

PREAMBLE

World Telecommunication and Information Society Day-2025

Theme: Gender Equality in Digital Transformation

WTISD marks the founding of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) – the United Nations agency for digital technologies. In 2025, ITU commemorates its 160th anniversary, highlighting its long-standing role in advancing global connectivity and fostering international cooperation.

The purpose of World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) is to help raise awareness of the possibilities that the use of the Internet and other information and communication technologies (ICTs) can bring to societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide. 17 May marks the anniversary of the signing of the first International Telegraph Convention and the creation of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

Closing the gender digital divide unlocks opportunity for all

Digital technologies have the power to accelerate progress across every sector of society, yet that potential remains out of reach for many. Of the 2.6 billion people still unconnected, the majority are women and girls. Gaps in access and affordability of the internet and digital devices, as well as limited digital skills, continue to hinder the participation of women and girls in today's economy and in shaping tomorrow's digital solutions. Bridging this divide is essential to unlocking new pathways for economic growth, innovation, and sustainable development.

World Telecommunication and Information Society Day (WTISD) 2025 highlights the pressing need to advance digital gender equality, so that women and girls everywhere can also benefit from and contribute to digital transformation.

As the world marks 30 years since the Beijing Platform for Action, the Day is a critical moment to accelerate collective action that ensures digital transformation delivers opportunity for everyone, everywhere.

Courtesy: <https://www.un.org/en/observances/telecommunication-day>