WSIS Process: Celebrating Twenty Years and Achieving Future Milestones Together

Vladimir Stankovic
Program Officer
*International Telecommunication Union*

WSIS Process

WSIS is a **UN process,** that involves more than 47 UN organisations and is built on the framework of the 11 WSIS Action Lines.

It encompasses **multistakeholder digital cooperation** within UN agencies including the governments, private sector, civil society, academia and the technical community.

The goal of WSIS is to achieve a common vision, desire and commitment to **build a people-centric, inclusive and development-oriented information and knowledge societies** where everyone can create, access, utilize and share information through digital and new technologies.
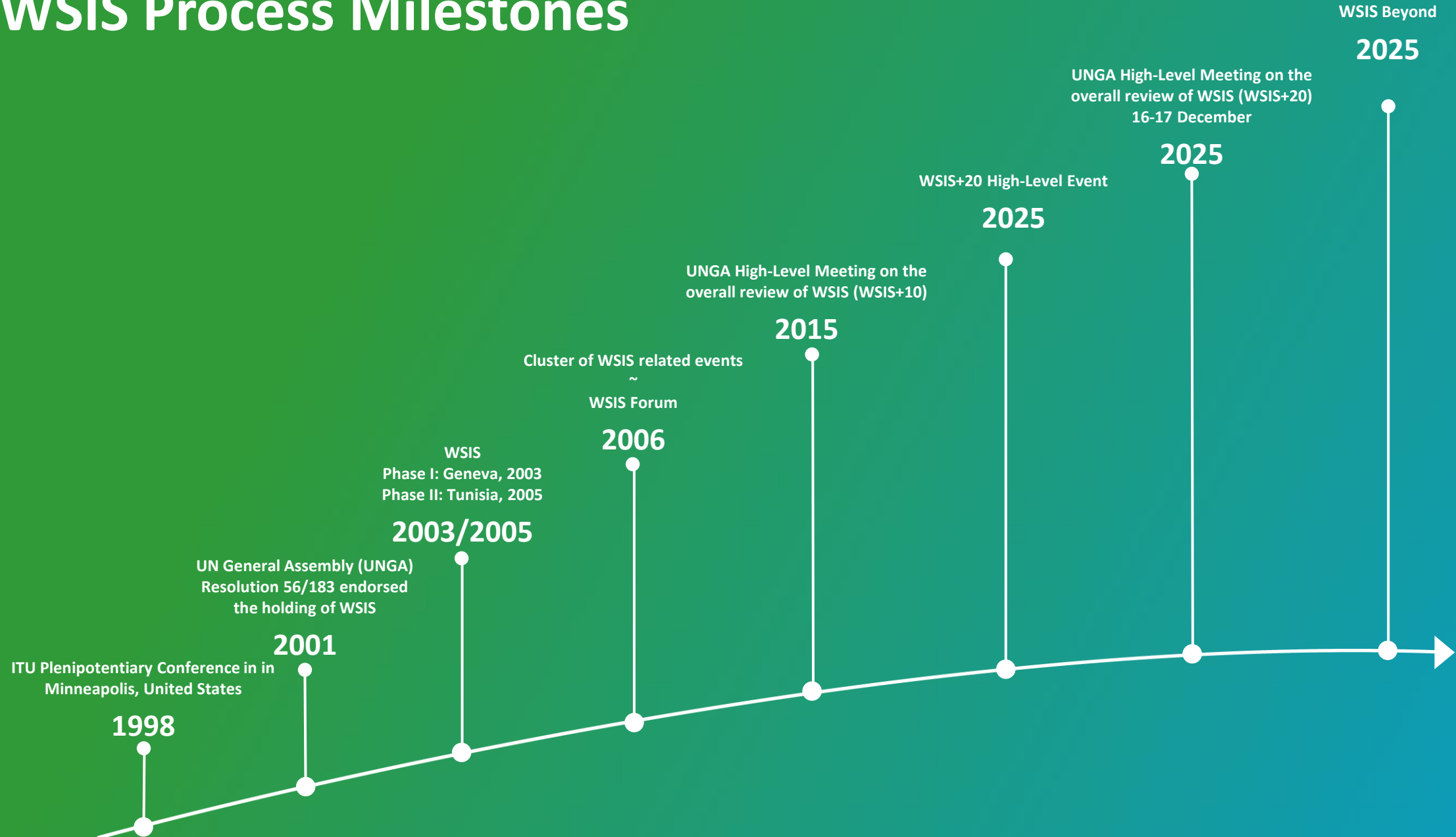
Governance

UNGA Resolutions

ECOSOC Resolutions

CEB through the United Nations Group on Information Society (UNGIS)

CSTD

Annual WSIS Forum

Annual Internet Governance Forum (IGF)

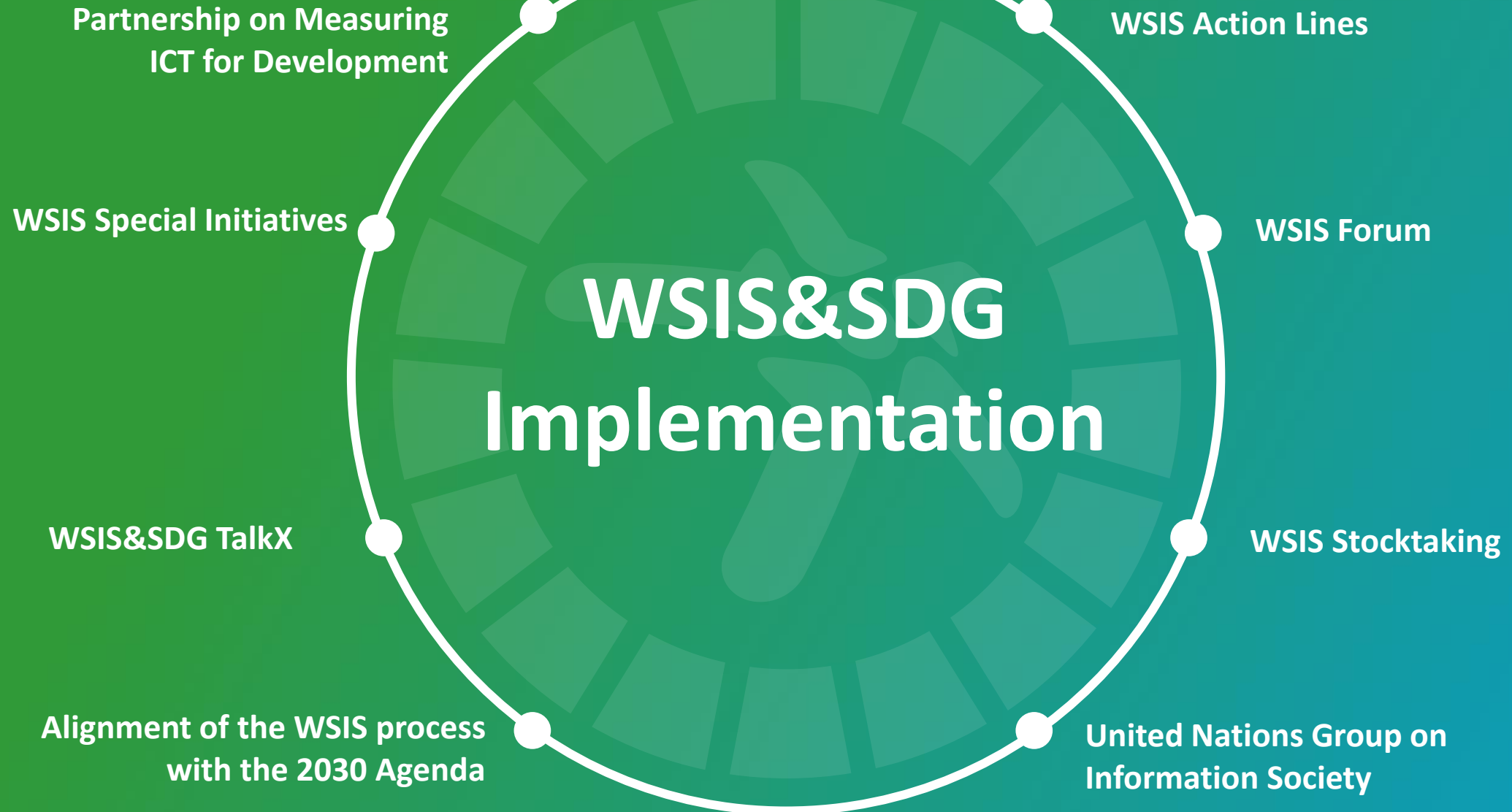**UN Agencies mandated to implement WSIS Action Lines**

**UN Regional Commissions mandated
to implement WSIS at regional level**

**WSIS Prizes | WSIS Stocktaking |
Partnership for Measuring ICT development |
WSIS Special Initiatives**

Guided by key principles: WSIS Action Lines

C1 ICTs for development	**C7** eHealth
C2 Infrastructure	**C7** eEmployment
C3 Access to info & knowledge	**C7** eEnvironment
C4 Capacity building	**C7** eAgriculture
C5 Confidence & security	**C7** eScience
C7 Enabling environment	**C8** Diversity & local content
C7 eGovernment	**C9** Media
C7 eBusiness	**C10** Ethical dimensions
C7 eLearning	**C11** Int & regional cooperation

15 000+ digital projects aligned with SDGs

Presentations by UN WSIS Action Lines facilitators on WSIS+20 Review Action Lines Milestones, Challenges and Emerging Trends beyond 2025:
https://itu.int/go/wsis20review

WSIS Action Lines

WSIS Action Line	Lead Facilitator(s)	Co-Facilitators
C1: The role of governments and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICT for development	**UN DESA**	ITU, UNESCO, UNDP
C2: Information and communication infrastructure	**ITU**	UN DESA, UNESCO, UNDP
C3: Access to information and knowledge	**UNESCO**	FAO, ITU, UN DESA, UNDP, UNIDO
C4: Capacity building	**ITU**	FAO, UNCTAD, UN DESA, UNDP, UNESCO, UNIDO
C5: Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs	**ITU**	UN DESA, UNESCO, UNDP
C6: Enabling environment	**ITU**	APC, UNCTAD, UN DESA, UNDP, UNESCO, UN Regional Commissions, UNIDO
C7: ICT applications:		
• E-government	**UN DESA**	ITU, UNDP
• E-business	**ITC, UNCTAD, UPU**	WTO
• E-learning	**ITU, UNESCO**	UNIDO
• E-health	**WHO**	ITU
• E-employment	**ILO**	ITU
• E-environment	**ITU, UNEP, WMO**	ICAO, UN-Habitat, WHO
• E-agriculture	**FAO**	ITU
• E-science	**UNESCO**	ITU, UNCTAD, WHO
C8: Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content	**UNESCO**	
C9: Media	**UNESCO**	
C10: Ethical dimensions of the Information Society	**UNESCO**	ECOSOC, ECPAT Int'l, WHO
C11: International and regional cooperation	**UN DESA**	ECOSOC, ITU, UNDP, UNESCO, UN Regional Commissions

WORLD SUMMIT ON THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

20 years of WSIS

- Strong example of global digital cooperation in action

- Impressive results

- Cementing the multistakeholder model: IGF and WSIS Forum

- Provides an inclusive and equal platform for all

- Frameworks to systematically discuss evolution of technology and its implications from various perspectives

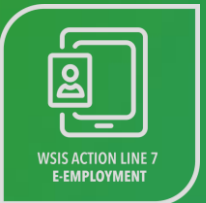# 20 years of WSIS Action Lines: milestones, challenges and emerging trends beyond 2025
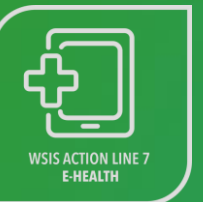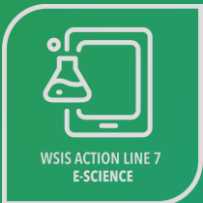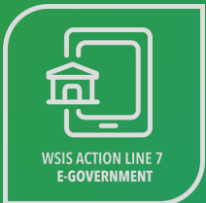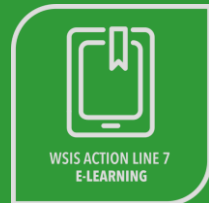
20 years of implementation of WSIS Action Lines prepared by UN Action Lines Facilitators, highlighting:

- Evolution of context

- 20 years achievements

- Challenges

- Emerging Trends

- Opportunities beyond 2025

Learn more:
https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2025/Home/About

WSIS Targets : achievements since 2003

5.5
Billion people online

280 000+
Connected schools according to Giga Maps

WHO& ITU collecting Data
Connected hospitals

65%
Women using the Internet

79%
Youth (15-24 years old) use the internet

WSIS: continuously evolving process addressing impacts of emerging technologies

Hackathons

WSIS Forum agenda and programme continuously updated to encompass discussions on new and emerging technologies

AI for Good and WSIS Forum organized concurrently

Exhibition spaces showcasing latest technologies

WSIS Special Innovation Prizes

WSIS: An overall framework incorporating all aspects of digital
WSIS Framework: Implementation and follow-up to GDC

Inclusivity

Capacity Building

Bridging Digital Divide

Protection and Promotion of Human Rights

Promotion of International Cooperation

Innovation and Knowledge Sharing

Alignment with Sustainable Development Goals

Ethical Use of Technology

WSIS
GDC

WSIS Process and 2030 Agenda – GDC Matrix is prepared in consultation with WSIS Action Lines facilitators and UNGIS members

WSIS+20
HIGH-LEVEL EVENT 2025

7-11 July 2025
Geneva, Switzerland

Save the date

7-11 July 2025
Palexpo
Geneva, Switzerland

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Register now!

Registration for the WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025 is free of charge and open to all stakeholders.

Registration is mandatory for all participants to attend the Event.

On-site Registration	Virtual Registration

https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2025/Home/Registration

We encourage you to book your accommodation early.

Accreditation and Visa
- Accreditation is required in order to participate on-site to attend the Event.
- Accreditation requests should be submitted as soon as possible and no later than **30 April 2024** to ensure timely administrative processing of the requests.
- A registration confirmation (e-confirmation) will be the sole document provided for visa support.

Learn more : wsis.org/forum

Draft Agenda

	MON 7 July	TUE 8 July	WED 9 July	THU 10 July	FRI 11 July
AM	• Ambassadors Roundtable • Inaugural Session • High-Level Plenary • Exhibition Inauguration • Knowledge Café • WSIS Prizes • Youth	• Forum track • High-Level Lunch by Platinum partner • Knowledge Café	• Network of Women Leaders in ICT Breakfast • High-Level Track • Forum track • High-Level Lunch by Diamond partner • Knowledge Café • WSIS Prizes Champions Ceremony	• High-Level track • Forum track • Knowledge Café	• High-Level track • Forum track • Knowledge Café by Silver Partner
PM	• UNGIS High-Level • Forum track • Reception by Poland / Youth Party	• Regulators Roundtable • Forum track • TED/similar TalkX WSIS 20-year celebrations	• High-Level track • Ministerial Roundtable • ITU 160th Presidential Gala Dinner	• **AI Governance Day** • Forum track • Official Swiss Reception • Partner Certificates	• WSIS Action Lines Facilitators Meeting • Closing Ceremony and Chair's WSIS+20 HLE Summary

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WSIS+20 High-Level Event – key elements

High-Level Leaders TalkX

Interactive Sessions by all stakeholders

WSIS Prizes

Hackathon

Ambassadors & Regulators Roundtables

Emerging Technologies

Ministerial Roundtable

UN WSIS Action Lines & UNGIS sessions

Exhibitions

20-year celebrations

Partner with Us!

- Strategic Partner Diamond
- Strategic Partner Platinum
- Strategic Partner Gold
- Silver Partner
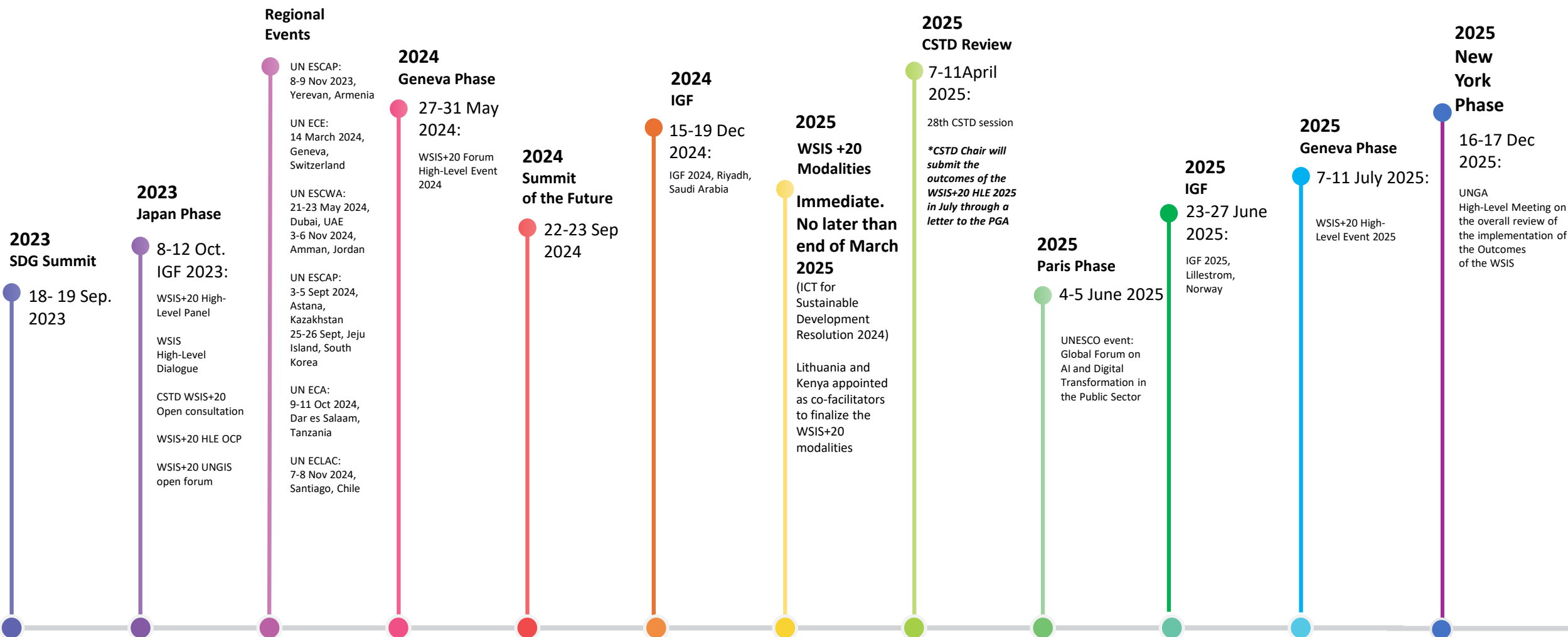- Contributing Partners
- Supporting Partners

TakingITGlobal
INSPIRE INFORM INVOLVE
INSPIRER INFORMER ENGAGER

Internet Society

ifip

Contact us at **wsis-info@itu.int**

WSIS+20 REVIEW

WSIS+20 Review
Joint Preparatory Process

2023
SDG Summit

18- 19 Sep. 2023

2023
Japan Phase

8-12 Oct. IGF 2023:

WSIS+20 High-Level Panel

WSIS High-Level Dialogue

CSTD WSIS+20 Open consultation

WSIS+20 HLE OCP

WSIS+20 UNGIS open forum

Regional Events

UN ESCAP: 8-9 Nov 2023, Yerevan, Armenia

UN ECE: 14 March 2024, Geneva, Switzerland

UN ESCWA: 21-23 May 2024, Dubai, UAE 3-6 Nov 2024, Amman, Jordan

UN ESCAP: 3-5 Sept 2024, Astana, Kazakhstan 25-26 Sept, Jeju Island, South Korea

UN ECA: 9-11 Oct 2024, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

UN ECLAC: 7-8 Nov 2024, Santiago, Chile

2024
Geneva Phase

27-31 May 2024:

WSIS+20 Forum High-Level Event 2024

2024
Summit of the Future

22-23 Sep 2024

2024
IGF

15-19 Dec 2024:

IGF 2024, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

2025
WSIS +20 Modalities

Immediate. No later than end of March 2025

(ICT for Sustainable Development Resolution 2024)

Lithuania and Kenya appointed as co-facilitators to finalize the WSIS+20 modalities

2025
CSTD Review

7-11April 2025:

28th CSTD session

CSTD Chair will submit the outcomes of the WSIS+20 HLE 2025 in July through a letter to the PGA

2025
Paris Phase

4-5 June 2025

UNESCO event: Global Forum on AI and Digital Transformation in the Public Sector

2025
IGF

23-27 June 2025:

IGF 2025, Lillestrom, Norway

2025
Geneva Phase

7-11 July 2025:

WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025

2025
New York Phase

16-17 Dec 2025:

UNGA High-Level Meeting on the overall review of the implementation of the Outcomes of the WSIS

Multistakeholder outcome on 20 years of WSIS implementation and a vision of WSIS beyond 2025 to be submitted to the Summit of the Future 2024 and endorsed during the high-level meeting at UNGA in 2025

Appointment of the co-facilitators

The President of the United Nations General Assembly has appointed co-facilitators for intergovernmental consultations to finalize the modalities for the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society.

H.E. Mr. Erastus Lokaale

Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Rytis Paulauskas

Permanent Representative of the Republic of Lithuania to the United Nations

WSIS+20 Roadmaps

World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)+20: WSIS beyond 2025 - WSIS+20 Roadmap

Report of the UNESCO Director-General on the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) outcomes

Commission on Science and Technology for Development Roadmap for the WSIS+20

Contribute: Call for Inputs on the WSIS+20 Review

In accordance with ITU Council Resolution 1332, members and other stakeholders are invited to contribute their views on the work of the ITU in the WSIS+20 review, including ideas related to the review of the WSIS Action Lines.

An online form launched in August 2024 for all stakeholders, **deadline extended 14 March 2025**

October 2024 ITU Council Working Group WSIS&SDG 1st Physical Meeting

February 2025 ITU Council Working Group WSIS&SDG 2nd Physical Meeting

7-11 July 2025 A side event during the WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025

Learn more

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Moving forward, consider:

Reinforcing the leading UN agencies' role in implementing WSIS outcomes and the 20-year review process

Building upon the outcomes of the WSIS+20 Forum HLE 2024 and Summit of the Future

Participating actively in the WSIS 20-year Review and GDC Implementation

Contribute to the preparatory process of the WSIS+20 High-Level Event 2025

Thank You

wsis.org/forum

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