

1. What are the most important **achievements** arising from WSIS that should be highlighted in the Zero Draft? *

1. Expanded Connectivity - Network access now reaches billions more, especially via mobile broadband, empowering e-governance, healthcare, education, and MSMEs, aligned with WSIS Action Lines C1-C11.
2. Multistakeholder Governance - The IGF and regional/national Internet governance bodies have institutionalized inclusive dialogue among governments, civil society, technical and business actors.
3. Localized Content & IDNs - Support for Internationalized Domain Names and local-language resources has begun narrowing the global content gap.
4. ICT in Development & Emergencies - Tools deployed for health, education, disaster response (e-government, digital IDs) validates WSIS's development-oriented vision.
5. Digital Skills & Capacity Building - Numerous programs, often involving young women, have strengthened regional technical competencies in Africa.

2. What are the most important **challenges** to the achievement of WSIS outcomes to date and in the future that need to be addressed in the Zero Draft? *

1. Persistent Digital Divide - Uneven access across rural areas, genders, persons with disabilities and low-income zones continues to amplify inequality.
2. Affordability & Local Content - High data costs and scarcity of relevant local-language content limit meaningful access.
3. Cybersecurity & Trust Deficit - Rising cybercrime, disinformation, and insufficient protections threaten public confidence.
4. Fragmented Governance - Misaligned national frameworks (privacy, IP, AI) risk both inefficiency and rights violations.
5. Uneven Financing & Infrastructure - Underinvestment in backbone networks, data centers, and digital public infrastructure undermines equitable digital growth.

3. What are the most important **priorities** for action to achieve the WSIS vision of a 'people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society' in the future, taking into account emerging trends? *

1. Expand Affordable, Meaningful Connectivity - Invest in rural broadband, community networks, and localized data caches; incentivize languages and accessibility tools.
2. Boost Digital Skills & Inclusion - Implement nationwide programs for women, youth, persons with disabilities, focusing on AI, cybersecurity, and digital entrepreneurship.
3. Harmonize Governance Systems - Align ICT regulation with human rights, data protection, and privacy principles; enable interoperable frameworks.
4. Strengthen Cybersecurity & Trust - Scale regional CERTs, promote cyber hygiene campaigns, and foster public-private partnerships.
5. Promote Digital Financing - Launch affordable digital credit schemes for SMEs, prioritize public digital infrastructure investments, and mobilize development bank support.

4. What **additional themes/issues**, if any, should be included in the Elements Paper? *

1. Digital Entrepreneurship & Local Innovation Ecosystems - Highlight youth-led startups and their role in inclusive development.
2. Green ICT & Sustainability - Address e-waste reduction, renewable-powered data centers, and eco-conscious digital practices.
3. Ethical AI & Algorithmic Accountability - Emphasize fairness, transparency, and equitable access to AI resources in the Global South.

5. Do you wish to comment on **particular themes/issues/paragraphs** in the Elements Paper? *

1. Paragraph 9 (Empowerment of Women & Girls) - Recommend adding targeted references to inclusive financing, digital leadership training, and safety in online spaces.
2. Paragraphs 65–69 (Data Governance) - Strongly encourage clear sections on cross-border data flows, national data strategies, and algorithmic fairness in policymaking.

6. What suggestions do you have to support the development of the **WSIS framework** (WSIS Action Lines, IGF, WSIS Forum, UNGIS etc.)? *

1. Action Line Coordination - Request a periodic joint review among C2 - C11 to identify overlaps, gaps and implementation synergies.
2. IGF & WSIS Forum - Expand regional hubs with digital skills training, especially in underserved African regions.
3. National WSIS+20 Reviews - Encourage member states to conduct national-level preparatory dialogues ahead of global meetings.
4. GIS Network Engagement (UNGIS) - Recommend streamlining and elevating access to IGF, ITU, and other ICT spaces for smaller states and community groups through funding and mentorship.

7. Do you have any **other** comments? *

We underscore the need for African representation in global digital governance platforms, especially on issues affecting data governance, AI, and cybersecurity. Aligning WSIS+20 with the AU Digital Transformation Strategy (2020–2030) will ensure coherence and boost impact.

8. Who is **submitting** this input? *

Kindly provide the name of the person submitting this input, as well as the associated country, organization, stakeholder type, and relevant contact information

Name: Segun Omoloshog Country: Nigeria Organization: Africa ICT Alliance (AfICTA) Stakeholder Type: (Private Sector)

9. Please provide your **e-mail** address: *

Please enter an email