

# WSIS Special Initiatives: ICTs and Gender Mainstreaming special track



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



# 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.





# Background

- WSIS Forum is a global UN multistakeholder platform facilitating the implementation of the WSIS Action Lines for advancing sustainable development. The Forum is co-organized by the ITU, UNCTAD, UNDP, and UNESCO, in close collaboration with all WSIS Action Line co-facilitators and other UN organizations. It represents the largest annual gathering of the information and communication technologies (ICTs) community discussing the trends, evolution, and challenges of digital topics.
- The Forum provides an opportunity for information exchange, knowledge creation and sharing of best practices, while identifying emerging trends and fostering partnerships, taking into account the evolving information and knowledge societies. The WSIS Forum will therefore serve as a key forum for discussing the role of ICTs as a means of implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, with due regard to the global mechanism for follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- The WSIS Forum, each year encourages the participation of all stakeholders, governments, private sector, civil society, technical community and the academia to showcase innovative ICTs technologies and policies that have brought about social change and more importantly economic empowerment.
- 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.





# Objectives



Mainstream and promote gender equality in the field of ICTs



Recognize and engage Women in Technology  
Encourage Girls to pursue careers in STEM



Raise awareness on social and economic issues women and girls face around the world



Share best practices on the use of ICTs to help tackle the gender issues



Promote gender issues as a cross-cutting solution to existing opportunities and challenges in the implementation of WSIS Action Lines in line with the SDGs



Strive for 50/50 gender balance participation at the WSIS Forum



# Activities

Develop gender policy and recommendations for guiding efforts to achieve gender equality through the use of ICTs

Organise networking and educational activities:

- ❖ Women's Breakfast and networking events
- ❖ Sessions with women leaders in ICTs
- ❖ Workshops and Knowledge Café'
- ❖ Tech courses to promote digital skills for young women and girls
- ❖ Bootcamp events
- ❖ Hackathon
- ❖ Interviews



# List of Gender Workshops at the WSIS Forum 2022

- Code Like a Girl!: Intro to Computer Programming with the TechGirls
- Support programmes for women's cooperatives
- Women in STEM Speak Up!



- Training: Girls and Women: Learn to Use Satellite Data to Understand Climate Change
- WSIS TalkX: International Day of Women and Girls in Science: Uniting efforts towards equal and inclusive future



# WSIS Forum Photo Contests depicting ICTs and Gender Mainstreaming



## WSIS Forum 2021 Photo Contest winner

### *Incubating the next generation of digital leaders with Raspberry Pi*

This picture shows our Learning Cascade projects in a Digital Literacy Center we sponsor in Odisha, India. Through SoCCs (Social Capital Credits), our community currency for social good, girls earn SoCCs tutoring 2 younger students who are three years or more younger than them, thrice a week. – Odisha, India



## WSIS Forum 2021 Photo Contest winner

### *ICT Use among Micro, Small, Medium Scale Enterprises*

An SME operator digitizing daily purchase of items. - Wenchi, Ghana



## WSIS Forum 2021 Photo Contest finalist

### *Digitize to Equalize*

Bahawalpur Entrepreneurs are tapping into opportunities and global economy via AanganPk.com, a digital e-commerce platform. Kaarvan Crafts Foundation and Samsung are taking technology to the grassroots! Kaarvan has created an online shop with, by and for rural artisans — digital courtyard where female artisans can upload their crafts — take orders, sell, and receive payments from national and international customers through Android Mobile Devices provided by Partner Samsung. - Bahawalpur



# 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>

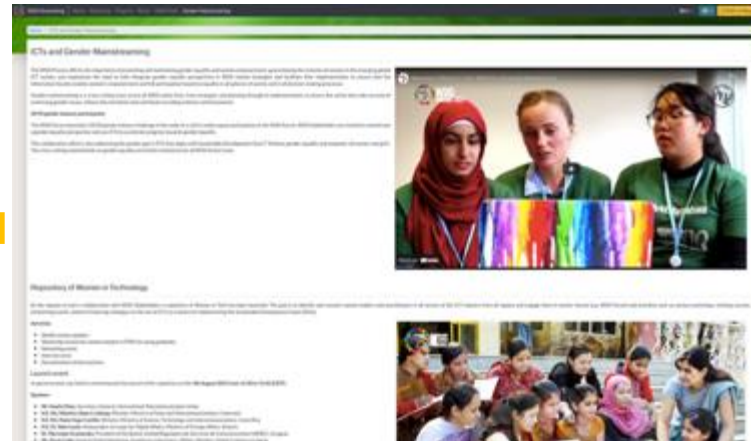
## Repository of Women in Tech

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

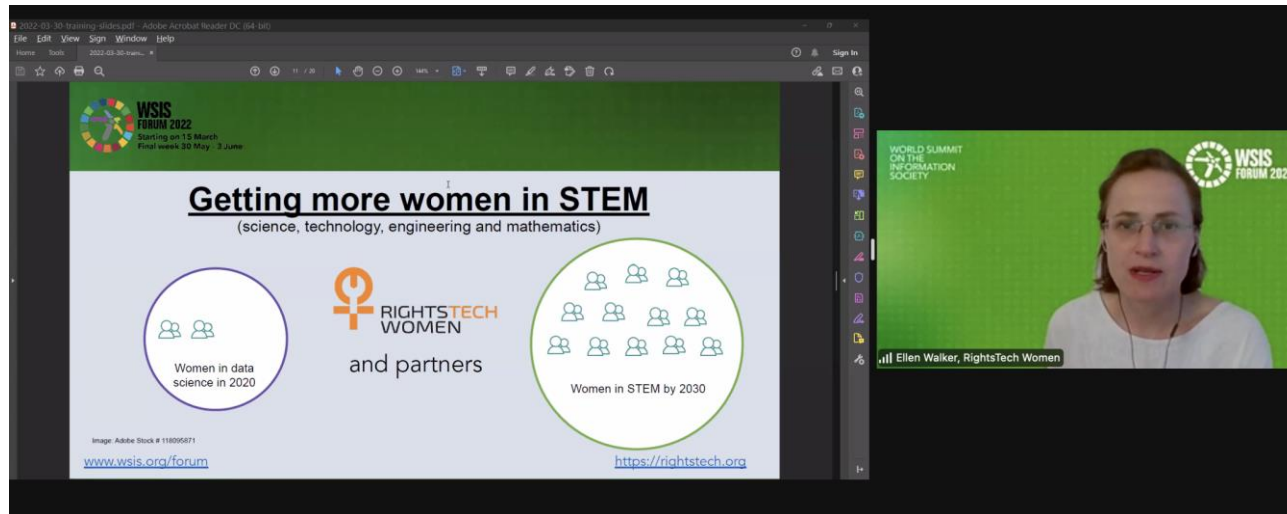
- Identify women speakers
- Networking events
- Interview series
- Mentorship sessions for women and girls in STEM, for young graduates
- Documentation of best practices



# WSIS Stocktaking Repository Training Sessions

Training: Women in Science Day: Cloud to Classroom Workshop for Girls and Women  
*Friday 11 February*

Training: Girls and Women: Learn to Use Satellite Data to Understand Climate Change:  
*Wednesday 30 March*





# 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



**#WomeninSTEM**

**#ChangetheNarrative**

**#GenderEquality**

**#WomeninTech**

**#WomeninICTs**

# WSIS Gender Trendsetters



## MEET THE WSIS GENDER TRENDSETTERS!



**Mr. Vala Afshar**  
Chief Digital  
Evangelist,  
SalesForce



**Ms. Susana Arrechea**  
Digital Community  
Center Project  
Director, New Sun  
Road for-profit public  
benefit company



**Ms. Elena Estavillo  
Flores**  
CEO,  
Centro-i para la  
Sociedad del  
Futuro Think Tank



**Ms. Mei Lin Fung**  
Chair and  
Cofounder,  
People Centered  
Internet



**Ms. Gab-Hingonne  
Gabdibe**  
National Coord.  
Action pour  
l'Education & la  
Promotion de la  
Femme, TCHAD



**Ms. Mikaela Jade**  
CEO and Founder,  
Indigital EduTech



**Ms. Kirthi  
Jayakumar**  
Coder and Creator  
at Saahas



**Dr. Tawfik Jelassi**  
Assistant  
Director-General,  
UNESCO



**Mr. Malcolm Johnson**  
Deputy  
Secretary-General,  
International  
Telecommunication  
Union



**Ms. Tatyana  
Kanzaveli**  
Founder and CEO,  
Open Health  
Network



**H.E. Ms. Lotte  
Knudsen**  
Ambassador  
Extraordinary and  
Plenipotentiary,  
European Union



**Ms. Fang Li**  
Deputy Director  
Research Institute  
of Technology and  
Standard, CAICT



**Mr. Benoit Louvel**  
Service Design Front  
Office Director,  
Customer Service &  
Operations, Orange  
Business Services



**H.E. Ms. Neema  
Lugangira**  
Member of  
Parliament of  
Tanzania & Founder  
of NGO, Omuka Hub



**Ms. Samantha  
Paoletti**  
Research and  
Business Dev.  
Manager CSEM



**Ms. Ari Qayumi**  
Founder and CEO,  
Mindful Venture  
Capital



**Ms. Yvette Ramos**  
President,  
WomenVai



**Ms. Natalja  
Rodionova**  
Founder, Sisters of  
Code & IT Academy  
STEP Cambodia



**Ms. Magatte  
Wade**  
Entrepreneur,  
Magatte Wade



**Ms. Vidhya Y.**  
Cofounder and  
Trustee,  
Vision Empower





# WSIS Forum 2022 is happening!

Starting **15 March 2022 onwards – virtual format**

Final Week: **30 May – 3 June 2022 – physical format with enhanced remote participation at the ITU Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland**

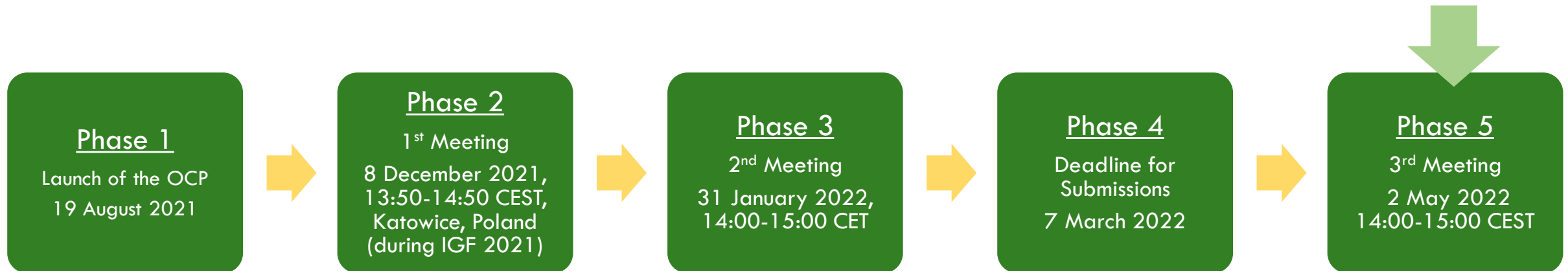
WSIS Forum 2022 components: Forum Track, High-Level Track, Special Tracks, Hackathon (ICTs and Indigenous Languages), Exhibition Space, WSIS TalkX, etc.



# Open Consultation Process

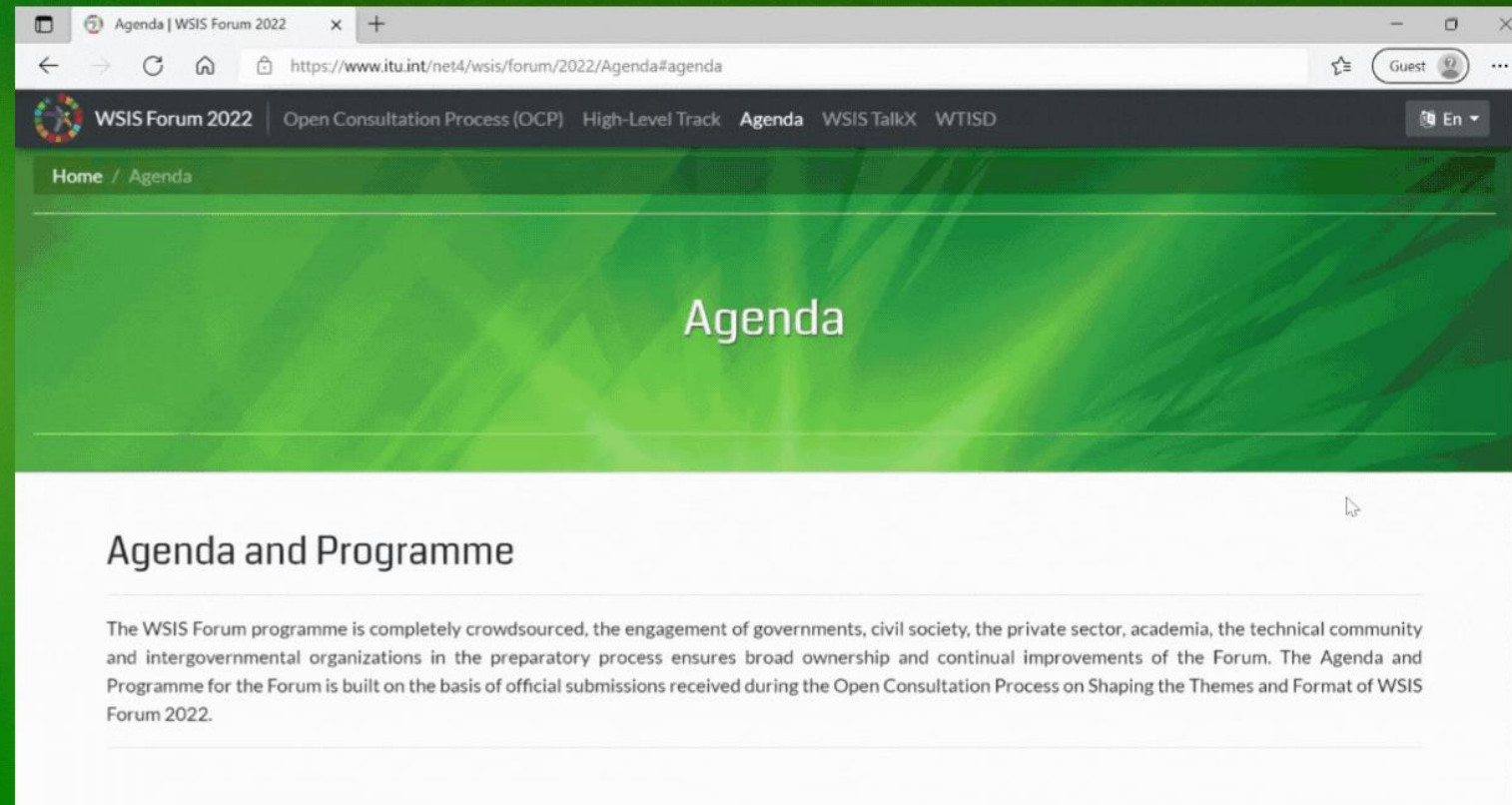
The Open Consultation process (OCP) aims at ensuring a participatory and inclusive spirit of the Forum. This process actively engages multistakeholders in the preparatory process to ensure broad ownership and further improvements of the Forum. The Open Consultation Process will include a collection of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

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





# Explore our WSIS Forum 2022 agenda online!



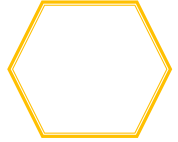


# Final Week (Draft Agenda)

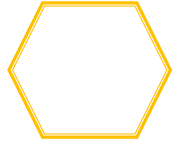
| Monday, 30 May                                                                                                                                                                    | Tuesday , 31 May                                                                      | Wednesday , 1 June                                                                | Thursday, 2 June                               | Friday, 3 June                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Exhibition Inauguration<br>Forum Track:<br>WSIS Action Line Facilitation Meetings (ALFM)<br>Partners workshops (PW)<br>Country Workshops (CW)<br><b>Remote participation (RP)</b> | HLM UNGIS /<br>Opening Segment<br><br><b>English/French<br/>Captioning<br/>RP</b>     | HLPS 4<br><br><b>English/French<br/>Captioning<br/>RP</b>                         | HLD #3<br><br><b>RP</b>                        | WL UNGIS<br><br>Forum Track: ALFM, PW, TW, CW<br><br><b>RP</b>         |
| Forum Track: ALFM, PW, TW, CW<br><br><b>RP</b>                                                                                                                                    | Opening Segment<br><br><b>English/French<br/>Captioning<br/>RP</b>                    | HLPS 5<br><br><b>English/French<br/>Captioning<br/>RP</b>                         | HLD #4<br><br><b>RP</b>                        | Forum Track: ALFM, PW, TW, CW<br><br><b>RP</b>                         |
| Knowledge Café                                                                                                                                                                    | WSIS Prizes Ceremony                                                                  | Knowledge Café                                                                    | Knowledge Café                                 | Knowledge Café                                                         |
| Forum Track: ALFM, PW, TW, CW<br><br><b>RP</b>                                                                                                                                    | High-Level Policy Session 1 (HLPS)<br><br><b>English/French<br/>Captioning<br/>RP</b> | HLPS 6<br><br><b>English/French<br/>Captioning<br/>RP</b>                         | WSIS Regional Commission Meeting               | Forum Track: ALFM, PW, TW, CW<br><br><b>RP</b>                         |
| Forum Track: ALFM, PW, TW, CW<br><br><b>RP</b>                                                                                                                                    | HLPS 2<br><br><b>English/French<br/>Captioning<br/>RP</b>                             | Ministerial RT<br><b>Venue TBC</b><br><b>English/French<br/>Captioning<br/>RP</b> | Forum Track: ALFM, PW, TW, CW<br><br><b>RP</b> | WSIS Action Lines Facilitators Meeting<br><br><b>Captioning<br/>RP</b> |
| Forum Track: ALFM, PW, TW, CW<br><br><b>RP</b>                                                                                                                                    | HLPS 3<br><br><b>English/French<br/>Captioning<br/>RP</b>                             | High-Level Dialogue (HLD) #1<br><b>RP</b>                                         | Forum Track: ALFM, PW, TW, CW<br><br><b>RP</b> | Closing Ceremony<br><br><b>Captioning<br/>RP</b>                       |
| Donors Dinner                                                                                                                                                                     | Reception / Certificates                                                              | Gala Dinner                                                                       | WSIS TalkX (Networking Cocktail)               |                                                                        |



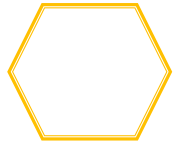
# High-Level Track



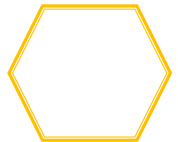
High-level Policy Sessions



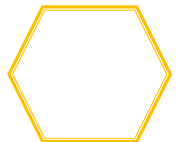
Ministerial Round Table



High-level Dialogues



Mayors Round Table



Workshop with Parliamentarians





# 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.

**17 May 2022, 13:00-14:30 CEST**, with the participation of:

- Mr. Houlin Zhao, Secretary-General, ITU
- Dr Zsuzsanna Jakab, Deputy Director-General, WHO
- H.E. Ms. Ursula Owusu-Ekuful, Minister, Ministry of Communication and Digitalization, Ghana
- Ms. My Linh Kha, Senior Vice President and General Manager, Japan Asia-Pacific, AMGEN
- Dr. Jane Barratt, Secretary-General, International Federation on Ageing

**Join the celebration and register here:** <https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2022/Agenda/Session/133>

More information on WTISD-22: <https://www.itu.int/en/wtisd/2022/Pages/default.aspx>





# 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.

Voting Phase starts: **1 March 2022**  
[www.wsis.org/prizes](http://www.wsis.org/prizes)



The banner features a large, stylized golden trophy on the right side. The background is a warm orange-yellow gradient with geometric patterns. At the top left is the WSIS logo. The text 'WSIS PRIZES 2022' is prominently displayed in bold black letters. Below it, in smaller text, is 'WORLD SUMMIT ON THE INFORMATION SOCIETY PRIZES 2022'. The central text reads 'Voting Phase' followed by '01/03- 31/03 2022' in large, bold, black and green letters. Below this, a blue line of text states 'A list of 360 Nominees is available for voting!'. At the bottom left, there is a small icon of a blue head profile with a speech bubble and a megaphone. The website 'wsis.org/forum' is written in small text at the bottom right.

WSIS PRIZES 2022

WORLD SUMMIT ON THE INFORMATION SOCIETY PRIZES 2022

**Voting Phase**  
**01/03- 31/03 2022**

A list of 360 Nominees is available for voting!

wsis.org/forum

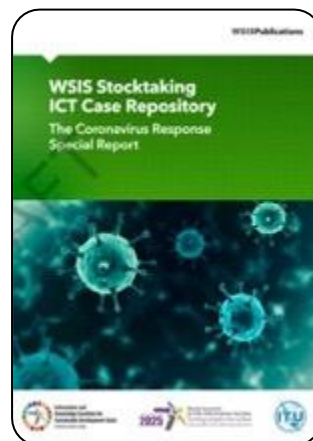


# WSIS Stocktaking: 2021-2022 Call for New Entries

Publicly accessible WSIS Stocktaking database [www.wsis.org/stocktaking](http://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](http://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  
and ICTs for Industry 4.0**



**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)**



# WSIS Forum 2022 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 of 2-5 to explore the use of ICTs in transmitting, preserving, revitalising and promoting indigenous languages.
- 3 Challenge areas: knowledge, empowerment and preservation
- 3 Winners, one per challenge area will be awarded each a USD 1,000 cash prize



21 Feb.



**High-Level  
Launch of the  
Hackathon  
during the WSIS  
TalkX celebrating  
the International  
Mother Language  
Day**

18 March. – 18 April.



**Participants  
Registration**

Promotion and  
Outreach.

18 April. – 10 May



**HACK and  
Experts Meetings**

ICT Ideation and  
Development of  
Proof of Concepts

Mentoring Sessions  
Organized with  
Subject Matter  
Experts

10 May. – 20 May.



**Finalists  
Selection  
&  
Pitching  
session**

Jury Panel review

15 finalist teams will  
be selected by the  
platform based on  
specific predefined  
criteria provided by  
the Jury.

31 May – 3 Jun.



**Winners  
Announcement**

The winners of the  
Hackathon will be  
announced during  
the Final week of the  
WSIS Forum 2022  
event as part of the  
High-Level Dialogue  
on ICTs for  
Indigenous  
Languages.

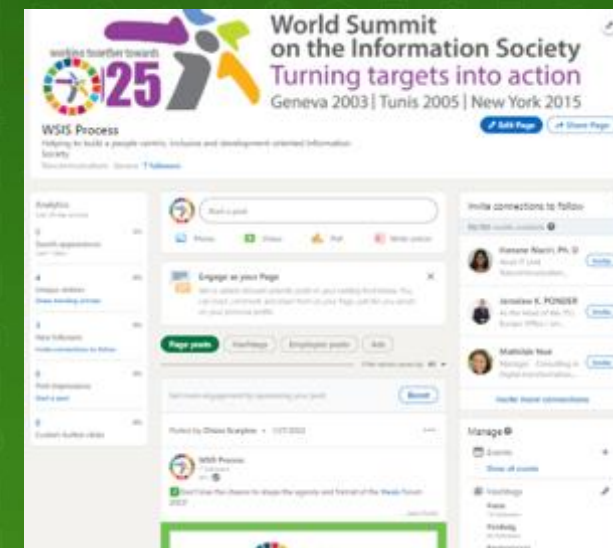
**APPLY NOW!** Registration is open until **18 April** on

<https://icts-for-indigenous-languages.hackerearth.com/>



# Social Media channels

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



# THANK YOU

[www.wsis.org](http://www.wsis.org)

[www.wsis.org/sdg](http://www.wsis.org/sdg)

[www.wsis.org/forum](http://www.wsis.org/forum)

[www.wsis.org/prizes](http://www.wsis.org/prizes)

[www.wsis.org/stocktaking](http://www.wsis.org/stocktaking)

[www.wsis.org/review](http://www.wsis.org/review)

[wsis-info@itu.int](mailto:wsis-info@itu.int)