



WSIS | 8-12
FORUM | **APRIL 2019**
Geneva, Switzerland



WSIS Forum 2019 OUTCOME DOCUMENT

Template for Submission of Executive Summaries for

Thematic/Country Workshop/ Action Line Facilitation Meetings/ Interactive Sessions/ High Level Dialogues/Publication Releases/Briefings

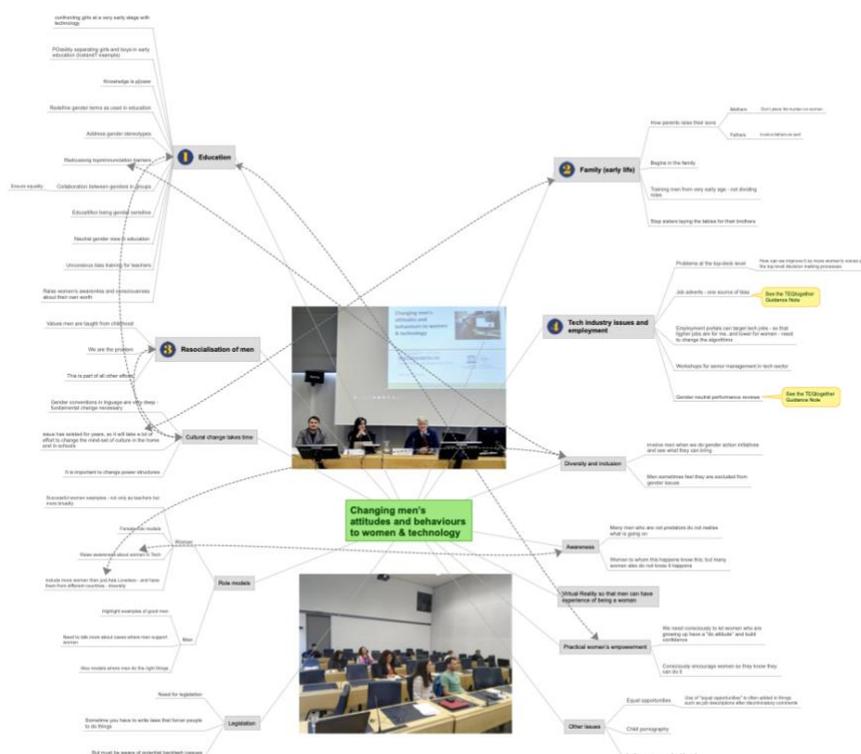
Deadline: Thursday, 11 April 2019

Session organisers are encouraged to submit the outcomes at the end of the session, as soon as possible.

Exception: For sessions on Friday 12 April, please send at the latest 2 hours after the session

*Please note that the WSIS Forum 2019 Outcome Document will be released on **Friday, 12 April 2019**
(the last day of the Forum)*

- 1) Title of your session:** Changing men's attitudes and behaviours to women and technology
- 2) Name of Organisation(s) organizing the session:** TEQtogether (UNESCO Chair in ICT4D, Royal Holloway, University of London) – with support from NYAS, Global Scribes and INIT
- 3) Relevance with the WSIS Action Lines – please specify the Action lines C1 to C11:** This session was cross-cutting across all of the WSIS Action Lines, but focused primarily on three of them: C4 - it addressed building capacity among men from all walks of life, to help them work better to reduce gender digital inequality; C8 - such work is inherently related to cultural and linguistic diversity as well as local content, since the development of resources to help change men's attitudes and behaviours must be related to their local context (and TEQtogether seeks to work in multiple languages); and C10 - the work also has significant relationships with ethics in the context of moral diversity and decisions that affect women's participation in the field of digital technologies.
- 4) Key achievements, announcements, launches, agreements, and commitments:** The key output was a co-created agenda for work that should be done to change men's attitudes to women and technology, thereby helping to address gender digital equality. This is available in detail at <https://teqtogether.files.wordpress.com/2019/04/2-changing-mene28099s-attitudes-and-behaviours-to-women-technology-1.pdf>, but is illustrated below (and see 5.iii for summary).



5) Main outcomes highlighting the following:

I. Debated Issues

The session began with three short presentations:

- An overview of the work of TEQtogether
 - informing men about how their actions impact digital gender inequality (see our [Resources](#) and [Other Initiatives](#) pages);
 - Identifying actions that men can take to enhance gender equality in the tech workplace (see our [Guidance Notes](#))
 - Recommending actions that men can take to reduce digital violence against women
 - Encouraging reverse mentoring through which women mentor men at all levels in tech organisations.
- An introduction to TEQtogether's Guidance Notes by Paul Spiesberger (ict4d.at), focusing especially on guiding for when running a computer programming workshop
- An overview of work on the use of mobiles for sexual harassment by Bushra Hassan (International Islamic University, Islamabad).



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It then proceeded in the form of a lively discussion to identify the most important action agendas for everyone to take forward to make a difference.

II. Overall outcomes of the session highlighting

The four most important issues identified that require attention are:

- Education (especially gender sensitivity materials and unconscious bias)
- Family roles (especially in early life)
- The resocialization of men
- Tech industry and employment

A second tier of issues focused on:

- Cultural change takes time
- Diversity and inclusion
- Awareness raising
- Role models (both men and women)
- Virtual reality (so that men can experience the difficulties faced by women)
- Legislation
- Practical women's empowerment.

III. Main linkages with the Sustainable Development Goals (please specify the SDGs)

This workshop related primarily and explicitly to SDGs 5 and 4. Above all, it addressed the fundamental gap that must be addressed if gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls through ICTs is to be achieved: men's and boys' attitudes to women and girls and digital technologies need to be changed. This has significant connections with education and training, from the earliest experiences that boys have in the classroom and at home to the mentoring of senior executives in global corporations. The workshop explored the many avenues of work that need to be undertaken to achieve this

IV. Emerging Trends related to WSIS Action Lines identified during the meeting

The workshop highlighted the need for all gender-related initiatives to involve men and boys, and work to change their attitudes and behaviours. TEQtogether, as a part of the UNESCO Chair in ICT4D is an integral aspect of Royal Holloway, University of London's contribution to EQUALS (<https://equals.org>) and it is committed to taking forward the ideas that emerged during the workshop.



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V. Suggestions for Thematic Aspects that might be included in the WSIS Forum 2020

This year's WSIS Annual Forum did indeed address ways through which men can contribute more effectively to the achievement of gender digital equality. We would recommend that this theme is explored further at the WSIS Forum 2020, and TEQtogether would be please to work with the organisers to carry this forward.

