

Regional Workshop on "Resilient ICT Connectivity for the Knowledge Economy, SDGs and the WSIS goals"

Session III: "Knowledge-based Economy, WSIS and SDGs"

Almaty, 21 September 2016



Knowledge-based development & innovation are drivers across all SDGs

- For example, all SDGs require access to appropriate information/knowledge (action line C3)
- UNECE Programme of Work particularly oriented towards achievement of certain goals.
- E.g. Link between UNECE work on innovation and PPPs and SDG9.
- SDG9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
 - 9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder
 - 9.2 Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization
 - 9.3 Increase access of small-scale industrial an other enterprises to financial services, and integration into GVCs
 - 9.4 Upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes
 - 9.5 Enhanced scientific research



Innovation for development

- Framework of UNECE Innovation Performance Reviews has been modified to reflect the "innovation for development" approach embedded in the SDGs
- This is the case for SDG 9.1-9.5, and also for SDGs 9.a-9.c
 - 9.a Facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries
 - 9.b Support domestic technology development, research and innovation in developing countries
 - 9.c Significantly increase access to ICT; strive to provide universal/affordable Internet access

No SDG where KBD is not relevant

- SDG1 End poverty
- SDG2 End hunger, food security, sustainable agriculture
- SDG3 Healthy lives and promote well-being at all ages
- SDG4: Quality education and lifelong learning opportunities
- SDG5: Gender equality
- SDG6: Sustainable management of water and sanitation
- SDG7: Affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
- SDG8: Inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment, decent work
- SDG9: Build resilient infrastructure, inclusive/sustainable industrialization, innovation

No SDG where KBD is not relevant

- SDG10: Reduce inequality within/among countries
- SDG11: Make cities/human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, sustainable
- SDG12: Sustainable consumption and production
- SDG13: Combat climate change
- SDG14: Conserve/ sustainably use oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
- SDG 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems
- SDG16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development
- SDG17: Strengthen/revitalize Global Partnership for Sustainable Development



WSIS and the regional commissions

- Renewed commitment towards WSIS Process after WSIS Review by UN General Assembly (2015).
- UNRCs important role for regional WSIS follow-up activities. As key regional arm of UN Secretariat, UNRCs well placed to assist member countries in harnessing ICTs for SDGs, strengthening socioeconomic development ecosystem.
- Activities of SPECA WG on KBD highly relevant to promoting both Information Society objectives and SDGs in Central Asia.
- UNGA WSIS overall review invites UNRCs to continue implementation of WSIS Action Lines.



How to proceed?

- Annual UNRC meetings at the WSIS Forum to report on regional WSIS related activities and present work plans. Annual meetings have served as a unique platform for exchange of experiences amongst UNRCs and other stakeholders.
- ITU facilitates meeting organization, acts as Secretariat.
- In light of UNGA overall review, role of UNRCs in WSIS implementation and alignment with SDGs is highly relevant.
- Various challenges e.g. need to produce regional work plans

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