

### IGF 2016 Workshop Report

Session Title	<b>UNESCO OPEN FORUM: Putting Internet Universality at the heart of the SDGs</b>
Date	<b>Thursday, 8 December 2016</b>
Time	<b>17:00 – 18:00</b>
Session Organizer	Xianhong Hu, Assistant Programme Specialist, Division of Freedom of Expression and Media Development, UNESCO  Cédric Wachholz, Programme Specialist, Knowledge Societies Division, UNESCO
Chair/Moderator	Frank La Rue, Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information, UNESCO
Rapporteur/Notetaker	Rachel Pollack Ichou, Associate Programme Specialist, Division of Freedom of Expression and Media Development, UNESCO
List of Speakers and their institutional affiliations	Guy Berger, Director, Division of Freedom of Expression and Media Development, UNESCO  Anriette Esterhuysen, Executive Director, Association for Progressive Communications (APC)  Indrajit Banerjee, Director, Knowledge Societies Division, UNESCO  Anri van der Spuy, Consultant and author of upcoming UNESCO study on Multistakeholderism  Giovanni Seppia, External Relations Manager, EURid
Key Issues raised (1 sentence per issue):	UNESCO's concept of Internet Universality and its ROAM principles (that the Internet should be human Rights-based, Open, Accessible, and governed by Multi-stakeholder participation) can contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.  UNESCO has launched a project to develop and pilot Internet Development Indicators in order to make the ROAM principles effective tools for policy. It is also conducting a study on the multi-stakeholder model.  A new UNESCO study on privacy, free expression and transparency was launched just before the IGF.

	<p>Multilingualism continues to be a priority for UNESCO, and recent work in this area includes the new UNESCO Atlas of Languages in Danger project and the annual EURid-UNESCO world report on global deployment of internationalized domain names (IDNs).</p>
<p>If there were presentations during the session, please provide a 1-paragraph summary for each Presentation</p>	<p>Frank La Rue opened the session by explaining that the ROAM principles were adopted by UNESCO's General-Conference in November 2015 following the CONNECTing the Dots conference held in March 2015. He emphasized that ICTs and the use of the Internet are essential for fulfilling the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and particularly Goal 16 of building peaceful, just and inclusive societies. Public access to information and connectivity, he said, should be universal.</p> <p>Anriette Esterhuysen made a number of suggestions related to UNESCO's work in the context of Internet Universality. She suggested that in its work on digital literacy and education, UNESCO should help to enable the institutions, communities and journalists that it works with to respond to the potential harmful impacts of the Internet, such as hate speech, bullying and false news. In regard to openness, she observed that protecting human rights online may require some regulation. To enable accessibility, she said, UNESCO should engage with locally-driven, bottom-up community networks to look at connectivity from a range of perspectives, including resilience, education and cultural heritage. Finally, she recommended that UNESCO engage media in multi-stakeholder discussions and look at media sustainability in the context of the Internet.</p> <p>Guy Berger introduced UNESCO's plans to transform the ROAM principles into Internet Development Indicators. This will be done through an 18-month project involving regional consultations, feedback through an online platform, and piloting the indicators in three countries. He acknowledged the challenge of creating a holistic package with a limited number of indicators. Mr Berger also announced the new UNESCO publication on privacy, free expression and transparency. Among the topics covered include the need for privacy by design, applying privacy rights to foreign citizens, and higher standards for corporate behaviour through self-regulation and co-regulation.</p> <p>Anri van der Spuy, who is producing the upcoming UNESCO study on multi-stakeholderism, spoke about how the newer literature on multi-stakeholderism has begun to question the early optimism. She said that indicators can strengthen the multi-stakeholder process.</p> <p>Indrajit Banerjee spoke about Internet Universality as being aligned with the UN system's core believe of all-inclusiveness and that no one should be left behind. Languages are essential for the transmission of knowledge from generation to generation, and being able to use one's language is essential to participate fully.</p>

	<p>UNESCO recognizes that the Internet holds enormous potential for promoting languages, learning languages and revitalizing languages. In this context he announced UNESCO's World Atlas of Languages, which is an extension of the Atlas of Languages in Danger first launched in 1993.</p> <p>Giovanni Sepia reported on the EURid-UNESCO world reports on IDN deployment. The report is now fully available online and regularly updated. While there has been much progress with universal acceptance of IDNs, he said, IDNs still represent just 2% of worldwide registered domain names. The top three scripts used in IDNs are Latin, Han and Cyrillic.</p>
<p>Please describe the Discussions that took place during the workshop session: (3 paragraphs)</p>	<p>In the discussion, it was observed that the multi-stakeholder was likely different today than when it was first developed in the 1980s when the Internet was much smaller. The question was raised of how the multi-stakeholder model is different from other forms of public deliberation. In regards to developing indicators related to multi-stakeholderism, it was suggested that they should include transparency and inclusiveness.</p> <p>In response to a question from an audience member about how to create an Internet of citizens and not only of consumers, some panellists agreed that in debates on connecting the next billion, the role of the use is sometimes forgotten. It was suggested that consumer rights are relevant for the Internet and that the idea of 'informed consent' is a dangerous notion and should not allow individuals to sign away their rights.</p> <p>One audience member cited a study that IDN registrations are more expensive than those for other domain names.</p>
<p>Please describe any Participant suggestions regarding the way forward/ potential next steps /key takeaways: (3 paragraphs)</p>	<p>As stated above, Anriette Esterhuysen provided a number of suggestions for areas where UNESCO could further work in relation to its ROAM principles.</p> <p>David Souter suggested that UNESCO build on the experience of those who have used its Media Development Indicators as tools in order to inform the Internet Development Indicators.</p> <p>UNESCO encouraged everyone in the audience to read the new reports online and to provide comments and suggestions.</p>

