

Internet Governance Forum Support Association (IGFSA) Annual Report 2022-2023

This report covers the Association's activities between its ninth General Assembly, held in person with remote participation during IGF 2022 on 28 November and its tenth General Assembly, to be held in person with remote participation during IGF 2023 on 8 October. With the continuation of the global COVID-19 pandemic, the nature of the National and Regional IGF initiatives (NRIs) and the preparatory work for the IGF2023 have proceeded in a virtual or hybrid setting. IGFSA adapted to the new situation and continued to support the NRIs holding online and hybrid meetings. Notably in 2023, IGFSA has increased funding support of youth initiatives at all levels.

1. Structures of the Association

a) The General Assembly

The IGFSA held its ninth General Assembly during the 17th IGF on 28 November 2022. In total, over 51 IGFSA Members and observers, as well as 1 remote hub attended the meeting in room and via remote participation. Seven of nine Executive Committee Members were also in attendance, Anriette Esterhuysen sent apologies, Eduardo Santoyo was not in attendance. Markus Kummer, as the Chair of the Executive Committee, presided over the General Assembly.

The General Assembly approved the Summary Record of the 2021 General Assembly, the 2021 reports and Budget Allocation for the upcoming year.

Two seats on the IGFSA Executive Committee were open for elections. The nomination period was extended during the discussion of the agenda item and several IGFSA members indicated interest in running for the Executive Committee seats.

The 2022 Election was postponed and held in February 2023. The results were announced 28 February 2023 and the following two candidates were elected to the IGFSA EC:

- Flávio R. Wagner
- Amado Espinosa

Please refer to the Summary Record of the 2022 IGFSA General Assembly for more details.

b) Executive Committee

The Executive Committee held [seven](#) meetings over the course of the activity period. There were also committee meetings that were held to address specific fundraising and communications initiatives. Five meetings were held in a virtual setting, and two were held in a hybrid manner in the margins of ICANN 76 Cancun, and ICANN 77 Washington, D.C. respectively.

In carrying out its tasks, the Executive Committee is supported by a Secretary and Secretariat responsible for day-to-day activities, carrying out the Association's operational tasks, preparing for meetings and other regular office requirements. Jennifer Chung is the Association's Secretary while Kelvin Truong from DotAsia provides technical support as part of the Secretariat.

Michael Parratt (CMAC) is retained as the IGFSA Accountant.

c) Membership

The two categories of membership agreed upon at the inaugural General Assembly continued in 2021: individual membership with annual membership dues of USD 25 and organizational membership with annual membership dues of USD 100. To date, there are 306 IGFSAs members (individuals and organizations inclusive), and 28 of these members are deemed active.

Active membership confers the benefit to be able to run for open Executive Committee seats as well as ballots with which to vote in the Executive Committee elections. The requirement for active membership is being current with membership dues.

2. Activities of the Association

a) Fundraising

In 2023 the Association received contributions from Google (Tides Foundation) USD 100,000 USD (in process). While membership fees are not the primary source of funding to fulfill the IGFSAs mission, USD 975 was received as regular membership dues and individual donations.

For a detailed breakdown of funding received and other items, please refer to the 2022 Financial Report.

b) Budget and allocation of Funds

i. Overview

As agreed at the 2017 General Assembly, the Executive Committee allocated the available fund in a flexible manner, prioritizing the NRIs.

ii. Regional/National IGF Initiatives (NRIs)

The Executive Committee attached a high priority to strengthen, seek and promote exchange and collaboration with National and Regional IGF Initiatives (NRIs), with a focus on NRIs from developing countries and economies in transition. This is one of the purposes of the IGFSAs, according to Article 3 of the Articles of Association. A pre-condition for being considered as a recipient of IGFSAs funding is to be recognized by the IGFSAs Secretariat and listed on the IGF website.

As part of this priority, since the General Assembly 2022, support funding was allocated to 4 Regional and Sub-Regional IGFs, 8 National Initiatives, 5 Youth Initiatives. This brings the total contribution to-date to USD 23,500 and the cumulative total to USD 548,500. In addition, 6 pending funding requests will potentially increase IGFSAs support an extra USD 17,000-18,000.

Projected funding allocation for 2024 (in USD)

Segment	2024 Funds allocation
National, Sub-Regional Regional and Youth IGFs	50,000
UN IGF Trust Fund	15,000
Additional support to IGF Secretariat operations and logistics	5,000
Accessibility (captioning, website accessibility improvements, etc.)	5,000
IGFSA projected administrative expenses (Secretariat fees, Accountant fees, Bank fees)	20,000

(i) Contribution to the UN-IGF Trust Fund

The Association agreed to raise the contribution level of support to USD 15,000 to the UN-IGF Trust Fund from the previous USD 10,000, bringing up the total of its contributions to the UN to USD 335,000.

(ii) Regional/National IGF Initiatives (NRIs)

The Executive Committee attached a high priority to strengthen, seek and promote exchange and collaboration with National and Regional IGF Initiatives (NRIs). This is one of the purposes of the IGFSA, according to Article 3 of the Articles of Association.

As part of this priority, the following Regional and Sub-Regional IGF Initiatives were approved to receive support funding. *Denotes requests that are in progress.

1. EuroDIG
2. IGF Central Africa
3. Pacific IGF
4. Youth LAC IGF

The following National IGFs were approved to receive support funding:

1. Liberia IGF
2. Moldova IGF
3. Belarus IGF
4. Tanzania IGF
5. Mauritius IGF
6. Uganda IGF
7. Bosnia and Herzegovina IGF*
8. Colombia IGF*

The following Youth IGFs were approved to receive support funding

1. Cambodia Youth IGF* (first year)
2. Bangladesh Youth IGF
3. Youth IGF Ghana
4. Youth IGF Benin*
5. Youth IGF Colombia*

In addition there are 6 more funding requests that are in various stages of assessment, of which there are 3 sub-regional initiatives, 2 national initiatives, and 1 youth initiative, amounting to an extra USD 17,000-18,000

(iii) IGFSAs Contingency

The Funds allocated under this category cover the daily operations of the IGFSAs, such as banking fees, postage and shipping and other costs associated with running the IGFSAs Secretariat.

(iv) Accessibility Fund

The contribution from Google was earmarked for enhancing the accessibility of the IGF. This was used for providing real-time transcription in intersessional calls of the IGF's Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG), the Dynamic Coalitions, and the National and Regional Initiatives (new in 2022). In addition, this year IGFSAs has supported operational costs (subscription) of the collaborative and accessible linguistics in IGF new website.

(v) Additional Support to the operations of the IGF Secretariat

As part of the continued support to the operations of the IGF Secretariat, IGFSAs has provided additional support for IGF Secretariat intern in preparation and travel to the 18th IGF in Kyoto, Japan.

(vi) Outreach/Communications/Miscellaneous

This year, IGFSAs took on a consultant to produce a more comprehensive annual report that can be used for outreach and fundraising purposes. This report is currently being finalized with input from the EC and assistance from the Secretariat.

The EC also re-established looking into crowdfunding options as this was always part of the original aspiration for IGFSAs to enable small donations from individuals. It was noted that the fundraising landscape has evolved since the pandemic and invigorating crowdfunding appetite may take additional expertise. A fundraising small group within the EC have taken on updating the value proposition for donors. Various targeted efforts, messages and presentations were made to different stakeholder groups and constituency groups to broaden the donor base.