

Youth in IGF - Mapping Existing Paths and Crafting Model IGF

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Initiative Description

Worldwide, young people increasingly depend on the Internet to build skills, create economic value, build communities, and take ownership of their human experience. Many of them will engage with and form a sizable percentage of youth in cyberspace. Even so, unless some things are done differently, they will enjoy barely enough representation in policy conversations affecting the shared resource of the Internet, affecting their lives.

The purpose of this initiative is to clarify the path, content of discussion, and initial model of youth participation in global Internet governance. Combine the compilation of material on youth participation in Internet governance worldwide, the design of Model IGF, and the interviews with IGF Youth Ambassadors and organizers of youth Internet governance activities, we want to form a simple and clear participation toolkit for young people around the world to facilitate their participation in Internet governance.

Initiative Scope

Purpose

At present, young people around the world are actively participating in Internet governance. However, due to differences in countries and regions, the paths for young people in different regions to participate in global Internet governance are different. If there is a toolkit, which is directly published on major websites such as the United Nations, ISOC, and IGF, which can directly tell young people which paths, organizations, and activities around the world can be used to take to participate in Internet governance, what skills they need, and what issues to discuss, how to do their own simulation during the preparation. That would go a long way towards promoting internet participation for youth around the world.

Objectives and Deliverables

The toolkit will contain three part:

1. A Participation handbook. The hand book includes three parts: the paths of youth participation in Internet governance worldwide, the content that has been discussed or the sources of content that can be referred to, and the youth governance participation model formed by the content of the discussion and the path of participation. Its goal is to be concise and clear, and to facilitate the participation of young people around the world in Internet governance through roadmaps, word clouds, etc.

2. Concept Paper of the Model of the Internet Governance Forum (Model IGF) .

Model of the Internet Governance Forum (Model IGF) is necessary to develop to address the lack of awareness on the Internet Governance initiatives and to provide youth with engaging learning experience. Inspired by other simulation activities, such as Model United Nations and European Youth Parliament, Model IGF will explain the foundations of the multistakeholder approach. Presenting positions of governments, technical community, academia and civil society, participants will deeper understand the public policy discussions happening at the actual IGF. During the IGF Youth Ambassador Programme, the initial Concept Paper is planned to be prepared. Further, it is to be shared with Internet Society, and regional, national, and youth organisations in the Internet Governance area.

3. An analysis of interviews: Focus groups are used as the main method of interviews, focusing on the theme: how youth can participate in Internet governance, involving three aspects: current problems, future visions, and practical paths. Interviewers include but are not limited to IGF Youth Ambassadors, organizers of youth Internet governance activities etc.

Figure 1: The structure of the Toolkit

