

Session Outcome Document

Towards inclusive digital innovation ecosystems - do's and don'ts and what next?

IT for Change, India

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https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2024/Agenda/Session/177

Key Issues discussed (5-8 bullet points)

- International trade and IP regimes have been used to narrow down domestic policy space for countries and restrict and prohibit transparency and accountability measures like disclosure of source code
- User centric design, even at government level for cross-ministerial collaboration, is important, and measures like interoperability enable this to happen
- Data inequity is a reality and can only be resolved through a global data governance framework.
- Even as discussions around global frameworks are discussed, involvement of all peoples especially indigenous peoples in a way that considers their voice and needs is important.
- There is a need to ensure access as well as accessibility of digital technologies for all, in a way that benefits them and not just profit making companies.

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)

- Connectivity that is fast and reliable, especially for people living in remote areas, is important. This imagines scope for local innovation to ensure the people can participate in a way they want
- The development of international coherent standards for provision of state services through GovStack can enable countries to be more self-reliant and improve government processes.
- The lack of data sharing principles on global issues like climate change or pandemics poses a considerable challenge particularly for Global South countries who have larger marginal and vulnerable populations.
- The dominant narrative on the idea of innovation is market-oriented and fails to consider the needs of the people



• The dialogue on WSIS must enable bringing the information to indigenous peoples and bring their voice to decision making spaces, and learn from the original WSIS

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

- The CSTD's multistakeholder dialogue on issues of governance of data for development, based on outcomes from its working group, is significant and will be tracked.
- WSIS+20 must be multistakeholder in the real sense and involve voices from the margins to ensure it encapsulates the vision for an information society that is just and equitable.
- The recognition of digital industrialisation in the WTO Work Programme is important to continue to regulate the digital economy in a way that serves the people

Actionable plan and key recommendations (2-5 points)

- There must be enhanced international cooperation and interagency collaboration for a holistic view of development
- There must be disclosure of data at a multilateral level, of transactions and electronic transmission, to enable countries to benefit from

Suggestions for thematic aspects that might be included in the WSIS Forum 2025 (one paragraph)

• There needs to be a holistic discussion on development, which focuses on competitive growth and is non-mercantilist. The WSIS Forum in 2025 must look at public value for societies, with frameworks for disclosures around algorithms and source codes which can be implemented globally. This includes standards, and other technical information. Additionally, questions around open source and public AI models should be considered that can support governments to build their own systems.