



UNITED NATIONS  
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



# Industry 4.0

Preparing for the 4<sup>th</sup>  
Industrial Revolution

**15 June 2017 | 11.00 - 12.00**  
Room 1 | CIG Building

World Summit on the Information Society  
(WSIS) 2017

## ABSTRACT

Despite its name, the concept of Industry 4.0, or the 4<sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution, is not solely about manufacturing, even if manufacturing is the main sector involved today; its broader connotation includes concepts such as smart transportation and logistics, smart buildings, oil and gas, smart healthcare and smart cities. A more general description is that it concerns the digital transformation in, and of, global industrial markets with an impact at the macro, meso and micro levels. Industry 4.0 is of particular relevance for all aspects of SDG-9. In addition it has wide-ranging implications for most of the other SDGs both from the side of supply and demand.

Effective diffusion of the Industry 4.0 vision, digital transformation, and leverage of third platform technologies such as big data and the Internet of Things (IoT) takes place at different speeds and is related to a variety of challenges being faced at the levels of government, support institutions, and in particular the firm. Nevertheless, what is clear is that there is a level of inequality in the requisites, e.g., ICT infrastructure, needed for adopting industry 4.0 amid sectors as well as between developed and developing countries!

Industry and policymakers alike recognise the huge opportunities for growth offered by digital transformation, interconnectedness and new manufacturing technologies related to industry 4.0. Together, these phenomena are driving

new business models, sustainable and efficient use of limited resources and the cost-effective production of highly customizable products, denoting an unprecedented transformation in industry, flexibility and agility.

This event highlights some of the challenges and opportunities related to the adoption of Industry 4.0.

## EVENT

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2017, an expert panel on *Preparing for the 4th Industrial Revolution* will be convened during the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum 2017.

The panel will discuss a number of key issues:

- › the importance and role of a coherent strategy leading to preparedness for Industry 4.0;
- › policy challenges related to the adoption of Industry 4.0;
- › the impact of Industry 4.0 on employment generation and attendant skills requirements;
- › the importance of the knowledge-base and issues related to support infrastructure particularly for firms' innovation and productivity; and
- › the role of development agencies in assisting developing countries to prepare and adopt industry 4.0 in an effective manner.

## SPEAKERS

Ms. Ratika Jain  
Executive Director of Manufacturing  
at the Confederation of Indian  
Industries

Prof. Sami Haddadin  
Professor and Director of the  
Institute of Automatic Control at  
Leibniz University Hannover

Mr. Sebastián Díaz Mesa  
Chief Marketing Officer of public  
accelerator of Start-Up Chile

---

**15 June 2017 | 11.00 - 12.00**  
Room 1 | CIG Building