

IGF 2024
MAG Working Group on Youth Engagement (WG-Youth)

Draft Proposal for IGF Youth Mentorship Programme

1. Purpose

The purpose of this mentorship program is to advance and grow youth leaders who are engaged in the Internet governance space, enabling them to advance their knowledge, skills, and careers. The program will also help to establish ongoing connections between the youth leaders and experienced experts and wider stakeholders, fostering a supportive and collaborative environment within the Internet governance community. It will provide a platform for dialogue and collaboration between youth leaders and current and previous MAG members by leveraging their expertise.

2. Objectives

- Empower youth leaders within the IGF space.
- Facilitate personal and professional development.
- Promote long term engagement in Internet Governance.
- Enable dialogue and collaboration between youth leaders and current and previous MAG members.

3. Roles and Responsibilities

WG-Youth Co-facilitators will be responsible for the following, in close collaboration with the IGF Secretariat:

- Oversee the program's overall management and coordination.
- Facilitate the matching process between mentors and mentees.
- Monitor program progress and track key success metrics.
- Gather feedback from participants and identify areas for improvement.

3.1 What are the expectations of mentors and mentees?

Mentors:

- Establish a long-lasting professional relationship with their mentees.
- Provide practical insights and guidance on career development.

- Promote capacity development, and upskilling for mentees.
- Offer guidance on effective participation in the IGF2024 and the broader IG ecosystem.

Mentees:

- Establish a long-lasting professional relationship with their mentors.
- Actively engage in the mentorship program, participating in all scheduled meetings and activities.
- Demonstrate a commitment to learning and personal growth.
- Contribute to the program by sharing their experiences and perspectives.

3.2 What are the mandatory commitments?

- Orientation session: All participants are required to attend the initial orientation session
- Monthly virtual meetings: Mentors and mentees will meet virtually at least once a month from October to December. These calls are mandatory commitments but those who want to meet more often they can do so.
- IGF Thematic track main sessions: Attendance of at least one main session related to a selected thematic track by the mentees during the IGF2024.
- Program report: Submission of a report by the mentees summarizing the experience and insights gained from the program.

4. Targeted Participants and Matching Process

(An overview of the program and how we'll match mentors and mentees)

4.1 Targeted participants:

- Mentors: Current and previous MAG members (30-50) and external experts through referrals from MAG members
- Mentees: Youth leaders aged between 18 and 35 who have been in the IGF space for 2-5 years
 - **Group 1:** Youth leaders/ youth IGF coordinators who have leadership roles in the global youth IG community (e.g. YCIG, IGF2024 Youth Track organizing team, etc.) [Quota: 20]
 - **Group 2:** Coordinators/ organizing committee members of local, national or regional youth IGF. [Quota: 20]

**Ensure gender, inclusion & geographical diversity in each group.*

4.2 Matching process

- **Open Call for Mentees:** A two-week open call will be launched through the Youth IGF Coordinators mailing list and other relevant channels, targeting active youth participants in local, regional, and global IGFs. *i.e refer annex I*
- **Application Review:** Applications will be reviewed based on region, language, skills, interests, professional goals, and preferred IGF thematic tracks.
- **Mentee Selection and Matching:** MAG members will select mentees based on the aforementioned criteria, ensuring a minimum of one and a maximum of two mentees per mentor.
- **Matching Notification:** Participants will be notified of their mentor/mentee assignment.

5. Program Implementation

Late May - July	Community Input: Gather inputs and co-create the program with the community through the mailing list.
August	20th August: The IGF MAG will review the proposal submitted by the community The community will work together to revise the proposal if needed.
Late August - September	If approved by the MAG, the program will proceed with the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Open call for mentees for 2 weeks and one week extension only in the case of not getting the targeted numbers (2-15th September). 2. Mentor-Mentee Matching (16-26th September). 3. Notifying participants of the match (27-30th Sept).
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Program Launch: Start in October, with an initial orientation session (10th October). ● Monthly one-on-one meeting: Mentor and mentee to arrange a virtual meeting after the program launch.

November	Monthly one-on-one meeting: Mentor and mentee to arrange a virtual meeting.
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Monthly one-on-one meeting: Mentor and mentee to arrange a virtual meeting as a debriefing before the IGF2024. ● Mentees to submit a report about the overall experience. ● Wrap-up of the program during the IGF 2024 (date to be confirmed).

6. Program Evaluation and Reporting on Success

The metrics that will be measured through the survey *i.e refer annex II:*

- Mentor and mentee satisfaction rating.
- Number of meetings that mentees and mentors had throughout the program.
- Assessing mentee satisfaction with skills development through a 1-5 rating scale.

Reporting on success:

- Mentees will submit reports summarizing their experience after the IGF2024.
- Follow-up contact: Mentees will be contacted six months after the program (June-July 2025) to assess the impact on their career development.
- Mentor follow-up: A follow-up call with mentors (if needed) will be scheduled before the IGF2024.

Recognition

- **Certificates of Completion:** Upon successful completion of the program, all participants will receive a personalized certificate acknowledging their participation and contributions.
- **Public feature of participants:** The program will publicly acknowledge the contributions of the participants through a dedicated section on the IGF website. The page will include a list of both mentors and mentees.

7. Conclusion

This IGF Youth Mentorship program offers a unique opportunity to empower and support the next generation of leaders in the Internet Governance space. This program will contribute to a more inclusive and vibrant IG community by fostering strong relationships between experienced mentors and motivated mentees. We believe that this initiative will have a lasting impact on the development of young professionals and the future of Internet governance.

We urge the IGF MAG to approve this proposal and support the implementation of this vital program. After the MAG approval, the co-facilitators will develop a strategy for a long-term continuation of the program.

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Application form for IGF Youth Mentorship Program

Personal Information:

- Full Name
- Email Address
- Regional group
- Country of residence
- Stakeholder group
- Preferred language of communication

Experience and Interests:

- Are you currently involved in a Youth IGF initiative and/ IGF2024 Youth Track organizing team? If so, please specify which one and your role.
- How many years have you been actively involved in this initiative?
- What Internet governance issues are of your interest?
- What are your top preferred thematic tracks for IGF 2024? (Please rank from 1 to 4)

Background and Motivation:

- Please share your motivation for applying to the IGF Youth Mentorship Program. Explain how the program benefits your professional/career goals and what you hope to gain. (max. 200 words)

By submitting this application, I agree to commit to the program's requirements and expectations.

If selected, I agree with the publication of my personal information (name, country, stakeholder and regional group) on the IGF website and with the use of this information for statistical purposes.

I agree to adhere to the IGF Code of Conduct and Data Protection Policy.

Annex II

Mentor Survey

- Please rate your overall satisfaction with the program on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is "Not Satisfied" and 5 is "Extremely Satisfied."
- How would you rate your mentee's engagement and progress throughout the program? (Not Bad - Excellent)
- Please share your thoughts on the effectiveness of the mentorship approach used in this program. (max. 100 words)
- Do you have any additional comments or suggestions for improving the program?

Mentee Survey

- Please rate your overall satisfaction with the program on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is "Not Satisfied" and 5 is "Extremely Satisfied."
- How would you rate the quality of your interactions with your mentor? (Not Satisfied - Extremely Satisfied)
- Describe how the program impacted your skills development. (max. 100 words)
- Describe how this program impacted your career goals. (max. 100 words)
- How many professional connections did you gain through the program? (Less than 5, 5-10, 10-20, More than 20)
- How would you rate the availability of resources and documentation provided by your mentor to support your interaction? (Strongly Disagree - Strongly Agree)
- How many meetings did you attend with your mentor?
- Thematic Track Session Report: Please submit a report on the thematic track main session you attended. (max. 300 words)
- Attach program report: Briefly outline your participation in the program, including attended meetings, gained knowledge, networking. (max. 500 words)
- Would you recommend this program to a colleague or friend? (Not Recommend - Highly Recommend)
- Do you have any additional comments or suggestions for improving the program?