



Report on the WSIS Prizes

Submitted by General Secretariat

General Information

Another major component of WSIS process has emerged since 2012 – WSIS Prizes contest. WSIS Prizes contest is an integral part of WSIS Stocktaking Process and it rapidly became popular with the ICT for development community. Each year, on the occasion of the WSIS Forum, 18 WSIS stakeholders are awarded WSIS Prizes, a unique global recognition for excellence in the implementation of WSIS outcomes. Open to all WSIS stakeholders, it was an immediate response to the requests expressed by WSIS stakeholders during the WSIS Forum 2011: to create a mechanism to evaluate and reward stakeholders for their efforts in the implementation of WSIS outcomes.

More than 300 international projects have been competing in this year's WSIS Prizes contest. This marks an increase of 114 per cent in project nominations since 2014. More than half of the projects submitted this year were government initiatives, while 12 per cent originated from civil society, 11 per cent from the business sector, 10 per cent from international organizations, and another 12 per cent from other entities, mainly academia. In regards to the geographical distribution, 31 per cent of the projects in 2015 were submitted by Arab States, 18 per cent are from Europe, 16 per cent each from the Asia-Pacific Region and the Americas, 12 per cent from Africa, and 4 per cent from the CIS, while 3 per cent came from international organizations and international NGOs.

WSIS Stocktaking: Success Stories 2015 Report

This [report](http://www.wsis.org/prizes) is an annual publication issued in the framework of the contest of WSIS Prizes 2015 (www.wsis.org/prizes) that is open to all stakeholders. The WSIS Stocktaking: Success Stories 2015, presents greater insights into the key ICT success stories of the WSIS Prize Winners from the WSIS Stocktaking database. During the WSIS Forum 2015 High-Level Track, eighteen WSIS Prizes were awarded, recognizing the outstanding

achievements of a range of organizations in strengthening the implementation of the vision and targets set by WSIS across the eleven WSIS Action Lines.

This year's WSIS Project Prize winners include government departments, international organizations, private sector companies, NGOs and academia:

- Action Line C1 The role of government and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development
Winner: Young Innovations, Nepal
- Action Line C2 Information and communication infrastructure
Winner: Ministry of Communications and Transportation, Mexico
- Action Line C3 Access to information and knowledge
Winner: Prime Minister's Office, Bangladesh
- Action Line C4 Capacity building
Winner: Telecommunications Regulatory Authority, United Arab Emirates
- Action Line C5 Building confidence & security in the use of ICTs
Winner: Ricerca sul Sistema Energetico (RSE), Italy
- Action Line C6 Enabling environment
Winner: Ministry of Finance, Kazakhstan
- Action Line C7 E-government
Winner: Majmaah University, Saudi Arabia
- Action Line C7 E-business
Winner: Ministry of Economy and Finance, Uruguay
- Action Line C7 E-learning
Winner: Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, India
- Action Line C7 E-health
Winner: FHI 360, United States of America
- Action Line C7 E-employment
Winner: Ministry of Manpower, Oman
- Action Line C7 E-environment
Winner: Central Agency for Information Technology, Kuwait
- Action Line C7 E-agriculture
Winner: Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation, Netherlands
- Action Line C7 E-science
Winner: Iran University of Science and Technology, Iran
- Action Line C8 Cultural diversity & identity, linguistic diversity
Winner: South-West University 'Neofit Rilski', Bulgaria
- Action Line C9 Media
Winner: Radio Farm International, Canada
- Action Line C10 Ethical dimensions of the Information Society
Winner: Rwanda Media Commission, Rwanda
- Action Line C11 International & regional cooperation
Winner: Economic Commission for Latin America & the Caribbean

WSIS Prizes 2016

While continuing to highlight progress made towards achieving the WSIS goals, WSIS Prizes 2016 will start reflecting to which of the newly proposed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are the submitted projects mostly linked to. ICTs are enablers for sustainable development, and reporting on ICT success stories to best showcase the possible achievement of SDGs, through the implementation of WSIS Action Lines related projects, is the new objective of WSIS Stocktaking process, including WSIS Prizes.

The new call for WSIS Prizes 2016 will be issued during the **first week of October 2015** and all stakeholders are invited to submit entries online at www.wsis.org/prizes. Submitted activities will be reflected in the WSIS Stocktaking: Success Stories 2015 report, which will be released at WSIS Forum 2016 (2-6 May 2016).

ICT for development (ICT4D) community is encouraged to continue following WSIS Stocktaking process, and submit their project descriptions for WSIS Prizes 2016 using the WSIS Stocktaking online platform (www.wsis.org/prizes).

Tentative schedule for the WSIS Prizes 2016 contest:

- 1) The first phase: Submission phase
1 October – 1 December 2015 (Deadline for last submission: 23:00 Geneva time)
- 2) The second phase: Nomination Phase. Revision of submitted projects by Expert Group that will result with a list of nominated projects
2 December – 10 December 2015
- 3) The third phase: Public Online Voting (identification of three projects per category with the highest number of votes)
14 December 2015 – 10 March 2016 (Deadline for casting last vote: 23:00 Geneva time)
- 4) The fourth phase: Selection of winning projects by the Expert Group that will result with a list of winning projects
14 March – 18 March 2016
- 5) The fifth phase: Announcement of winners to the public during WSIS Prize 2016 Ceremony at WSIS Forum 2016, scheduled to be held from 2 May to 6 May 2016, and the release of publication “WSIS Stocktaking: Success Stories 2016”, which is a compilation of extended descriptions of the 18 winning projects.