IGF themes – a list

c.a. 25-03-2019

The lists of working themes were copied from chairs' summaries or the IGF's programs.

2006 (Athens)

Overarching theme: "Internet Governance for Development" Working themes/tracks:

- Openness
- Security
- Diversity
- Acess
- Emerging issues

Note: very strong presence of ICANN and associated organizations (ISOC/IETF, RIRs etc) in the MAG and in the IGF, while ICANN as a discussion topic was a no-no.

2007 (Rio)

Overarching theme: "Internet Governance for Development" Working themes/tracks:

- Critical Internet resources (CIRs)
- Access
- Diversity
- Openness
- Security
- Emerging issues

Note: "CIRs" was a negotiated concept so that the organizations in charge of the logical infrastructure accepted the insertion of names', numbers' and protocols' governance as one of the six working themes.

2008 (Hyderabad)

Overarching theme: "Internet for All" Working themes/tracks:

- Reaching the next billion (Access)
- Promoting cybersecurity and trust (Security)
- Managing critical Internet resources (CIRs)
- Taking stock and the way forward
- Emerging issues

Note: this was the first time the notion of "taking stock" appeared as a working theme. The Program document defines it as follows: "The 'Taking Stock and the Way Forward' will allow participants to comment on the Hyderabad meeting and reflect on 'lessons learned'. In addition, the session could include a preliminary evaluation of the IGF in regard to its mandate." As a working theme it disappeared in Bali to never return again to the formal thematic agenda.

2009 (Sharm-El-Sheik)

Overarching theme: "Internet Governance – Creating Opportunities for All" Working themes/tracks:

- Managing critical Internet resources
- Security, openness and privacy
- Access and diversity

- Internet governance in the light of WSIS principles
- Taking stock and the way forward
- Emerging issues: impact of social networks

2010 (Vilnius)

Overarching theme: "IGF 2010 – Developing the Future Together" Working themes/tracks:

- Managing critical Internet resources
- Access and diversity
- Security, openness and privacy
- Internet governance for development
- Emerging issues cloud computing
- Taking stock and the way forward

2011 (Nairobi)

Overarching theme: "The Internet as a catalyst for change: access, development, freedoms and innovation"

Working themes/tracks:

- Internet governance for development
- Emerging issues
- Access and diversity
- Security, openness and privacy
- Managing critical Internet resources
- Taking stock and the way forward

2012 (Baku)

Overarching theme: "Internet Governance for Sustainable Human, Economic and Social Development"

Working themes/tracks:

- Emerging issues
- Managing critical Internet resources
- Internet governance for development
- Access and diversity
- Security, openness and privacy
- Taking stock and the way forward

2013 (Bali)

Overarching theme: "Building Bridges - Enhancing Multistakeholder Cooperation for Growth and Sustainable Development"

Working themes/tracks:

- Internet governance principles
- Principles of multistakeholder cooperation
- Legal and other frameworks: spam, hacking and cybercrime
- Access/diversity Internet as an engine for growth and sustainable development
- Human rights, freedom of expression and free flow of information on the Internet
- Emerging issues Internet surveillance

Note: "taking stock" disappeared as a working theme. The notion got this scant paragraph in the chair's summary: "Taking stock - How can the IGF support challenges, issues, etc. to be followed up after the IGF meeting, to prevent everyone from just going home? How could the IGF facilitate a debate to continue and develop the theme for next year?" However, the taking stock activity

continued to be part of the IGF in other formats. CIRs also left the list of working themes, but returned in all subsequent IGFs up to Geneva 2017.

2014 (Istanbul)

Overarching theme: "Connecting Continents for Enhanced Multistakeholder Internet Governance" Working themes/tracks:

- Policies enabling access
- Content creation, dissemination and use
- Internet as an engine for growth and development
- IGF and the future of the Internet ecosystem
- Enhancing digital trust
- Internet and human rights
- Critical Internet resources
- Emerging issues

2015 (João Pessoa)

Overarching theme: "Evolution of Internet Governance: Empowering Sustainable Development". Working themes/tracks:

- Cybersecurity and trust
- Internet economy
- Inclusiveness and diversity
- Openness
- Enhancing multistakeholder cooperation
- Internet and human rights
- Critical Internet resources
- Emerging issues

Note: since João Pessoa the list of working themes started to grow significantly, to peak in Geneva with 13 themes.

2016 (Mexico)

Overarching theme: "Enabling Inclusive and Sustainable Growth" Working themes/tracks:

- Internet and sustainable development
- Access and diversity
- Youth and gender challenges pertaining to the Internet
- The protection and promotion of human rights online
- Cybersecurity
- The need to enhance multistakeholder cooperation
- Critical Internet resources
- Internet governance capacity-building
- Other emerging issues that may affect the future of the open Internet

2017 (Geneva)

Overarching theme: "Shape Your Digital Future!" Working themes/tracks:

- The future of global cooperation on Digital Governance
- The impact of digitization on democracy, public trust and public opinion
- Internet and the sustainable development goals
- Access and diversity
- The digital transformation and its socio-economic and labour impacts
- Youth and gender challenges pertaining to the Internet

- The protection and promotion of human rights online
- Cybersecurity
- Intended and unintended global impacts of local interventions
- The need to enhance multistakeholder cooperation
- Critical Internet resources
- Internet governance capacity-building
- Other emerging issues that enhance and affect the future of the open Internet

2018 (Paris)

Overarching theme: "The Internet of Trust" Working themes/tracks:

- Cybersecurity, trust and privacy
- Development, innovation and economic issues
- Digital inclusion and accessibility
- Human rights, gender and youth
- Emerging technologies
- Evolution of Internet Governance
- Media and content
- Technical and operational issues

2019 (Berlin)

Overarching theme: to be defined Working themes/tracks:

- Data governance
- Digital inclusion
- Security, safety, stability & resilience

Note: there is a detailed description of what is intended with each of these three tracks, and an effort to relate each of them to the SDGs, especially as an orientation for the workshop proposals.