



# ICT AND SUSTAINABILITY IN SAUDI ARABIA

ANNUAL SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

2022



هيئة الاتصالات وتقنية المعلومات  
Communications & Information  
Technology Commission



الهيئة العامة للاتصالات  
وتقنية المعلومات  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS  
AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

# ABOUT THIS REPORT

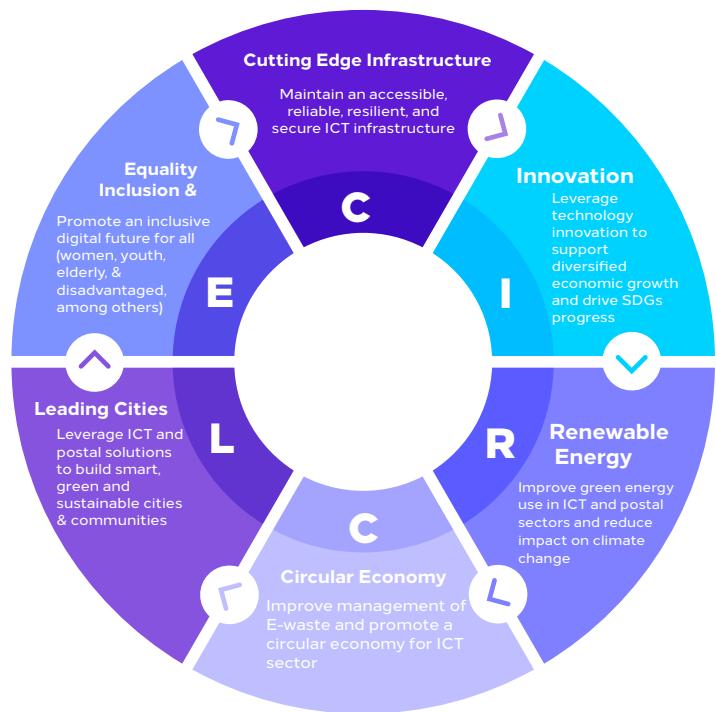
This report is established as a reference for sustainability in the Information, Communications and Technology (ICT) sector in Saudi Arabia. The first of its kind in the Kingdom, the document aims to educate readers on the many facets of sustainability: environmental, social and economic. It also details how technology impacts progress and serves as a periodic transparency tool whereby readers are provided updates on vital initiatives.

As the **Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT)** and its regulator, the **Communications and Information Technology Commission (CITC)**, establish a digital society under the guidance of Vision 2030, tools such as this report will be a key to witness the progress. With a vision to enable a connected present and innovative future, MCIT and CITC are ensuring a digital infrastructure with international standards that contributes towards sustainability and quality of life.

# OUR COMMITMENT

CITC, as a **fifth-generation** digital regulator has a responsibility to advance meaningful actions that protects our environment and society.

To guide the ICT sector on its sustainability journey, the commission has developed **C.I.R.C.L.E.**, a roadmap detailing **six key** priorities and actions that must be taken.



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# OPENING



## Eng. Abdullah Al-swaha

Minister Of Communications And Information Technology

“

Digital has shown us that it is the largest social equalizer and economic multiplier and it will continue to be the catalyst to drive societal transformations toward a more sustainable world. This is why in Saudi Arabia under the leadership of HRH crown prince, we will continue to pivot not only to become a digital and innovation hub but also a sustainability leader in the world.”



## Houlin Zhao

ITU Secretary-General



“

I am pleased that the ICT ecosystem in Saudi Arabia is advancing rapidly and, as this report demonstrates, has placed sustainability at its core. This first sustainability report covering the ICT sector in Saudi Arabia represents a clear commitment to transparency and action by the country's policymakers.”

# FOREWORD

**DR. MOHAMMED AL-TAMIMI**

GOVERNOR, COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION  
TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION



Overcoming the sustainability challenges of our modern times require consistency, unanimity, and pro-active policy making. From hyper-consumerism to digital inefficiency, the world needs contributions from international organizations, through governments and private companies, all the way to citizens, to make sure that our future generations live in comfort on this planet.

At the Communications and Information Technology Commission (CITC), we are working to develop the most advanced and meaningful regulations anywhere in the world for this critical sector, not just in alignment with best global practices, but helping make them. This has resulted Saudi Arabia's recognition as one of the top providers of internet services globally.

**3.5 million** homes now have access to fiber-optic services, in addition to provide more than **60,000** free Wi-Fi points in public areas around the Kingdom. This has led to the internet penetration rate reaching **97.8%**, compared to around 63% globally.

We also developed an ICT sustainability strategy direction showcasing our commitment to implement sustainability practices. This strategy will enable a range of positive outcomes for the ICT sector and, therefore, the Kingdom, as we work to achieve Vision 2030.

Building sustainability into our digital future also brings economic and investment opportunities to the sector, while securing CITC's position as a **fifth-generation** digital regulator. It will serve as a model, an inspiration and a trigger by positioning the ICT sector as a reference in the Kingdom in terms of progress on sustainability. At an international level, this will place Saudi Arabia as a leader in global ICT sustainability progress, while supporting our overall progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Our strategic goal at CITC is to deliver the **strongest infrastructure** to our most ambitious projects shaping the Kingdom's bright future. From NEOM to The Red Sea Project and new special economic zones, CITC is deploying innovative sustainability regulations to ensure a robust digital infrastructure.

This infrastructure, further supported and strengthened by tech-transfers from the Saudi Space Commission's strategic initiatives, will be the backbone of a future society that privileges green energy and eschews unsustainable means of living. The rapid emergence of digital healthcare, cashless payments, clean energy, mobility and delivery depends on a healthy regulatory environment and a strong, sustainable infrastructure; and, at CITC, we are dedicated to deliver that.

# ABOUT CITC

## The Kingdom's fifth-generation digital regulator

The Communications and Information Technology Commission (CITC) is an independent regulator of the telecom, IT, and postal sectors in Saudi Arabia. CITC's work complements that of MCIT to create a strong and sustainable industry ecosystem.



CITC has three focus sectors

Telecom



IT & ET



Postal



## From a telecom regulator to a digital regulator

Driving sustainable practices is vital to becoming a **digital regulator** and attaining the G5 status.

5

# CITC DEVELOPED ITS 2023 STRATEGY WITH 4 KEY THEMES AND 16 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:



# OUR GLOBAL ACHIEVEMENTS



**The most** advanced country in terms of readiness of policy and regulatory frameworks for the digital transformation.  
(ITU 2020)



**1st** among G20 countries in DNS security extension  
(CITC 2020)



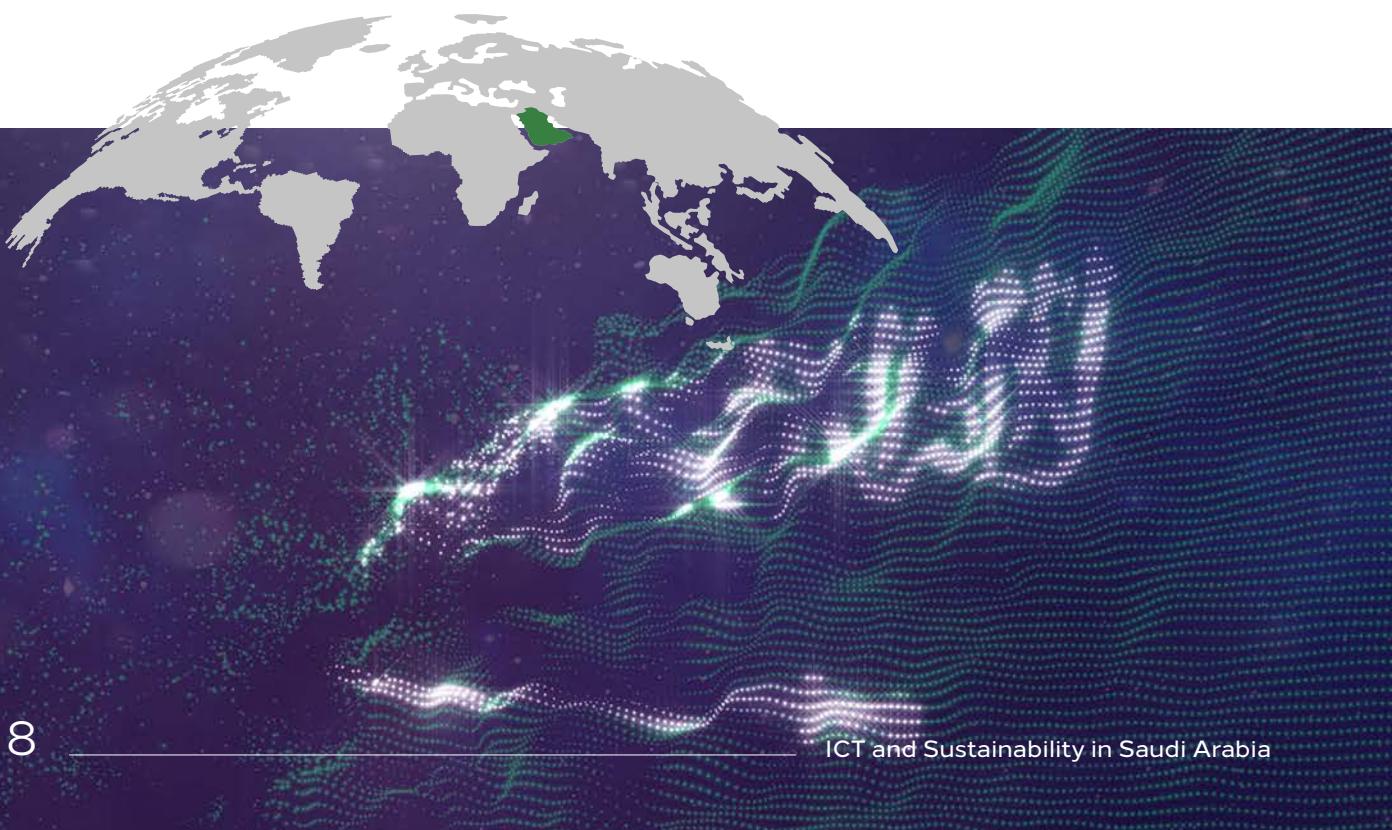
**2nd** highest “Digital Riser” in G20 after China in 2021  
(Competitiveness 2021)



**Recipient of Dynamic Spectrum Alliance WiFi Innovation Award 2020-2021**  
for WiFi access point expansion and 6GHz band license-exempt access  
(DSA 2021)



**Winner of ITU’s 2021 World Summit for the Information Society ICT for Development award** for the vast rollout of free public WiFi  
(WSIS 2021)



# SUSTAINABILITY MATTERS



# WHY IS SUSTAINABILITY IMPORTANT TODAY?



**37%**

of the world's population have never used the internet  
(ITU 2021)



**4%**

of global greenhouse gas emissions are digital-related (compared to chemical and petrochemical 3.6%)  
(Project 2019)



**9 out of 10**

people worldwide breathe polluted air  
(Sumas 2019)



**1 in 4**

people lack safe drinking water in their homes  
(Unicef, 2021)



**33 gigatons**

of CO2 emitted in 2021 globally, equivalent to 13 million Olympic swimming pools of CO2.  
(IEA 2021)



**50%**

of the world's population lack safe sanitation  
(Unicef, 2021)

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



## United Nations

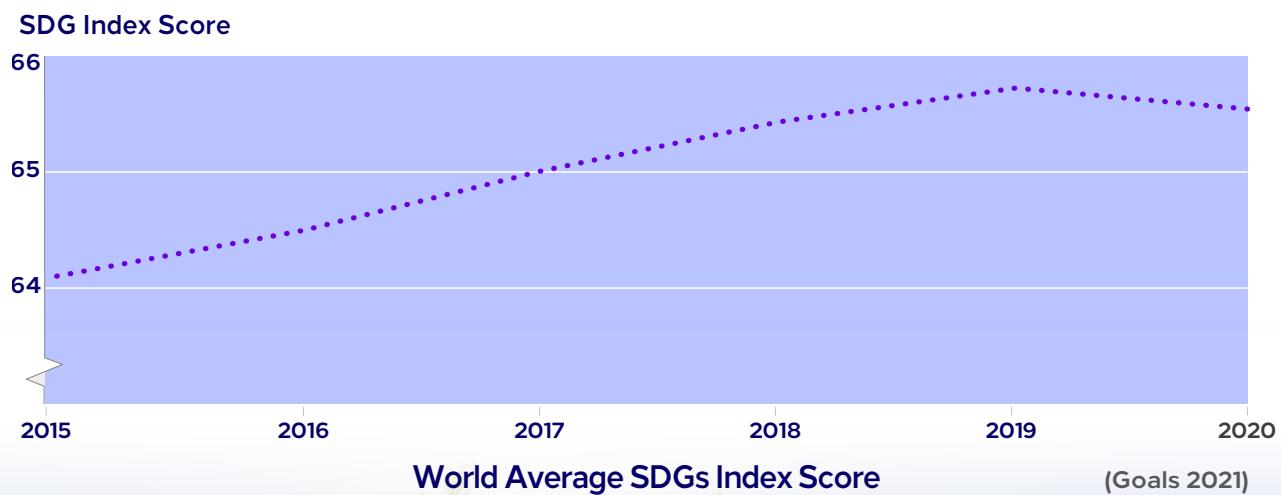
Sustainability today is key to improving quality of life for global citizens, as well as preserving natural resources for future generations. The United Nations has unveiled 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a universal call to action to create a better and more sustainable future for all.

The SDGs cover all major **environmental, social, and economic** challenges for a more sustainable global community and planet.



# GOVERNMENT COMMITMENT TO THE SDGs

As we enter the seventh year of the SDG framework, governments from around the world have **established mechanisms to enact change**. Progress remained consistent prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the pandemic affected countries and people in many different ways, leading to the decline in SDG performance globally, which put strain on government expenditure worldwide, resulting in a redistribution of resources towards public health priorities leveraging advancement of digital transformation.



## THE PRIVATE SECTOR MUST PLAY A ROLE

It is not just governments' responsibility to act, broad engagement is **crucial in creating a whole-of-society transformation** towards a sustainable society. From beverages to pharmaceuticals, IT, and automobile, the global private sector has come forward with their own set of goals.



**Net-zero** greenhouse gas emissions by 2050



**Carbon neutrality** by 2050



**Net zero emission** by no later than 2050



**Carbon neutral 24/7** by 2030



**Carbon neutral** by 2030



**Climate neutral** by 2050



**Carbon negative** by 2030



**Carbon neutral** by 2035



**Carbon neutral** by 2030



**50% renewable energy** by 2025



**100% reusable packaging + halving food waste** by 2050



**Net-zero carbon emissions** by 2040



**Net zero** greenhouse gas emissions by 2030



**70% reduction** in carbon footprint per product by 2030



**40% reduction** in carbon footprint of every car by 2025



**100% renewable energy** for global operations by 2040



**100% recyclable packaging** by 2030



**Net zero** carbon emissions by 2030



**50% reduction** in carbon footprint of products by 2050



**100% of at-risk families** in supply chain monitored for child labor by 2025

# HOW CAN ICT CONTRIBUTE TO THE SDGs?

ICT is vital to the realization of the SDGs and their success, from the efficient use of energy to the growth of smart cities and education enablement, countries with a sophisticated ICT sector are more likely to achieve the SDGs and fulfil their obligations toward for sustainable development. **ICT plays a fundamentally transformative role for a sustainable future.**



**3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING**  
Telemedicine, online consulting and health applications help users stay active and aware of any issues



**4 QUALITY EDUCATION**  
Programs such as e-learning allow access to knowledge even in remote areas



**6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION**  
Enabling smart water management systems, sanitation, and hygiene in communities



**7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY**  
ICT increases energy efficiency, green standards, and sustainable energy practices



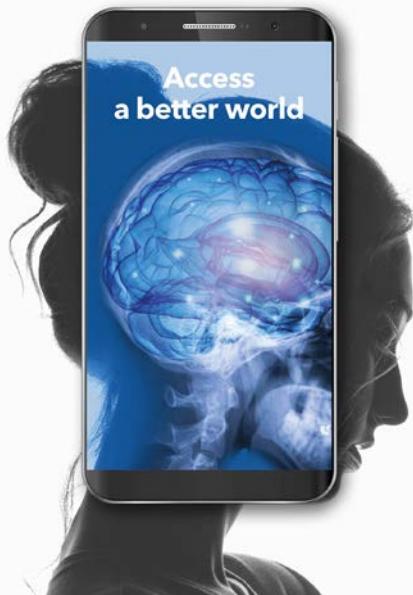
**9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE**  
ICT services are essential for affordable access to the internet, and consider key for resilient infrastructure



**11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES**  
Enabling smart and sustainable cities, as well as intelligent transport, 5G, and the internet of things



**13 CLIMATE ACTION**  
ICT enables climate monitoring, forecasting as well as providing solutions to build smart, green and sustainable cities & communities



ITU has established Connect 2030, a program dedicated to utilizing technology in pursuit of the SDGs.

## The Connect 2030 agenda aims to achieve five bold goals



### GROWTH

Enable and foster access to and increased use of telecommunications/ICT in support of the digital economy and society



### INCLUSIVENESS

Bridge the digital divide and provide broadband access for all



### SUSTAINABILITY

Manage emerging risks, challenges and opportunities resulting from the rapid growth of telecommunications/ICT



### INNOVATION

Enable innovation in telecommunications/ICT in support of the digital transformation of society



### PARTNERSHIP

Strengthen cooperation among the ITU membership and all other stakeholders in support of all ITU strategic goals



# SUSTAINABILITY IN THE KINGDOM

# VISION 2030

## THE KINGDOM'S MASTERPLAN

Vision 2030 is Saudi Arabia's transformative social and economic blueprint that has been working since 2016 to create a more diversified, ambitious, and sustainable future for Saudi Arabia. Sustainability is at the heart of everything the Kingdom does, from policy development and investment to planning and infrastructure. By creatively and responsibly addressing the energy and climate challenges of today, Vision 2030 inspires others around the world to share in building a sustainable tomorrow.

**The Kingdom's Vision 2030 agenda rests on achieving three important pillars**



An ambitious nation



A vibrant society



A thriving economy

**Since its launch in 2016, the vision has been a catalyst for **sustainable** reform primarily through**



Renewable Energy



Environment  
Preservation And Protection



Livable  
Green Cities

# RENEWABLE ENERGY

As the world transitions to a low-carbon economy, the need for clean-tech innovations is increasingly important. ICT empowers and accelerates the transformation to renewable energy solutions.

## Launch of Dumat Al Jandal Wind Farm

The **400MW** utility-scale project's **99 turbines** will be able to power **70,000** Saudi households

(Source: Power Technology)

 Sakaka Solar Power, KSA

## Launch of Sakaka Solar Power Plant

**1.2 million solar panels** arranged over **6sq km** of land will provide **300MW** of energy

(Source: Vision 2030)

# ENVIRONMENT PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION

As the planet faces up to many challenges from climate change and biodiversity loss, partnerships for big data capacity building and knowledge exchange that protect precious resources are critical.

## CCE endorsement and commitment to Global Coral Reef Conservation and Land Preservation during Saudi G20 Presidency

Working with international community to limit temperature rise to within **2°C** of pre-industrial levels

(Source: Power Technology)

 Sharan Nature Reserve, KSA

## Farasan Islands added to UNESCO Biosphere Reserve

An area of **820,000ha** in the southern Red Sea, added to UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves

(Source: Vision 2030)

# LIVABLE GREEN CITIES

**Lived environments must adapt to new realities amidst a changing climate**

ICT solutions are central to creating the smart, integrated, green cities of the future.



نیوم NEOM

**100%** renewable energy powering NEOM  
**Zero** cars, zero streets, zero carbon emissions at THE LINE



Reduce carbon emissions by **278 mtpa** by **2030**  
Plant **10 billion** trees  
Raise protected areas to more than **30%** of total terrestrial and marine area

## Launch of Green Riyadh Project

Planting 7.5 million trees and increasing per capita green space from 1.7 to 28 square meters

(Source: Royal Commission for Riyadh City)

## Joined the Global Methane Pledge

Collaborating to reduce global methane emissions by 30% by 2030, relative to 2020 levels

(Source: Global Methane Pledge)

## Launch of Integrated Waste Management and Recycling Activities in Riyadh

To recycle 81% of the 3.4 million tons of annual municipal solid waste and 47% of the five million tons of construction and demolition waste

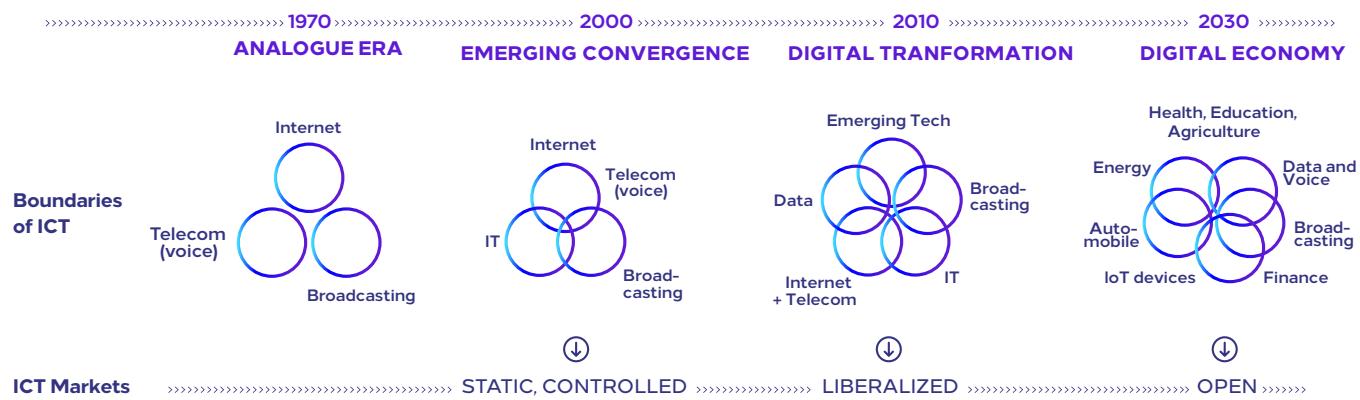
(Source: MEWA)

# ICT AND SUSTAINABILITY

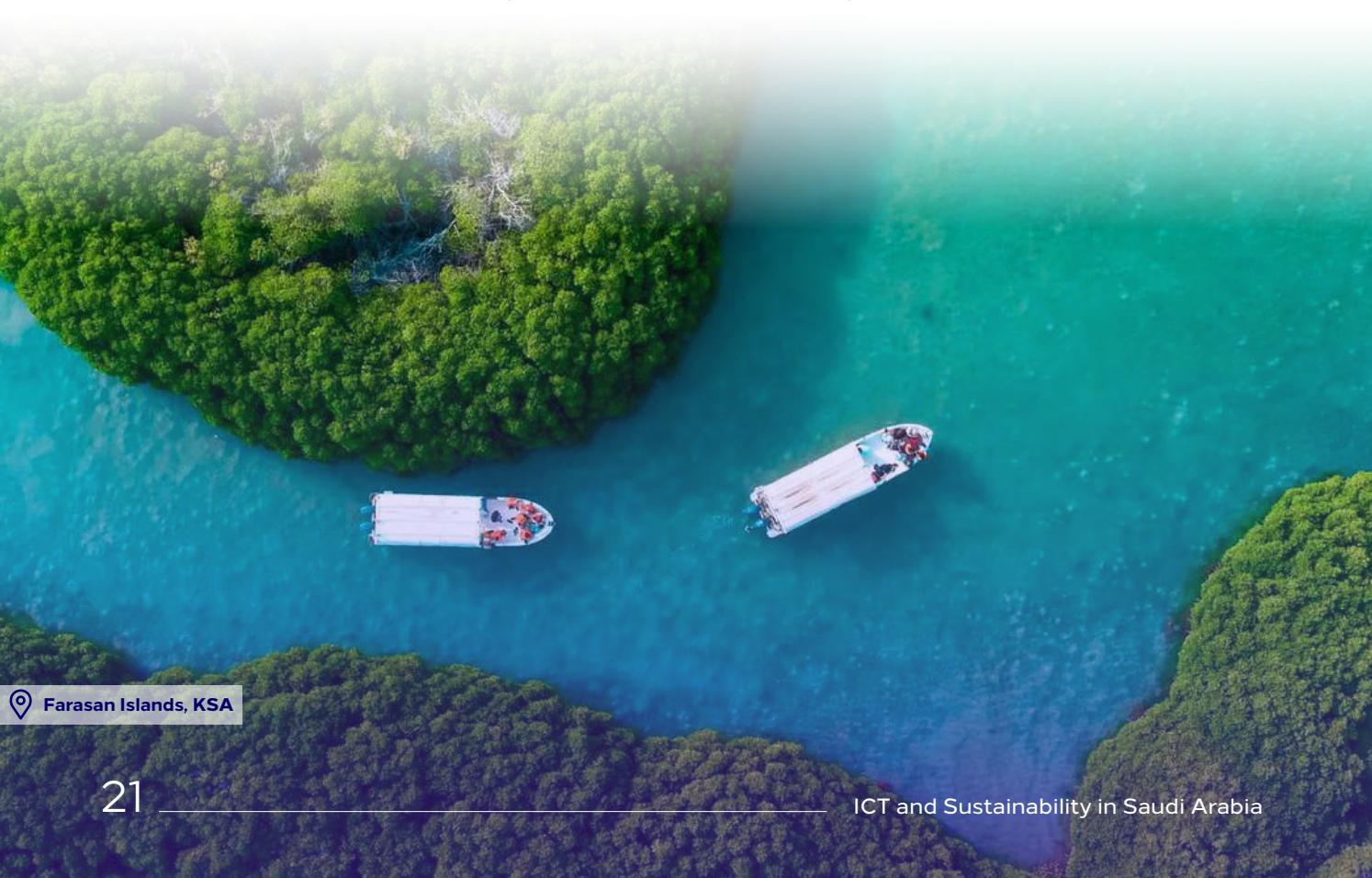


# THE QUESTION OF ICT AND SUSTAINABILITY

ICT is critical to ensure a truly sustainable transformation. Today, ICT isn't a sector of its own but instead intersects with different sectors to connect and enable them in pursuit of sustainability. In essence, this collaboration moves different stakeholders together toward a sustainable eco-system by catalyzing the emergence of the **Digital Economy**.



(ITU Global ICT Regulatory Outlook 2017)



# CONNECT THE UNCONNECTED: CITC ENABLING A SUSTAINABLE KINGDOM

CITC, as the Kingdom's digital regulator, stands at the intersection of ICT and sustainability. In order to enable wholesale societal change in line with the SDGs, **CITC developed a suite of sustainability objectives**, as well a route to achieve them.

## ICT sustainability objectives to be reached by 2030:



### Increase

national digital coverage including underserved communities



### Prioritize

investment in technology innovation supporting progress on SDGs



### Encourage

ICT companies to commit to Science Based Targets (SBT)



### Maximize

recycling Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE)



### Ensure

ICT runs on renewable energy in smart cities



### Enable

ICT labor diversification and inclusion

# C.I.R.C.L.E - TOWARD SUSTAINABILITY

CITC has developed a roadmap to achieve its sustainability objectives in alignment with the SDG's, injecting sustainable thinking into the whole sector.



# SUSTAINABILITY MATRIX

CITC's priority matrix for sustainability identifies focus areas for key stakeholders. This reflects the contribution of both these interest groups to identify current and emerging social- and environmental risks and opportunities. The matrix is based on top ICT sustainability priorities, as identified within the context of the economy, people, and the planet.



# SUSTAINABILITY IS AT THE TOP OF CITC'S AGENDA

## Ensuring business and social sustainability during COVID-19



## Ensuring equal access to telecom services

### Launching the Open Access Initiative

An agreement signed between all six service providers guaranteeing the provision of fixed broadband services by creating a shared infrastructure working to optimize our resources while building a cohesive digital economy and community.

**+68%**

Increased rate of Open Access requests for 2021 compared to 2020

**+60%**

Of homes supported by the fiber optic services

### Launching the National Roaming Service

Covering remote villages with coverage for mobile broadband. This free service automatically changes a user's connection source to another operator's network if there is no coverage from their primary carrier.

Coverage improvement per company



%22



%99



%99



%23



%99

**21,000**  
villages

covered by telecommunication services

## Understanding Potentials And Opportunities

### CITC launched Project Boost

The project identified a market potential of more than **\$27 billion in 2025** alone for the IT and ET industries in Saudi Arabia. In addition, multiple initiatives and projects were launched to support development, such as the Digital Technology Forum, IT and ET Market Classification, Manassa Tech, and Advisory Groups.

### CITC issued Outlook for Commercial and Innovative Use of the Spectrum in Saudi Arabia 2021-2023

+23 GHz of spectrum will be released for a wide range of uses:



**13+ GHz**

Lightly Licensed



**6.2 GHz**

License-exempt



**4 GHz**

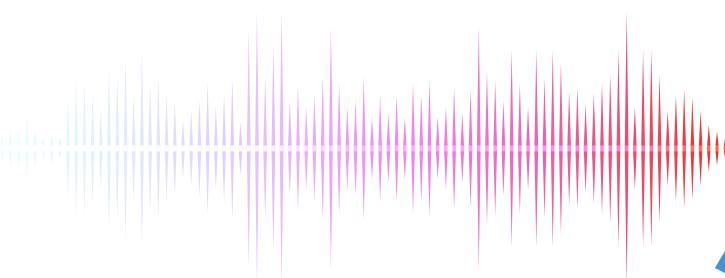
Licensed

One innovative example of using the wide range of spectrum was achieved through CITC by licensing the Wi-Fi 6e frequency spectrum, allowing users vastly increased internet speeds and unlocking the use of emerging services and technologies such as the metaverse and the Internet of Things (IoT). This policy innovation was done in partnership with Intel, Broadcom, and the Wireless Broadband Alliance.

## Creating a safe space for consumers

### CITC Launched the National Platform for Early Warning

Activating mobile phones in disasters and emergencies to work via cellular broadcast in collaboration with The General Directorate of Civil Defense where the platform sends warning messages with a loud audio tone to mobile phones connected to the network.



### Safe spectrum for everyone

CITC allows the public to request field measurements for Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Fields, eliminating any concerns or fears facing consumers.



An aerial photograph of a desert landscape. A dark blue asphalt road cuts through the scene, starting from the bottom right and curving upwards towards the top left. The surrounding terrain is covered in large, light-colored sand dunes with distinct ripples and textures. In the top left corner, there is a solid purple rectangular overlay containing white text.

# SUCCESS STORIES

# 01

## GENDER EQUALITY FOR A STRONGER SECTOR



الاتصالات وتكنولوجيا المعلومات  
وزارة الاتصالات وتكنولوجيا المعلومات



### Ministry of Communications and Information

**Technology (MCIT)** designed a comprehensive program to empower Saudi women through developing digital capabilities as well as creating a digital environment that nurtures digital talents.

The program won the **EQUALS in Tech Awards 2020** and **WSIS Prize 2021** from ITU.



**20,000**

women trained via the future skills initiative between 2018 and 2021

SDG supported:



**5,591**

entrepreneurs stimulated to establish ICT start-ups as of the end of 2021



**Top level**

leadership training deployed for women in the ICT sector

# 02

## CONNECTING REMOTE AREAS WITH THE WORLD

The **Digital Inclusion of Saudi Rural Areas project** and the **Wireless Broadband (WBB) initiative** are bridging the digital divide in the Saudi society and setting key foundations for future prosperity in these communities.



**+580,000**

households and **3.2 million** inhabitants have been covered



**3,700**

remote localities reached by broadband access



**+70%**

of households in rural areas covered by broadband by the end of 2021



03

## ATTA: UPSKILLING TECHNICAL KNOW-HOW FOR SOCIETY

العطاء الرقمي  
Attaa Digital



**Technology one of the indispensable foundations in most countries today.** It is also considered as one of the most important major challenges in building digital skills and handling digital illiteracy among citizens. Citizens should be enabled to use technology to improve their social and economic aspects .So the "Atta Digital " initiative was launched, the first voluntary initiative specialized in the technical field, aiming to raise awareness and enrich Arab technical content.



+22 million

beneficiaries have been reached

SDG supported:



04

## THINKTECH: CREATING A VIBRANT DIGITAL SOCIETY



**ThinkTech initiative was launched to anticipate everything new in technology to achieve sustainable development** and raise awareness about the emerging technologies and cover the need of tech knowledge for all the Arabic speakers to build a digital community and create a creative environment to spread the knowledge of Innovations and Inventions targeting inventors.



+23 million

beneficiaries have been reached

SDG supported:





**05**

## ENSURING EQUAL ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITIES



الأكاديمية السعودية الرقمية  
SAUDI DIGITAL ACADEMY

The Saudi Digital Academy (SDA) and the Future Skills initiative, established by MCIT in 2018 and 2019 respectively, have been developing the capabilities of Saudi talents, preparing them for the future, and supporting them to seize opportunities in ICT.



**60,000+**

men and women trained



**26,000+**

men and women employed



**28+%**

Saudi women participation in ICT jobs



**19,892**

women trained via the future skills initiative



**57%**

Localization of ICT jobs has increased to more than 57%



**5591**

female entrepreneurs stimulated to establish ICT start-ups

SDG supported:



06

## IGNITE: THE SPARK OF A NEW ERA OF SAUDI DIGITAL CONTENT

Digital content has emerged as a key tool enhancing **digital literacy** and **raising awareness** on how it can relate to sustainable activities. To ensure the effectiveness of digital content in sustainable practices, CITC, MCIT, and other entities have initiated IGNITE, a digital content executive program monitored by the Digital Content Council.

 **36 streams**

deploy a wide variety of incentives

 **Cross**

government support for digital literacy and content development



وزارة الإعلام  
Ministry of Media



هيئة الاتصالات وتقنية المعلومات  
Communications & Information Technology Commission



**SDAIA**  
الهيئة السعودية للبيانات  
والذكاء الصناعي  
Saudi Data & AI Authority



الهيئة السعودية للمملوكة الفكرية  
Saudi Authority for Intellectual Property



SDG supported:

-  9 INDUSTRY INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
-  10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
-  4 QUALITY EDUCATION

07

## EMPOWERING SMEs AND OUR FUTURE LEADERS

البرنامج الوطني  
لتنمية تقنية المعلومات  
National Technology  
Development Program



In pursuit of Vision 2030 objectives, the National Technology Development Program (NTDP) has been developed to drive sustainability through new financial solutions. Innovation, economic growth, meaningful employment, and strong partnerships through tech-focused SMEs, will be catalysts of the green transformation.



### Tomoh Tech Initiative

Deployed with Monsha'at, the program works to accelerate the growth of high potential SMEs. It provides 17 specialized services with the aim of growing the digital economy, enhancing local content, and creating new jobs.



### Technology Development Financing Initiative

This initiative enables technology startups and SMEs to achieve growth with access to up to \$4 million in financing from participating lenders.



### Tech Research Challenge Initiative

The NTDP promotes sustained cooperation between tech companies, research centers and universities to develop better technologies. Technology leaders present challenges within their own companies to universities and researchers, who innovate practical solutions. Grants and prizes are awarded to select research proposals and solutions.

SDG supported:



08

## RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE FOR HIGHER CONNECTIVITY



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Communications & Information Technology Commission

**CITC's efforts to** ensure connectivity and a resilient ICT infrastructure has been supported by different initiatives. To ensure accessibility to high speed internet, 5G coverage and penetration in the Kingdom was increased to reach:



**92.6%**

5G coverage in  
Riyadh



**48.1%**

5G coverage across  
Saudi Arabia

The “KSA Free WiFi” initiative deployed access points of public WiFi around the Kingdom, allowing accessibility to services for all users.



**+60,000**

free WiFi  
hotspots



**Point of interest**

Hospitals, shopping malls,  
city parks, and the two  
Holy Mosques covered

**SDGS supported:**



09

## RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION, SUSTAINABLE LIVING



Founded in 2015, recycling company Tadweer started from scratch with a vision of commitment to the circular economy to preserve the planet. It built its plant in Riyadh within 16 months, started operations in 2017 and reported a net operating profit of over \$210,000 in the first year of operation.

**128,000** tons

of capacity by 2025, up  
from 15,000 in 2016

**100,000** tons

of waste recycled in  
five years

SDG supported:



10

## BRINGING EDUCATION TO ALL CORNERS OF THE KINGDOM

The Kingdom's response to the pandemic was among the fastest and most efficient in the world. Thanks to the "Madrasati" platform, the Kingdom's students were able to pursue their education with high-quality e-learning and the continuation of all processes.

**SDGS supported:**



+5

million students used in more than 22,000 schools



+86

million online lessons in one semester



+489

million visits in the first 4 months



top 4

One of the top 4 global models in the field of e-learning as recognized by UNESCO

11

## DELIVERING AN OPTIMUM HEALTHCARE ACCESS

The Sehhaty platform is a development of the Ministry of Health. It aligns to its vision to improve healthcare standards and overall services delivery where it promotes healthy lifestyles through health awareness information and boosts access to healthcare services of health organizations in the Kingdom.



**+41.2**

million Total  
PCR tests



**+61.9**

million total vaccine  
doses administered

SDG supported:



12

## DRIVING SUSTAINABILITY, COMBATING CLIMATE CHANGE

stc

stc has one of the most advanced sustainability frameworks in Saudi Arabia and has been releasing sustainability reports since 2019. Diversity, women empowerment, human capital development, and digitization are key pillars of the operator's sustainability strategy.



**100%**

reduction in paper-based  
procurement documents



**40%**

drop in water  
consumption



**16%**

decrease in electricity  
consumption



**\$3.2**

million in community  
initiatives excluding  
COVID-19 response



**Incubated 17**

digitization ideas  
through InspireU  
program

SDG supported:



13

## SHIFTING TOWARDS A MORE SUSTAINABLE OUTCOME

Zain is in its 11<sup>th</sup> year of publishing a comprehensive, multi-country sustainability report. During this time, the firm has invested more than \$80 million in sustainability-led programs across markets of operation, focusing on diverse challenges from Climate Change, Gender equality, Youth unemployment, and Social business.

\$80

million in sustainability-led programs

A-

Score in the latest CDP Score Report Climate Change 2021

-10.3%

CO2 reduction

SDGs supported:



14

## VIRGIN MOBILE KSA BECOMES A NET ZERO EMISSIONS COMPANY



Virgin Mobile KSA announced that it has achieved net zero carbon emissions across its operations in the Kingdom. This reaffirms Virgin Mobile KSA's ongoing commitment to minimize its impact on the environment.

100%

single-use plastic free in operations located in KSA

Recycled paper

for SIM card packaging

SDGs supported:





# OUTLOOK

# Building sustainability into our digital future



**Saudi Arabia's consistent** investment in its digital infrastructure over the past several years is positioning the Kingdom to be a leader in sustainability commitments around the world.



**This strong infrastructure**, complemented by a comprehensive strategy, visionary leadership, and a forward-looking regulatory framework that will enable the Kingdom to limit its own environmental footprint.



**In addition to the MCIT's ICT Sector strategy**, CITC is also preparing to meet the future challenges with a stronger hand. The regulator has determined 4 themes and 16 strategic priorities including consumer protection, investment and competition promotion, enabling Saudi Arabia's digital transformation, achieving regulatory excellence and enhancing organizational effectiveness.



**CITC is also committed to** contributing to the achievement of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, placing them at the center of its regulatory practice.



**The future is digital**, and CITC is ready with full force as it marches toward becoming one of the world's most developed 5<sup>th</sup> generation digital regulators.

# Bibliography

All data was accurate at the time of release. Data not referenced comes from MCIT, CITC, or related government sources.

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