fgi
Haïti

Internet Governance Forum in Haiti

Report of the National Forum on Internet Governance of September 13, 2018

By

Internet Society
Chapitre Haïti

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About FGI Haïti 2018

The Internet Governance Forum in Haiti is part of a multi-stakeholder approach to encourage discussion about the challenges of the Internet and its future in Haiti. This first edition aims to identify the problems related to access to the Internet and the opportunities offered by this tool to everyone. It will be a question of working for digital inclusion, to draw up plans to solve concrete problems on how to connect more Haitians by using community internet networks while taking in the most vulnerable.

The conference was held at the Hôtel Montana, Pétion-Ville, on September 13, 2018, around the theme: "Connecting the disconnected and building the future of digital in Haiti".

Partners
- Internet Society
- IGF
- Lacnic
- IGFSA

FGI Haïti 2018 web site and Social media pages
- Site internet : https://haiti.intgovforum.org
- Facebook : @FgiHaiti
- Twitter : @FgiHaiti

Web site : www.isoc.ht

Statistical data of the event

623 reservations

301 participants on site

Online participation:

Facebook live 1 = 529 views

Facebook live 2 = 172 views

Facebook live 3 = 170 views

Facebook live 4 = 299 views

Press articles

http://www.icihaiti.com/article-25507-icihaiti-technologie-premier-forum-international-sur-la-gouvernance-de-l-internet-haiti-2018.html

https://rezonodwes.com/officiel-premier-forum-national-sur-la-gouvernance-de-linternet-en-haiti/

http://www.alterpresse.org/spip.php?article23539

http://www.lenational.org/lisoc-haiti-a-organise-son-premier-forum-sur-la-gouvernance-de-linternet/

https://rtvc.radiotelevisioncaraibes.com/high-tech/telecommunications-premier-forum-haiti-la-gouvernance-linternet.html

https://www.techenafrique.com/2018/09/haiti-tient-son-premier-forum-sur-la-gouvernance-de-linternet/

http://www.haititechnews.com/haiti-forum-international-sur-la-gouvernance-de-linternet/

https://alloayiti.com/haiti-forum-international-sur-la-gouvernance-de-linternet/

https://www.haitilibre.com/en/news-25507-icihaiti-technology-first-international-forum-on-internet-governance-haiti-2018.html

http://www.radioxplosion.com/index.php/2018/09/12/officiel-premier-forum-national-sur-la-gouvernance-de-linternet-en-haiti/

http://dofen.news/article/400

Agenda FGI Haïti 2018 (September 13, 2018)

9:00 to 9:15 .... Opening Ceremony

By the speeches of Obed Sindy (President of ISOC Haiti), Lynn St.Amour (President IGF MAG), Kevon Swift (Head of Strategic Relations and Integration of the Latin American Internet Address Register and Caribbean (LACNIC)), Shernon Osepa (Director of Regional Affairs for Latin America and the Caribbean Bureau of the Internet Society (ISOC)).

Panel 1: Reynold Warrior (Technical Community), Shernon Osepa (Technical Community), Jean Nahum Constant (Technical Community), Wilson Fever (Government)

9:15 AM - 10:00 AM: Connecting the disconnected in Haiti with community internet networks

Panel 2: Max Larson Henry (Private and Academic Sector), Jean Marie Altema, (Civil Society) Kevon Swift (Technical Community), Jean Jacques Rousseau (Government)

10: 00 AM- 10: 45 am: Connecting the disconnected in Haiti: challenges and prospects to build the future of digital

Coffee break: 10:45 AM to 11:00 AM

Panel 3: Christelle Vaval (Private Sector), Christine Toussaint (Civil Society), Lyne Vanessa Alexandre (Civil Society).

11:00 AM - 11:45 AM: Internet, tool for socio-economic development of women in Haiti

Panel 4: Belizaire Raphel (Civil Society), Junior Saint Fleur, Daana Roc (Technical Community), Sandy Clervil (Technical Community)

Moderator: Joubert Joseph (Civil Society)

11:45 AM - 12:15 PM: Internet as a source of opportunity for young Haitians

12h 15 PM-12h 45 PM: Networking

12h 45 PM-12h 55 PM: Acknowledgments

Panel 1: Connecting the disconnected in Haiti with community internet networks

Shernon Osepa, Reynold Guerrier, Jean Nahum Constant, Wilson Fievre

Shernon Osepa, *Director of Regional Affairs for Latin America and the Caribbean Office of the Internet Society (ISOC)*

With regard to the internet, it must be understood that the internet must support development projects. We need to address the issues locally and use the internet to create new opportunities. Domains like:

- Infrastructure

-Law

- Economy

- Development

- Sociology

- Human and Citizen's Rights

- Connected tools.

Are important aspects that the Internet allows to intervene on to improve the life of the citizens of the different communities.

The most important for community networks is access to the internet. In addition to access, we must give everyone the opportunity to develop. One of the challenges in the Caribbean is to allow people not to remain mere users but to make the internet a source of profit. Community networks need people with technical experiences, people in the field of law to enable regulation and people for marketing. It is imperative to make a productive use of the internet.

Reynold Guerrier, *Expert in Information Technologies and Consultant to the National Telecommunications Council*

In Haiti, there are only 5 active ISPs, 6.5 million mobile phone users and 1.2 million smartphones. 15% penetration, 5 users per household.

The disconnected are mainly characterized by low income, expensive internet, a poor quality network, very little high level application, investments in the field of telecommunication made only in metropolitan areas, low capacity of the organ regulator to facilitate the development of another network.

Short term solutions: Operators' solution (Give good plans to allow users to have access to the internet and develop community access centers to the internet.

Long Term Solutions: Encourage community networks, good regulation policies, training for local entrepreneurs to maximize sustainability and profitability of investments, public policy to promote private initiative.

Jean Nahum Constant, *Technical Manager of the Sustainable Development Network Foundation which manages the .ht domain*

The important question to ask is how to connect the disconnected?

Community networks are an effective way to reduce the divide

Initiatives have been taken in various places with a pilot project (PIC) to allow even those who can not read to enjoy the benefits of the internet.

The focus is still on the fact that the internet must allow users to generate profits for their personal and community development.

Wilson Fievre, *IBM Consultant and National Palace ICT Advisor*

One of the problems listed is the lack of awareness level on internet education.

Less than 20% of Haiti's municipalities actually have internet because telecom operators give the internet in major cities and neglect the rest.

The lack of electricity plays an important role in the deepening of the divide hence the importance of basic education to the internet.

Panel 2: Conecting Disconnected in Haiti: Challenges and Prospects for Building the Digital Future

Jean Marie Altema, Kevon Swift

Max Larson, *President of the Haitian Association of Information and Communication Technologies (AHTIC) and Vice President of the Internet Society Chapter Haiti.*

Haiti has made advances in the field of the Internet by showing the image of the Internet connection cables in the Caribbean. We must go further than access for all because the creation of content and the role of the University are also important.

Kevon Swift, *Head of Strategic Relations and Registry Integration of Latin American and Caribbean Internet Addresses (LACNIC)*

LACNIC is an important player in the internet ecosystem.

The Internet Governance Forum is a privileged space to identify the priorities of the entire national community and to present a roadmap that will guide initiatives in the coming months and even years. It is a big step for Haiti to organize this forum of not many initiatives of this kind in the Caribbean, and we must continue to believe that this will solve the challenges that Haiti is facing. face.

Altema Jean Marie, *Former Director of the National Telecommunications Council and Commissioner for the socioprofessional integration of young people of the Haitian government*.

Digital technology can be very useful for the socio-professional integration of young people.In the regulatory body, the consumer protection unit must play its role. Banks in Haiti are reluctant to fully integrate the digital to facilitate access to the service and this is a drag on development.

Panel 3: Internet, tool for socio-economic development of women in Haiti

Christelle Vaval (Moderator), Lyne Alexandre Vanessa ,Christine Toussaint, Michele V. Boisrong

In fact, it's been more than a decade since Haiti had access to the Internet. However, there is no change in the country. Otherwise only disadvantages in adults as well as young people. However, we wonder if it is due to its misuse or rather it is because we are not yet ready to use it.

Christine Toussaint, *Lawyer ,*women, representing 51% of the Haitian population, are the most vulnerable. It suggests that 57% of women are illiterate and 70% work in the informal sector. So, she thinks the only way for the Internet to help women overcome these challenges is networking. This will allow them to showcase themselves, by promoting their skills, especially women living outside the capital.

 Lyne V. Alexandre*, Commissioner for the Socioprofessional Integration of Young People in the Presidency***,** think**s** that change must be at the grassroots level. To do this, she offers teaching. According to her, training women is the first step towards development. Because according to her, many are victims of the lack of knowledge of the issues of the Internet. She then recounted such misdeeds, such as sex tourism, the virtual prostitution of which many women are victims.

Michele V. Boisrond, *Electrical engineer ,* **b**elieves that the Internet can be an empowering tool for Haitian women, if used wisely. Let's conclude that the internet can serve as a development tool if it is accompanied by education. Networking is also a vector of change**.**

Panel 4: The internet as a source of opportunity for young Haitians

Joubert Joseph, (Moderator) Bélizaire Raphel, Daana Roc, Sandy Clervil, Junior Saint Fleur

Belizaire Raphel, *Educator / Digital Grassroots Ambassador*

Disparities between regions of the same country can be enormous; young people who make up a major part of the Haitian population can use the internet for their education, to set up a business or simply to make projects for society in general. Haitian society, multiple stakeholders need the resources necessary for the development of the internet in Haiti and make it accessible.

Daana Roc, *Programmer / Digital Grassroots Ambassador*

Online training sites, international opportunity sites are available in one click on the internet. Young Haitians must take advantage of their training and personal development to better serve the country.

Clervil Sandy, *Computer scientist*

Today we do not need to move to become a professional in any field, just have a connection to the internet via a mobile or his computer to access courses or training courses very interesting .

Contributors from the FGI Haiti community

ASTREL Davidson (Faculty of Sciences of the State University of Haiti), Jonas Dorfeuille (COEURH), Jean Enock Francillon (ANDC), Saint Clou CarlRobert (Agrosser), Katiana Antoine (MPCE), Guerline Cadet (National Library of Haiti), Widens Pierre (YAE), Ysmael Pierre (civil society), Jean Nickolson Lamour (The Place), Sabine Guillaume (World Merit Haiti), Vantz BRUTUS (Nextep Communication), Dieune St-Fleur (University of the People) , Joseph Roberson (Faculty of Sciences of the State University of Haiti), Wolssand Rilier (Siksejen), Yves Alexandre Cadet (Cyva Technologies), Romelien Ernstine (School of Law and Economic Sciences of Gonaïves), Steevens ANDRE (Nousejen), Steevenson JA BARTHELEMY (Self-employed), Samuel JEAN (Faculty of Sciences of the State University of Haiti), DANIEL Roodnel (Adventist University of Haiti), Willy Elzy (Self-employed), Ronel-Michel ALCIANNAS (Joint Institution Focus of Intelligence), Jean Kerlens Miche l (National Institute of Administration, Management and International Studies), Gaëlle Daïca Charles (Notre Dame University of Haiti), Alexandre Ruud Stéphane (Fixitassurance), Emsline Azor (Women In Power) and Jean Ginoue (AFFAKA).

Problems and challenges related to the evolution of the Internet in Haiti

- Economic problem (population's purchasing power too low)
- Lack of Internet infrastructure
- The cost of internet connection
- Low speed of internet service providers
- Poor quality of service provided
- High illiteracy rate (which prevents them from taking advantage of the advantages of the Internet)
- Electricity (most of the population does not have access)
- Too little engagement of civil society
- Lack of competition

- Absence of legal framework
- Lack of private sector vision

How to connect disconnected and unconnected people in Haiti

- Care for areas of the province of Haiti when it comes to an internet connection
- Establish resilient infrastructure in all cities of Haiti
- WIFI in transport, hotels, shops ...
- Gather on the same table the different stakeholders
- Use natural energy sources to solve the energy problem
- Promote community Internet networks in Haiti
- Grants and partnership around projects to build resilient infrastructure

Make the Internet a tool for socio-economic development of women in Haiti

- Online networking
- E-commerce
- Training and employment online
- Buy online
- Learn and express yourself freely
- Travel opportunities

The opportunities offered by the internet to young Haitians

- Online learning
- E-commerce
- Travel opportunities
- Online networking
- Learn and express yourself freely
- Buy online

A room full of participants

ISOC Haiti Board members with some speakers

Madame Lynn St Amour, in her speech on the opening ceremony

Sindy Obed, President of ISOC Haiti in his speech on the opening ceremony

Shernon Osepa, of internet Society in his speech in the opening ceremony

Kevon Swift of LACNIC in his first words in FGI Haiti