

The IGF and IGFSAs

The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) has proven its worth to the international community and to all those who are committed to an open, thriving, and accessible Internet. The open and inclusive dialogue and debate that it provides is critical to the Internet's continued evolution. The IGF by now is the major annual event for all stakeholders to gather as equals and discuss Internet policy related issues. In 2015 the United Nations General Assembly recognized the value of the IGF and extended its mandate for another 10 years. Part of the IGF success story is the growth of National and Regional IGF Initiatives (NRIs) in all continents, triggered off by the global IGF.

The IGF is funded through voluntary contributions and therefore in constant need of funding. IGFSAs purpose is to promote and support the global IGF as well as NRIs. It is a not-for-profit association incorporated in Switzerland created to broaden the donor base and to provide stable and predictable funding from individuals and entities who want to support the IGF as well as the NRIs. IGFSAs aim to build on and complement existing funding sources and strengthen the linkages between the global IGF and the NRIs and provides financial support for the IGF Secretariat through contributions to the UN IGF Trust Fund.

IGFSAs role as a channel for additional funding for the IGF Trust Fund has been recognized by the UN through an exchange of letters. To date, IGFSAs has contributed USD 280,000 to the UN IGF Trust Fund and USD 410,000 to the NRIs.



WSIS 2016 – Photo credit: ITU Pictures (Flickr)

Membership

Join us now to become a member! By joining IGFSAs you show your support for the IGF and help keep the IGF the go-to event for everyone who is interested in the Internet and its governance.

Individuals, organizations and companies are encouraged to sign up for IGFSAs membership to show their support for the growth and success of the IGF and the growth and increased role of the NRIs. To become a member of the IGFSAs, please visit www.igfsa.org to complete the membership sign up process and to pay your annual membership dues online.

Membership fees are:

Individuals: USD 25 -- Companies/Organizations: USD 100

The IGFSAs core mission is to raise funds to support the IGF and the NRIs. Members are encouraged to contribute above the minimum membership fees. Contact IGFSAs, at info@igfsa.org to become a member or funding partner.

Reinforcing the NRI Landscape

National and Regional IGF Initiatives (NRIs) are a major outcome of the IGF. They were not planned, but emerged spontaneously on all continents. What they have in common with the global IGF is their multistakeholder, bottom-up, open and inclusive character. Good Internet governance starts at the national and regional levels and the NRIs can thus provide feedback from the grassroots and provide input into the program for the annual Global IGF in a true bottom-up process. Strengthening the linkages between the NRIs and the global IGF is part of the core IGFSAs mission.

Since its inception in 2014 the IGFSAs was able to make 39 financial contributions to Regional and Sub-Regional and 119 contributions to National IGF Initiatives. NRIs require significant support in the form of human and financial resources. IGFSAs will continue to provide support to NRIs, providing USD 3500 for Regional and Sub-Regional and USD 2000 USD for National IGF Initiatives. (The list of the NRIs who benefited from IGFSAs sponsorship is available on page 2).

IGFSAs works closely with the IGF Secretariat to promote and identify Initiatives that would benefit from our support.



"We are grateful to the IGFSAs for supporting the logistics of the first national IGF in the English speaking Caribbean. To ensure the broadest participation, we innovated with a YouTube Live channel to stream the event beyond the confines of the physical location, and support remote participants with full participation. This TTIGF was extremely well received, and has been recognized as a leading IG event in the entire English speaking Caribbean. We are already planning the 2018 TTIGF, and are working with other countries in the region to share our IGF planning process." -T&T IGF



Above: Representatives of NRIs who benefited from IGFSAs funding at the African IGF 2018 in Khartoum.



NRI Map

Map courtesy of IGF Secretariat

List of IGFSA sponsored NRIs: National NRIs

Regional & Sub-Regional NRIs

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Afghanistan IGF • Albania IGF • Argentina Internet Dialogues • Armenia IGF • Barbados IGF • Belarus IGF • Benin IGF • Bolivia IGF • Bosnia and Herzegovina IGF • Chad IGF • Colombia IGF • DR Congo IGF • Costa Rica IGF • Croatia IGF • Dominican Republic IGF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecuador IGF • El Salvador IGF • Ghana IGF • Georgia IGF • Guatemala IGF • Haiti IGF • Indonesia IGF • Kenya IGF Week • Malawi IGF • Mauritius IGF • Namibia IGF • Nepal IGF • Nigeria IGF • North Macedonia IG • Panama IGF • Paraguay IGF • Rwanda IGF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Salvador IGF • Senegal IGF • Slovenia IGF • Sri Lanka IGF • St. Vincent and the Grenadines IGF • Tanzania IGF • The Gambia IGF • Trinidad & Tobago IGF • Tunisia IGF • Ukraine IGF • Uganda IGF • Vanuatu IGF • Venezuela IGF | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • African IGF • Asia Pacific Regional IGF • Caribbean IGF • Central Africa IGF • Central Asia IGF • East Africa IGF • EuroDIG • LACIGF • North Africa IGF • Pacific IGF • SEEDIG • Southern Africa IGF • West Africa IGF |
|---|---|---|--|

The General Assembly and the Executive Committee

The General Assembly is the supreme governing body of the Association. The Executive Committee is the decision-making body of the Association which manages IGFSA's activities. Its tasks include preparation of the annual budget for approval by the General Assembly, engaging in fundraising and outreach to build awareness of the IGF and the importance of supporting the IGF. The Executive Committee is currently composed as follows:

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Marilyn Cade | Markus Kummer |
| Edmon Chung | Jimson Olufuye |
| Avri Doria | Nilmini Rubin |
| Makane Faye | Eduardo Santoyo |
| Nigel Hickson | |

The Executive Committee is chaired by Markus Kummer. Jennifer Chung serves as the Secretary .

