IGFREPORT

FINAL REPORT FROM THE **11TH INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM**
dig.watch/igf2016

IGF Report prepared by the Geneva Internet Platform with support from the IGF Secretariat, ICANN, the Internet Society, and DiploFoundation

Reflecting on IGF 2016

This year's Internet Governance Forum (6-9 December) took place at a time when the world is facing major uncertainties in global affairs, including a shifting global political landscape, and a slowing down of global integration. The Internet will be inevitably affected by the upcoming uncertainties. If movement of people, capital, and goods is to be further restricted across borders, the same is very likely to happen with Internet packets.

The IG community can do little to influence the winds of global politics. It cannot predict the direction and strength of the storm. However, it can ready its house in preparation. In an open, frank, and constructive discussion, the IGF community tackled a wide range of issues.

While global politics is triggering instability, the digital politics scene is much calmer. Unlike previous IGFs, there were no major elephants in the room this year. WSIS+10 and the IANA transition, which dominated last year's IGF, are behind us.

Unburdened by the pressures of major digital policy issues, the 2000+ delegates and the hundreds of remote participants were able to concentrate on how to enable inclusive and sustainable growth, the theme of the 11th IGF. During the course of more than 200 sessions, many questions were raised; questions like: How can the Internet help achieve the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development? How do we connect the unconnected? What is the role of IG?

The thematic summaries in the next few pages complement the IGF Chair's summary, and add a few angles from research and policy analysis perspectives. We then identify the emerging trends in this year's IGF, and the issues which were not as prominent in the discussions but which are likely – based on our analysis – to be in focus in the coming period. This final report includes our traditional analysis of the language used in IGF discussions and a few words to describe our reporting initiative.

We welcome your feedback. Get in touch via **gip@diplomacy.edu**

Alejandra Lagunes, Coordinator of the National Digital Strategy, Government of Mexico, speaking during the Opening Session, on Tuesday, 6th December.
Credit: @EIFOnline

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IGF **Internet Governance Forum**

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A thematic summary of issues

In previous years, the IGF formula followed the UN trinity of issues: development, human rights, and security. Strong emphasis was also placed on economic and trade issues, not least due to the many developments in this area.

This year, for the first time, the discussions on controversies related to the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Number (ICANN) and the IANA functions took a different angle, following the finalisation of the IANA stewardship transition process. Discussions focused on the role of the community in the process, and the future of ICANN's multistakeholder model. Sessions discussed the implementation phase of the various reforms, and the accountability process, which is ongoing. *Read our interview with León Sanchez, co-chair of the Cross Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability in IGF Daily 3.*

The following round-up summarises discussions in various areas. The categorisation is based on the taxonomy of 40+ issues categorised into 7 baskets, developed over the last 20 years by Dr Jovan Kurbalija through training and research activities. The taxonomy enjoys widespread use today, and underlies the structure of the *GIP Digital Watch* observatory. *In the digital version of this report, click on the icon next to each title to learn more about the issues.*

The development basket

With the overarching theme of 'Inclusive and Sustainable Growth', this year's IGF was anchored in the framework of the sustainable development goals (SDGs). A number of sessions dealt with the link between IG and the full scope of the SDGs, such as the main session on the role of IG in achieving the SDGs. Others focused on the potential of certain technologies, such as the Internet of Things (IoT), smart devices, and Big Data, in promoting sustainable development. Many sessions addressed specific SDGs, including SDG 4 (quality education), SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 11 (sustainable cities), and SDG 13 (climate action). Yet, by far the most-quoted and focused-on SDG was Goal 9 on access to ICTs.

Internet access and connecting the unconnected was one of the main themes in Guadalajara. The topic was approached from various angles, one of which was community networks, which was discussed by a new Dynamic Coalition (DC), as well as in pre-events and workshops. Challenges and opportunities to access were broken down for different regions (Latin America and Asia), several digital divides (with a focus on connecting gender, minorities, and persons with disabilities), as well as for specific technologies and initiatives (e.g. open source, Wi-Fi, and public access in libraries). In addition, there was consensus that meaningful access is more than infrastructure alone; it includes affordability, capacity, and local content with linguistic diversity. The notion that there should be no 'Internet for the poor' enjoyed widespread agreement, with zero-rating practices being criticised.

Throughout the different sessions on development and accessibility, the need for collaboration was highlighted, especially with regard to public-private partnerships; the importance of coordinating between the many existing initiatives was emphasised. Responding to the latter, coordination initiatives such as Global Connect and EQUALS were presented. The interconnectedness between issues was also explored; for example between access, net neutrality, and privacy; between connectivity, development, and human rights; and between markets, access, and human rights. As one speaker explained in relation to economic, social, and cultural rights (ESCRs), 'the 2030 Development Agenda provides an opportunity to put these rights at the heart of Internet governance'.

The infrastructure basket

The need for further deployment of infrastructure in unconnected areas, as a step towards bringing the next billions of users online, was a recurrent topic. Discussions focused on broadband and community networks; Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) and Content Delivery Networks (CDNs); public WiFi networks and white space technologies. The need to speed up the deployment of IPv6 was also underlined.

Many sessions addressed challenges and opportunities associated with the IoT. The IoT can contribute to achieving the SDGs, through applications in areas such as smart cities, agriculture, and autonomous devices. But multistakeholder efforts are needed to address challenges related to security of devices, privacy and data protection, interoperability and standardisation, and ethical and societal implications.

Possible causes of Internet fragmentation were analysed in several sessions: breaches of the net neutrality principle; data localisation policies; commercial and governmental practices of blocking access to online content; various dimensions of the digital divide; and alternative roots and initiatives, such as the Digital Objects Architecture.

The debate on net neutrality and zero-rating continued, with a focus on policy approaches. The concept of rights, openness, access, and multistakeholders was brought into discussion; balancing these principles should be key to ensuring a universal Internet.

Discussions regarding the Domain Name System (DNS) revolved around the impact of new generic top level domains (gTLDs) on market competition and Internet security and stability, the role of Internationalised Domain Names (IDNs) in the development of local content, and the lessons learnt from the IANA stewardship transition.

In the field of convergence and over-the-top (OTT) services, it was stressed that any regulations should consider the need to foster innovation and future market development. Human rights aspects also need to be taken into account, especially when it comes to blocking access to services such as Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP).

🔒 The security basket

The Best Practice Forum (BPF) on cybersecurity was an opportunity to link various communities, and mainly focused on discussions about the multistakeholder process and again looked at how to define cybersecurity from various perspectives. Several other sessions also shared useful experiences from developing countries in capacity, especially with regard to Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT) capabilities and awareness-raising campaigns.

The role of the technical community and the private sector was outlined in assisting the implementations of cyber-norms and confidence-building measures by the UN, regional organisations, and governments. While the IGF was seen as the place to encounter all stakeholders, and the proposal made that a dedicated (possibly even main) session is scheduled at IGF 2017, it was suggested that the IG community meets the security community within the framework of the Global Conference on Cyber Space (GCCS) in 2017, with support of the Global Forum on Cyber Expertise (GFCE).

The contribution of cybersecurity to economic development and the overall SDGs was recognised, and the roles the OECD and World Bank could play were emphasised. The need to incentivise the Internet industry in implementing high Internet standards was noted, and the GFCE was suggested as a forum for discussion. Security of the IoT was underlined, as was the strong link between human rights and encryption. A clear link between cybersecurity and human rights was reiterated throughout several sessions, and particularly by the contributions of the Freedom Online Coalition (FOC).

👤 The human rights basket

Continuing a trend to keep human rights at the forefront, a main session at the IGF was dedicated to the topic. This demonstrates that the IGF has matured to a point where human rights are now accepted as an underlying unifying force. The linkage to the SDGs, ESCRs, and civil and political rights (CPRs), was emphasised and discussed in detail by experts and the audience. Workshops addressed human rights issues on their own merits; DCs dealt with specific theoretical and practical issues (gender, persons with disabilities, the rights of children).

Other areas of human rights showed broader implications for the Internet and society (freedom of expression, privacy, data protection) and were discussed in the context of global balance, with overarching links to states' governance models. These topics are being increasingly merged with issues of security (a right in itself), jurisdiction, and other complexities. While it is unequivocal that offline rights apply online, the debate focused on whether human rights on the Internet should be addressed separately, or considered within the larger context of the UN Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

🔄 The sociocultural basket

The need to foster cultural diversity and multilingualism on the Internet emerged in many sessions at this year's IGF. For the Internet to enable inclusive and sustainable growth, it is essential that Internet users be able to create and access content, and have software tools in their own languages and scripts. IDNs can contribute to a more diverse cyberspace, but problems related to universal acceptance (e-mail addresses in non-Latin scripts, recognition of IDNs by search engines) still need to be addressed. Moreover, countries need to develop favourable and dynamic policies to encourage and protect local content. Infrastructure and access to digital tools are also necessary to support both the development of and access to local content.

The Internet needs to be preserved as a global resource available to all. The global nature of the Internet could, however, be undermined by certain content control policies – ranging from blocking of access to specific online content to complete Internet shutdowns. Content control was also discussed in relation to its impact on freedom of expression and other human rights. As was underlined in several sessions, delicate balances need to be achieved between protecting the public interest (a concept whose understanding varies across cultures) and preserving the right to freedom of expression.

Furthermore, some sessions explored who should bear responsibility for dealing with illegal or harmful online content: governments, or rather the intermediaries – such as Facebook and Twitter – whose platforms are used for dissemination?

The role of e-learning and online education in sustainable development was underlined in several discussions. Digital tools can help overcome physical and geographic barriers when it comes to access to education. But there are several pre-conditions for e-learning to be truly effective: the affordability and availability of infrastructure, devices, and access to the Internet. Quality online education can empower people and can positively change their lives. In this regard, there is a need for content quality ranking and critical evaluation of online education and open/online educational resources. Policies for quality ranking and quality control should be a collective effort among different stakeholders.

The economic basket ⬀

This year's discussions brought into focus recently agreed trade agreements. One aspect was that negotioations were criticised due to their lack of transparency and openness. At the same time, some speakers argued that although some negotiations were secretive, this does not make evil.⬀

Recent e-commerce trends were also discussed in the context of other areas, most notably development. The app economy, OTT services,⬀ new industry requirements,⬀ and high costs of access are posing challenges for developing countries. Despite the challenges, many developments carry a strong potential for developing countries, including the IoT, the creation of new (skilled) jobs, and new revenue streams.⬀ Stronger protection for human rights, improved policies for affordability and access, and better access to scientific knowledge,⬀ are some of the developments that can help countries reap the benefits of the Internet economy.

The legal basket ⬀

IGF discussions on legal issues have evolved from the question of whether existing law applies to the Internet to the question of how it applies.

When it comes to the application of existing law online, the main issue is jurisdiction. The complex and multidisciplinary issues are addressed through a specific legal angle by judges, as they may not understand the technical implications or even more importantly, may not be aware of alternative solutions to legal disputes.⬀ The blocking of WhatsApp in Brazil was an example of a court judgement that violated the fundamental freedom of speech guaranteed under Brazilian law.⬀ Among measures to alleviate this challenge, it was suggested to introduce Internet regulation as a part of curriculum of law schools.⬀

Unwillingly, Internet companies are taking a juridical role. Google accepts approximately half of the requests for the right to be forgotten.⬀ Among other – refused – requests, there are some that could open many legal Pandora-type boxes: procedural matters, basis of judgement, right to appeal, etc.

Labour law also gained higher prominence mainly through discussion of the impact of the digital economy (including the sharing economy) on labour rights.⬀ New economic models create new jobs, but at the same time this creates a challenge for the labour market to keep up with the needs of the industry. Intellectual property rights (copyright, trademark, and patent) were not as prominent this year as in previous IGFs.

IGF 2016 outcome documents

In line with recommendations made by the UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development Working Group on Improvements to the IGF,⬀ the IGF community has enhanced its efforts to produce more concrete outcomes as result of the IGF process. In 2016, such efforts were carried in the framework of the Policy Options for Connecting and Enabling the Next Billion(s) programme, four BPFs, and several DCs. The resulting draft output documents were discussed at the IGF meeting, and their final versions are to be published in the upcoming period.

| Output document	About
Policy Options for Connecting and Enabling the Next Billion(s) – Phase II⬀	Phase 1⬀ of the Policy Options intersessional work programme that began in 2015. It looks at the contribution of meaningful Internet access to achieving the SDGs, with a focus on local and regional specificities.
BPF Gender and Access⬀	Builds on the 2015 BPF on Gender, which focused on Online Abuse and Gender-Based Violence Against Women.⬀ In addition, it tackles women's ability to access and benefit from the Internet.
BPF on IPv6: Understanding the commercial and economic incentives behind a successful IPv6 deployment ⬀	Builds on the 2015 BPF on Creating an Enabling Environment for IPv6 Adoption. ⬀ It explores the economic incentives and commercial drivers that motivate the adoption of IPv6 by companies and organisations.
BPF on IXPs: Contributing to the success and continued development of Internet exchange points (IXPs)⬀	Builds on the 2015 BPF on IXPs,⬀ which focused on creating and setting up an IXP. It further discusses factors that can contribute to the development and successful management and operation of IXPs.
BPF Cybersecurity⬀	Builds on the 2014⬀ and 2015⬀ BPFs on Spam and Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs). It looks especially at mechanisms for co-operation and collaboration between stakeholders to address cybersecurity concerns.
Dynamic Coalitions substantive papers⬀	Active DCs produced substantive papers to be reviewed by the community and discussed at the IGF meeting.

Notable trends at IGF 2016

At every IGF, some issues are more in focus than others. The visibility of a particular topic increases if it features in many workshops. An issue that is raised repeatedly by participants also signals its trending prominence. HHere, we round up the trends at this year's IGF.

Such was the case with a number of issues this year, including the IoT, policy silos, and jurisdiction. Other issues – such as fake news – emerged due to recent controversies. Here, we round up the trends at this year's IGF.

◼ The potential of the IoT

While the IoT is not a new phenomenon, discussions this year strongly related to security challenges and development potential. The recent cyberattacks were evidently a cause for concern among the IGF community as various sessions debated the role of the industry and of users in ensuring that devices are secure. At the same time, discussion on the regulatory aspects of the IoT was not as pronounced, even though it will be one of the issues which the industry and governments will soon have to tackle.

The IoT was recognised for its potential for development, and for realising the SDGs. 🔗 Uses include early warning systems for natural disasters, agriculture use, and traffic management. The IoT needs to be on the agendas of developing countries, even though some regions are not yet ready to reap the benefits.
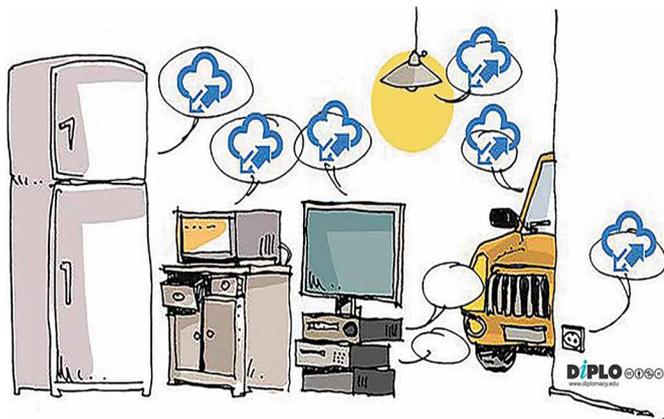
◼ The cross-cutting issue of jurisdiction

Although jurisdiction is often associated with legal issues, it is strongly linked to many other areas. This year's discussions served to emphasise these links and to generate debate in connection with other areas. Jurisdiction was discussed in the context of freedom of expression and access; law enforcement, cybercrime, and criminal investigations; content removal and the role of intermediaries; and 'smart' contracts and blockchain technology, to mention a few. One workshop dealt specifically with the role of the judiciary. 🔗 This brought to mind the notable rulings in recent years, such as the right to be forgotten, and their implications for policy beyond traditional borders.

Two suggestions were reiterated. The first is that governments need to become more aware of the cross-border implications of court decisions. The second is that the introduction of a new set of procedural standards – similar to cloud privacy-related standards – could create a more effective process for data access or content removal without necessarily entering into the question of conflicting jurisdictions. 🔗

◼ Overcoming policy silos

This year, more effort was made to address IG beyond the usual silos. One session tackled silos as its main theme, 🔗 and discussed suggestions to bring down barriers between governments and the

industry, when working in cybersecurity and where other forms of co-operation between stakeholder groups is required.

Trust, openness, engagement, starting from small groups, and involving neutral organisations to facilitate engagement, were all suggestions that could help break down these barriers.

Other sessions linked different areas under the same heading, or discussed other areas in light of their main themes. These include security and privacy and ethical aspects, 🔗 human rights and content policy, 🔗 human rights and development, 🔗 labour law and socioeconomic challenges, 🔗 big data and the environment, 🔗 and cybersecurity and development. 🔗

◼ The ugly face of cyber-violence

In the past few years, violence has shown its ugly face. Journalists and activists have been targeted to censor and silence criticism. 🔗 Violence against women – including instances of revenge pornography and doxxing 🔗 – is on the increase, with gender-based violence and abuse being one of the reasons that prevent women from going online. 🔗

An increasing number of children – many of whom are very young – are falling victims of online sexual exploitation. 🔗 Recently, youth radicalisation 🔗 and the use of the Internet by terrorists and criminals 🔗 have become a major cause for concern. Although cybercrime has been one of the most debated fields throughout the years, the issue of online violence has been a predominant issue this year.

◼ Fake news and the role of intermediaries

The fake news controversy related to the US Presidential election shone a bright light on the role of intermediaries in the lead-up to the IGF. To what extent are intermediaries liable?

IGF 2016 brought a slight shift in focus on the issue of fake news. It was discussed more in connection with how to validate information (role of users), than how platforms should tackle the issue (role of intermediaries), as has been the case in public debate. Speakers argued that there needs to be greater social media literacy 'to understand that what we're reading is not the whole picture', 🔗 while others discussed the distinction between reputable and non-reputable news outlets, acknowledging that even the most established outlets can get it wrong. 🔗

On the other hand, the role of intermediaries was discussed in the context of content removal, 🔗 hate speech, 🔗 net neutrality and zero-rating practices, 🔗 and the protection of human rights. 🔗

◼ The rise of community networks

The discussion on community networks helped raise the point that there are other connectivity models than those provided by telecom companies, and that the use of the term 'broadband' as synonymous with 'connectivity' is misleading and prevents real connectivity and communication. Communities need to overcome the paradigm of 'waiting for service'. 🔗

Community networks offer a bottom-up strategy that relies on the active participation of local communities. The infrastructure is owned by the community and operated democratically. 🔗

Yet, although community networks face many challenges, the main challenge in connecting a community is the lack of awareness about the value of the Internet, rather than the lack of connectivity itself. The work of the DC on Community Connectivity, 🔗 and its Guadalajara Declaration 🔗 can further highlight the potential of such networks, and how obstacles can be overcome.

Analysing language using the Prefix Monitor

IG is a prefix-intensive field. Think of cybersecurity, e-commerce, online learning, and the digital divide, as just a few examples of prefixes in use. In the early days of IG, prefixes were used interchangeably. With the higher relevance of IG and more focused discussions, the use of prefixes is becoming more specific: cyber (security), online (human rights), digital (development and economy), etc.

The Prefix Monitor from IGF 2016 reconfirms trends in the use of prefixes and indicates some new shifts. The dominance of the prefix *online* through the week and in the overall count could be explained by the high relevance of human rights discussions, which often use it. In addition, *online* is used as a noun to describe the Internet or cyberspace (e.g. violent extremism online; we spend time online).

Digital is the next most frequently used prefix. It appears often in development discussions (digital divide, digital inclusion) and increasingly in economic debates. After the introduction of the EU's Digital Single Market, the use of *digital* in economic matters has been significant. It replaced *e-* which previously dominated economic debates (e-commerce, e-currency).

e- is slowly disappearing from IG debates. The surge of the use of the prefix *net* after the 2014 NETmundial halted this year. Prefixes *e-* and *net* may follow the destiny of the prefix *virtual* and become virtual as well.

Cyber has the most specific use in IG. It describes security matters and was a good indicator of the prominence of cybersecurity issues

PREFIX MONITOR
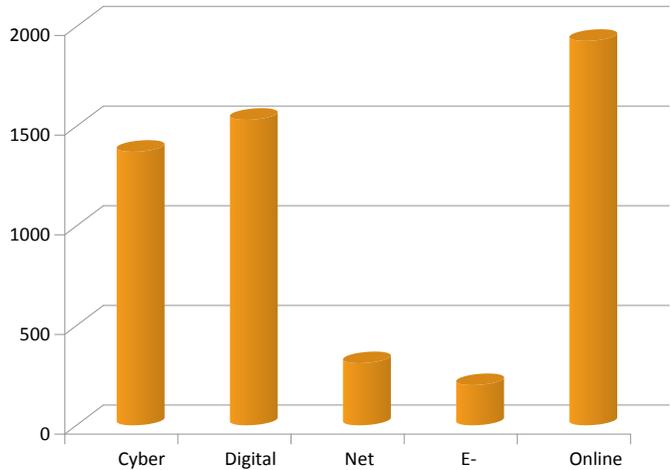
on the IGF's daily agenda. For example, on Day 3, the use of the prefix *cyber* was higher than the use of *digital* and slightly lower than the use of *online*.

DiploFoundation has been following the use of prefixes and linguistic trends in IG for more than ten years. Comments and suggestions on the Prefix Monitor can be sent to gip@diplomacy.edu

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Analysing IGF transcripts

IGF session transcripts provide a unique opportunity to analyse the event through what was said. The illustration provides another look at IGF discussions through the analysis of over 150 available transcripts (by 12 December, 15 CET). The larger the bubble, the more prominent an issue was. Prominence was determined by the frequency and use of IG-specific keywords. The data model follows the taxonomy of 40+ issues categorised into 7 baskets, which was described earlier.

Basket
- **Development**
- **Economic**
- **Human Rights**
- **Infrastructure**
- **Legal**
- **Security**
- **Sociocultural**
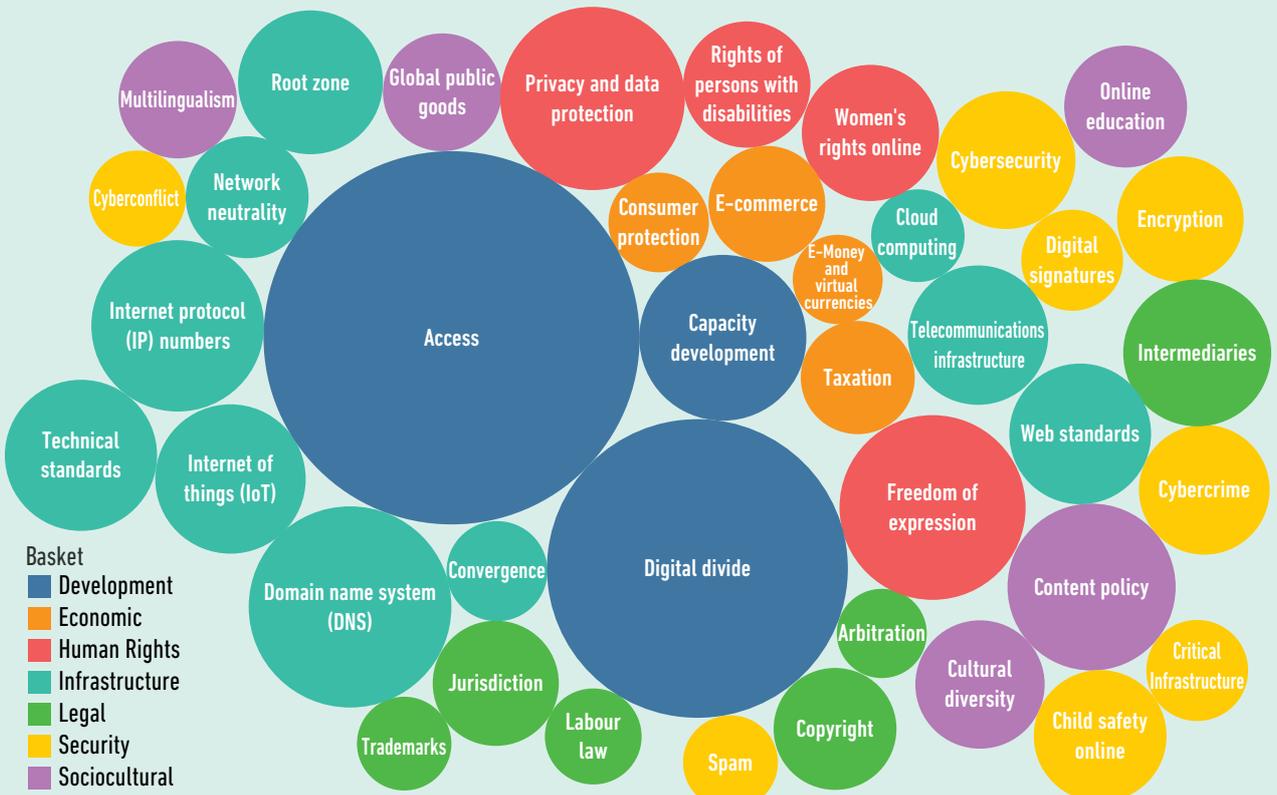
In conversation with...

This year's IGF was the first since its renewed mandate. With a packed four-day programme, and many more years to come, we caught up with MARKUS KUMMER, Secretary of the IGF Support Association and GIP Senior Digital Policy Fellow, and CHENGETAI MASANGO, Programme and Technology Manager at the IGF Secretariat, for their views on the IGF discussions and the preparations for next year.

Markus Kummer

You have been involved in the IGF process since early days. How do you see the evolution of the IGF?
The evolution is quite remarkable. In the beginning, people were nervous; they did not know how to interact. Governments were not used to being put on the bench as equals, so to speak. Civil society was not used to speaking to governments as equals. Gradually, over the years, they overcame this and are now very comfortable interacting with each other. When you go around the meeting, you feel there is no tension, that people are happy to sit at the same table; they are open and listen to each other. That is remarkable in itself.

The IGF has often been criticised as being 'just a talking-shop'. Is this really a weakness?
This is one of the reasons why some governments don't come here; they feel it is not serious enough, it is not some place we negotiate. But this is precisely the strength of the IGF – the absence of pressure to negotiate outcomes allows people to speak freely and also to think a bit outside the box, to do some brainstorming, and then go home and actually try to implement the ideas.

How can governments get more involved in the IGF?
Governments *are* here. But I hear the concern that maybe not as many are here as could be. Governments are here as they could be. Governments can learn from interacting with other stakeholders, and definitely we would welcome more governments to be present.

Quite often, there is the feeling among governments that they have no takeaway, nothing they can take home. So we have to actively work towards improving this. Over the past few years, we have developed more inter-sessional activities, such as BPFs, which are not just a meeting at the IGF meeting itself, but are processes that lead to a meeting that will produce a report. And that provides quite a useful takeaway for people who want to take something home from the meeting.

So there is an evolution, clearly, but the IGF remains true to itself. It remains above all a platform for dialogue where people can exchange experiences and share practices, learn from each other, and network. It has been a positive evolution, but it is not over yet. There are many more years to come and we will see how it continues to evolve.

What are your takeaways from this year's IGF?
As usual, it was an intensive IGF. We saw again many sessions, some of them focusing on recurrent IG topics, others bringing into discussion new subjects. Youth were more actively engaged in discussions. Session organisers focused more on increasing the level of interaction, with key speakers setting the scene. We saw the first ever main session on

Chengetai Masango

national and regional IGF initiatives (NRIs), emphasising their important role in fostering collaboration at local level and contributing to making the voices of communities better heard. The IGF community continued its efforts to produce more concrete outputs. There is still room for improvement, in terms of programming and planning the overall IGF process, but I am confident that the commitment shown by the stakeholders will keep us on an evolutionary track.

There were several new elements in this year's programme. Which elements worked, and which elements need to be improved?
We hope the newcomers track facilitated the integration of first-time attendees within the IGF community. The lightning talks and unconference were aimed at bringing in a more relaxed space for participants to present their projects and initiatives, and discuss very specific topics. These were experiments, but the feedback seems to be positive. And even if there were flaws, these will serve as lessons for the coming years. We have nine more years to continue to experiment in our attempts to make the IGF week both a fruitful and an enjoyable experience for on site and online participants.

With the IGF 2016 now over, we assume preparations for IGF 2017 will start right away. What are the priorities?
The end of one IGF means the start of a new cycle. We will first focus on making sure that IGF 2016 is well documented, and that session transcripts, videos, reports, and other meeting outputs are easily accessible. But we will also start the preparations for IGF 2017 right away, in coordination with the government of Switzerland, our next host country. We will be planning open consultations and MAG meetings, and working together with the MAG and the extended community on a new set of inter-sessional activities, and the programme and structure of IGF 2017. We also remain committed to consolidating the linkages between the global IGF and the NRIs, and to supporting these initiatives.

Our reporting initiative: under the bonnet

This week, the GIP – in co-operation with the IGF Secretariat, ICANN, the Internet Society, and DiploFoundation – took on the ambitious task of summarising discussions from close to 200 sessions. This initiative, modelled on several reporting experiences under the GIP's belt, also included daily newsletters, distributed in Guadalajara, and available for download.

How did we do it?

A large team was involved in the initiative. This included 35 rapporteurs *in situ* and online, and 6 editors working around the clock. A team of illustrators and designers produced 5 newsletters in under a week, working within very short timeframes to ensure that the IGF Daily newsletter was distributed on site by 9 am the following morning. The technical and social media team made **dig.watch/igf2016** their home to ensure that reports were available and shared with the community shortly after the end of each session. The logistics were complex, mostly due to timezones for some of the team members.

The team of rapporteurs included the *GIP Digital Watch* observatory's team of curators, and a larger team of assistant curators from Internet Society chapters. The team also included 5 Internet Society Ambassadors. Every rapporteur underwent GIP training in reporting on digital policy, with an emphasis on neutral, unbiased reporting.

The time between the end of the last session and the following morning was when each *IGF Daily* came to life. The immediate availability of a large number of transcripts allowed the authors to analyse the debates and the language used in the discussions. In each newsletter, links pointed to additional resources on the *GIP Digital Watch* observatory. The analysis conducted during IGF 2016 will add to the wealth of content already available on the observatory.

The GIP's contribution to the SDGs

This final report is the culmination of the GIP's just-in-time reporting initiative. For the GIP, it is not only a matter of bringing the discussions closer to the community; it is also a tangible contribution to SDG target 16.8, aimed at broadening and strengthening the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance.

The rapporteurs' training and involvement in this initiative represents the GIP's efforts to empower stakeholders from every region, and to share the challenges, concerns, achievements, and developments which take place in their regions.

The GIP thanks the IGF Secretariat, ICANN, the Internet Society, and DiploFoundation for their contribution and support, and the team behind this initiative for its tireless work.

The team behind the initiative

The reporting initiative would not have been possible without the work of the rapporteurs, and the GIP team.

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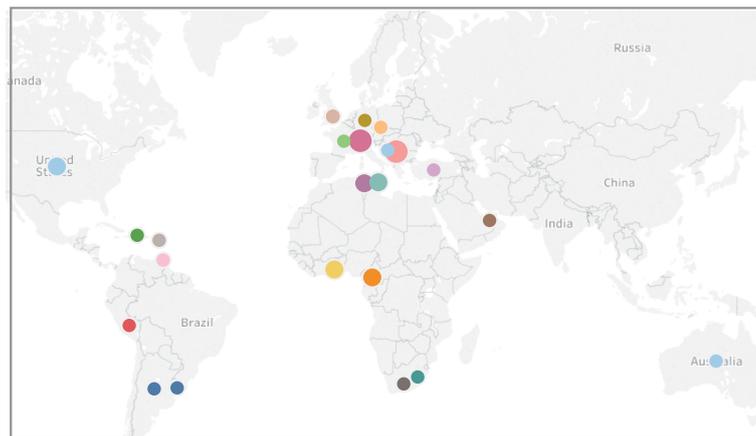
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Ivy Hoetu	ISOC Ghana	●
Mamothokoane Tlali	ISOC Lesotho	●
Yolanda Mlonzi	ISOC South Africa	●

IGF 2016
in numbers

2000+	delegates
200+	sessions
80+	countries represented
40	booths at IGF Village
12	Dynamic coalitions

Source: IGF Chair's Summary