

Equals - A Global Partnership for Gender Equality in the Digital Age

Ursula Wynhoven

ITU Representative to the UN, New York

Outline

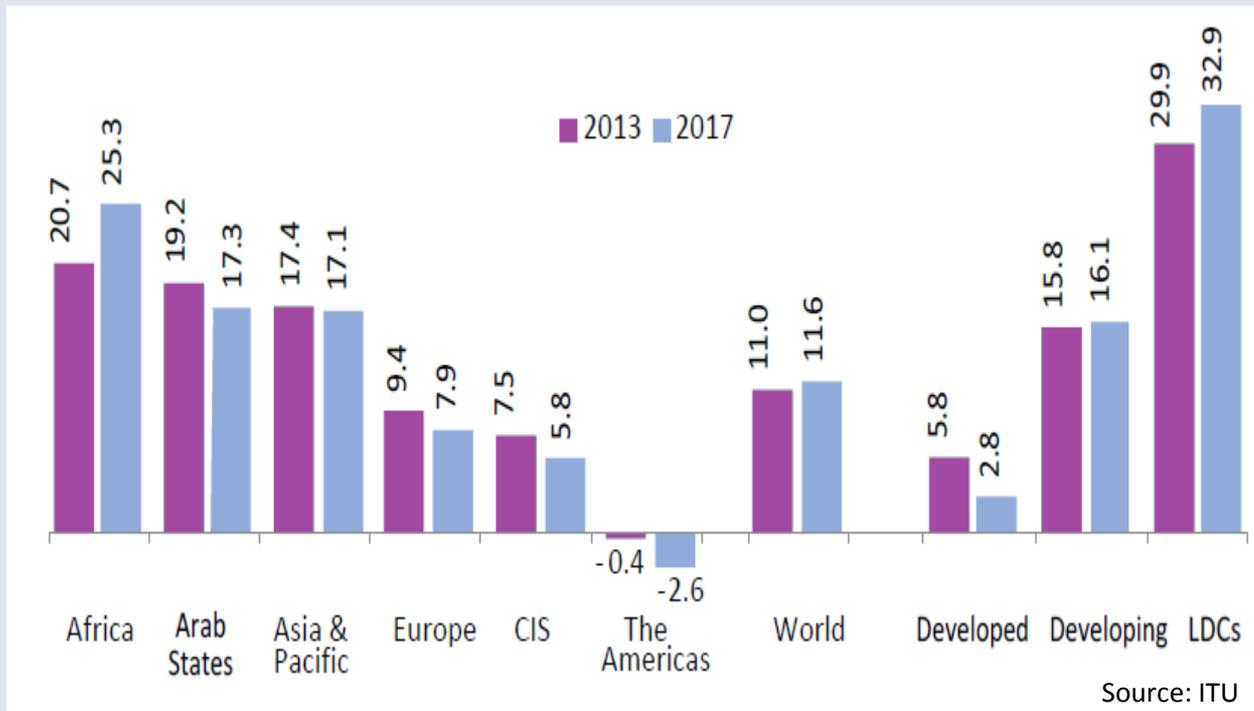
- The ITU
- Some facts and figures re women and tech
- EQUALS
- Some recommendations

About the ITU

ITU: the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs)

Committed to connecting the world

The gender digital divide is widening



In low- and middle-income countries, **200 million fewer women** own mobile phones than men.



In 2017, the regional **gender gap is largest in Africa** (25.3%) and smallest in the Americas (-2.6%)

The overall global Internet user gender **gap increased** from 11.0% in 2013 to 11.6% in 2017

ITU estimates that the proportion of women using the Internet is **12% lower** than the proportion of men using the Internet worldwide.

In low- and middle-income countries,
200 million fewer women
own mobile phones than men.

Source: GSMA's Low and Middle Income data

There are an estimated
250 million fewer women
online globally than men.

Source: ITU LMD Report

Of the 193 ITU Member States,
22
have female ICT Ministers.

Source: ITU data

Out of 164 independent regulators,
12
are headed by women.

Source: ITU data

Only **6%** of
app developers are female

Source: InMobi's State of Mobile App Developers 2016 report

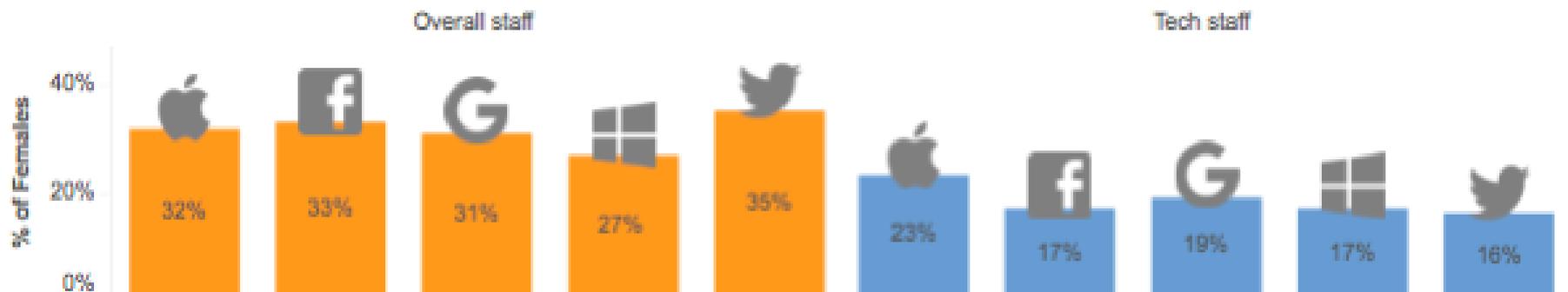
There are only
21 Female CEOs
amongst Fortune 500 companies

8.7%* of ITU Sector Members
have female CEOs

6.2%* of ITU Sector Members
have female CTOs/CIOs.

*Provisional data. 80% of Sector Members surveyed to date.

Women in Tech



Source: <http://www.bbc.com/news/technology-37605943>

More concerning facts

- At tech companies, women comprise fewer than 1 in 5 senior roles
- In many countries, the percentage of women graduates in computer science has actually fallen since 2000. E.g. Only 12% of computer-science degrees in the US currently go to women cf 37% in 1984.
- Ratio of male to female engineers in children's TV shows and movies is 14 to 1 (Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media)

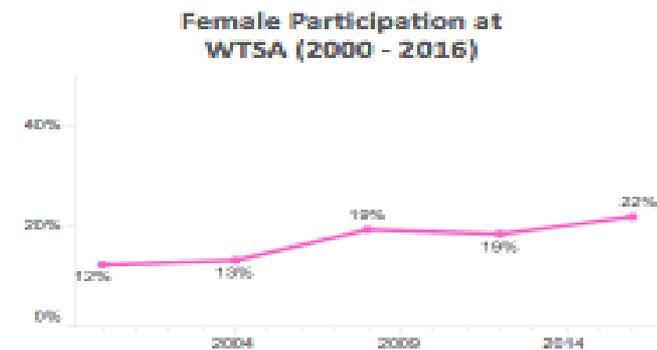
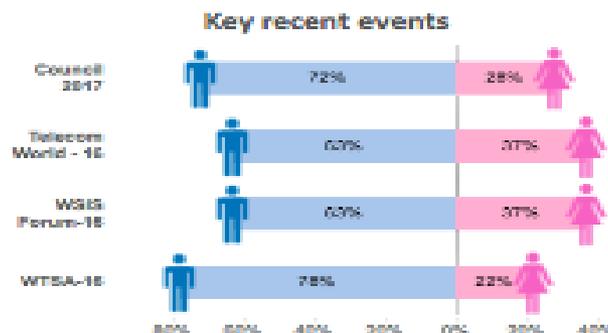
- [Home](#)
- [Sectors](#)
 - [ITU-R](#)
 - [ITU-T](#)
 - [ITU-D](#)
- [World Conferences](#)
 - [WRC](#)
 - [WTSA](#)
 - [WTDC](#)
- [PP and Council](#)
- [WSIS](#)
- [Telecom](#)
- [ITU Statutory Committees](#)

Women in ITU Meetings

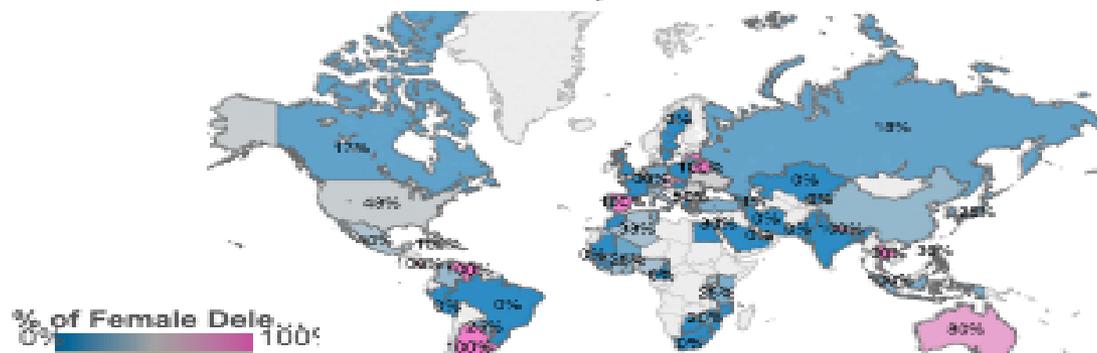
Women in ICTs and Connectivity

Women in ITU

Women in ITU Meetings (Overall Current Values)



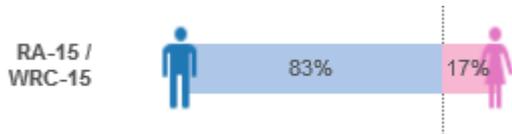
Female Participation at Council 2017



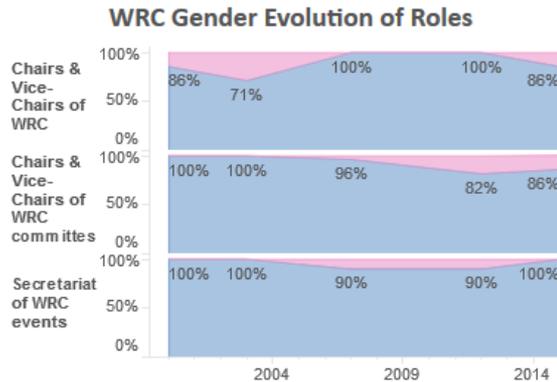
© OpenStreetMap contributors
 Percentage of registered female delegates. Click on the map for more information on the percentage of interventions by women per country delegation (note: in some cases,

Network Of Women (NOW) for WRC

A Forum for Networking, Knowledge Sharing and Mentoring



Gender balance among delegates: encourage a larger participation of women



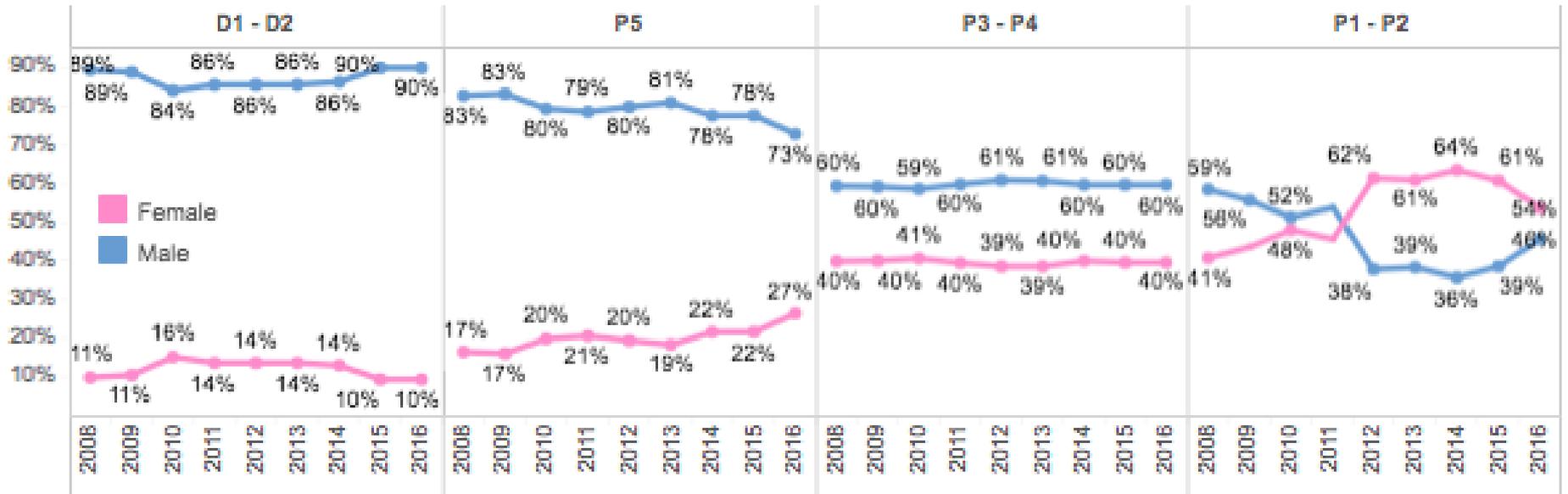
Prepare women delegates in key roles for WRC-19 (chairs, vice-chairs, etc.)



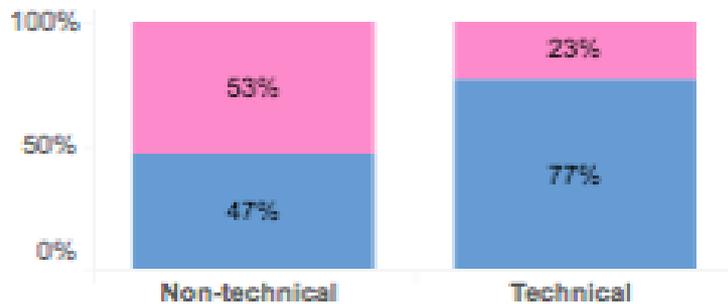
Grow the **ITU-R women's community** capacities and contributions



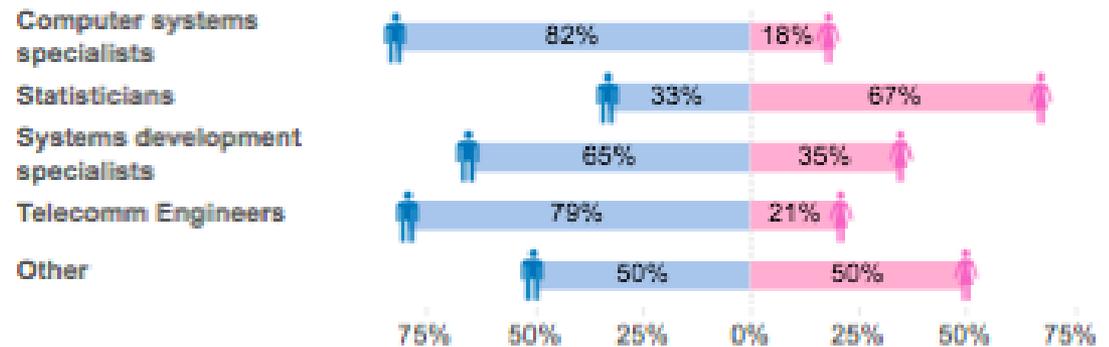
Professional Staff



Professionals in Technical vs. Non-Technical Positions



Professionals in Technical Positions



WE ARE E^QUALS

TECH HAS NO GENDER



THE GOAL

To create an unstoppable global movement where women and girls are Equal participants in the digital technology revolution.

5 CO-FOUNDERS



CONFIRMED PARTNERS

- African Development Bank
- Association for Progressive Communications
- Bytedance
- Code to change
- Digital Opportunity Trust
- Digital Impact Alliance
- EY
- Germany
- Girls Scouts
- Harvard Berkman Klein Center
- IEEE
- Internet Society
- Mozilla Foundation
- Nokia
- OHCHR
- ONE
- Pakistan
- Royal Holloway of London
- Rwanda
- She Loves Tech
- Switzerland
- UNESCO
- Unilever
- UNCTAD
- WEB Foundation
- World Economic Forum

EQUALS AREAS OF ACTION



ACCESS

Achieve equal access to digital technologies



SKILLS

Scale participation in ICT learning and skills



LEADERSHIP

Empower women as ICT leaders, creators and entrepreneurs



RESEARCH

Ensure an evidence-based approach towards achieving the Partnership goals

McKinsey & Co, Women in the Workplace 2017

“Companies need a comprehensive plan for supporting and advancing women. Building on findings from previous years—and incorporating new insights into what top-performing companies are doing—companies should start with these core actions:

- Make a compelling case for gender diversity.
- Invest in more employee training.
- Ensure that hiring, promotions, and reviews are fair.
- Give employees the flexibility to fit work into their lives.
- Focus on accountability and results.

Additionally, it is critical that companies understand their particular pain points and tackle them directly. For most if not all companies, this includes addressing the distinct barriers women of color face and getting sufficient buy-in from men. Until they do, companies’ gender-diversity efforts are likely to continue to fall short.”

Recommendations for gender equality initiatives (from what we've learned)

- Consider a platform, and foster opportunities, to leverage and amplify what already exists cf reinventing the wheel
- Knowing what others are doing and sharing information is still a huge need
- Make it multi-stakeholder
- Make it multi-disciplinary
- Engage girls from a young age to build interest and the pipeline and show what is possible – promote multiple pathways in
- Recognize that both women and men may have bias and may perpetuate norms that undermine gender equality
- Engage men and boys or risk a backlash
- Look at women and girls only programmes and mainstreamed programmes
- Acknowledge women and girls' intersectionality
- Recognize progress
- Walk the talk and measure impact

