

IGF 2021 NRIs Main Session
10 Dec 2021, 13:50-15:20 CET

Planning of the session by the NRIs main session working group
Open NRIs consultations welcome until 16 November 2021 COB UTC

SESSION PROPOSAL

(draft, 9Nov21)

TITLE OF THE SESSION

The good, the bad and the ugly of the Internet in times of crises

DATE

10 December 2021; 13:50 – 15:20 CET

DURATION

90 minutes

ASSOCIATED ISSUE-AREA(S)

Inclusive Internet governance ecosystems and digital cooperation

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted almost all spheres of life. It is just one in addition to many crises humanity has faced. Certainly, the impact differs from country to country. This session will bring perspectives of communities gathered around the national, regional and youth IGF processes (NRIs) on roles the Internet has in times of crisis. Delegated representatives of the NRIs will provide concrete cases of existing practices, challenges and already implemented or under implementation action plans and activities in the areas agreed by the NRIs. It is expected that the session will illustrate existing challenges across developed and developing countries, as well as vulnerable groups through concrete cases of practices.

POLICY QUESTIONS

The session will focus on addressing local specificities related to the following digital policy areas:

1. The Internet in times of crisis: lessons learned and policy imperatives for enhancing access, resiliency and inclusion
 - a. *Good: the Internet brings opportunities (e.g. e-commerce, e-education etc.)*

- b. *Bad: reliance on platforms (e.g. Facebook), cyberharms, bad coverage etc.)*
 - c. *Ugly: human rights violations (e.g. hate speech, misinformation)*
- 2. Ways forward: from what should the Internet recover and how? (possible aspects to bring in: security online; connectivity and access, digital rights and freedoms etc.).

SESSION AGENDA

(timer displayed in zoom throughout the session)

The session will be in an open format. There will be no pre-assigned speaking slots, but all NRIs will be invited to carefully follow the discussion and sign up via the speaking queue system for an intervention of up to 120 seconds long.

The proposed agenda is:

1. [3 min] The session opens with a visual walk through NRIs landscape and priority discussion areas in 2021, with brief comparison with 2020. The NRIs focal point introduces the co-moderators and hands over the floor.
2. [3 min]The moderator(s) takes the floor announcing the topic of the session, its policy focus, objectives and overall agenda. Co-organizers are recognized. The rapporteurs are recognized. The moderator calls for continuous sharing of feedback via chat.
3. [70 min] The moderators invite NRIs delegated speakers to take the floor on the policy questions:
 - 3.1. The Internet in times of crisis: lessons learned and policy imperatives for enhancing access, resiliency and inclusion
 - *Good: the Internet brings opportunities (e.g. e-commerce, e-education etc.)*
 - *Bad: reliance on platforms (e.g. Facebook), cyberharms, bad coverage etc.*
 - *Ugly: human rights violations (e.g. hate speech, misinformation)*
 - 3.2. Ways forward: from what should the Internet recover and how?
(possible aspects to bring in: security online; connectivity and access, digital rights and freedoms etc.).

Speakers provide brief, concrete inputs on the topic, from the perspective of their NRI multistakeholder communities. Suggested time **max 120 sec** per speaker.

4. [3 min] CONCLUSION
The moderator thanks everyone and provides a brief overview of the key points raised during the session. It explains that NRIs will continue working on this important topic,

until we meet again in Ethiopia.

CO-MODERATORS

Ms. Olga Cavalli from Argentina IGF and LACIGF

Ms. Sandra Hoferichter from EuroDIG

SPEAKERS (proposed order - TBC until 16 Nov)

NRIs to confirm to Anja (anja.gengo@un.org) who are the speakers the NRI multistakeholder organizing committee delegated to speak on behalf of the NRI. Complete this form <https://www.intgovforum.org/en/form/nris-at-igf-2021>

RAPPORTEURS

- Ms. Judith Hellerstein from IGF-USA
- Ms. Muriel Alapini from Benin IGF

PLAN FOR PARTICIPATION ENGAGEMENT/INTERACTION

The session will allow for interactive engagement of all participating stakeholders using the chat function, as well as two open floor segments.

The moderator will ensure that participants feel engaged throughout the session, by referencing them and making clear connections between the speakers and those participating in the session.

The chat moderator will ensure that all inputs from the chat are gathered, responded where possible during the open floor segment or directly in the chat.

The NRIs will decide if polls will be used, to bring in more dynamics.

FACILITATORS

All NRIs supported by IGF Secretariat

DESIRED RESULT/OUTPUTS. POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS FOR THE WORK

Voluntary commitments and messages on the Internet access, resiliency and inclusion. It is expected that the NRIs will communicate their plans for contribution to the topic during the IGF 2023 cycle.

ANNEX DOCUMENTS AND SOURCES

NRIs will be adding sources here.

LINK TO SDGs

[GOAL 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth](#)

[GOAL 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure](#)

[GOAL 10: Reduced Inequality](#)

[GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions](#)

[END OF SESSION PROPOSAL]

WORKING VERSION NOTES

Notes from the meeting:

Some noted that the term 'ugly' refers to appearance and therefore is not suitable for the context of the Internet. However, others noted that the purpose of the title is to be catchy and attractive, which is the reason to use the wording of a famous western movie.

Other versions of the title included:

- *The resiliency of the Internet in times of crises*
- *Resiliency, recovery and adoption of the Internet in good and bad times*
- *The good, the bad and the beauty of the Internet during the pandemic*
- *The good, the bad and the ugly of the Internet during the crisis*
- *Internet during the pandemic*
- *Positive and negative impacts on the Internet during the pandemic*
- *Lessons learned and Policy imperatives for enhancing access, resiliency and inclusion on the Internet*
- *Leveraging Internet for transformation at the grassroot level*
- *Note added: It will be worthwhile to discuss the situation for LICS / LMICs and have sessions for their issues separately*

POLICY QUESTIONS:

The session will develop around the following digital policy aspects:

- The Internet in times of crisis: lessons learned and policy imperatives for enhancing access, resiliency and inclusion

- Ways forward: from what should the Internet recover and how? (*possible aspects to bring in: security online; connectivity and access, digital rights and freedoms etc.*)

FORMAT AND SESSION FLOW

This will be an interactive exchange of concrete inputs from local levels on the subject focus. It will reflect regional balance amongst speakers and allow enough time for exchanges with all participants.

Next steps: IGF Secretariat to confirm who will delegate speakers online or onsite. Based on that, the session flow will be designed.

The session would limit time for formal interventions and reserve time for the open floor discussion.

SPEAKERS

37 NRIs which responded to the IGF 2021 NRIs Call for Inputs, are eligible to delegate speakers¹. All other NRIs requests to delegate speakers are subject to a consensus-based decision of the eligible NRIs. The planning process of the session is open to all NRIs.

37 NRIs, listed further below, eligible to request a speaking slot will be strengthened with NRIs coming from Asia Pacific region.

It could be that NRIs could be grouped into regional circles to channel regional inputs. This requires close and string coordination among the groups.

PROPOSED MODERATOR(S)

Proposed (co)moderators are:

- Ms. Olga Cavalli
- Sandra Hoferichter, EuroDIG

PROPOSED RAPPORTEURS

- Judith Hellerstein
- Muriel Alapini

OUTPUTS

Voluntary commitments and messages

¹ Listed here <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/2021-nris-proposed-issues>

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1. About the NRIs main session working group**Who can be part of the main session working group (MSWG)?**

NRIs coordinators or other representatives designated by the NRIs multistakeholder organizing committees.

How is the work done?

The working group will work over its dedicated mailing list and regular (bi)monthly virtual meetings.

The mailing list address is nris-main-session@intgovforum.org

- The work of this group is open to everyone to join. The meeting calendar invites will be sent to the central NRIs mailing list, as well. The agenda will always include a slot for a brainstorming discussion that will extend beyond this working group's members to all other participating stakeholders.
- All consensus-based conclusions of this group will be subject for the endorsement of the NRIs network.

How to subscribe to the mailing list?

The **NRIs coordinators** can **automatically subscribe** to the working group list and become the group members. This is an automatic consequence of your status as the NRI coordinator and liaison between your NRI and IGF Secretariat. Please subscribe through the link below:

- Subscription link for the NRIs coordinators:

https://intgovforum.org/mailman/listinfo/nris-main-session_intgovforum.org



! If **other representatives** (those that are not the NRIs coordinators) will be joining the mailing list, as per the decision of the NRI organizing committee, the NRIs coordinators are kindly asked to inform the NRIs Focal Point about this by sending an email to anja.gengo@un.org with the name and email address of the designated representatives.





When is the first planning call?

The first planning call is on 6 Sep at 15 UTC <https://intgovforum.zoom.us/j/89792632336>. ~~should be in early September. Please complete the doodle poll by~~ **13-August noon-UTC**
<https://doodle.com/poll/zrara5xhmdunzgb6>

2. IGF 2021 NRIs main session proposal

a) Topics for past NRIs main sessions

IGF 2016  INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM MEXICO MEXICO	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Access and Enhancing Opportunity for the Un-Connected and Under-Connected• Secure, Resilient and Trusted Internet from the NRIs Perspectives• Reliable and sustainable funding sources for the NRIs events• Challenges in how to create more awareness about Internet Governance and why stakeholders should be actively engaging
IGF 2017  GENEVA 2017	NRIs Perspectives: Rights in the Digital World

IGF 2018  <small>INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM PARIS, 12-14 NOVEMBER 2018</small>	Evolution of Internet Governance, NRIs perspectives on the multistakeholder approach
IGF 2019 	Emerging technologies and their interfaces with inclusion, security and human rights (NRIs Perspectives)
IGF 2020 	Role of the Internet in Emergency Situations
IGF 2021 	TBC

POLICY QUESTIONS:

- Role of the Internet in emergencies (e.g. COVID-19 pandemic): did it help and how?
- Leaving behind those not connected meaningfully in times of need: who are those and what are the harms?
- Working toward online equality and equity: how to be connected to a safe, secure, affordable and accessible Internet? What can we do, individually and collectively?

Conclusion to focus on NRIs making voluntary commitments for harnessing the Internet and its tools and services as a force for good and helping everyone to be connected?

c) Speakers and organizers

NRIs which responded to the IGF 2021 NRIs Call for Inputs, which makes them eligible to delegate speakers². All other NRIs requests to delegate speakers are subject to a consensus-based decision of the eligible NRIs. The planning process of the session is open to all NRIs.

² Listed here <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/2021-nris-proposed-issues>

1. Afghanistan IGF
2. Argentina IGF
3. Benin IGF, Dr KossiAMESSINOU from Benin IGF
4. Bolivia IGF
5. Brazilian IGF
6. Cabo Verde IGF
7. Cameroon IGF
8. Colombian IGF
9. Côte d'Ivoire IGF
10. Chad IGF
11. Dominican Republic IGF
12. Ecuador IGF
13. France IGF
14. Gambia National IGF (gmigf)
15. Ghana IGF, Wisdom Donkor
16. Haiti IGF
17. IGF-D (Germany)
18. IGF-USA
19. Italy IGF
20. Lebanon IGF
21. Madagasikara IGF
22. Mali IGF*
23. Mauritius IGF
24. Moldova IGF
25. Namibia IGF
26. Netherlands IGF
27. Nigeria IGF
28. Panama IGF
29. South Eastern European Dialogue on Internet Governance (SEEDIG)
30. South Sudan IGF
31. Spain IGF
32. Tanzania IGF
33. Uganda IGF
34. West Africa IGF
35. Youth IGF Argentina
36. Youth IGF Summit
37. Youth LACIGF
38. Togo IGF

39. EuroDIG

EuroDIG would like to contribute with the results from the pre-event we hosted this year in June. It was an open mic session focussing on "COVID-19 in retrospective" and "COVID-19 – THE Gamechanger?!" See:

https://eurodigwiki.org/wiki/Open_mic:_COVID-19_in_retrospective_%E2%80%93_Pre_10_2021

DISCUSSED FORMAT

5. [3 min] The session opens with a visual walk through NRIs landscape and priority discussion areas in 2021, with brief comparison with 2020. The NRIs focal point introduces the co-moderators and hands over the floor.
6. [3 min] The moderator(s) takes the floor announcing the topic of the session, its policy focus, objectives and overall agenda. Co-organizers are recognized and speakers announced (their profiles visually shown on the screen, to avoid losing time on presenting individually the speakers). The rapporteurs are recognized. The moderator calls for continuous sharing of feedback via chat.
7. [27 min] Speakers take the floor on the first policy questions:
The Internet in times of crisis: lessons learned and policy imperatives for enhancing access, resiliency and inclusion.
Speakers provide brief, concrete inputs on the topic, from the perspective of their NRI multistakeholder communities. Suggested time (2 min) per speaker. Total of 13 NRIs speak during this segment.
The following NRIs could speak:

Focus on the Good: the Internet brings opportunities (e.g. e-commerce, e-education etc.)

- Asia Pacific IGF
- Bolivia IGF
- Cameroon IGF
- Dominican Republic IGF
- Netherlands IGF

Focus on the Bad: reliance on platforms (e.g. Facebook), cyberharms etc.

- France IGF
- Lebanon IGF

- Mauritius IGF
- SEEDIG

Focus on the Ugly: human rights violations (e.g. hate speech)

- Youth IGF Argentina
- EURODIG
- Madagascar IGF
- Côte d'Ivoire IGF
- Nigeria IGF

8. [10 min] OPEN FLOOR

NRIs who did not initially sign up for the speaking slot, can speak during this segment. The moderator invites everyone to provide their feedback on the so far heard inputs.

9. [35 min] The moderator makes a bridge from the first to the second policy question.

Speakers take the floor on the second policy questions:

Ways forward: from what should the Internet recover and how? (possible aspects to bring in: security online; connectivity and access, digital rights and freedoms etc.).

The emphasis should be on the how? Part - where NRIs would speak about good practices and potentials for effective solutions.

Speakers provide brief, concrete inputs on the topic, from the perspective of their NRI multistakeholder communities. Suggested time (1.5 min) per speaker. Total of 15 NRIs speak during this segment.

The following NRIs could speak:

- 9.1. Benin IGF, Dr. Kossi from Benin IGF
- 9.2. Brazilian IGF
- 9.3. Cabo Verde IGF
- 9.4. Colombia IGF
- 9.5. Ecuador IGF
- 9.6. Gambia IGF
- 9.7. Ghana IGF
- 9.8. Haiti IGF
- 9.9. IGF-D (Germany)
- 9.10. IGF-USA
- 9.11. Italy IGF
- 9.12. Moldova IGF
- 9.13. Namibia IGF
- 9.14. Panama IGF, Mr. Abdias Zambrano

- 9.15. South Sudan IGF
 - 9.16. Spain IGF
 - 9.17. Tanzania IGF
 - 9.18. Uganda IGF
 - 9.19. West Africa IGF
 - 9.20. Youth LACIGF
 - 9.21. Togo IGF
 - 9.22. IGF Sri Lanka
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- 10. [10 min] OPEN FLOOR
NRIs who did not initially sign up for the speaking slot, can speak during this segment.
The moderator invites everyone to provide their feedback on the so far heard inputs.
 - 11. [3 min] CONCLUSION
The moderator thanks everyone and provides a brief overview of the key points raised during the session. It explains that NRIs will continue working on this important topic, until we meet again in Ethiopia.