

IGF Community Public Consultation: Taking stock of the IGF 2017 and suggestions for the IGF 2018

On Behalf of the Youth Coalition on Internet Governance (YCIG)

The YCIG is thankful for having given this opportunity to contribute to the IGF community public consultation. Overall, the YCIG as a community was satisfied with the way the IGF 2018 was conducted. The quality of the discussions and content were diverse and thought-provoking. The participation of youth in general as seen an overall increase over the years which is a huge positive for the stakeholder community. The following points are some of our suggestions and points to be taken into account.

What worked well:

- Youth and Newcomers Track was organized and well-structured.
- IGF Secretariat provided great support to NRIs, especially encouraging the establishment of YouthIGF initiatives. YouthIGF could be a platform for youth to be empowered and involved in the discourse.
- NRIs Toolkit included YouthIGF session, in a bid to provide a basic ground of understanding and insight for community members further working on conducting similar events.
- The multiple event formats and shorter events were well received by the community.

Improvements and Suggestions:

- Mentorship and young peer support programs could be introduced as a way for newcomers actively engaging in the discussion throughout the conference.
- Raise the promotion and visibility of youth programmes within the wider stakeholder community.
- No proper communication with respect to the food stalls and cafeterias was available. Also, the food was too expensive in Geneva.
- The translation services faced issues occasionally. Speaker names were not displayed correctly and were often misquoted. Additionally, the youtube videos were not uploaded according to their titles and on time.

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