

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE ISOC GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

ISOC pursues its mission and upholds its core values through programmes and projects that are designed to achieve specific objectives. The goal of each programme is clearly and directly related to the achievement of ISOC's mission, and the operating plan for each programme is governed by ISOC's core values. These goals and objectives link the ISOC mission (theory) to specific programmes and projects (practice).

In each area, a strategic plan asserts an ambitious objective that serves both to arouse the expectation of significant, meaningful accomplishment and to motivate all of the programmes and projects ISOC undertakes within that area.

STANDARDS

ISOC's activities in the standards area support the ISOC mission by upholding the model of Internet standards development that maximises participation and delivers the greatest benefits to people throughout the world and by

making the fruits of that process freely available to everyone.

ISOC's goals for standards programmes are:

- To ensure the integrity and continuity of the environment within which the IETF pursues its open, inclusive, and transparent bottom-up model of Internet standards development
- To ensure that the Internet standards process is accessible to every person who wishes to participate
- To make information about the Internet standards process and its products freely and widely available to everyone

ISOC's ambitious objective in the standards area is universal recognition (1) of the IETF as the forum for development of core Internet standards and (2) of the IETF process as the best model for development of all Internet standards.

During 2005, ISOC will work together with the IETF to finalise its

ongoing administrative restructuring activities, including the appointment of the IETF's first Administrative Director. As the umbrella organisation for the IETF, ISOC will provide the organisational and financial framework for the IETF to be able to conduct its important work in the development of Internet standards.

ISOC will also help ensure that IETF standards become widely disseminated and will continue cooperating with respected technical experts to bring technical information to a wide audience. As part of these activities, ISOC will launch a new publication to explain current developments in the world of IETF standards.

PUBLIC POLICY

ISOC's activities in the public policy area support ISOC's mission by upholding and defending core values in local, national, and international public policy forums, where decisions are made that affect the ability of people throughout the world to enjoy the benefits of the Internet.

ISOC focuses on the context,

process, and results of government or government-sponsored activities that affect either directly or indirectly the way the Internet operates, evolves, or is used.

In pursuing its public policy objectives, ISOC operates collaboratively and inclusively, working with governments, national and international organisations, and other parties to reach decisions about the Internet that conform to ISOC's core values.

ISOC's goals for programmes within the public policy area are:

- To adopt, assert, and defend policy positions consistent with ISOC's mission and core values
- To promote awareness of public policy issues and activities that affect the Internet

ISOC's ambitious objective in the public policy area is to promote, support, and defend the following five abilities on behalf of all Internet users:

- *The Ability to Connect.* The edge-dominant end-to-end

In 2005 ISOC will continue to grow its role in the policy area. A specific focus will be on cooperation with partners, members, and Chapters to defend the current successful consensus-based processes that support Internet administration. ISOC is ideally positioned to reach out to government representatives and policy makers and to play a bridging role between Internet technology and policy.

In conjunction with ISOC's extensive network of respected technical and policy specialists, ISOC will continue training and education activities that target policy makers. This is an essential step towards ensuring that policy makers are equipped with a good understanding of the technical functions of the Internet in order to enable them to make the most-appropriate policy decisions possible.



SANOG IV
instructors in
Kathmandu,
Nepal.

ISOC will continue to support regional activities and operator groups to build local self-sustaining technical communities. ISOC will work with the Network Startup Resource Center to expand content and develop new features for the ISOC Workshop Resource Centre.

ISOC will continue to work with those experts who contributed to the success of the 2004 ccTLD workshops. Material will be expanded and a registration tool developed for use in operations. The next ccTLD workshops will target regions with the highest needs.

architecture of the Internet is essential to the Internet's utility as a platform for innovation, creativity, and economic opportunity. To preserve this quality, ISOC will oppose efforts to establish standards or practices that would make it difficult or impossible for some users of the Internet to use the full range of Internet applications of all kinds.

- *The Ability to Speak.* The Internet is a powerful mass medium for self-expression that depends on the ability of its users to speak freely. ISOC holds that the Internet must support private—and when appropriate, anonymous—means of communication and collaboration among individuals and groups and will oppose efforts to restrict the type or content of information exchanged on the Internet.
- *The Ability to Innovate.* The remarkable growth of the Internet and the limitless variety of Internet applications follow directly from the open model of Internet connectivity and standards development. Any individual, organisation, or company can develop and distribute a new

Internet application that can be used by anyone. ISOC recognises the enormous value of such innovation and will oppose government or non-government restrictions on the evolution and use of Internet technology.

- *The Ability to Share.* The many-to-many architecture of the Internet makes it a powerful tool for sharing, education, and collaboration. It has enabled the global Open Source community to develop and enhance key components of the Internet—such as the Domain Name System and the World Wide Web—and has made the vision of digital libraries a reality. To preserve those benefits ISOC will oppose technologies and legislation that would inhibit the freedom to develop and use open-source software or limit the well-established concept of fair use, which is essential to scholarship, education, and collaboration.
- *The Ability to Choose.* Government regulation and the economic power of incumbent telecommunication monopolies can delay or prevent the growth of the Internet by limiting the

ability of competitors to provide new, better, cheaper, or more-innovative Internet-related services. ISOC advocates policies that promote competition in telecommunications, Internet services, Internet-related software, and e-commerce applications.

EDUCATION

ISOC's activities in the education area support ISOC's mission by bringing essential Internet-related information and training to people throughout the world.

ISOC's goals for education programmes are:

- To provide and distribute information related to the Internet and its technologies to individuals and to public and private organisations, including governments
- To provide assistance with Internet deployment and use for people in technologically developing countries and regions
- To promote the development of self-sustaining communities able to effectively deploy and exploit local and regional education and training resources

ISOC's ambitious objective in the

education area is to bring accurate and reliable information about the Internet and assistance with Internet deployment and use to everyone everywhere in an accessible local context (including language, culture, medium, and economics).



October, 2004, ccTLD workshop in Bangkok, Thailand. Instructor Pensri Arunwatanamongkol assists workshop student Flavio Neves, Administrative POC for .TL (East Timor)

In all of its activities, ISOC will continue soliciting and welcoming comments from members and Chapters. Together, members and Chapters constitute vital and active sources of local competence, expertise, and knowledge.