IGF2017 workshop 90 Report

- Session Title:	Achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda: Where do youth stand?
- Date:	19 December 2017
- Time:	16H40 - 18H10
- Session Organizer:	khouloud Dawahi ,UN Major Group for Youth and Children Donovan Guttieres ,UN Major Group for Youth and Children spiteam@childrenyouth.org
- Chair/Moderator:	Khouloud Dawahi ,UN Major Group for Youth and Children
- Rapporteur/Notetaker:	Su Sonia Herring , Youth Coalition on Internet Governance
- List of Speakers and their institutional affiliations:	Mark William Datysgeld, Governance Primer/ICANN Business Constituency Sharada Srinivasan , CTIC research fellow at University of Pennsylvania working with 1 World Connected Michael Joseph Oghia, Youth Coalition on Internet Governance Chenai Chair , Research ICT Africa Oluwatomi Ayorinde, Mobile Forms Company
- Key Issues raised (1 sentence per issue):	- Youth engagement in ICT-related discussions and decision-making at the global, regional, and national level and the barriers they face. - The digital creativity's role in creating different kinds of opportunity for decent jobs for young people. - Enhancing youth participation toward achieving SDGs through ICTs as a means of implementation, monitoring, and review - Ways for youth in the developing countries to leverage the rapid rate of digitalization, and to leapfrog the digital economic divide.
If there were presentations during the session, please provide a 1-paragraph summary for each presentation:	The moderator khouloud Dawahi , presenting on behalf of the UN Major Group for Children and Youth, a United Nations General Assembly mandated, official, formal and self-organized space for children and youth to contribute to and engage in certain intergovernmental and allied policy processes at the UN, shared the group's plans in this increasingly important area of work. This includes online and offline consultations on ICTs for sustainable development, the future of work, digital competencies, and internet governance. These will feed into and inform discussions at the following fora: World Summit on the Information Society, Commission on Science and Technology for Development, Annual Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science Technology and Innovation for SDGs, and the High Level Political Forum. More concretely, the UNMGCY will facilitate the collection of youth-led and peer-review policy briefs on this topics, aimed at sharing evidence-informed perspectives in the form of a publication. The group will also enhance efforts to link with existing youth-led entities engaging in this area of work at the advocacy, policy, and grass-roots level. Mark W Datysgeld presented the Governance Primer project, which is an open and free introductory Internet Governance course that seeks to engage non-

	technical people in the internet governance ecosystem. The course is being conducted in 3 countries so far in Latin America.
	Chenai Chair presented findings of research undertaken by Research ICT Africa on enhancing ICT access and surveys from several countries, including focus groups in Rwanda, Nigeria and Tanzania which were focused on challenges young people face in their communities and how they are making use of internet to address these issues.
	Oluwatomi Ayorinde provided a business sector perspective by introducing Mobile Forms company's work, emphasizing the importance of crowdsourcing reliable citizen data from Africa. He explained that it is an attempt to overcome the infrastructure gap in Nigeria by creating a new infrastructure through a network of connected mobile devices with youth and entrepreneurs in their local communities providing consistent feedback in order to improve service delivery for businesses and decision-making for governments. He highlighted that discussions are currently being carried out with policy makers to find the best way Mobile Forms can be used to monitor and track the SDGs implementation in the region.
	Sharada Srinivasan, shared her experience collorabting with different stakeholders as part of the academic project 1 World Connected, which focuses on the evaluation and assessment of connectivity initiatives around the world. She emphasized on the importance of outreach and collaboration with other organizations, researchers and governments to ensure multi-stakeholder cooperation.
- Please describe the Discussions that took place during the workshop session (3 paragraphs):	The workshop opened with brief presentations by the panelists, who started by mapping some example of youth-lead initiatives or research related to achieving the 2030 Agenda using ICTs as a means of implementation and review. Both Mark W Datysgeld and Micheal Joseph Oghia focused on capacity building as a means of achieving the 2030 Agenda. Mark W Datysgeld shed the light on the Internet Governance Primer which is an open course on internet governance. Micheal Joseph Oghia shared examples of youth-led initiative such as the Greens of Europe Platform and the African School of Internet Governance. Chenai Chair shared research conducted by Research ICT Africa through community surveys and qualitative focus groups in Kenya, Nigeria and Tanzania. Sharada Srinivasan shared research undertaken by 1 World Connected on collecting and disseminating case studies on best for improving broadband adoption and conducting empirical evaluations of grassroots connectivity projects. Oluwatomi Ayorinde reflected on the business sector perspective as CEO of Mobile Form, a company working on helping local and international businesses crowdsource reliable market data.
	The brief presentations were followed by a panel discussion during which the panelists answered the moderator's questions. First, about avenues youth have to meaningfully engage in ICT-related discussions and in the decision-making processes related to the use of ICTs for sustainable development. Second, the panelists discussed effective ways of enhancing youth participation toward

	achieving SDGs through appropriate ICTs use. Thirdly, they discussed how youth in developing countries could leverage the rapid rate of digitalization in order to leapfrog into the digital economy. The panel was followed by an open discussion with the audience both onsite and remotely during which the panelists interacted by answering their questions, discussing their suggestions or comments. Several specific national initiatives and case studies were also talked about (such as Hong Kong, South Africa and Nigeria) alongside several broad concerns and emerging issues that were raised.
- Please describe any Participant suggestions regarding the way forward/ potential next steps /key takeaways (3 paragraphs):	- In order to engage in the decision-making and achieve the 2030 Agenda, capacity development is a key element in sustaining youth involvement and reaping the benefits of their potential contributions. It was suggested that young people get involved in different activities aimed at building the requisite skills related to sustainable development, appropriate ICT use, and civic engagement in a manner that best respond's to their local communities' needs. The pushback and barriers youth organizations face especially from policy makers were addressed by some participants. A panelist suggested making use of public comment periods, which are available in many countries, as an open space for youth to add their voices to policy debates. Ensuring evidence-informed positions can be effectively communicated to relevant stakeholders in a way they can utilize to inform decision making. Moreover, the participants acknowledged the importance of mapping youth-led initiatives and suggested, as a next step, a collaboration to put those initiatives together in a book or a compilation which will serve as a concrete material for youth to consult and not just to discover during ad hoc forums. -The digital divide is not just about access, but also about equitable and effective ways of leveraging the Internet and improving education, which underpins all SDGs. In this context, the participants stressed the gap between the digital literacy needed for the digital transformation and the current outdated schools' curriculums. A participant gave a suggestion of a national good practice in South Africa which is a program called "Next Start-up kids''. It consists of camps for kids when schools are closed that allows them to come up with solutions for their own communities and collaborates with the private sector in terms of providing equipment in case needed. -Infrastructure gaps and costs are still an impeding factor in Africa. In that regard, the session shed light on the importance of data crowdsourcing and the importance of increasing focus on data availability and quality. In response to a participant's question related to helping local communities, especially women to supplement their income through data collection, a panelist suggested adopting the Mobile Forms company business model of data crowdsourcing which has proven to be more reliable, faster and more engaging with the local community. In this model, these youth and mothers use their mobile phones to capture relevant information to track SDG related KPIs and in return for data captured they a rewarded with airtime and cash to supplement their daily income.
Gender Reporting :	

- Estimate the overall number of the participants present at the session:	~40
- Estimate the overall number of women present at the session:	~50%
- To what extent did the session discuss gender equality and/or women's empowerment?	It was mentioned briefly during the the panel discussion and open discussion with the audience.
If the session addressed issues related to gender equality and/or women's empowerment, please provide a brief summary of the discussion:	The 2030 Agenda is a commitment to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development by 2030 worldwide and ensure that no one is left behind regardless of his or her gender, age group, geographic location etc. Nonetheless, the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development addresses gender equality as a specific sustainable development goal, which is SGD 5, but it should be highlighted as a cross-cutting priority across all goals. The panel discussed on the opportunities and challenges that youth face in terms of implementing the 2030 sustainable development Agenda, consequently touching upon issues of the digital gender divide and provided case studies of women empowerment through ICTs.