

WTISD 2022 will allow ITU membership, partners and other stakeholders to raise awareness about the important role of telecommunications/ICTs in supporting people to stay healthy, connected and independent, physically, emotionally and financially – to a life of healthy ageing - and as critical for the sustainability of economic and health systems.

With the participation of:

- Mr. Houlin Zhao, Secretary-General, ITU
- Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab, Deputy Director-General, WHO

Join the celebration and register here: https://itu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_8MqXgCe9RxOvxabsrUthGg

Open Call
WSIS Forum 2022 High-Level Track Facilitators

- Open Call for Major Stakeholder Coordination Mechanisms following the WSIS Process to identify and nominate High-Level Track Facilitators (HLTF) for the WSIS Forum 2022.
- The main task of the HLTF is to capture the vision, identify emerging trends, opportunities and challenges shared by the leaders of their session.
- The High-Level Policy Sessions will be moderated by the High-Level Track Facilitators nominated and identified by each stakeholder type i.e Government, Private Sector, Civil Society, Technical/ Academic community and International Organization.
- Each stakeholder type is invited to identify HLTF to represent their respective communities.

Nominations should be submitted to the WSIS Secretariat at wsis-info@itu.int by 7 March 2022

WSIS Prizes 2022

Submit your ICTs projects to the most globally recognised ICT for Development international annual award.

FIVE PHASES OF THE CONTEST

- The first phase: Submission phase
  1 September 2021 – 31 January 2022 (Deadline for last submission: 23:00 Geneva time)
- 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)
- 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)
- 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
- 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.

Deadline for Submissions : **31 January 2022 (extended)**

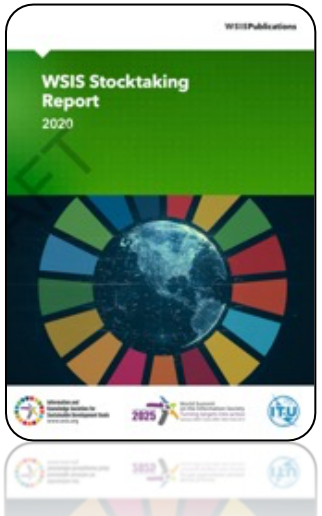
www.wsis.org/prizes

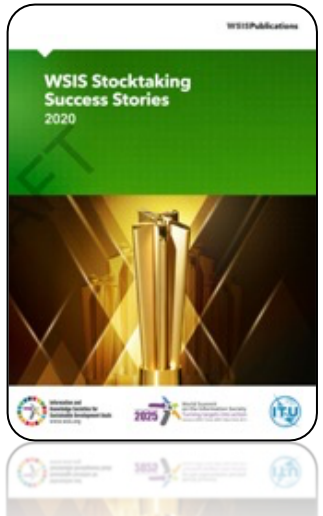
WSIS Stocktaking: 2021-2022 Call for New Entries

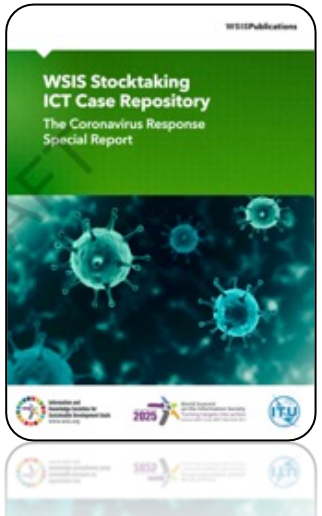
Publicly accessible WSIS Stocktaking database www.wsis.org/stocktaking currently with 13,000+ submitted projects and initiatives from 350,000+ registered stakeholders has been vigilant and started collecting projects and activities on how ICTs are assisting stakeholders in their everyday life, work, and combating challenges caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

UN General Assembly called for a close alignment between the WSIS process and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: WSIS Stocktaking is highlighting the contribution of 11 WSIS Action Lines to the achievement 17 SDGs;

ECOSOC resolution 2019/24 reiterates the importance of sharing best practices at the global level and encourages all stakeholders to submit ICT-related projects and initiatives to the WSIS Stocktaking platform.







NEW Call for Submission:
www.wsis.org/stocktaking

WSIS Photo Contest 2022

Following the successful of previous Photo Contests editions, WSIS Forum continues the Photo Contest in 2022 and invites the community to picture how Information and Communication Technologies are playing an enabling role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Participate in building a collage of ICT for Sustainable Development photographs from around the world by promoting the Photo Contest within your networks and communities. The three winning entries in the WSIS photo contest will be awarded and presented at the WSIS Forum 2022.

Deadline: 7 March 2022

WSIS Forum 2022 Special Tracks

ICTs and Youth

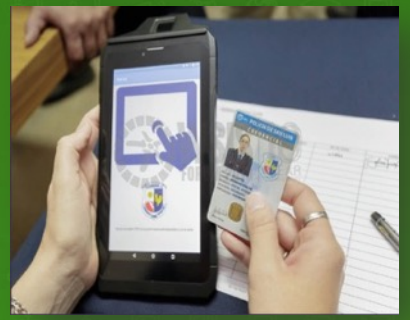
ICTs and Gender Mainstreaming

ICTs and Emerging Technologies for sustainable development

ICTs for Well-being and Happiness and Peace

ICTs and Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities and Specific Needs

ICTs and Older Persons



Cybersecurity

ICTs and Indigenous Peoples and Cultures

ICTs for Developing Countries (and LDCs)

ICTs for Industry 4.0

Special Track: ICTs and Older Persons

Launched in 2020, this special track addresses the role of ICTs in combating age-based discrimination in the workplace, achieving healthier ageing, building smarter cities, ensuring the financial inclusion of older persons and supporting millions of caregivers across the world and in digital inclusion across the generations to enable the Decade of Healthy Ageing 2020–2030.

This special track involves collaboration with various stakeholders that work around this matter, including Global Coalition of Aging (GCOA), Centre for Socio-Eco-Nomic Development (CSEND), E-Seniors, UN Agencies such as ITU, WHO, UN DESA and others.

Workshops, Exhibitions & WSIS TalkX

A series of workshops, virtual exhibitions, and WSIS TalkX sessions were organised by stakeholders during the WSIS Forum to highlight ICTs and Older Persons.

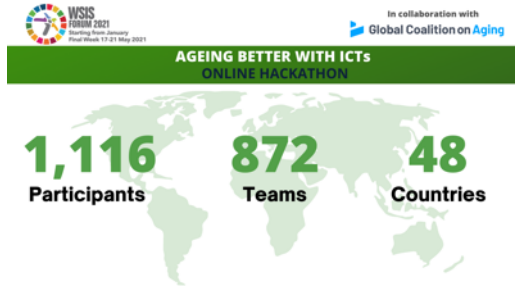
WSIS Healthy Ageing Innovation Prize

A special WSIS Prize was launched in 2021, in collaboration with GCOA. an exceptional international recognition of WSIS stakeholders as leaders for their excellence in supporting innovation that brings sustainable solutions for the ever-increasing global population of older people.

This special WSIS Prize will be continued for the WSIS Forum 2022.

WSIS Forum 2021 Hackathon: Ageing better with ICTs

The WSIS Forum 2021 Hackathon was organized virtually under the theme of Ageing Better with ICTs by ITU, GCOA, and other stakeholders like WHO, UN DESA, etc. The virtual hackathon gathered more than 1,100 participants joining from 48 countries.



UN Secretary General Report

The reference of this activity was included in the:

- UN Secretary General Report "Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing" (A/75/218) submitted pursuant to General Assembly Resolution 74/125.
- UN Secretary General Report "Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing" (A/76/156) submitted pursuant to General Assembly Resolution 75/125.

WSIS Special Initiative:

WSIS Multistakeholder Alliance on ICTs and Older Persons

The WSIS Multistakeholder Alliance on ICTs and Older Persons has been created at the request of stakeholders. It has 4 sub-groups at present led by Chairs and Co-Chairs:

1. Design and Accessibility (Mr. Alfredo Ronchi, EC MEDICI Framework; Mr. Raymond Saner, CSEND; Ms. Lichia Saner-Yiu, CSEND)
2. Capacity Building and Education (Mr. Ian Philp, Age Care Technologies; Dr. Rakesh L., Ada Lovelace Software Private Limited)
3. Cybersecurity issues (Dr. Pavan Duggal, International Commission on Cyber Security Law)
4. Innovation (Ms. Heba Al Heraki, Bevol International Platform; Ms. Tafadzwa Muusha, University of Zimbabwe Innovation Hub)

Special Track: ICTs and Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities and Specific Needs

In 2019, the WSIS Forum launched a WSIS Accessibility Day to inform and observe how ICTs can help people living with disabilities whilst focusing on progressing towards the SDGs as well as to raise awareness on the critical role of ICTs to enable and accelerate the social and economic inclusion.

In collaboration with the WSIS stakeholders and at their request, a **special track on ICTs and Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities and Specific Needs was developed for the WSIS Forum 2020** to continue the discussions on ICT accessibility. The special track continued during the WSIS Forum 2021.

Workshops, Exhibitions & WSIS TalkX

A series of workshops and virtual exhibitions were organised by stakeholders during the WSIS Forum to highlight the role of ICTs in the development of inclusive society.

Tools for stakeholders' engagements

WSIS Forum provided tools for stakeholders' engagements, such as sign language interpreter and captioning in sessions to create an inclusive and equitable experience for all

Collaboration with various types of stakeholders

WSIS engaged different accessibility communities, including hard of hearing, blind/visually impaired, autism, etc.

Special Track: ICTs and Indigenous Peoples and Cultures

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Organized by
ITU, UNESCO, and other stakeholders

WSIS Forum 2022 Special Track: ICTs and Indigenous Peoples and Cultures

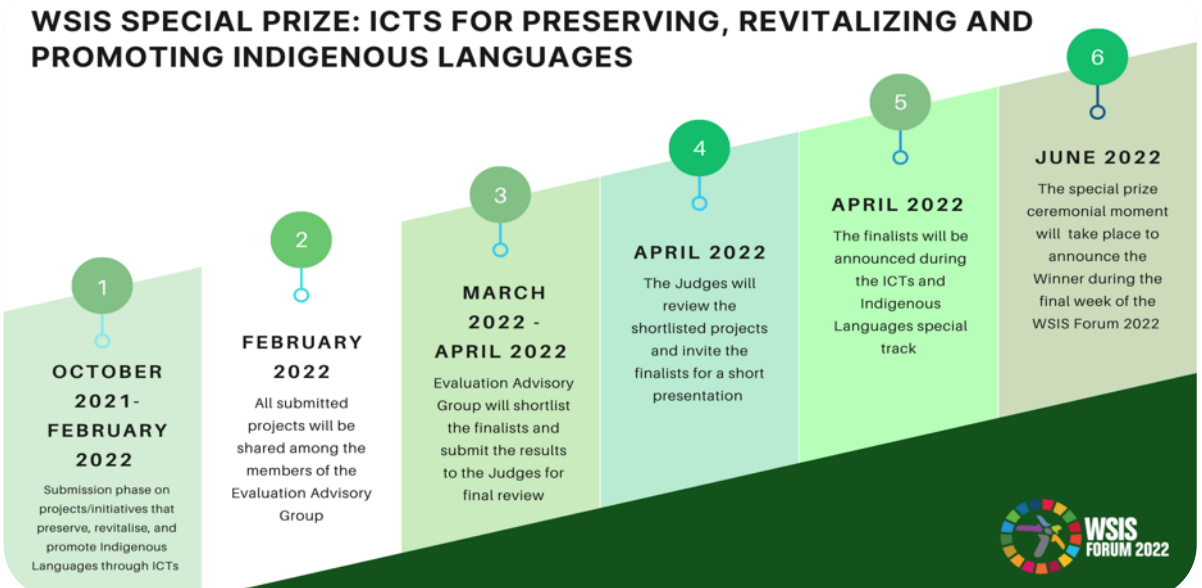
WSIS Forum 2022 will initiate a special track on ICTs and Indigenous Peoples and Culture, which will provide space for discourse on the important role that indigenous peoples and culture could play towards sustainable development with ICTs that are made accessible, inclusive and affordable for all.

Submit request for workshops/exhibition spaces through the Open Consultation Form by 7 March 2022 at www.wsis.org/forum

Special Prize: ICTs for Preserving, Revitalizing and Promoting Indigenous Languages

WSIS Forum 2022 will initiate a WSIS Special Prize on ICTs for Preserving, Revitalizing and Promoting Indigenous Languages

The winners will be announced during the final week of the WSIS Forum 2022 (30 May – 3 June 2022)



Special Track: ICTs and Gender Mainstreaming

The ICTs and Gender Mainstreaming special track is dedicated to the issues of bridging gender divide, women empowerment and promoting equality perspective through the use of ICTs. The special track aims to engage multistakeholders through a holistic cross-sectoral intersectional approach.

Thematic Partnership: Gender Digital Transformation Partner

The proposed partnership is to enhance the ICTs and Gender Mainstreaming special track of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum 2022. This special track fits in the broader framework of efforts to accelerate progress towards achieving the SDGs. This contribution will also further enhance the recently launched of the WSIS Stocktaking Repository of Women in Technology. The impact of this funding will advance efforts in accelerating progress towards the gender equality, using ICTs as an enabler.

http://www.itu.int/go/WSISGender

WSIS Special Initiative:
WSIS Stocktaking Repository of Women in Technology

http://www.itu.int/go/WSISGender

The WSIS Process affirms the **importance of promoting and maintaining gender equality and women empowerment**, guaranteeing the inclusion of women in the emerging global ICT society, and emphasizes the need to fully integrate gender equality perspectives in WSIS related strategies and facilitate their implementation to ensure that the Information Society enables women's empowerment and full participation based on equality in all spheres of society and in all decision-making processes.

Launch of the Repository: 4 August 2021

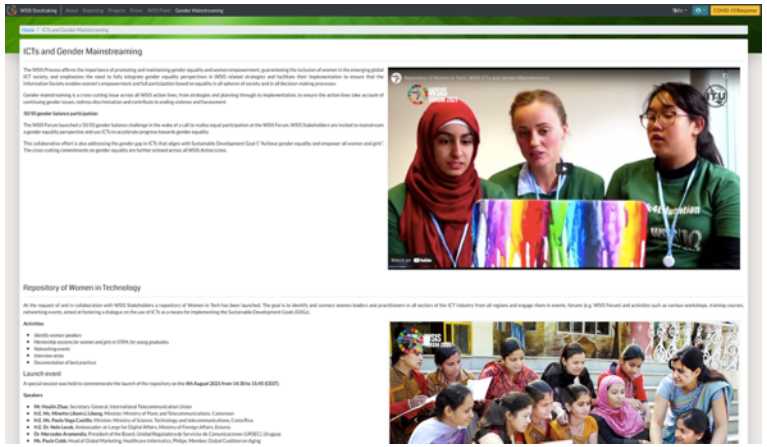
Recording link:

http://www.itu.int/go/WSISGender

Repository of Women in Tech

At the request of and in collaboration with WSIS Stakeholders a repository of Women in Tech has been launched. The goal is to identify and connect women leaders and practitioners in all sectors of the ICT industry from all regions and engage them in events, forums and activities.

Nominate WSIS Gender Trendsetter - https://forms.gle/WnzqX59xXYdF1uqx6



50/50 gender balance participation

The WSIS Forum launched a 50/50 gender balance challenge in the wake of a call to realise equal participation at the WSIS Forum. This collaborative effort is also addressing the gender gap in ICTs that aligns with Sustainable Development Goal 5 "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls". The cross-cutting commitments on gender equality are further echoed across all WSIS Action Lines.

Activities

- Identify women speakers
- Networking events
- Interview series
- Mentorship sessions for women and girls in STEM, for young graduates
- Documentation of best practices

WSIS Gender Trendsetters

1. Gather inspiring trail blazers for gender equality all around the world
2. Identify the current ICTs trends on gender issues to promote gender mainstreaming and equality
3. Organize workshops for the ICTs and Gender Mainstreaming special track at the WSIS Forum 2022
4. Promote the WSIS Forum 50/50 gender balance challenge
5. Promote and encourage stakeholders to join the WSIS Stocktaking Repository of Women in Technology
6. Advocate for the inclusion of gender issues and gender digital equity in ICT discussions

Nominate WSIS Gender Trendsetters here: https://forms.gle/WnzqX59xXYdF1uqx6

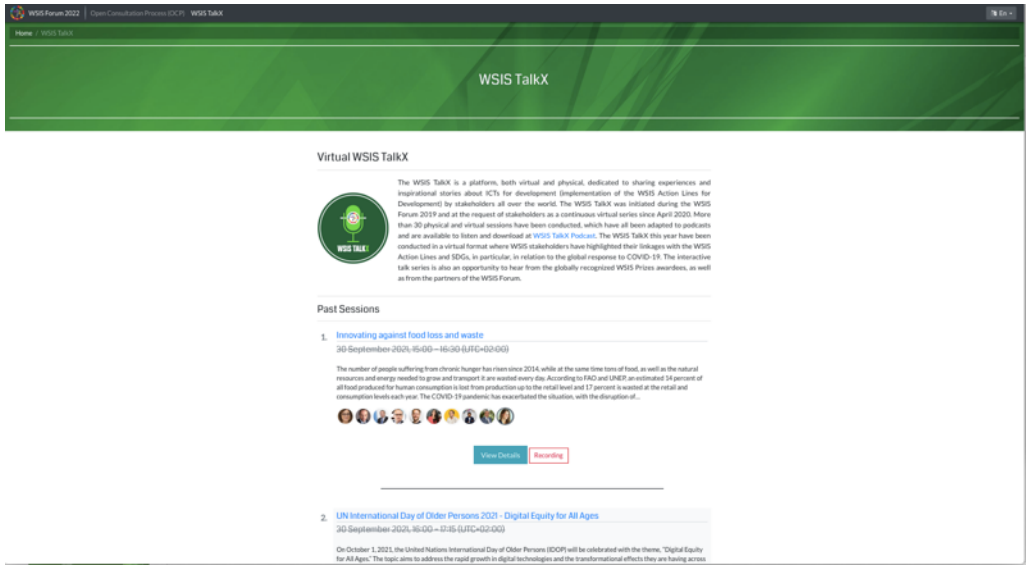
#WomeninSTEM #ChangetheNarrative #GenderEquality #WomeninTech #WomeninICTs

WSIS TalkX

The WSIS TalkX is a platform, both virtual and physical, dedicated to sharing experiences and inspirational stories about ICTs for development (implementation of the WSIS Action Lines for Development) by stakeholders all over the world.

Upcoming TalkX

International Day of Women and Girls in Science	11 February 2022, 13:00 – 14:00 CET
UN World Radio Day	14 February 2022, 13:00 – 14:00 CET
UN Mother Language Day	21 February 2022,13:00 – 14:00 CET
UN Zero Discrimination Day	1 March 2022, 13:00 – 14:00 CET
UN World Wildlife Day	3 March 2022, 13:00 – 14:00 CET
International Women's Day	8 March 2022, 13:00 – 14:00 CET



Visit our page and Register for the upcoming TalkX

www.itu.int/go/WSISTalkX

Listen to our Podcasts

https://wsistalkx.buzzsprout.com

WSIS Forum 2022 Hackathons

Hackathon: ICTs for Indigenous Languages

ITU, UNESCO and relevant stakeholders will jointly organize a WSIS Forum 2022 Hackathon on ICTs for Indigenous Languages

The Hackathon is calling on stakeholders to form teams to explore the use of ICTs in preventing, revitalising, and promoting the indigenous languages.

Linked with The Global Action Plan for Making a Decade of Action for Indigenous Languages, WSIS Action Lines, and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Hackathon — Designing a Sustainable Future using ICTs

The Telecommunications and Digital Government Regulatory Authority (TDRA) of the United Arab Emirates in cooperation with the WSIS Forum 2022 is organizing an International Hackathon across three challenge areas to promote achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) using ICTs.

Three challenge areas: (1) Digital Safety; (2) Blockchain for a better life; (3) Climate Change.

Stay tuned for the Launch of the Hackathon on 21 February 2022

www.wsis.org/forum

Hackathon - Designing a Sustainable Future using ICTs

Co-Organized by the WSIS Forum 2022 and TDRA UAE

08 – 24 November 2021

largest number of registrations: India, Tunisia, Nepal, Pakistan, and Algeria

1319 Participants

65 Teams – 54% Female

89 Countries

33 Submissions

15 Finalists

Winners

I. Digital Safety

1. Privizen - AI driven Privacy Guard – Q-Aztecs
2. VigilPopuli - Browser based internet security system - WolfPackSociety
3. Personal Assistant Robot Using Arduino - vishwajeeth9297_3a8b

II. Blockchain for a better life

1. . Block Chain based Innovative Fool Proof Real Estate Transactions – Safer/Efficient Real-Estate Transactions - The U-Team
2. Blockchain-Based Decentralized Identity Management for Remote Healthcare - The Unknowns
3. Lyfetime – TeamLyfetime

III. Climate Change

1. Identification of Deadliest Mosquitoes Using Wing Beats Sound Classification on Tiny Embedded System Using Machine Learning and Edge Impulse Platform - ML4ENV
2. PKL (PKL Knows Landslide) - kritish.pokharel_432c
3. AI Tree - Ai Tree

WSIS Youth Campaigns

WSIS YOUTH CAMPAIGNERS

Join us in scaling up the ICTs and Youth special track at the WSIS Forum

- *Awareness Building*
- *Partnerships and Collaboration*
- *Youth Empowerment*

ICTs & CLIMATE ACTION

ICTs & YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

ICTs & BUSINESS

WSIS Forum 2022 – Partner with us

STRATEGIC PARTNER PLATINUM

IEEE

PARTNER FOR SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

STRATEGIC PARTNER GOLD PLUS

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Office of Communications OFCOM

CONTRIBUTING PARTNER

وزارة المواصلات والاتصالات
MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

STRATEGIC PARTNER GOLD

SUPPORTING PARTNER

More information available at: wsis.org/forum

Reminder of Open Calls

WSIS Prizes 2022

Submit your outstanding project that leverage the power of ICTs

Deadline:
31 January 2022

Open Consultation Process

Request workshops/exhibition space/speakers and provide inputs on the format and themes

Deadline:
7 March 2022

WSIS Photo Contest 2022

Submit your photo that shows how ICTs are playing an enabling role in achieving the SDGs

Deadline:
7 March 2022

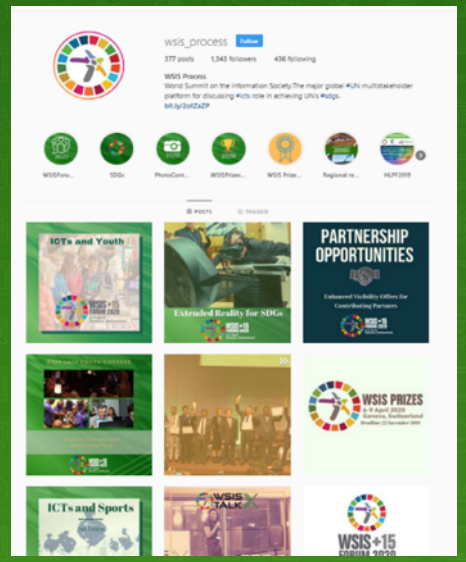
High-Level Track Facilitators (HLTF)

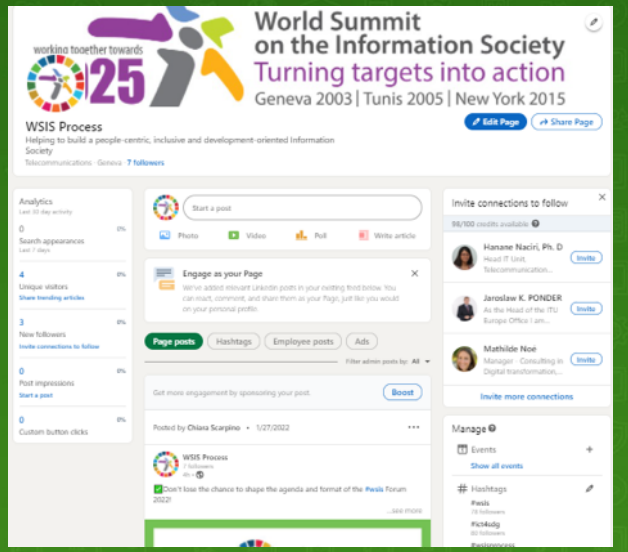
Nominate your representative for the HLTF

Deadline:
7 March 2022

Social Media channels

Follow **#WSIS** and stay up to date with our latest news across our different social media channels





WSISFLASH

THANK YOU

www.wsis.org
www.wsis.org/sdg
www.wsis.org/forum
www.wsis.org/prizes
www.wsis.org/stocktaking
www.wsis.org/review

wsis-info@itu.int