Monday 1st July 2013

Making Mobile Phones and Services Accessible
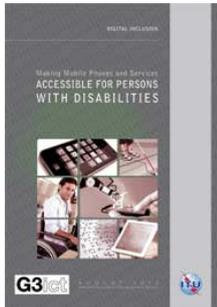
This joint ITU-G3ICT study compiles and analyses different ways in which mainstream accessible mobile phone technologies and services are already implemented around the world by various stakeholders. It includes practical information and case studies which can serve as a foundation to promoting accessible mobile phones and mobile assistive technologies. Click here for the full report. http://staging.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Digital-Inclusion/Persons-with-Disabilities/Pages/Persons-with-Disabilities.aspx

MAKING TV ACCESSIBLE
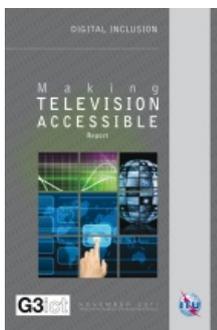
 This joint ITU-G3ICT report looks at the strategic implications of making audiovisual content accessible to persons with disabilities. It is written for professionals involved in decisions to introduce or scale up measures to make television and other kinds of audiovisual content accessible. Click here for the full report. (Download Accessible PDF in English). http://staging.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Digital-Inclusion/Persons-with-Disabilities/Pages/Persons-with-Disabilities.aspx

ITU's call to the High Level Meeting on Disabilities and Development

Climate Change and environmental sustainability publications

- Toolkit on environmental sustainability
- Conflict minerals
- Study Group 5: Environment and Climate Change (Leaflet)
- Focus Group on Smart Sustainable Cities (Leaflet)
- Greening ICT supply chains
- Green ICT standards
- Boosting energy efficiency through Smart Grids
- The case of Korea: the quantification of GHG
- The case of Ghana
- End of life management for ICT equipment

Tuesday 2nd July

Girls in ICT :
International Girls in ICT Day is an initiative backed by ITU Member States in ITU Plenipotentiary Resolution 70 (Guadalajara, 2010) to create a global environment that empowers and encourages girls and young women to consider careers in the growing field of information and communication technologies (ICTs). International Girls in ICT Day is celebrated on the 4th Thursday in April every year. International Girls in ICT day will next be observed on 24 April 2014.

What is a Girls in ICT Day event? These are events where girls and university students are invited to spend the day at the office of ICT companies and government agencies so they better understand the opportunities the ICT sector holds for their future. Ministries of ICT, Education, Labour, Youth, National ICT Regulatory Authorities, ICT companies, academic institutions, relevant UN agencies, NGOs and other stakeholders are encouraged to organize Girls in ICT day events on the fourth Thursday of April, each year.

A Bright Future in ICTs Opportunities for a new generation of Women Executive Summary

This summary report surveys the global trends in women's professional development and employment in the information and communication technology (ICT) sector, and offers a sample of the range of national policies, training programs and initiatives targeting girls and women as potential students and professionals. The key points arising from this research are divided into:

- key findings – status report
- why we need to engage more women
- expanding horizons with government support
- the future of jobs in the ICT sector.
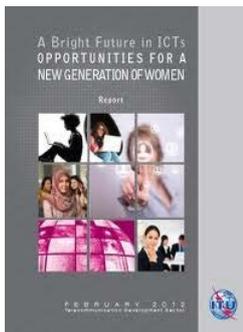
A Bright Future in ICTs Opportunities for a new generation of Women Report

The full report provides evidence to prove that a range of initiatives are already underway to support girls and women in the ICT sector as more governments recognize the importance and necessity of taking these deliberate steps. The most important determinant of a country's competitiveness is its human capital and talent - the skills, education and productivity of its workforce. Women account for one-half of the potential talent base throughout the world. Closing gender gaps is therefore not only a matter of human rights and equity; it is also one of efficiency and economic productivity. To maximize its competitiveness and development potential, skills need to be seen as a key part of an economy's infrastructure, and the more sound that infrastructure is the more robust and resilient the economy will be in response to opportunities and challenges. The choices made by policymakers, enterprises and individuals on investment in education and training must strive for gender equality—that is, to give women the same rights, responsibilities and opportunities as men. Business leaders and policy-makers need to work together towards removing barriers to women's entry to the ICT workforce and putting in place practices and policies that will provide equal opportunities for rising to positions of leadership within the ICT sector. Such practices will ensure that all existing resources are used in the most efficient manner and that the right signals are sent regarding the future flow of talent. (http://girlsinict.org/trends-analysis-and-profiles/bright-future-icts-opportunities-new-generation-women)

Tech Needs Girls

ITU's Tech Needs Girls campaign, launched at Girls in ICT Day this year, which is leveraging the convening power of ITU to bring players in the ICT, education and media industries together. This global call to action aims to transform the wide-ranging number of programmes and organizational initiatives into a force for movement on the urgent issue of ensuring girls and women play a much more substantive role in the ICT sector and are better empowered to harness technology to transform their lives and their futures. (http://girlsinict.org/; http://www.techneedsgirls.org/)

Connect a School, Connect a Community (CSCC)

The ITU Connect a School, Connect a Community (CSCC) initiative is designed to promote broadband Internet connectivity for schools worldwide, so that schools can serve as community ICT centres for rural, marginal urban and isolated areas with a particular focus on disadvantaged and vulnerable groups such as women and girls, indigenous people, persons with disabilities and youth and children.. The initiative seeks to promote understanding and awareness among relevant government officials and agencies of the need for coordinated policies, regulations and practices to promote school connectivity in order to meet the WSIS targets of connecting all primary, secondary and tertiary schools to ICT by 2015. **www.connectaschool.org**

Global Youth Summit: BYND 2015 (Costa Rica, 9-11 September 2013)

A platform for young people to ensure their inclusion in the most important decisions of the 21st Century. The **Global Youth Summit: BYND 2015** will assemble young people from all corners of the globe with a view to highlighting their priorities and capturing their combined voice in crucial **national and international policy** and decision making processes. http://www.itu.int/en/bynd2015/Pages/default.aspx

ITU Telecom World 2013 Young Innovators Competition

Enter the
Young Innovators
Competition

The Young Innovators Competition is open to young people between the ages of 18 and 26, with innovative technological solutions to one of six Global Challenges. The challenges this year are the following: unemployment of youth and migrants, food wastage, natural disaster response, unavailability of public services to elderly, road related accidents, protection of data and lack of local digital content. Young Innovators can apply with a concept (well researched) or a start-up (already up and running but in need of scaling up) for a chance to win seed funding, mentorship and a chance to pitch their idea to investors and showcase at ITU Telecom World 2013. For further information on the competition: http://world2013.itu.int/event/innovation/

WSIS related events and publications

W**SIS Forum 2013 www.wsis.org/forum** was held from the 13-17 May 2013 at the ITU Headquarters in Geneva. This year the Forum attracted more than 1800 WSIS Stakeholders from more than 140 countries. Several high-level representatives of the wider WSIS Stakeholder community graced the Forum with more than 60 ministers and deputies, several ambassadors, CEOs and Civil Society leaders contributing passionately towards the programme of the Forum. More than 150 sessions were held during the WSIS Forum 2013 in the form of high level dialogues, thematic and country workshops, showcasing theatres, ministerial round table, WSIS+10 Visioning Track, World Café style workshops, interactive sessions and action line facilitating sessions. This provided a vibrant atmosphere for facilitation and exchange on a multistakeholder vision of the WSIS Process. An exhibition space provided the perfect atmosphere to network, learn and share.

WSIS+10 related sessions formed the WSIS+10 Visioning Track that was organized in accordance to the Plan of Action developed within the framework of the United Nations on the Information Society (UNGIS) Open Consultation Process on WSIS+10 (2011-2012, http://www.ungis.org).

WSIS Project Prizes www.wsis.org/prizes is a unique recognition for excellence in the implementation of WSIS outcomes. This initiative is 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. The WSIS Project Prizes are an integral part of the WSIS Stocktaking Process that was set up in 2004 (Para 120, Tunis Agenda). This year, 18 winners of the WSIS Project Prizes 2013 were awarded at the Prize Ceremony held during the WSIS Forum 2013 in Geneva on 13 May 2013. The winners representing governments, private sector, academia and civil society were recognized at the international event for their outstanding efforts and achievements in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes. Descriptions of all the winning projects are reflected in the publication WSIS Success Stories 2013.

WSIS Stocktaking Reporting continues to serve as unique repository of best practices on the implementation of WSIS outcomes for governments and other stakeholders. WSIS Stocktaking Report 2013 reflected more than 700 activities from stakeholders from all over the world www.wsis.org/stocktaking. New call for reporting is coming soon.

UNGIS Joint Statement: A collective contribution by 30 UN Agencies (UNGIS Members) to the dialogue on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. In keeping with its mandate to promote policy coherence and programme coordination in the UN system, as well as provide guidance on issues related to information and communications technologies (ICTs) in support of internationally agreed development goals, the 30 members of the UN Group on the Information Society (UNGIS) will respectfully submit a joint statement to the UN Secretary General and the UN Task Team. The statement is a collective contribution to the dialogue on the Post-2015 Development Agenda, a unified effort to harness inter-agency expertise and experience to support deliberations on Post-2015 priorities, and a united commitment to a UN community poised to address development challenges in the 21st century.

WSIS+10 High-Level Event will be held form 13-17th April in 2014, as an extended version of the WSIS Forum 2014, and will be hosted by Egypt in Sharm el-Sheikh. The preparatory process leading towards the High-Level Event, an extended version of WSIS Forum 2014, aims at engaging all the WSIS Stakeholders i.e Government, Private Sector, Civil Society and International Organizations; and Action line facilitators in an open and inclusive Multistakeholder Preparatory Process (MPP). The main outcomes of the open and inclusive MPP are to develop drafts of the outcome documents for consideration by the WSIS+10 High-Level Event, by 1st March 2014, (for ITU under its responsibilities and other interested UN Agencies, under their responsibilities)

- Draft WSIS+10 Statement on Implementation of WSIS Outcomes

- Draft WSIS +10 Vision for WSIS Beyond 2015 under mandates of the participating agencies

MPP will be also used in order to provide a platform for open consultation on thematic aspects for the draft agenda and innovations on the format of the Event, following the practice of previous open consultations for the WSIS Forum. The MPP will initiate an open consultation process aims at ensuring the participatory and inclusive spirit of the WSIS+10 High Level Event, scheduled to be held from 13 to 17 April by actively engaging governments, civil society, the private sector and intergovernmental organizations in the preparatory process. The Open Consultation Process for the WSIS+10 High Level Event is structured in five phases consisting online open consultations and necessary number of physical meetings, with remote participation.

Wednesday 3rd July

m-Powering Development Initiative

The m-Powering Development Initiative is an international, multi-stakeholder platform that seeks to leverage the ubiquity of mobile technologies beyond basic communications by facilitating the delivery of business, education, health, banking, and other services leading to socio-economic development in urban, semi-urban, and remote rural areas. The initiative aims to enhance the lives of populations across the globe, it is necessary to harness this technology in health, education, governance, banking and in everything that will serve humanity and development.

Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development

The Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development is an international, multi-stakeholder initiative to improve the availability and quality of ICT data and indicators, particularly in developing countries. Launched in 2004, the Partnership helps measure the information society by defining a core list of ICT indicators and methodologies to collect these indicators, by helping developing countries collect ICT statistics, particularly through capacity-building and hands-on training for national statistical offices, and by collecting and disseminating information society statistics. Its members are ITU, OECD, Eurostat, UNCTAD, UNDESA, ECA, ECLAC, ESCAP, UNESCO, UIS, UNEP/SBC, the UNU Institute for Sustainability and Peace, and the World Bank. For more information on the Partnership, see: http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/intlcoop/partnership/default.aspx

Smart Sustainable Development Model Initiative

The Smart Sustainable Development Model is an international, multi-stakeholder platform that seeks to link ICT for Development (ICT4D) with ICT for Disaster Management (ICT4DM) leading to sustainable development and optimal use of resources while minimizing additional financial investments and in particular, by making the use of excess satellite capacity. The aim is to mobilize infrastructure put in place for social services and local communities for disaster response in emergencies thereby achieving the millennium development goals (MDGs).

ITU Academy

Aimed at integrating and providing education, training and information resources on information and communication technologies (ICTs), ITU Academy provides an integrated and streamlined approach to the Telecommunication Development Bureau's (BDT) capacity building activities. Delivered in cooperation with numerous public and private sector partners, available courses address a wide scope of ICT-related topics ranging from programmes for government policy makers and regulators, professional business-focused curricula for senior ICT executives and managers, to specialized programmes for technical and operational staff.