



The Standards People

# IoT Conference 2023

## Exploring the Intersection of Technology and Sustainability - To achieve the Global Goals

Presented by: Paolo Gemma, WP2/5 Chairman,  
ITU



## ITU is Global



The [International Telecommunication Union \(ITU\)](#) is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs)



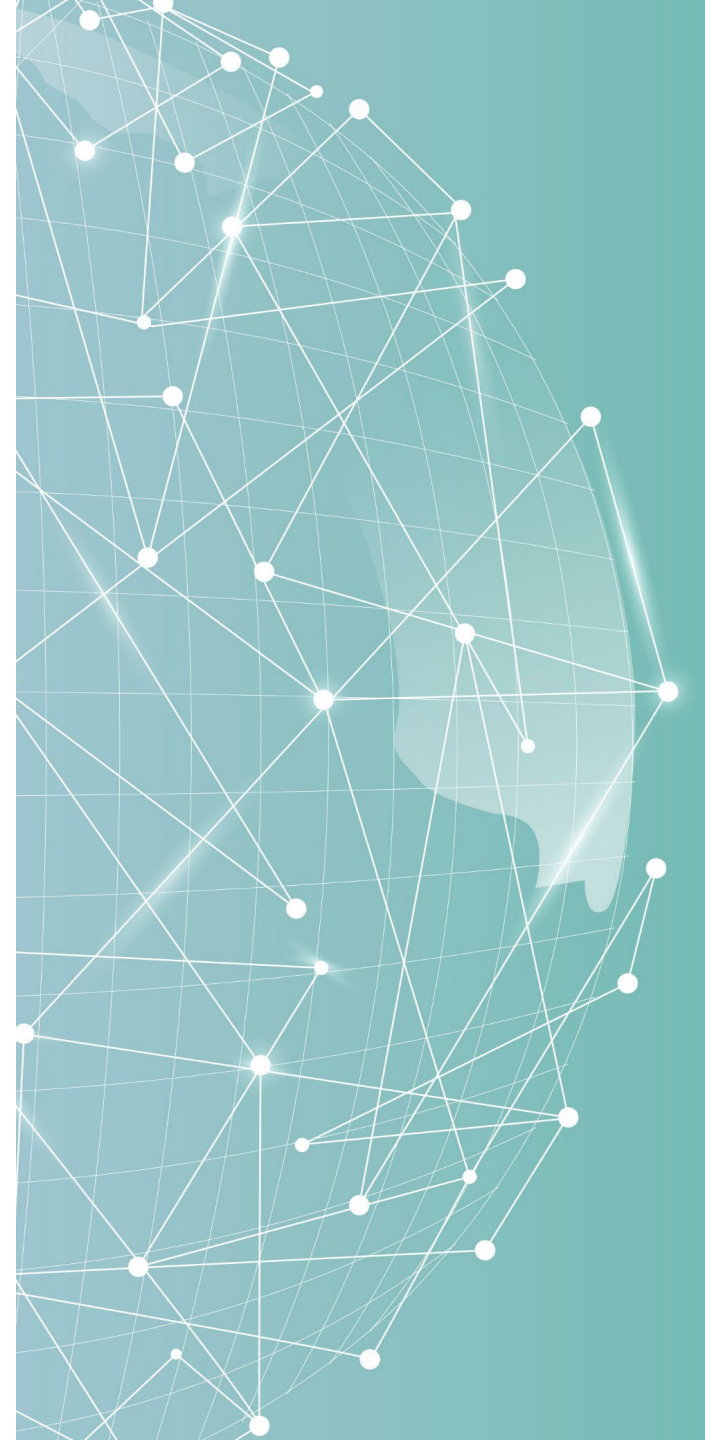
**193** Member states



**+700** Private sector organizations



**+150** Academia



# Increasing Connectivity Worldwide

*In 2022, Internet use grew to 66 percent of the population, reaching 5.3 billion people*



Videoconferencing  
for Work



Online Education



Online Shopping



Public Services



Digital Health





## Importance of Greening ICTs



Digital technologies have direct and indirect effects on energy use and emissions, and hold enormous potential to help or hinder global clean energy transitions



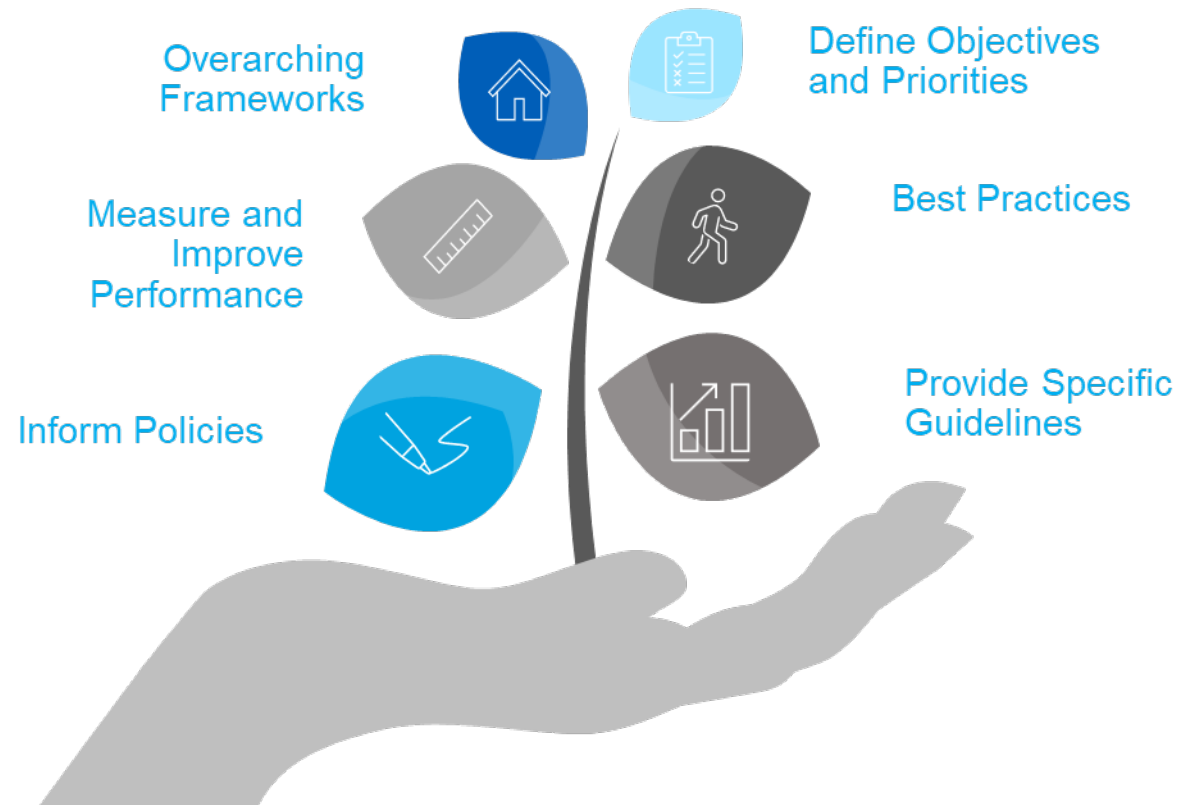
Data centres and data transmission networks are responsible for nearly 1% of energy-related GHG emissions



Efficiency improvements through international standards can significantly help limit growth in energy demand from data centres globally








## How International Standards Can Help

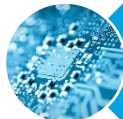





# How ITU Supports a Sustainable Digital Transformation

## ITU-T SG5: Climate change, EMF & circular economy

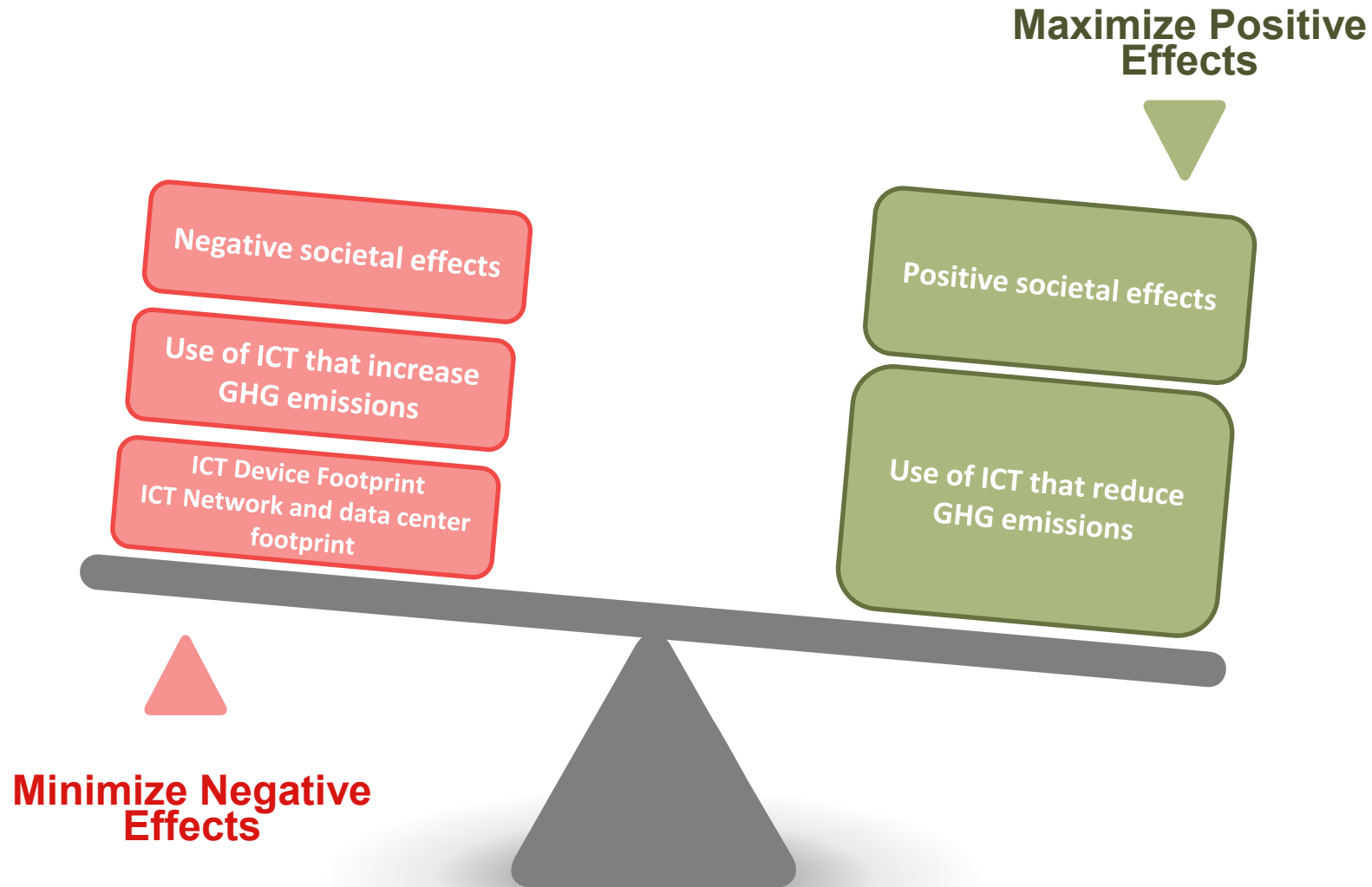
-  Electromagnetic compatibility, resistibility and lightning protection
-  Human exposure to electromagnetic fields
-  Soft error caused by particle radiations
-  Circular economy and e-waste management
-  ICTs related to the environment, energy efficiency, clean energy and sustainable digitalization for climate actions

## ITU-T SG20: IoT and smart cities & communities

-  Internet of Things and its Applications
-  Smart Cities and Communities
-  IoT Identification
-  Digital health related to IoT and SSC



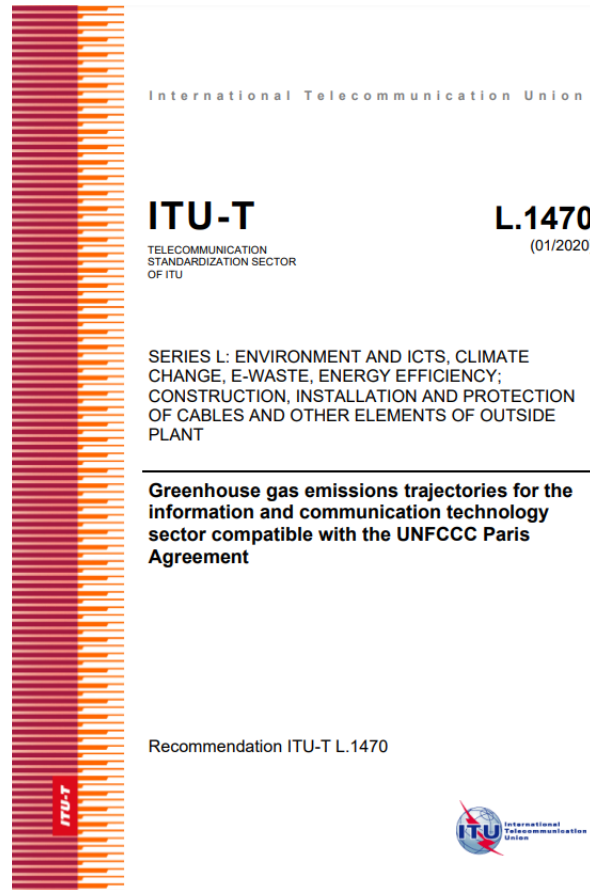
## Double-Edged Nature of ICTs





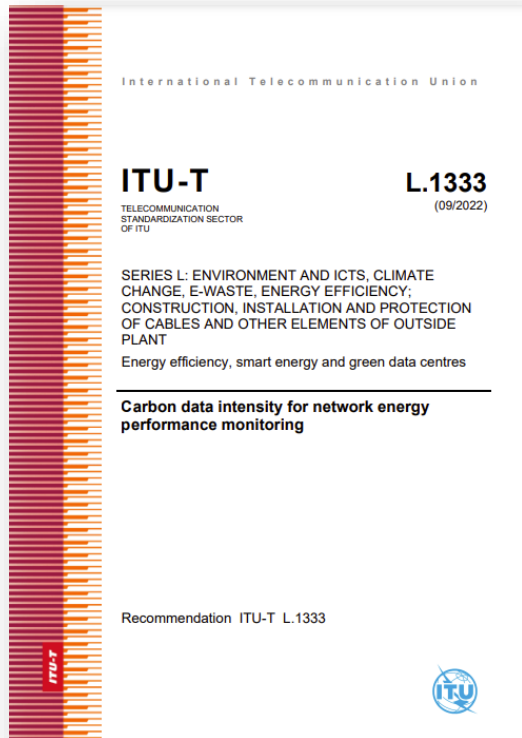
**ICT's current share of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions at 1.8%–2.8% of global GHG emissions**

To reach the 1.5 C target the ICT sector is monitoring and improving the efficiency and circularity of its goods and services





# Standards can support carbon data intensity for network energy performance monitoring



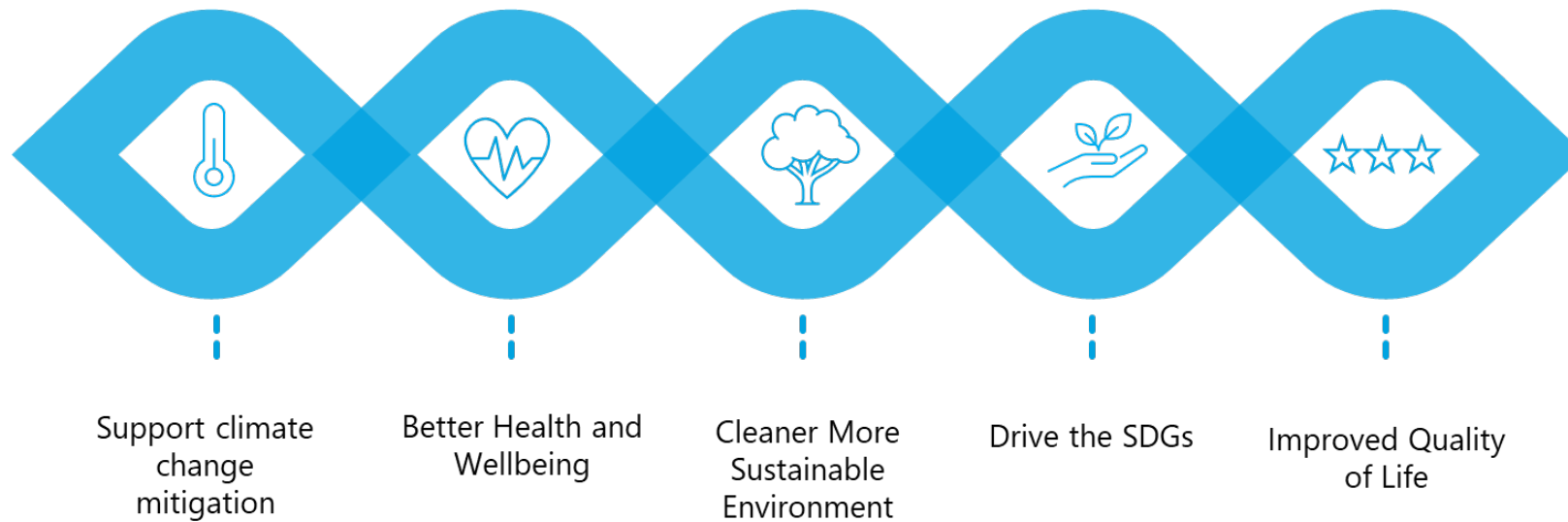
*Identifies a KPI for the carbon emission intensity of a network focused on network energy consumption in relation to data traffic.*



## Maximizing the positive effect of ICTs and digital technologies

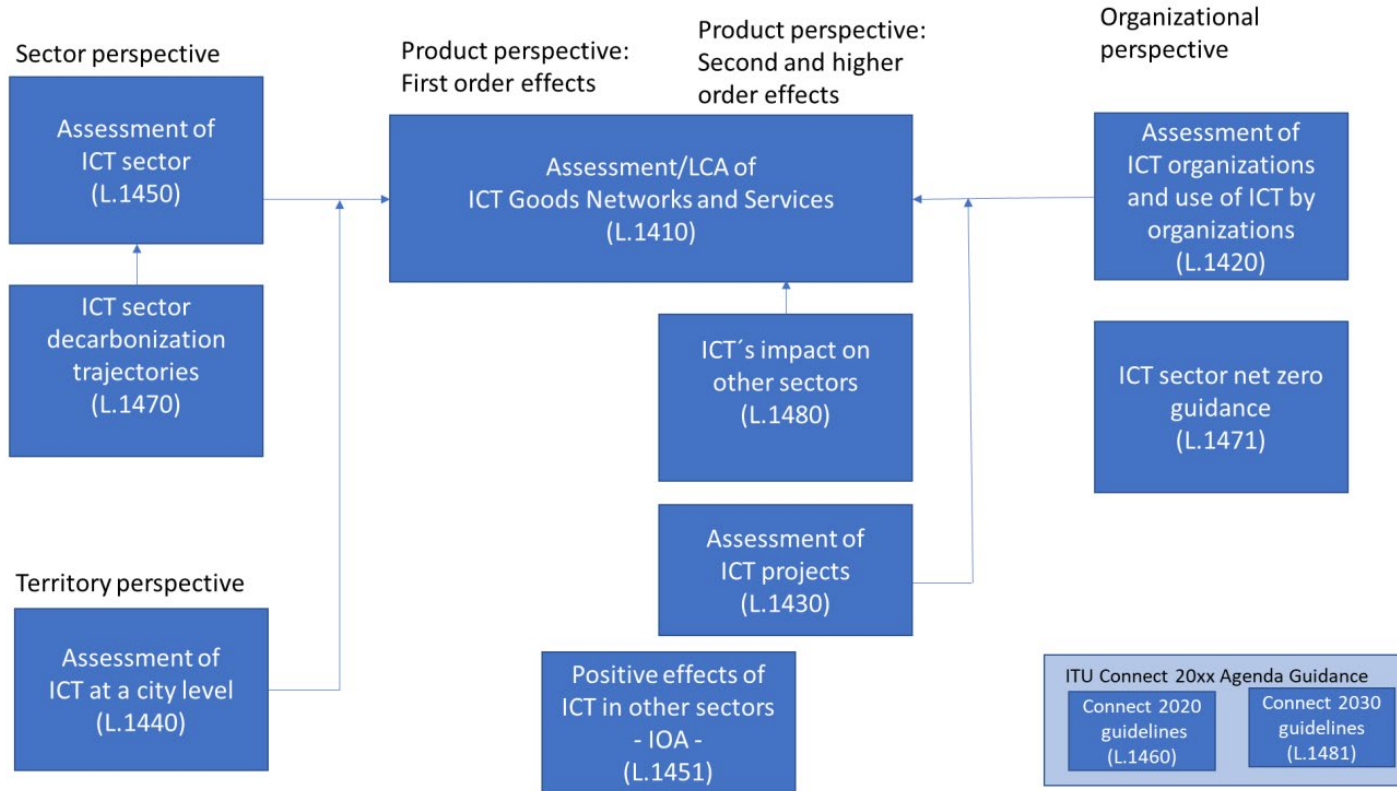


ICTs have the potential to slash global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 20% by 2030



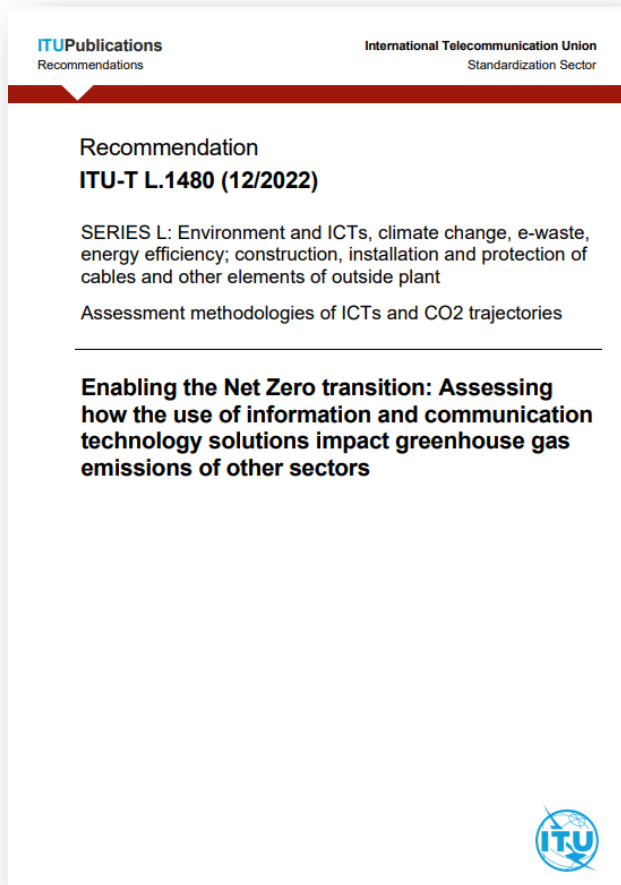
# Enabling the Net Zero transition

## L.1400-series overview





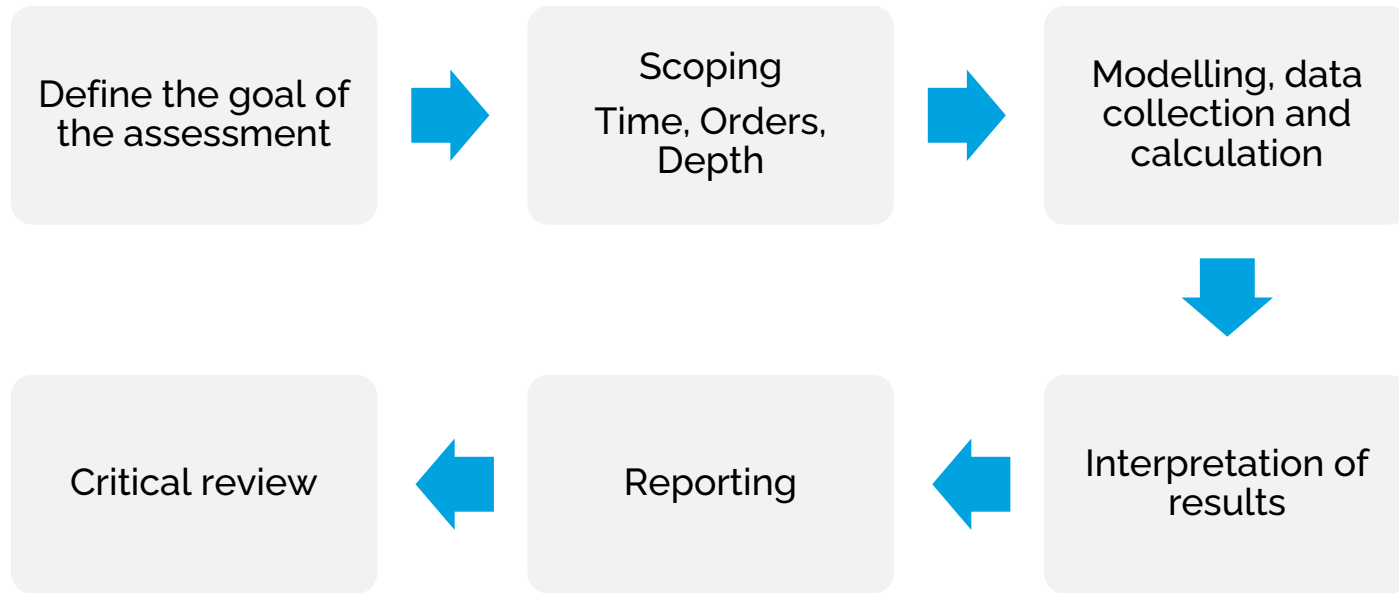
# Measuring the impact of ICT and digital technologies solutions



Provides a structured methodological approach, that aims to improve consistency, transparency and comprehensiveness of assessments of how the use of ICT solutions **impact GHG emissions over time.**



## Six steps to assess an ICT solution



## Applications of ITU-T L.1480

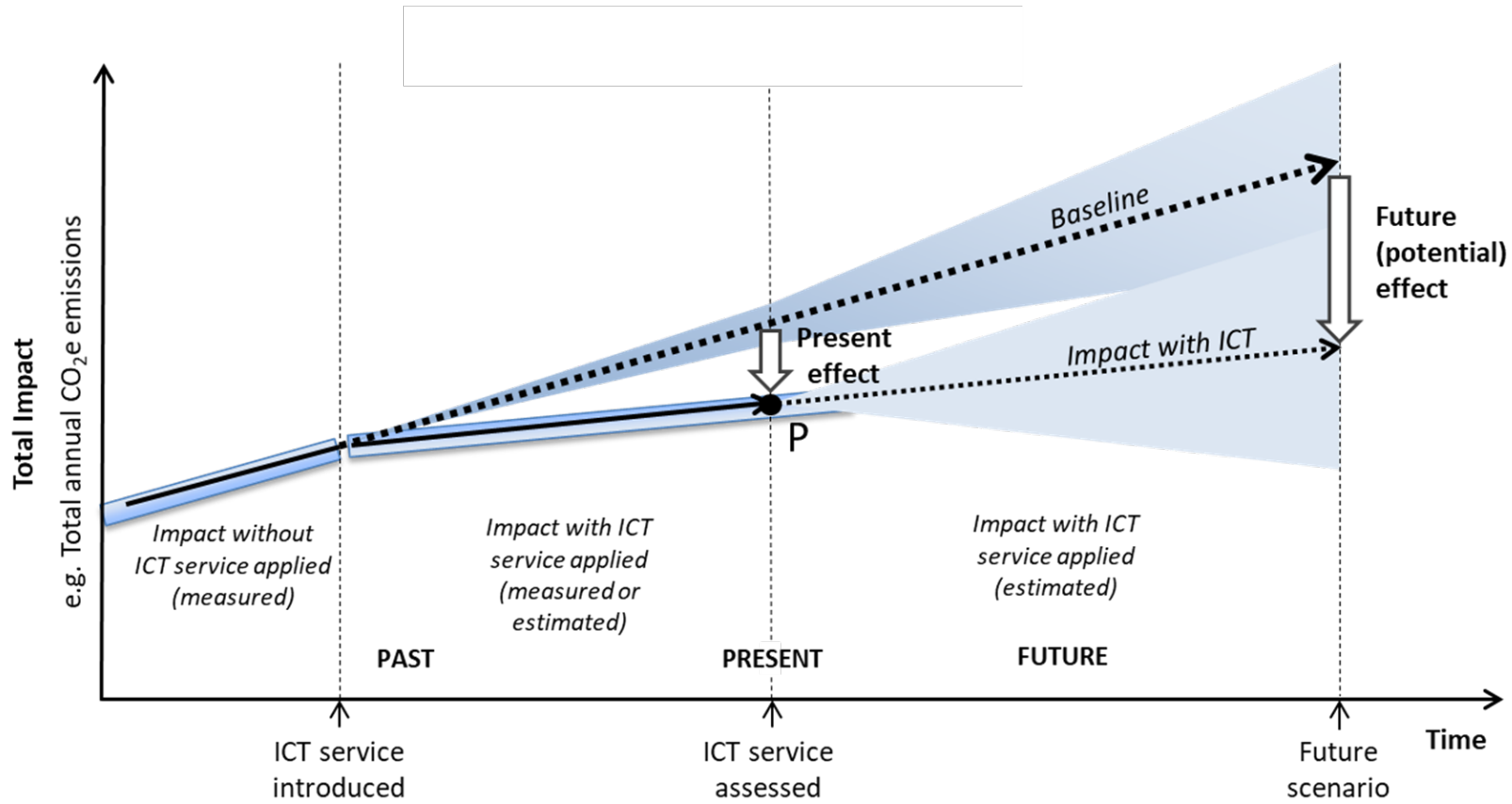
Assessment of one or several solutions:

- implemented in a **specific context by the user** of an ICT solution
- implemented at **different scales**, including at an organizational level, at a city level, at a country level or at worldwide level
- assessed **from the perspective of an ICT organization** contributing to the ICT solution(s)





# Calculating the effect – a hypothetical comparison



Source: *A Methodology for Assessing the Environmental Effects Induced by ICT Services – Part I: Single Services.* ( Coroamă & Bergmark et al, ICT4S2020)



# ITU-T L.1480 assessment perspectives and depths

Three different time perspectives and three tiers of assessment



Three depths of assessment			
Sector	TIER 1	TIER 2	TIER 3
Full life cycle	YES	YES	YES
Higher order effects	Assess	Identify	(Identify)
Data	As specific as possible	As specific as possible	Screening
Context	Assess	Identify	(Identify)



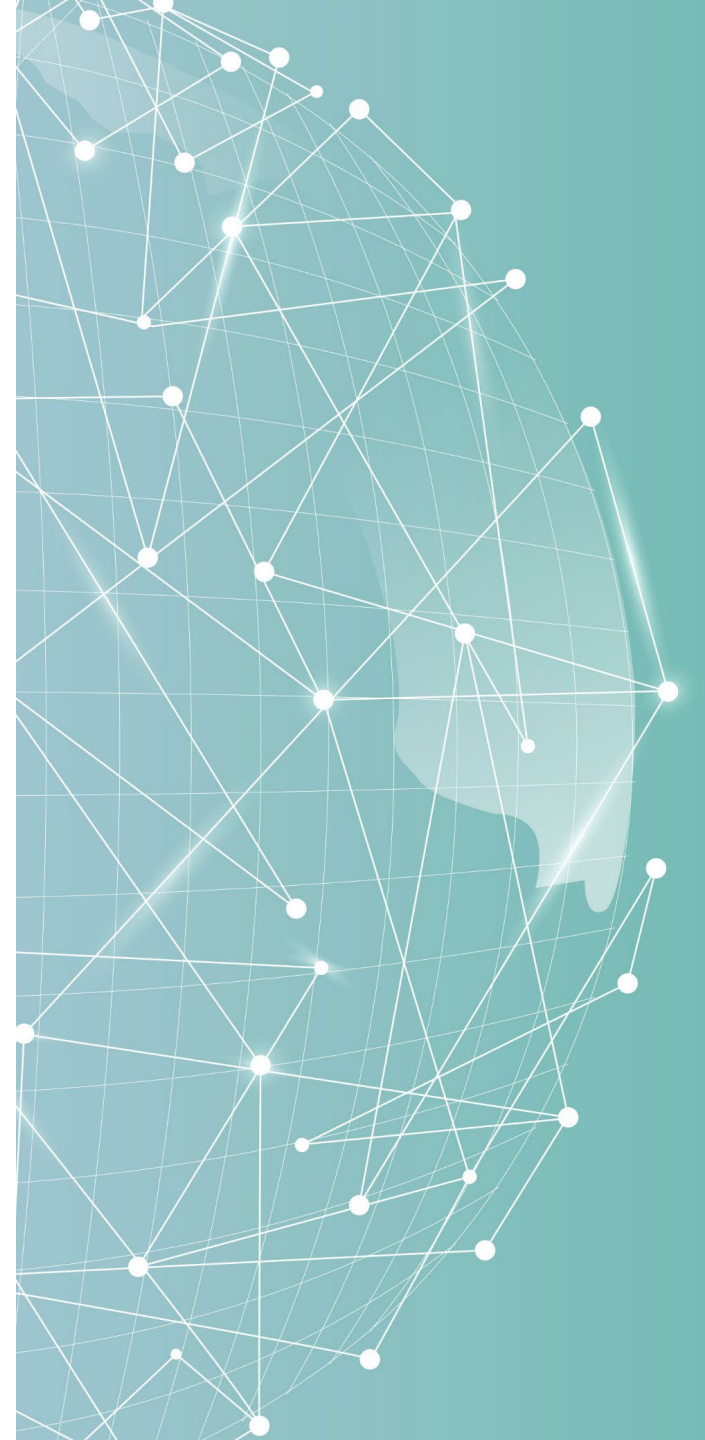
# ITU-T methodology evolution

- L.1410/ES 203 199 revision
- L.LCA simplified /EE-EEPS62 (ES )
- L.1480 rev/ EE-EEPS66 (ES )

A joint effort between the two SDO



In collaboration with





# How Digital Technologies can support Sustainability

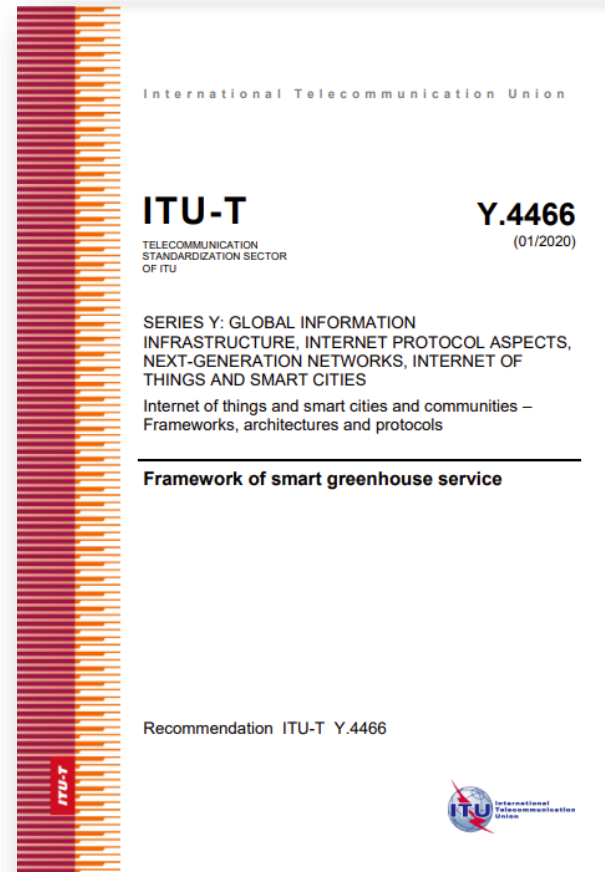


## Smart Green House

Enables precision farming with the help of Internet of things (IoT) devices, such as sensors and actuators installed in a smart greenhouse.

### USE CASE

Setting optimal growth model to describe how to adjust environment conditions during the life cycle of cultivating tomatoes.



# How Digital Technologies Can Support Sustainability

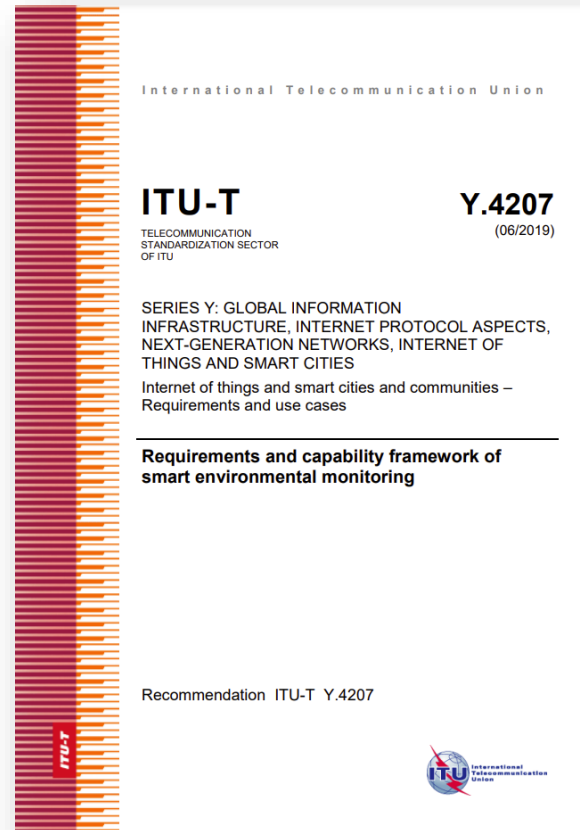


## Smart Water Quality Monitoring

IoT can help enhance and provide real-time environmental monitoring systems.

### USE CASE

Smart water monitoring can help detect if pollutants are above the necessary thresholds sending warning information to protect human health.











# Thank you!

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**Email**

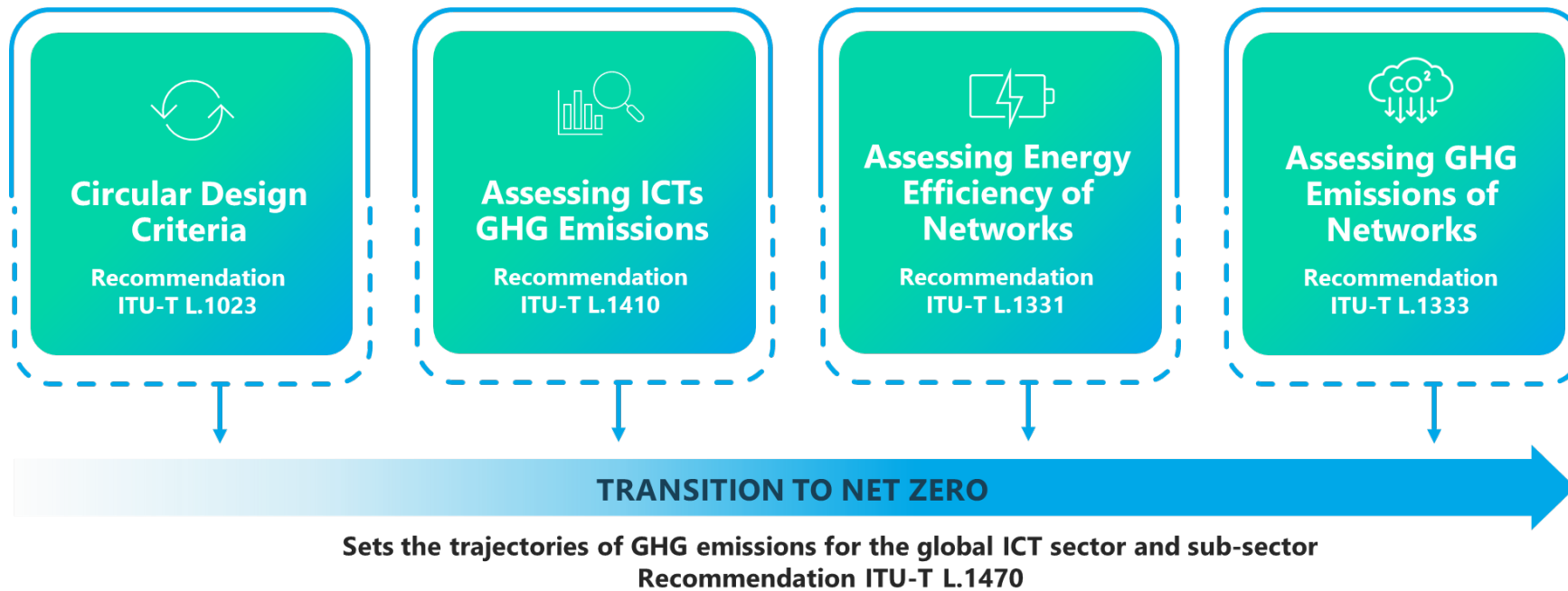
[tsbsg5@itu.int](mailto:tsbsg5@itu.int)



**Website**

[SG5: Environment, climate change and circular economy](#)

## ITU-T Standards Driving Sustainable Networks





# Creating Global Partnerships and collaboration with SDOs

