

UK Country Best Practice session: “Partnership in practice”

How an enabling environment promotes investment, innovation and a partnership approach to Internet governance issues

Panel:

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Discussants:

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Summary

The workshop will examine how a regulatory environment that promotes innovation and investment in internet-based activities by business, and facilitates institutional engagement by a range of stakeholders, can support economic growth and competitiveness while ensuring stakeholder inclusion.

In particular, it will highlight how a partnership approach between stakeholders on UK Internet governance issues can lead to different groups taking responsibility for and contributing solutions towards dealing with difficult issues most fruitfully in accordance with their respective economic capabilities.

It will also highlight how, through such cooperation and dialogue, UK stakeholders are supporting international Internet governance discussions through processes at the national level. A question that will be asked and debated with the audience is the extent to which such a regulatory environment based round cooperation and dialogue can be adopted to support economic development by other countries.

The session in detail

- **Enabling environment**
 - UK government’s attitude to regulating the Internet, in theory and in practice.
 - Lessons learned from the UK environment: how light touch regulation promotes investment and innovation in Internet-based activities by businesses.
 - The role of business as a “good citizen”.

- **Case study: how peering through exchange points can enable access**
 - The London Internet Exchange (LINX). Its structure and history as a not-for-profit, industry self-organised initiative to drive down access costs in the UK.
 - How the model has been successfully emulated within the UK, Europe and in developing countries

- **Case study: Nominet: both private sector domain name registry and promoter of the IGF through a national Best Practice Challenge**
 - Nominet, the not-for-profit .uk registry, industry self-organised focusing on low cost registration, liberal registration and registrar policies, with no sector regulation or legislation, instead developing self-regulatory responses to issues as they emerge.
 - Contributions to the Rio topics emerging through Nominet's Best Practice Challenge <http://www.nominet.org.uk/news/latest/?contentId=4512> (showcasing the winners and shortlisted entries) in the following issue areas:
 - Access
 - Security
 - Diversity
 - Openness
 - Multi-stakeholder cooperation
 - Lessons learned from running the Best Practice Challenge