

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

Since its launch in 2003 in Geneva and again in 2005 in Tunis, the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) has driven significant progress that deserves to be highlighted in the preliminary draft of the WSIS+20 outcome document.

1. Institutionalization of a Multi-Stakeholder Governance Framework

WSIS has enabled the emergence of an inclusive governance model, bringing together states, the private sector, civil society, universities, and international organizations. This innovative, constantly evolving framework has laid the foundations for global cooperation on information and communication technology (ICT) issues, as well as internet governance.

2. Targeted Reduction of Digital Divides

The concerted actions undertaken within the framework of WSIS have led to tangible progress: deployment of digital infrastructure, increased coverage of rural areas, and widespread universal internet access. Sustained initiatives, particularly in Africa and Asia, have promoted the development of local content and the integration of ICT into essential public services.

3. Anchoring ICT in the Sustainable Development Agenda

The WSIS helped establish ICT as a true catalyst for progress, first as part of the Millennium Development Goals and then the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Their integration into key sectors such as health, education, agriculture, governance, and the ecological transition has fostered socioeconomic resilience and optimized the effectiveness of public policies.

4. Pooling Skills and Capitalizing on Knowledge

The Summit sparked a dynamic of international cooperation focused on capacity building, expertise sharing, and digital skills development. Through tailored training programs, digital inclusion initiatives, and technology entrepreneurship support mechanisms, many countries were able to develop coherent national strategies.

5. Affirmation of Fundamental Rights in the Digital Space

WSIS reaffirmed the indivisible nature of human rights in cyberspace, encouraging the adoption of protective legal frameworks: safeguarding personal data, guaranteeing freedom of expression, transparency of information, and regulating harmful content.

6. Sustaining Collaborative Monitoring Mechanisms

Instruments such as the annual WSIS Forum, biannual assessment reports, and the WSIS Stocktaking platform have ensured transparent implementation of commitments while facilitating inclusive stakeholder participation in monitoring the goals.

In summary, WSIS represents a historic step towards a human-centered, inclusive, and collectively oriented information society. These achievements must now serve as a foundation to address emerging challenges such as artificial intelligence, disinformation, cybersecurity, and platform regulation, while accelerating the achievement of the SDGs in the digital age.

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? \*

Despite the progress made since the inception of the WSIS, structural challenges persist or are emerging, hindering the full achievement of its ambitions. These issues require priority attention in the preliminary draft in order to refocus collective efforts towards an equitable, resilient, and universally inclusive digital society.

1. Persistent Digital Disparities

Significant asymmetries persist in access to digital infrastructure, both internationally and intranationally. Rural areas, marginalized groups, people with disabilities, women, and youth remain systematically under-equipped. The digital divide now encompasses three dimensions: quality of connections, affordability of devices, and relevance of local content in vernacular languages.

2. Structural Digital Literacy Deficit

Beyond access to technology, digital illiteracy hinders the effective adoption of ICTs for education, professional integration, and civic engagement. An unprecedented effort in training is required, particularly to master disruptive technologies (artificial intelligence, big data, cybersecurity) that are redefining critical skills.

3. Fragmentation of global governance mechanisms

The WSIS multi-stakeholder model is hampered by incomplete international coordination. Developing countries struggle to be meaningfully involved in decision-making bodies due to a lack of expertise and resources. This fragmentation of forums creates redundancies, strategic blind spots, and a dilution of collective impact.

4. Regulatory challenges in the face of technological innovations

The exponential rise of AI, blockchain, and the Internet of Things is exacerbating ethical tensions: data protection, algorithmic transparency, and legal accountability. The urgent development of harmonized regulatory frameworks, rooted in respect for fundamental rights, is crucial to regulate innovation while preventing abuses.

5. Systemic Vulnerability to Cyber Threats

The intensification of attacks (ransomware, information interference, abusive surveillance) is undermining the foundations of digital trust. Individuals, businesses, and states are facing exponential risks, requiring sovereign capacity building and binding, operational international cooperation.

6. Linguistic Hegemony and Accessibility Lack

The predominance of a few languages in the production of digital content perpetuates cultural exclusion. Promoting local resources, adapting to sensory disabilities, and respecting users' socio-cognitive contexts are all too often neglected imperatives.

7. Chronic Underinvestment and Unbalanced Allocation

Financial mobilization for the digital transition suffers from an infrastructure bias, to the detriment of human dimensions (training, social inclusion, technological mediation). The establishment of innovative and sustainable financing mechanisms, geographically equitable and focused on local needs, is a sine qua non.

In conclusion, overcoming these obstacles requires unprecedented political will, strategic stakeholder alignment, and the adoption of a human-centered digital ethic. WSIS+20 must be the institutional catalyst for transforming these challenges into levers for action, in light of the accelerated changes in the global technology ecosystem.

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? \*

To operationalize the WSIS vision in a global landscape characterized by technological disruptions, socio-digital divides, and geostrategic reorganizations, seven priority levers emerge to build an information society focused on intergenerational equity, systemic inclusion, and digital empowerment.

1. Universalize access to high-performance and affordable internet

Strategic priority: Deploy resilient infrastructure combining fiber optics, satellite networks, and low-tech solutions adapted to remote areas. This project requires innovative public-private partnerships, proactive pricing regulation, and the systematic integration of ICT into national land-use plans.

2. Establish cross-curricular and proactive digital education

True inclusion requires technological literacy starting in primary school, coupled with ongoing career retraining programs. Curricula must integrate the critical skills of the century: algorithmic thinking, ethics applied to AI, citizen cybersecurity, and mastery of emerging collaborative tools.

3. Consolidate multipolar and forward-looking governance

The global decision-making architecture must shift from a consultative approach to normative co-production, with binding representation quotas for countries in the Global South. The creation of a Global Observatory of Disruptive Technologies would help anticipate societal impacts and harmonize transnational ethical frameworks.

4. Promote cybermaterialized cultural diversity

Implement national heritage digitization plans with multilingual indexing and enriched metadata. Support community media incubators while generalizing accessibility standards (dynamic subtitling, contextual text-to-speech) in all public digital productions.

5. Institutionalize cybersecurity as a universal common good

Adopt a binding international convention against cyberthreats, accompanied by a mutualized risk insurance fund and regional forensic expertise centers. Strengthen algorithmic transparency obligations for platforms with a strong democratic impact.

6. Supervise AI through the principle of progressive solidarity

Develop an ethical verification protocol prior to the deployment of AI systems, with citizen veto mechanisms. Create South-South frugal innovation labs to develop applications aligned with the 2030 Agenda (predictive medical diagnostics, precision agroecology, ecosystem-based management).

7. Structure a triple-dividend digital finance system

Introduce targeted taxation on platform revenues to fund a Global Technology Inclusion Fund. Experiment with social impact bonds indexed to digital inclusion indicators, while making IMF loans conditional on minimum investments in women's digital skills.

Updating WSIS+20 requires a paradigm shift: moving from a technocentric approach to a digital humanism that combines innovation, social reparations, and ecological balance. This strategic repositioning requires multilateral contractualization with incentive-based sanctions, a global barometer of algorithmic justice, and the inclusion of digital technology as the 18th SDG in its own right.

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

In addition to the historical orientations of the WSIS, seven emerging or sub-addressed issues require strategic integration into the framework document to renew the vision of the WSIS in light of contemporary techno-societal changes.

##### 1. Algorithmic Fairness and Redressing Systemic Bias

Digital justice must be established as a cardinal principle, encompassing:

- Systematic auditing of bias in AI datasets and models
- Equitable representation of minorities in technological architectures
- Implementation of redistributive corrective measures specifically targeting divides of gender, age, disability, and geoeconomic insecurity

##### 2. Ecological Transition of Digital Technology

Faced with the sector's exponential carbon footprint (5% of global emissions), WSIS+20 must impose:

- Binding standards on software obsolescence and WEEE recycling
- A global pact for digital sobriety integrating the eco-design of services
- Alignment of ICT strategies with the Paris Agreement via circularity indicators

##### 3. Collective Information Immunity

The fight against the toxic infodemic requires:

- A Global Observatory of Digital Integrity with Arbitration Powers
- The Institutionalization of Critical Media Education from Middle School onward
- A Binding Code of Ethics for Platforms, Combining Transparency of Algorithmic Recommendations with a Presumption of Harmfulness for Manipulative Content

##### 4. Balanced Technological Co-Sovereignty

WSIS+20 must reconcile strategic autonomy and inevitable interdependence through:

- Interoperable sovereign data clouds between countries of the Global South
- A Binding Technology Transfer Mechanism Financed by a Tax on GAFAM (Global Digital Assets)
- The Creation of a Critical Source Code Bank Under UN Governance

##### 5. Comprehensive Protection of Connected Youth

Absolute Priority:

- Protecting Youth Digital Spaces Through Global Certification
- Generalizing Protective Algorithms Filtering Harmful Content
- Establishing a Right to Disconnect from Schools

##### 6. New Digital Social Contract

Rebuilding Labor-Capital Relations The digital age:

- Establish an international status for platform workers
- Create shared social security funds for the gig economy
- Support local digital cooperatives through a dedicated guarantee fund

##### 7. Territorial empowerment through digital technology

Reassert the value of the local level as a laboratory for inclusive innovation:

- Mandatory budgeting for municipal digital projects
- Deploy rural living labs combining broadband and human mediation
- Institutionalize digital citizen councils with deliberative power

In the long run, integrating these areas would reposition the WSIS as the normative compass of the 21st century, linking technological progress, social justice, and global balance. This overhaul requires a dynamic review mechanism involving parliamentarians, unions, and CSOs in the development of standards.

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

Indeed, certain areas of the "Elements" document require further strategic development to fully address the multidimensional challenges of the contemporary digital transition on a global scale.

1. A Differentiated Approach to Digital Inclusion

The theme of inclusion would gain relevance by integrating an intersectional framework, articulating:

- The specificities of vulnerable groups (gender minorities, indigenous communities, rural populations)
- A critical analysis of sociocognitive barriers beyond purely technical considerations
- The implementation of qualitative indicators measuring the cultural and linguistic appropriation of digital tools

2. Proactive Regulation of Disruptive Innovations

The analysis of emerging technologies would benefit from being supported by:

- A binding ethical framework for algorithmic systems with a high societal impact
- The establishment of independent observatories tasked with auditing discriminatory biases in AI
- The creation of an algorithmic transparency protocol under the aegis of UNESCO

3. Global Cybersecurity Architecture

This priority requires operational commitments:

- A digital solidarity fund dedicated to strengthening Capacity building for countries in the Global South
- The adoption of binding ISO standards for the protection of critical infrastructure
- An international mechanism to combat gender-based cyberviolence, including legal protection and technical assistance

4. Geopolitical rebalancing of internet governance

WSIS+20 must recognize:

- Binding decision-making quotas for representatives of emerging countries
- Enshrining the principles of technical interoperability and network neutrality
- Institutionalizing local citizen forums with consultative powers

5. Green Deal for Digital Sobriety

The climate emergency requires:

- An environmental accountability mechanism for GAFAM (French multinationals)
- The integration of circular economy clauses into public technology procurement
- A master plan for the energy transition of data centers aligned with the Paris Agreement

6. Transformative Capacity Ecosystem

A systemic overhaul is essential:

- The integration of digital literacy into education Primary education with a focus on critical thinking
- Accelerated reskilling programs adapted to job market changes
- A pan-African network of excellence in social artificial intelligence

In summary, the substantial updating of these six levers would enable WSIS+20 to embody a vibrant normative framework capable of combining responsible innovation, generational equity, and shared technological sovereignty. This ambition requires a methodological review including three-year dynamic review clauses involving civil society organizations and independent experts.

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

The WSIS framework has historically structured international cooperation in the area of the information society. However, in the face of accelerated technological change, the growing complexity of digital challenges, and the renewed demands of stakeholders, systemic modernization is essential. Seven priority areas for reform emerge:

1. Strategic updating of action lines

The 11 areas of action from 2005 remain relevant but require adaptive redesign:

- Integration of emerging challenges (ethical AI, data sovereignty, global cybersecurity)
- Deployment of SMART indicators aligned with the SDG framework
- Institutionalization of a cross-cutting human rights lens, including gender and inclusion
- Regionalization via subsidiary action plans

2. Transformation of the WSIS Forum into a decision-making arena

Optimizing this multi-stakeholder platform through:

- A normative interoperability mechanism with the 2030 Agenda and the Global Digital Compact
- Binding representation quotas for the Global South (40%), women (50%), and indigenous peoples (15%)
- Operational production: thematic white papers with accompanying roadmaps

3. Reengineering of the Forum on Internet Governance

Redefine the IGF around:

- An expanded mandate including binding advisory opinions
- An institutional symbiosis with the IGF+ while preserving its multi-stakeholder DNA
- A network of regional hubs with independent budgets

4. Increased operationalization of the UNGIS

Position this group as a UN conductor via:

- A common dashboard for monitoring digital SDGs
- A pooled fund matched to 0.5% of the budget of member agencies
- A peer review mechanism between Member States

5. Systematization of monitoring and evaluation

Establish a robust metrological architecture including:

- A global observatory with predictive algorithms
- Permanent digital citizen assemblies
- A composite index of normative digital maturity

6. Capitalizing on generational capacity

Investing in the engineering of future skills:

- Virtual Academy of Digital Careers for Civil Servants
- Youth Digital Fellows Program with reverse mentoring
- Pan-African professional certifications in algorithmic governance

7. Anchoring in the multilateral ecosystem

Uniting existing initiatives through:

- A Digital Security Council attached to ECOSOC
- Digital mirror clauses in all trade agreements
- An annual WSIS-SDG-G20 summit

Looking ahead, this institutional reform aims to transform the WSIS into the normative backbone of the 21st century, articulating inclusive innovation, intergenerational equity, and shared sovereignty. Its success will depend on a binding implementation mechanism incorporating progressive sanctions and cooperation bonuses.

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

Je formule la recommandation suivante concernant l'organisation des futures rencontres du SMSI :

Il conviendrait d'instituer des mécanismes de prise en charge des frais de déplacement, à mobiliser auprès des partenaires institutionnels du Sommet. Cette mesure favoriserait une participation accrue en présentiel, permettant notamment à certaines parties prenantes, à l'instar de ma situation personnelle, de surmonter les contraintes financières entravant leur contribution directe aux travaux.

En effet, ces événements constituent des espaces privilégiés de coopération intellectuelle, de co-construction stratégique et de mutualisation des expertises. Il apparaît donc crucial d'en garantir l'accès équitable, conformément au principe d'inclusivité inscrit au cœur des valeurs du SMSI.

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

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

Please enter an email