

Education Budget Annex

1) TECHNICAL TRAINING PROGRAMS

In 2007, ISOC's core technical training programs will consist of the following:

- The ISOC Fellowship to the IETF
- ccTLD Workshops
- Regional Operating Group (NOG) Support, and
- AfriNIC Support and Sustainability

a) ISOC Fellowship to the IETF

This program is aimed at building technical and standards expertise in the developing world. The program sponsors the cost of attending an IETF meeting for technologists from lesser developed regions who would not otherwise not be able to participate in person. While much of the IETF's work takes place over mailing lists, the in-person experience promotes a stronger understanding of the standardization process, encourages active involvement in IETF work, and facilitates personal networking with others that have similar technical interests.

As the ultimate Internet standards setting organization with its own unique culture, involvement in the IETF can be intimidating, especially for those in the developing world. The ISOC Fellowship to the IETF help lower participation barriers. To maximize their experience, ISOC Fellows are paired with IETF veterans in their area of technical interest that help them prepare for the meeting and serve as a point of contact throughout the event.

ISOC successfully piloted the program at the 66th IETF in Montreal. Two individuals from Africa participated in the pilot and found the experience extremely beneficial. Four individuals were selected to participate in a second pilot phase at IETF 67 in San Diego. In 2007 we will establish the ISOC Fellowship to the IETF as a more robust, organized, and formal core program.

2007 Program Activities

Publishing Candidate Criteria and Establishing a Selection Process

For the pilot phase, ISOC Fellows were selected through recommendations from regional Internet leaders. In 2007, candidate selection criteria will be refined and calls for applicants will be published broadly, including through ISOC chapters. A selection process, likely in the form of a volunteer selection committee, will be established to evaluate the applicants and select the candidates.

Developing a Fellowship Agreement

A document will be developed that clearly sets forth the assistance provided by ISOC to the candidates, how the assistance is provided (including how expenses are

reimbursed, administrative responsibilities, deadlines etc.) and the expectations that ISOC has for their participation. These expectations will include, at a minimum, an obligation to present or otherwise share their experiences at the IETF with their local community and to provide feedback on their experience to ISOC so that the program can be continuously improved. Establishing a clear standardized administrative process will also help ISOC streamline program administration.

Establishing an ISOC Fellow Alumni Network

An ISOC Fellow Alumni Network will be established to extend their IETF experience and relationship building opportunities after the meeting. The Alumni Network will, at a minimum, consist of a mailing list where Fellows will be introduced to each other and encouraged to interact. Fellows will also be asked to update their contact information with the Alumni Network, allowing us to maintain contact with the Fellows as they progress in their careers.

ISOC will also “push” information to the fellows, such as notifications of materials, meetings, and information of interest (including, for example, notifications about IETF Journal availability.) We will also provide ideas to Fellows on how they can raise funds to support their future attendance at IETF meetings.

Piloting a Returning Fellows Program

A broader goal of the ISOC Fellowship program is to develop leadership potential of Fellows in the IETF. As such, we plan on setting aside limited funds in 2007 to pilot a Returning Fellows Program to fund a small number (projected at two) highly engaged ISOC Fellows to return to the IETF for an additional meeting.

Securing Sponsor Funding

A goal for 2007 will be to secure funding from external sponsors to support program costs. Informational documents will be developed to assist funding solicitation. Meetings with potential sponsors, including corporations, other *I community organizations and international development agencies, will be organized to solicit funding support.

Goals:

- Send 15 or more qualified individuals to IETF meetings in 2007
- Establish administrative process, procedures, and a Fellowship agreement to support efficiency in program management
- Establish an ISOC Fellow “Alumni Network”
- Identify 2 ISOC Fellows as candidates for a Returning Fellows pilot
- Secure program funding from external sponsors

b) ccTLD Workshops

Country code top level domains (ccTLDs) comprise a significant portion of the Internet domain name system infrastructure. In order to promote the smooth and

secure operation of the Internet, ISOC's ccTLD workshops deliver timely and topical training and education opportunities for ccTLD operators.

ISOC works in collaboration with local communities, regional organizations, the Network Start Up Resource Center (NSRC), and ICANN/IANA, to deliver training workshops to ccTLD operators. The workshops are organized on a regional basis and are aimed at lesser developed countries, where technical and management capacity building is most needed. The events also help establish personal relationships between operators which, in turn, helps build strong regional communities.

2007 Program Activities

Workshops

In 2007, ISOC's will provide two types of ccTLD training events:

- 1) Hands-on, technical training workshops. These events focus deeply on technical training and include practical labs. Material is currently being developed with NSRC for an "advanced" technical workshop that will cover topics related to security and stability, including DNSSEC, in more depth. Three technical training workshops are planned for 2007.
- 2) ccTLD policy and management tutorials. The tutorials, which are being developed with ICANN/IANA, will focus on higher-level ccTLD policy and management topics, as well as best practices. The program will be appropriate as a "stand alone" event for more technically advanced regions as well as a supplemental curriculum for regions still in need of hands-on technical training. We expect that these events will attract an audience broader than just ccTLD operators, including regional policy makers. ISOC expects to hold three to four ccTLD tutorials in conjunction with ICANN/IANA depending on demand.

Follow-up and Evaluation

ISOC currently surveys workshop participants directly after the meetings. We will introduce a second survey, to be sent to workshop participants 3 - 6 months after the event, to assess the lasting value of the training sessions and determine future training needs. We will also establish an "Alumni Network" for our ccTLD workshop students (for a more detail on the "Alumni Network" concept, see the description provided in the ISOC Fellowship to the IETF section above).

Goals:

- Conduct 3 technical training workshops and 3 – 4 policy and management tutorials as planned
- Develop and issue a second workshop evaluation survey 3 – 6 months after the training event

c) Regional Operating Group (NOG) Support

ISOC provides support to various regional network operator group (NOG) meetings, which bring together network engineers for tutorials and workshops on technical, operational, and policy issues. In addition to providing agenda, speaker, and logistical support for local meeting organizers, ISOC funding provides over 75 fellowships per year for technologists from lesser developed regions to attend these important events.

2007 Program Activities

Maintaining NOG Support

In 2007, ISOC will continue to support fellows to attend AfNOG (Africa), SANOG (South Asia), PacNOG (Pacific), and WALC (Latin America and the Caribbean). We will also continue to work in collaboration with the NSRC and the regional groups to develop agendas, deliver workshops, and locate speakers for the meetings.

Promoting Self-Sustainability

We will assist the NOGs in their efforts to build stronger organizations and build robust regional communities. AfNOG in particular has approached ISOC to help the organization become more self-sustainable and find a broader base of funding. The Education Pillar and the ISOC Africa Regional Bureau will work together closely on this endeavor.

Promoting Program Efficiency and Evaluation

ISOC will work to establish partnership agreements with the NOGs that set forth the ISOC support provided and how that support will be administered (ie. how expenses are to be accounted for, administrative responsibilities, deadlines etc.)

The partnership agreement will also include ISOC's expectations in return for the support (ie. recognition on the NOG's website, an opportunity to speak at meetings, and other appropriate reciprocities). This will promote efficiency in program management.

The NOGs issue surveys after the meetings to assess their effectiveness. As part of our partnership with the groups, ISOC will ask the NOGs to place questions on surveys for us and request access to the completed forms in order to determine the impact of our investment in NOG support and training activities.

In addition, ISOC will request NOGs help in recording meeting presentations so audio files can be placed along with the slides on the Workshop Resource Center website. NSRC has indicated that they will help with this activity. This will extend the educational value of the support provided to NOG meetings.

Goals:

- Provide 75+ fellowships for individuals from developing regions to attend NOG meetings

- Assist NOGs in their regional community building and self sustainability efforts
- Develop partnership agreements with the NOGs that clearly set forth support provided and expectations in return
- Introduce evaluation activities to assess program value and determine future needs

d) AfriNIC Support and Sustainability

AfriNIC is the recently established regional Internet numbering registry (RIR) for Africa. AfriNIC's core business is the allocation and registration of Internet numbering resources for computer networks in the region. As an emerging organization of critical importance to the growth of the Internet, ISOC supports AfriNIC by funding fellowships to meetings and some meeting costs.

2007 Program Activities

Maintaining AfriNIC Support

AfriNIC meetings provide significant education and training opportunities for attendees and promote direct participation in African Internet management and governance activities. ISOC will continue to support fellowships for individuals and AfriNIC Board members to attend AfriNIC meetings, which take place twice a year. We will also continue our limited support of meeting costs.

Promoting Self-Sustainability

AfriNIC faces more significant financial challenges than other RIRs because Africa has the most limited commercial ISP base, and therefore natural funding base, of all the regions. The organization is making steps towards greater financial stability, however. For example, AfriNIC, AfNOG and the Association of African Universities (AAU) recently signed an MOU in which the parties make commitments to "...support each other to raise funds in support of all the activities in a transparent matter."

ISOC will work with AfriNIC to promote its self sustainability efforts, including helping the organization attract new members, become more visible in the region and globally, and find regional and other funding resources. This will gradually reduce the amount of funding needed from ISOC. The Education Pillar and the ISOC Africa Regional Bureau will work together closely on this endeavor.

Promoting Program Efficiency

ISOC will work to establish a partnership agreement with AfriNIC that sets forth the ISOC support provided and how that support will be administered (ie. how expenses are to be accounted for, administrative responsibilities, deadlines etc.) It will also include ISOC's expectations in return for the support (ie. recognition on the AfriNIC website, an opportunity to speak at meetings, and other appropriate reciprocities). This will promote efficiency in program management.

Goals:

- Continue fellowships to AfriNIC meetings and limited support for meeting costs
- Work with AfriNIC to promote self sustainability, with a goal of reducing financial reliance on ISOC by 20% in 2008
- Develop a partnership agreement with AfriNIC that clearly sets forth support provided and expectations in return

2) INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION

In 2007, ISOC's core information distribution programs will consist of the following:

- IETF Journal
- A new "General Technical Newsletter" for the public and policy makers, and
- The Workshop Resource Center

a) IETF Journal

The IETF Journal is an Internet Society publication produced in cooperation with the Internet Engineering Task Force. The aim of the IETF Journal is to provide an easily understandable overview of what's happening in the world of Internet standards with a particular focus on the activities of the IETF Working Groups (WG). Each issue of the IETF Journal highlights some of the hot issues being discussed in IETF meetings and in the IETF mailing lists.

The Education Pillar will maintain its leadership role in producing the IETF Journal. In addition to a copy editor we will also engage a consultant to assist with issue layout and formatting. This will allow ISOC staff resources to focus on the content rather than packaging.

Goals:

- Secure layout and formatting support for the IETF Journal
- Issue 3 IETF Journals in 2007

b) Technical Education Newsletter

In 2007, we will introduce a new newsletter aimed at educating the public and policy makers on technical issues. The "technical education newsletter" (name to be determined) will focus on Internet technology and standards, the impact standards have on the global Internet, and the IETF and its work. Articles on the technology/policy intersect are also likely issues to be covered. ISOC and its regional bureaus will seek input from chapters, members, and others on ideas for articles that would help educate the public and policy makers on technical issues.

It is expected that the newsletter will start out at 4 – 6 pages and grow as demand warrants. The material will be available on the ISOC website as well as in hard copy. The hard copies can be distributed by ISOC at international meetings, to chapters upon request, the ISOC Regional Bureaus, and other groups where there is demand.

Goals:

- Develop and issue 2 “technical education newsletters”
- Security copy editing and layout support for the newsletter

c) Workshop Resource Center

The Workshop Resource Center (WRC) is a centralized, publicly available database of Internet technical training materials developed by ISOC in collaboration with the Network Startup Resource Center (NSRC). The site also contains planning tools to help workshop organizers develop and host local events, as well as discussion forums and lists of local trainers and experts. The WRC furthers ISOC’s education mandate by making high-quality workshop material broadly available to individuals and trainers beyond the events at which they were presented.

2007 Program Activities

In 2007, ISOC will be working with NSRC to increase the available content, further enhance the user experience, and promote the portal at training events and conferences.

Gaining Structured Feedback and Refining Functionality

ISOC will develop surveys to evaluate the utility of the WRC and generate ideas for enhancements and modifications. ISOC will work with NSRC to assess the value of the WRC and refine its functionality based on the feedback received. Currently, WRC users can use the site as either registered or unregistered users. We also will assess if user registration provides value and is necessary.

Introduction of Audio Files

Currently, the WRC training material consists mostly of slide presentations given at various workshops. In order to enhance the learning experience, ISOC will work with NSRC to introduce audio files to accompany presentation material. ISOC will work with our *I community partners, including the organizations we organize training events with, to record presentations for the WRC.

Promotion of the WRC

ISOC will work to broadly publicize the WRC including through the regional bureaus, chapters, events that ISOC organize (such as workshops and INET conferences), and in venues that ISOC staff speak at or otherwise participate in.

Goals

- Continue maintenance and updating of the WRC; introduce audio files
- Streamline and refine WRC functionality based on community input
- Double the number of registered users (if registration is still deemed necessary) and site hits by 2008
- Publicize the WRC through regional bureaus, chapters, events that ISOC organize (workshops, INETs etc), and in other venues

3) BUILDING ISOC'S "EDUCATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING IDENTITY"

Many of ISOC 2007 activities in this area will include engaging with various ICT organizations and agencies, including the GAID, IGF and ITU. ISOC also will participate in the FRIDA and Pan-Asia program, which supports capacity building through small development grants. This program is described in more detail below.

Participation in the FRIDA and Pan-Asia Small Grants Programs

The Regional Fund for Digital Innovation in Latin America and the Caribbean (FRIDA) and the Pan-Asia ICT R&D Grants Program (Pan-Asia) provide funding for local and regional initiatives that strengthen and promote Internet development, access, technical and policy research, and practical ICT applications. ISOC's previous participation in these programs was highly valued. Both programs are seeking ISOC's participation for new grant rounds starting in 2007. We believe these programs are well managed, produce demonstrable results, and provide value to ISOC.

FRIDA and Pan-Asia grants are made through competitive evaluations by project selection committees made up of specialists in research and ICT development. Examples of selected projects included:

- A community connectivity and access program in rural Argentina,
- The creation of an Internet exchange in Nepal,
- The development of a wireless Internet post office in rural India,
- Internet security research in Brazil, and
- The study of ICT policy and multi-stakeholder approaches in the Philippines.

Supporting initiatives such as these, which promote development at the local level, is an excellent demonstration of ISOC's belief that "The Internet is for Everyone." At present, ISOC does not have the individual capacity to fund or administer a grants program with the local reach and impact of the FRIDA and Pan-Asia programs. This is best achieved through partnerships, which is also a mainstay of ISOC's working methods. The FRIDA and Pan-Asian programs provide ISOC an opportunity to demonstrate its core values in partnership with the technical community (LacNIC and APNIC) as well as broader development groups.

Furthermore, participation in these programs will promote ISOC's reputation and visibility as a global organization. It also provides opportunities for ISOC make

deeper contacts within development agencies, which may prove beneficial as ISOC seeks to broaden funding for its own projects.

ISOC Involvement

In addition to the funding provided, ISOC staff will seek to participate in management of the programs, either on the selection committees or in another appropriate role. This will provide ISOC an opportunity to learn more about what is involved in administering competitive grant projects. ISOC is in a better position now, both financially and with staff resources, to participate more fully in these programs and to leverage the results.

We will also work to publicize the programs and ISOC's participation through the ISOC website and in speeches and presentations, including at international conferences. ISOC will make a point to publicize the project evaluation reports so other communities around the world can learn from (and potentially replicate) the funded projects taking place in Latin America and Asia.