

SPOTLIGHT

Global ICT Excellence Awards 2021: Nominations Due September 1st!



Nominations for the Global ICT Excellence Awards are due to WITSA, in three weeks, on Wednesday, September 1, 2021. The Global ICT Excellence Awards will be presented in conjunction with the [WCIT 2021](#), to be held in Dhaka, Bangladesh from November 11-14, 2021.

The Awards will be presented to select individuals, academic institutions, corporations, NGOs or governments whose use and applications of digital technologies exhibit exceptional achievement within the following broad categories:

Private Sector/NGO	Public Sector
Digital Opportunity/Inclusion Award	Digital Opportunity/Inclusion Award
Smart Cities Award	Smart Cities Award
Sustainable Growth/Circular Economy Award	Sustainable Growth/Circular Economy Award
Innovative eHealth Solutions Award	Innovative eHealth Solutions Award
Public/Private Partnership Award	Public/Private Partnership Award
E-Education & Learning Award	E-Education & Learning Award
Emerging Digital Solutions Award	Startup Ecosystem Award

In addition, a *Chairman's Award* will be presented to a nominee selected from the entire pool of candidates from all award categories.

Members are invited to nominate up to three candidates in each award category. **The deadline for forwarding the nominees to WITSA is September 1, 2021!** Please send your nominations to Anders Halvorsen at ahalvorsen@witsa.org as well as Molly Poisant at molly@witsa.org at your earliest opportunity and do not hesitate to let us know if you have any questions.

We encourage all WITSA members to participate in our 2021 Global ICT Excellence Awards Program; its success will be a direct result of our members submitting high-quality nominations. All members are urged to begin the process of nominating candidates immediately. The Awards will give your member companies an opportunity to give their "best customers" the recognition they deserve, but will also benefit your association as well as provide a valuable addition to the Congress program. Previously submitted nominations may be re-nominated, provided information is updated as appropriate. Thank you in advance for your participation!

View Nominations form and additional

details



WITSA to Launch Global Business Exchange (GBX) on September 1st!

The World Information Technology and Services Alliance will officially launch our new *Global Business Exchange (GBX)* on September 1, 2021. The launch will be conducted virtually, and all WITSA members will receive an invitation to attend. WITSA's new Global Business Exchange is made possible with the support of The National Tech Association of Malaysia (PIKOM) and Fusionex International.

The initial intent of the GBX was to have it serve as a global B2B platform for WITSA's members' members, enabling them to expand their professional and business networks. As it was being developed, thanks to improvements and innovation in platform technology, the GBX has grown into much more than a B2B platform. Some of the much-awaited features which will be addressed at the GBX launch include:

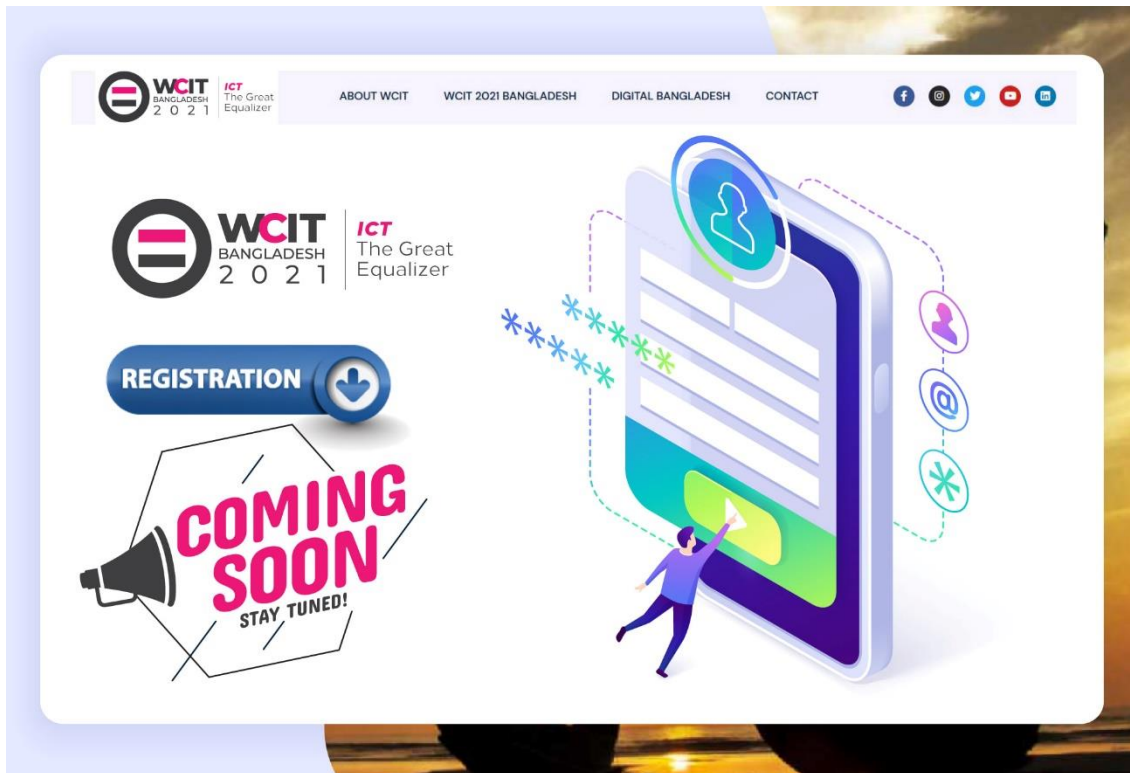
- Request for Proposal Corner
- Virtual Conference Hosting
- Virtual Exhibition Hall
- Live Streaming of Webinars
- Research Repository
- Education & Training Center
- Global Partners and Products Showroom
- WITSA Speakers Bureau
- Global ICT Excellence Awards Winners Honor Hall

All WITSA Members, in good-standing, will be invited to take part in the GBX in the coming weeks. If you have any questions, please contact molly@witsa.org

Watch the GBX

Video

WCIT NEWS

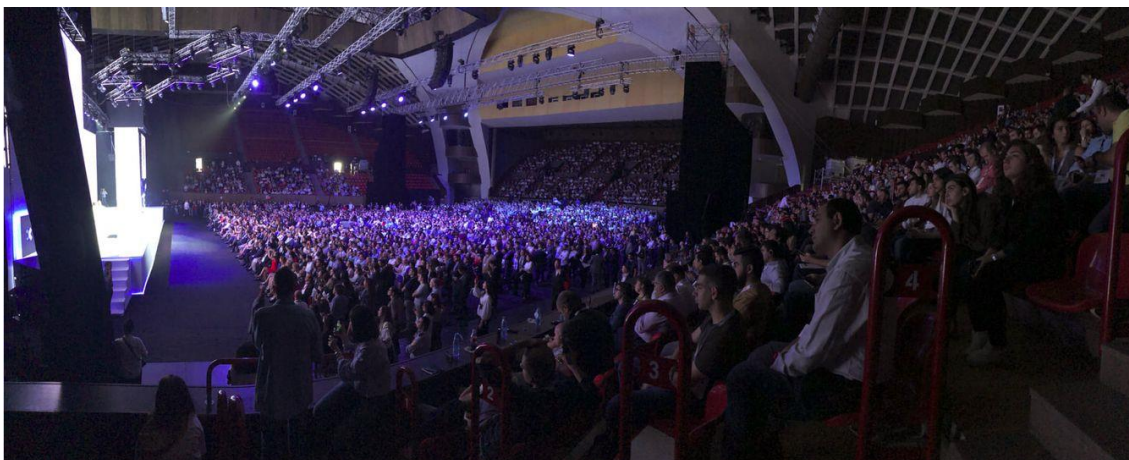


WCIT 2021 in Dhaka, Bangladesh

Three months from today, the World Congress of Information Technology (WCIT 2021) will be underway in Dhaka, Bangladesh. WCIT 2021 will be a hybrid event with both in-person and virtual attendance opportunities.

[Learn More about WCIT](#)

2021



Call for Bids for WCIT 2023 Due November 1st!

WITSA is requesting that members interested in hosting our pinnacle event, the World Congress on ICT in 2023, submit their bids no later than November 1, 2021. 2023 will mark the 27th anniversary of our flagship event!

First held in 1978, the World Congress on Information and Communications Technology (WCIT) is unique in its global perspective on ICT issues and its ability to draw users, providers, media and academia from around the world. Global

business, government and academic leaders discuss emerging markets, legal and policy issues, political and economic trends, emerging technologies, ICT user perspectives and business opportunities in the global marketplace.

Among the featured speakers are internationally recognized leaders from government and industry. A premier global ICT congress, WCIT brings together more than 2,000 global leaders in business, government and academia from over 80 countries to impact economic and social development through the exchange of policies, practices, trends and ideas on ICT.

As per WITSA Bylaws, only WITSA members are formally eligible to submit bids to host WITSA's flagship event. However, other organizations are invited to partner with WITSA members in order to produce high quality bids. In such cases, organizations must contact the WITSA members directly.

Hosting the Olympics of the ICT Industry will provide you with a unique opportunity to shine a bright spotlight on your country's leadership and accomplishments in the areas of ICT and digital transformation and on achievements made towards fulfilling the promise of the digital age to everyone!

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Secretary General Dr. Jim Poisant at +1 703 728-4547 or jpoisant@witsa.org.

[View Request for Proposal
\(RFP\)](#)

PUBLIC POLICY



WITSA Joins Eleven Other Digital Associations in Joint Letter to G20

As [#G20](#) Digital Ministers met last week in Trieste, WITSA and 11 other world leading digital associations called on them to leverage digital technologies to drive the global recovery.

[Read the Full Letter
Here](#)

WITSA to Build Member Repository of Policy Papers and Best Practices

One of the new WITSA policy initiatives approved by WITSA's Global Policy Action Committee is to establish a repository of published WITSA member policy papers and best practices. The intent behind this initiative is to improve the sharing of information and best practices among our vast, global network. Once collected, WITSA will create a library of your published reports on the WITSA website. We believe this initiative will also provide maximum exposure to the work you, our members, have put into the issues that are of the utmost importance to your association and companies. Members are requested to provide the WITSA Secretariat their **published policy papers and reports at their earliest opportunity**.



ICT for SMEs

Information and Communication Technology
for
Small and Medium-sized Enterprises

WITSA Survey: Member Actions to Support SMEs

At the recent WITSA Global Policy Action Committee meeting, it was decided that WITSA should develop a policy paper as well as an action plan related to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises aimed at fostering growth and innovation among MSMEs. The purpose of this short survey is to get further input from you on specific areas where your association or other public and private stakeholders in your country are taking actions specifically related to support of SMEs. As the GPAC call also established an SME working group, we are calling for additional volunteers to participate in this initiative. Your response to this survey is much appreciated!

[Download the Survey](#)



WITSA Signs Multi-Association Letter on China Draft Personal Information Protection and Data Security Laws

WITSA signed a multi-association letter addressing data localization mandates and data transfer restrictions in the People’s Republic of China’s draft Data Security Law (DSL) and draft Personal Information Protection Law (PIPL). The letter raises concerns regarding certain provisions relating to data localization and data transfers in the draft legislation.

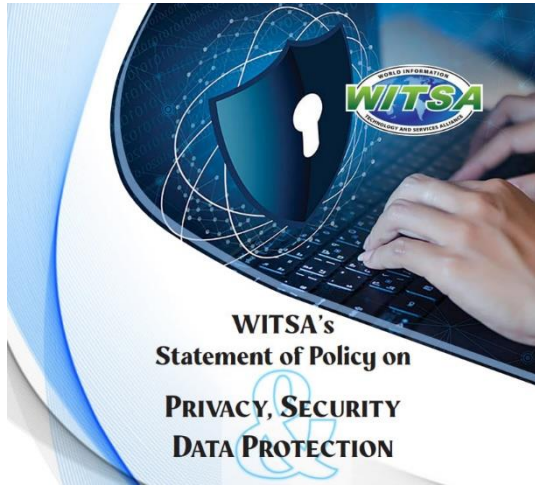
[Read More](#)



See the Updated WITSA Statement: "Supporting Digital Trade Rules for Innovation and Sustainable Economic Development: A Case for a Trade Agreement"

The paper welcomes the ongoing efforts at the World Trade Organization to negotiate a new comprehensive e-commerce agreement, making the case that the Joint Statement Initiative on E-Commerce (JSI) presents a critical opportunity for the global trade body to prove its relevance in the current political environment and could lead to broader WTO reforms as well.

[Read More](#)



See the Updated WITSA Statement: "Statement of Policy on Privacy, Security and Data Protection"

The paper calls for a principled approach to balance fundamental information privacy rights with the equally important policy objectives of national security and data protection while maintaining the economic and social capability of digital information.

[Read](#)

[More](#)

MEMBER NEWS



WITSA Congratulates ATIC on 15 Year Anniversary!

WITSA would like to congratulate our member from Moldova on their 15th year anniversary. ATIC is the largest ICT association in Moldova and their mission is to support and promote the development of the IT sector.

[Read](#)

[More](#)



AMETIC Organizes the 35th Meeting of the Economy and Telecommunications, September 1-3, 2021

[Read](#)

[More](#)

PARTNER NEWS



ITRI
Industrial Technology
Research Institute

WITSA & ITRI Sign Global Partner Agreement

Earlier this summer, WITSA and the Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI) signed a Global Partner Agreement. The Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI) located in Taiwan, is a world-leading applied technology research institute with more than 6,000 outstanding employees. Its mission is to drive industrial development, create economic value, and enhance social well-being through technology R&D. Founded in 1973, it

pioneered in IC development and started to nurture new tech ventures and deliver its R&D results to industries.

Read

More

SECRETARIAT'S CORNER

WITSA Holds Special Board Meeting

The WITSA Board of Directors met virtually on July 29th to conduct a Special Board Meeting. Topics included the upcoming launch of WITSA's Global Business Exchange (GBX), the WCIT 2021 to be held in Dhaka, Bangladesh from November 11-14, 2021, the Global ICT Excellence Awards and a possible name change for WITSA. The WITSA Board will meet next in Dhaka, Bangladesh on November 10, 2021.

WITSA Secretariat & Chairman's Highlight Report

In the last edition of WITSA News, we explored WITSA's relationship with World Trade Organization. This edition, we take a look at WITSA's relationship with the United Nations International Organization for Migration.

You can read more about the WITSA/IOM relationship on pages 15-16 of the report.

Read the Full Report

Here



The World Information Technology & Services Alliance (WITSA)
8300 Boone Boulevard, Suite 450
Vienna, Virginia, USA

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