AI for Good
The Role of AI in the Sustainable Development Agenda

Alex Högback, ITU
ITU is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs).

Our sectors:

Each sector has a separate mandate, but all work towards connecting the world.

ITU Radiocommunication
Coordinating radio-frequency spectrum and assigning orbital slots for satellites

ITU Standardization
Establishing international standards

ITU Development
Bridging the digital divide
ITU Standardization Work and SDGs
ITU Standardization: Technical Foundations

- Transport, access and home networks
- Multimedia
- Service quality
- Numbering & emergency comms
- Artificial intelligence
- Cybersecurity
- Internet of Things
- Environmental efficiency
- Quantum information tech
- Accessibility
Setting the standard

ITU-T Standards Community

Study Groups
Membership-driven Study Groups develop international standards.

Focus Groups
Open to all interested parties, Focus Groups define new directions in ITU standardization.

Workshops and symposia
Open-to-all events analyze emerging trends and encourage peer-learning
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<td>SG11</td>
<td>Protocols, testing &amp; combating counterfeiting</td>
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ITU-T AI and Energy Standards

- Study Group 5: Environment, EMF, and Circular Economy
- Study Group 13: Future Networks
- Recommendations include:
  - AI as an enabler of environmental efficiency
  - Environmental efficiency of AI
  - Other standards with AI and energy aspects
- Examples:
  - L. Suppl. 41 – impact of AI and big data on energy efficiency
  - L. Suppl. 48 – data centre energy saving using AI
  - L. Suppl. 53 – environmental efficiency criteria for AI
  - L. IEDL – energy saving strategies for deep learning
  - L. GHGemissions_DC – greenhouse gas emissions of data centers
  - L. CFSP – assessment of carbon footprint of software
  - Y.3021 – Framework of energy saving for Future Networks
  - Y.3022 – Energy measurement of networks
- More than 40 other recommendations on AI and energy
AI-Related Focus Groups & Initiatives

- AI for Health
  - ITU-WHO Focus Group
  - World Health Organization

- AI and Internet of Things for Digital Agriculture
  - ITU Focus Group
  - FAO

- AI for Natural Disaster Management
  - ITU Focus Group
  - World Meteorological Organization

- Machine Learning and 5G
  - ITU Focus Group

- AI for Environmental Efficiency
  - ITU Focus Group

- AI and Data Commons
  - Global Initiative

- AI for Road Safety
  - Global Initiative

- AI for Autonomous and Assisted Driving
  - ITU Focus Group

- UN Special Envoy for Road Safety

- UN Envoy on Technology
Advancing SDGs through AI for Good
Accelerating progress towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
THE leading action-oriented, global & inclusive United Nations platform on AI

All YEAR, ALWAYS ONLINE

Organizer
40 UN Orgs
Co-convener
| Multi-stakeholder Interdisciplinary Inter-generational
The goal

**Identify**
Practical applications of AI

**Scale**
Solutions for global impact

**Accelerate**
Progress towards the UN SDGs
**Attend**
Join weekly sessions and learn; something for everyone on all SDGs

**Network**
Find experts, partners, collaborators inside and outside the UN

**Be visible**
Leverage Neural Network to share AI activities

**Programming**
Join existing panels or propose new jointly curated sessions

**Collaborate**
Join Focus groups, challenges, initiatives to work on building blocks of AI for Good

**Innovate**
Use platform to propose new activities, initiatives, pitching sessions & challenges
AI for Good

ITU AI/ML Challenges

AI for Good TinyML Challenge
Applying Machine Learning to edge devices
aiforgood.itu.int

AI for Good Machine Learning in 5G Challenge
Applying machine learning in communication networks
aiforgood.itu.int

AI for Good GeoAI Challenge
Applying machine learning to geospatial analysis
aiforgood.itu.int

AI for Good AI 4 Climate
AI solutions for Climate Change
aiforgood.itu.int

AI for Fusion Energy Challenge
In partnership with:
ITU IAEA

40 UN PARTNERS
AI for Good
Global Summit

Accelerating the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

30-31 May 2024
Geneva, Switzerland

aiforgood.itu.int/
• World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA-24)
• New Delhi, India, 15-24 October 2024
• Also:
  • Fifth Global Standards Symposium (GSS-24), 14 Oct
  • AI for Good Impact India, 18 October
Thank you!

United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies – ITU

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