

ISOC and the Internet Governance Forum from Rio to Hyderabad

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About ISOC

“The Internet Society is an independent international non profit organization dedicated to the stability, continuity and growth of the Internet for the benefit of all people”

We accomplish this by:

- advancing the development of Internet standards, technologies and best practices,
- providing information and training programs,
- promoting sound national and international policies that support the expansion and improvement of the Internet throughout the world”

IGF: multi-faceted entity

- An open multi-stakeholder forum for dialogue on Internet related matters
- An important platform & channel...but not the only one.
- 2.100 registered participants, of which 300 business & 550 governments
- “You get out what you put in”

ISOC and the IGF

- ISOC has supported the IGF since its inception
- ISOC sees great value in having an open, multi-stakeholder forum for dialogue on Internet related matters
- The Forum is a good platform for communicating ISOC's key messages to stakeholder communities and particularly governments
- The IGF continues to evolve and will be a convenient focal point for Internet governance issues generally, although it is far from the only forum in which ISOC pursues its Internet governance related interests
- ISOC and the technical community's presence was considerable in Rio – it was well received and appreciated.

Why is it important?

- The IGF is more than a Forum: it is about
 - Evolving models of engagement – multistakeholderism, bottom-up (Internet model) processes, borderless community building
 - Skills development and capacity building through discussion, experience sharing and good practices from around the globe
 - Leveraging opportunity through comparing and contrasting business models, regulatory, technical and societal approaches to access, diversity, openness and security

Why the IGF is different

- It provides an environment for frank discussion of a range of important issues to the future of the Internet.
- It is free of negotiation, arranged seating and lengthy policy statements; it was “neutral, non duplicative and non-binding” as per its mandate
 - Some governments even objected that their voices were not being heard!
- It encourages a discussion among equals approach that enables a broader and more open exchange of views than in a more traditional “inter-governmental” setting.
- It focuses on capacity building and development, recognizing the importance of the building of supportive enabling environments for facilitating Internet deployment.

ISOC at IGF Rio

- Significant presence
 - ISOC staff, trustees and members
 - 11 ISOC Ambassadors
 - Sponsored speakers and key participants
 - ISOC Chapters
- Significant contribution
 - 6 workshops/best practices sessions
 - IPv4/v6; Access x 3; Root Server System
 - ISOC Open Forum
 - ISOC overview and Chapter presentations
- Significant visibility:
 - Opening session speaker: Lynn St.Amour
 - Closing session speaker: Matthew Shears
 - Many other ISOC-related speakers throughout main sessions and workshops
- True leadership position.

The road to India

- About the organisation :
 - Role and structure of the IGF advisory Group
 - The focus and structure of IGF Delhi
- The **key challenges** for the next IGF:
 - The technical community had a significant role in shaping the IGF and particularly IGF Rio – important to keep the TC representation in the IGF
 - Further exploit the real IGF strength: “bringing together people who generally tend to meet separately” (N.Desai)
 - Mobilizing civil society
 - Themes: more focused on need to show real results from the meeting in terms of promoting access, security, diversity and openness.

The Road to India: Access as an ISOC priority (1)

The “next billion users online”

..and the next one

- Enablers? Barriers?
- Content (*not* English?!)
- Preserve the Internet Model of openness, democracy, freedom of speech, and innovation/User Centricity
- Vulnerability issues
(Security/privacy/cyber-crimes, etc..)

The Road to India: Access as an ISOC priority (2)

- Localize the IG related issues
 - Localize high-level discussions
 - Implement local capacity building and internet model
 - Identify regional challenges
 - Explore local solutions
 - Multistakeholders approach

ISOC perspective on Access (3)

Concrete actions to tackle “Access” issues:

- Not just infrastructure oriented..=> **ISOC Enabling access initiative**
- Encourage adoption of internet friendly public policies and facilitate the decrease of regulatory impediments (competition, regulatory initiatives, etc.)
- Addressing issues at local level: ISOC INETs (orchestrated with Regional Bureaus)
- Technical training and technical capacity building (IETF fellowship, ISOC training programs, etc.)
- => internet cannot be isolated from economic development! (critical enabler of development)

IGF: a regional/national perspective

- ISOC would like to
 - Encourage national & regional focus
 - Encourage greater participation..
 - ...and also greater expertise when it's about internet issues/principles (more engagement with the technical community)

IGF: regional/national perspective

- Any “IGF” needs to remain multilateral, multistakeholder, democratic and transparent
- ..as well as neutral and non binding, consistent with the WSIS guidelines.

IGF: regional/national perspective

- Ensure the virtuous circle: bottom-up contribution from national to regional to international level
 - Successful discussion at national level is essential to progressing IG at global level
- ISOC happy to help the creation of sustainable local multistakeholder structures, incl. technical and regulatory capacity building programs

Thank you for your attention

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