

WORLD SUMMIT ON THE INFORMATION SOCIETY: PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES 2014

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Workshop Objectives

The workshop is designed to provide a foundational understanding of the World Summit on the Information Society's (WSIS) relevance to this conference and lifelong learners in the 21st century and to build a collective understanding of progress towards and challenges to meeting goals in the six areas UNESCO is responsible for:

Access to information and knowledge (C3)	E-science (C7)
Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content (C8)	E-learning (C7)
Ethical dimensions of the Information Society (C10)	Media (C9)

Its aim is to catalyze a dialogue about possible post-2015 WSIS vision and goals and provide a participatory forum for action planning to further current and future goals. Participants will be able to:

Gain a greater understanding of the WSIS, its aims, results, challenges, and future plans.

Identify ways to use the WSIS website and documents as ongoing resources.

Discern progress made towards achieving WSIS targets.

Discuss identified challenges towards reaching goals as they pertain to participants' situation and ways to address these challenges.

Through dialogue, gain insight about possible post-2015 vision and goals and their roles in achieving them, singularly and collectively.

Methods

Brief beginning lecturette with audience participation to lay a common foundation

Online tour of WSIS resources

Facilitated discussion and dialogue

Small group interaction

Outline

The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) was a unique two-phase United Nations (UN) summit (Geneva, 2003; Tunis, 2005). Its goal is to achieve a common vision, desire and commitment to build a people-centric, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society where everyone can create, access, utilize and share information. It defined a set of targets (18 action lines), recommendations and commitments and established annual Forums.

In October 2014, WSIS will set post-2015 vision and goals. To prepare it has conducted a review process to assess progress and lessons learned by all stakeholders - including civil society, private sector, Internet technical community, and Governments - in advancing targets set by the WSIS in areas such as Internet infrastructure, ICT and education, or building confidence and

security in the use of ICTs. This session will update participants on the WSIS+10 High-Level Event: Open Consultation Process, including key briefings and meetings in May and June, leading up to recommendations for WSIS actions in 2015 and beyond. It will focus on progress and challenges in meeting WSIS targets especially those related to the six action lines for which UNESCO is responsible.

Resources include

WSIS +10 Statement and Vision: <http://www.itu.int/wsis/implementation/2014/forum/>

WSIS Forum 2013 Outcome Document:

<http://www.itu.int/wsis/implementation/2013/forum/documents/outcomes.html>

Identifying Trends and a Vision Beyond 2015 (<http://groups.itu.int/wsis-forum2012/Highlights/OutcomeDocument.aspx>)

C. Challenges-during implementation of Action Lines and new challenges that have emerged.

Draft WSIS+10 Statement on the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes

(<https://isoc.app.box.com/s/u6enoyieou1xop5op8pu/1/1770647280/15573501674/1>)

Joint Statement of the United Nations Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (<http://www.ungis.org/>)

Optimum Number of Participants: Open