



Summary of Session: WSIS Intergenerational Knowledge Café

ITU – WSIS x Poppedia International

16/3/23 – 12-14pm CET

<https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2023/en/Agenda/Session/374>

Key Issues discussed (5- 8 bullet points)

- **Segment 1: Healthy Ageing**
 - What does it mean to “get old”? How do young people feel about getting old and what do they imagine will be their lives in their older age? Are these points of view based in fact, inevitable or just a culmination of notions based in an outdated visual imagery and biased descriptions?
 - What is being done to re-shape and re-tune this outdated narrative and will these efforts have an impact on young people’s notions? According to our colleagues at the WHO, what are the inherent health risks of Ageism? According to young people, and their own experience, what more should be done?
 - What are the actual realities of older age that young people need to start thinking about now? How should young people start preparing for a whole-of-life health experience that is integrated, effective and has technology at its core? What about financial wellness – why is that so important and how can that be assisted through technology?
- **Segment 2: ICT & Intergenerational Relations**
 - In this segment our guest speaker discussed the importance of intergenerational collaboration at work, for housing and to shape public spaces.
- **Segment 3: Youth involvement**
 - Importance of meaningful youth engagement (example of Generation Connect).
 - Presenting the WSIS x Generation Connect Youth Prize with Poppedia International.

Towards WSIS+20 and WSIS beyond 2025, please share your views on the emerging trends, challenges, achievements, and opportunities in the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines to date (5-8 bullets)

- Basic connectivity remains a major challenge to achieving digital inclusion for all, especially for young people.
- Addressing barriers to connectivity and reducing digital inequalities are crucial steps towards a safe, inclusive, and sustainable digital future.



- Policies that promote digital equity and sustainability should be prioritized in shaping the future of digital development.
- Young change makers and tech sector leaders can work together as partners in driving digital transformation towards greater inclusion and sustainability.
- Achievements such as the WSIS x Generation Connect Youth Prize finalists and the Generation Connect summits demonstrate the commitment to engaging young people in shaping the future of digital development.

Tangible outcomes (such as key achievements, announcements, launches, agreements, and commitments (3-5 bullet points))

- The announcement of the finalists for the WSIS x Generation Connect Youth Prize, with one of the winners receiving an award at the event.
- The unveiling of the Generation Connect summits and various opportunities for collaboration between the youth and other stakeholders.
- A fruitful intergenerational dialogue that underscored the pivotal role of the youth in driving progress and innovation.

Actionable plan (2-5 points)

- Inviting the youth to participate at the WSIS X Generation Connect Youth Prize and share their thoughts about technology and inclusivity.
- Initiating an intergenerational dialogue between the youth and the older generation at the workspace.

Suggestions for thematic aspects that might be included in the WSIS Forum 2024 (WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event) (one paragraph)

- The WSIS Forum 2024 (WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event) could include discussions on several thematic aspects. One of the suggestions put forward by some participants is to focus on the topics of youth in the workplace and youth in politics. The discussions could center around exploring ways in which youth can become an integral part of important economic, social, and political decisions. The event could also highlight practical steps that could be taken to facilitate youth involvement in decision-making processes. Such discussions could be particularly relevant given the increasing participation of young people in shaping the future of our societies.