

IGF 2016 Workshop Report Template

Session Title	Networks & Solutions to Achieve SDGs Agenda-Internet at Play
Date	9 December 2016
Time	12:00 – 1:30 pm
Session Organizer	Pablo Hinojosa and Sylvia Cadena
Chair/Moderator	Sylvia Cadena
Rapporteur/Notetaker	Sylvia Cadena
List of Speakers and their institutional affiliations	Jennifer Chung, Dot Asia Sorina Teleanu, DiploFoundation Anja Kovacs, Internet Democracy Project Stuart Hamilton, IFLA Phet Sayo, IDRC Vint Cerf, Google
Key Issues raised (1 sentence per issue):	<p>Internet amplifies the capacity to understand, communicate and serve communities getting out of poverty. The session focused on the Internet Community and organizations actively involved in IG roles to achieve SDGs agenda, and how networks and concrete solutions are key to achieve desired outcomes.</p> <p>To make the most of what Internet has to offer, an enabling environment where investment, deployment and services rollout are aligned with technical capacity for maintenance and growth is required. So is effective use relevant to local needs, cultural/language diversity and skills to exploit opportunities. Such environment requires effective cooperation as no stakeholder can deliver alone.</p> <p>The session started with contributions from the audience with examples about how the Internet supports the achievement of the SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Internet technologies enhance trade - Harnessing Internet technologies to achieve the SDGs requires collective thinking - Internet has as impact (both good and bad) to focus on the good, the SDGs offers a great framework - Access to government information <p>Speakers offered a series of examples around how different topics (wildlife presentation; diplomacy and remote participation; access to information; empowerment; private sector involvement) as follows:</p> <p>Jennifer Chung spoke about how the Internet can be helpful for the conservation of tigers even though it is also one of the largest threats to the continued existence of this animal, due to online illegal animal trade. Wildlife conservation through the Internet does not only connect with specific SDGs (such as climate action, life below water and life on land) but cuts across all of them, since it also has to do with education, infrastructure, etc. She recommended creating a set of best practices about policy making in terms of SDGs.</p> <p>Sorina Teleanu shared how her organization is engaged with capacity building through online courses on Internet Governance, general development, diplomacy, remote participation, and IG resources. DiploFoundation operates this last task through the Geneva Internet</p>

Platform, which supports missions in Geneva, but stakeholders around the world as well, allowing them to be aware and informed of what happens in the Internet Governance field through the Digital Watch Observatory and other initiatives.

Anja Kovacs used the case of India, where most of the main barriers result not from lack of connection to infrastructure, but to literacy and poverty. She listed the gender gap, and lack of access for women to reap the benefits of the Internet due to cultural barriers. It is important to focus on how Internet Governance intersects with economic, social, and cultural rights. Examples about government decision to adopt digital technologies are excluding and marginalizing those not connected yet. Also commented about how solutions (like Uber and ArB&B) undermine workers rights, or are pushing the envelop about how the workforce landscape is changing. Data management in development projects also poses massive challenges around privacy and human rights that require deeper thinking.

Stuart Hamilton talked about the work of the library community and how they contribute to achieving the SDGs. He provided examples of libraries helping to reduce poverty in Slovenia providing employment information for recovering addicts in collaboration with health providers. In Romania libraries provided more information about how to access subsidies online from the government. Libraries in Kirigistan also played a very active role for TB prevention, sharing information and access to diagnose and treatment services. In Uganda, libraries are reaching women and girls, as libraries are safe places to access to the Internet. In Singapore, a green library space offers information about climate change and environmental conservation. In Mongolia, recording studios were build at the libraries to be able to produce audio books on Daisy format for the blind. All these examples are directly linked to specific SDGs. Now, as the SDGs are going to the national level, libraries will play a crucial role on how the SDGs are understood and how they are implemented.

Phet Sayo mentioned initiatives on two dimensions that we need to rethink. Projects or initiatives that focused on networked effects (benefit of participating from a human network or accessing the digital one) and information asymmetry (how diferent people can or cannot access different types of information). He highlighted how people should not be seen as "objects of development" but to focus on how technology can allow people to achieve their dreams and aspirations, may of those encapsulated on the SDG framework. Enabling environments for marginalized communities to own and design their own solutions, not only about being users of technology used by others.

Vint Cerf pointed out that the seventeen SDGs are going to be addressed locally. He remarked that these goals are not going to be successful unless stakeholders actually work together and how incentives will drive effective collaboration (not necessarily making money but as a meaning to an end. He used the case of Google's Android operating system, which people can build on, as an example). We may need to learn how to "sell" the SDGs, to be persuasive about how people get on board to achieve the SDGs and what incentives are needed to get them on board, to appreciate each other challenges and differences.

<p>If there were presentations during the session, please provide a 1-paragraph summary for each Presentation</p>	<p>Jennifer Chung (dotAsia) shared a presentation that provided concrete examples about how the Internet can be helpful for the conservation of tigers as well as how it is used for online illegal animal trade. On her presentation she showed what SDGs are linked to the wildlife conservation work online.</p>
<p>Please describe the Discussions that took place during the workshop session: (3 paragraphs)</p>	<p>The audience highlighted the importance of playing “devil’s advocate” and review digital solutions proposed and their good or bad effects, networked effects and deeper understanding of what skills are needed to be actively involved to achieve the SDGs.</p> <p>Review SDGs implementation and how they were shaped at the global level but implemented to the national level, to understand the tensions among the global level and the national and local level for the realization of the goals.</p>
<p>Please describe any Participant suggestions regarding the way forward/ potential next steps /key takeaways: (3 paragraphs)</p>	<p>Encourage IGF participants to think how their work contributes to the achievement of the SDGs and each one of the targets, to be able to explain them selves on SDG/development language will facilitate the conversation around common points for inflection and collaboration.</p> <p>Make the effort of mapping apps and online solutions and Internet architecture to the SDGs to understand better how the Internet serves development.</p>

Gender Report Card

1. Estimate the overall number of the participants present at the session: 20
2. Estimate the overall number of women present at the session: 8
3. To what extent did the session discuss gender equality and/or women’s empowerment? No specific discussion was conducted around women’s empowerment but examples about how women and girls participate and reap the benefits of digital technologies and initiatives that target women and girls for the achievement of the SDGs.
4. If the session addressed issues related to gender equality and/or women’s empowerment, please provide a brief summary of the discussion: