World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), two phase:

- **Phase I, 2003:** stakeholder requested the United Nations Secretary-General to establish a multi-stakeholder Working Group on Internet Governance (WGIG)
- **Phase II, 2005:** Paragraph 72 of the Tunis Agenda called on the UN Secretary-General to convene the IGF

"Internet governance is the development and application by governments, the private sector and civil society, in their respective roles, of shared principles, norms, rules, decision-making procedures, and programmes that shape the evolution and use of the Internet."

*(Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, World Summit on the Information Society, 2005)*

The convening of the IGF announced on 18 July 2006. Inaugural meeting held in Athens, Greece, from 30 October to 2 November 2006.

*For more information, consult:* [About the IGF](#) brochure | [IGF FAQs](#)
wide array of challenges, participants, methods, processes, and tools
Internet governance Actors

- No single entity has absolute control over the Internet
- Instead, the oversight and development of the Internet are collectively managed by a range of participants – multistakeholder model
- These include governments, intergovernmental organizations, private sector, technical community and civil society.
- Internet governance ecosystem - complex network includes various stakeholders: for example, United Nations agencies, entities like the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) and the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), forums such as the Internet Governance Forum (IGF), numerous internet-related businesses, and non-governmental organizations etc.
Overview of key digital policy issues

Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies
- AI governance, regulation and oversight, privacy, safety, innovation, blockchain, quantum computing, IoT

Avoiding Internet Fragmentation
- Interoperable protocols, data regulation, institutional cooperation, legislation

Cybersecurity, Cybercrime and Online Safety
- Resilience, encryption, cyber incidents, CERTs, safety of vulnerable groups e.g. children, violence online, cyber norms, cyber warfare, digital currency

Data Governance and Trust
- DFTT, data management, privacy, security, public-private data partnerships, cross-border data sharing, capacity development

Global Digital Governance and Cooperation
- Multilateral vs. multistakeholder vs. interdisciplinary, role of all stakeholders, digital cooperation, digital capacity development

Human Rights and Freedoms
- Governance and rights, access to information, FoE, privacy, disinformation, role of all stakeholders, intellectual property, jurisdiction

Sustainability and Environment
- Climate change, SDGs, digital environmental footprint, e-waste, circular economy

Digital Divides and Inclusion
- Connectivity, access, digital literacy, digital divides, capacity development, digital standards, net neutrality, online education, digital transformation, 5G
IGF Structure and Working Mechanism

IGF Multistakeholder Advisory Group
40 members + Chair [TOR link]

IGF Leadership Panel
15 members (Chair and Vice Chair) [TOR link]

UN IGF Secretariat
(institutionally placed with UN DESA)

Core principles of the IGF:
open, multistakeholder, bottom-up, inclusive, transparent, non-commercial, community-centred process

Funding is extrabudgetary
The overall process is neutrally facilitated by the IGF Secretariat based at the UN Office in Geneva, institutionally placed within UN DESA at UN Headquarters in New York.

The IGF serves to bring various stakeholder groups together as equals in discussions on digital public policy. Its agenda is set in a bottom-up manner to meet the community's demands and priorities.
IGF Year-round Process

Bottom-up agenda setting

- Global public call for inputs sets basis for MAG to advise on main themes for the IGF intersessional work and annual meeting
- Open Consultations and MAG meetings
- Leadership Panel advises on strategic IGF improvements

Intersessional work & cooperation

- Best Practice Forums and Policy Networks
- Cooperation with NRIs and Dynamic Coalitions
- Capacity Development
- Other forms of cooperation with stakeholders

Annual IGF Meeting

- Host Government and the UN prepare the annual IGF meeting

IGF is a year-round process
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>IGF Host Country</th>
<th>Flag</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>IGF Riyadh, Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>[Saudi Arabia flag]</td>
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<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>IGF Kyoto</td>
<td>[Japan flag]</td>
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<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>IGF Addis Ababa</td>
<td>[Ethiopia flag]</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>IGF Katowice</td>
<td>[Poland flag]</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>IGF vIGF</td>
<td>[United Nations flag]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>IGF Berlin</td>
<td>[Germany flag]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>IGF Paris</td>
<td>[France flag]</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>IGF Geneva</td>
<td>[Switzerland flag]</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>IGF Jalisco</td>
<td>[Mexico flag]</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>IGF João Pessoa</td>
<td>[Brazil flag]</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>IGF Istanbul</td>
<td>[Turkey flag]</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>IGF Bali</td>
<td>[India flag]</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>IGF Baku</td>
<td>[Azerbaijan flag]</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>IGF Nairobi</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>IGF Vilnius</td>
<td>[Lithuania flag]</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>IGF Sharm El Sheikh</td>
<td>[Egypt flag]</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>IGF Hyderabad</td>
<td>[India flag]</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>IGF Rio de Janeiro</td>
<td>[Brazil flag]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>IGF Athens</td>
<td>[Greece flag]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table lists the IGF host countries from 2007 to 2024, along with their respective flags.
19 years of the IGF
IGF – PLATFORM FOR ALL STAKEHOLDERS FROM ALL REGIONS

Outputs & Outcomes
IGF Messages
Thousands of stakeholders from 175+ countries
The 18th Annual IGF Meeting was hosted by the Government of Japan in Kyoto from 8 to 12 October 2023.

Discussions from over 9,000+ stakeholders shared across 300+ sessions are distilled in Kyoto IGF Messages.

Full report available
https://intgovforum.org/en/filedepot_download/300/26575
The 19th Annual IGF Meeting will be hosted by the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Riyadh from 15 to 19 December 2024. The meeting venue is the King Abdulaziz Conference Center in Riyadh.

The programme is under development, and the main themes will be announced in March after the IGF 2024 Second Open Consultations and MAG Meeting in Riyadh (27-29 February).
IGF: Interact, connect, exchange and cooperate

Discuss your issues and shape our digital future!

- Accountability
- Innovation
- Standards & values
- Brainstorm with decision-makers & users
- Partner and cooperate
## IGF intersessional work develops through open multistakeholder cooperation throughout the year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Best Practice Forums (BPFs)</th>
<th>Policy Networks (PNs)</th>
<th>Dynamic Coalitions (DCs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>multistakeholder networks focusing on existing and emerging good practices</td>
<td>multistakeholder efforts that provide in-depth expert view on broad Internet governance topics of global population’s interest</td>
<td>open, multistakeholder and community-driven initiatives dedicated to exploring a certain Internet governance issue or group of issues</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### BPF Cybersecurity
- Cybersecurity agreements; norms; cooperation and interplay between norms and cybercrime legislation

### PN Internet Fragmentation (PNIF)
- What is Internet fragmentation and what could be the codes of conduct to prevent it?

### PN Meaningful Access (PNMA)
- How to achieve meaningful and universal access for all?

### PN Artificial Intelligence (PNAI)
- What is the link between AI and data governance?

### Dynamic Coalitions (DCs)
- 28 DCs focused on particular IG issues

- DCs on accessibility; blockchain; child rights online; connectivity; Internet values; data; health; DNS; gender; jobs; IoT; rights; IG schools; media; Internet universality indicators; security; environment and more.
IGF CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

• Support to Global South through capacity development workshops; travel support; grants to NRIs; supporting remote hubs; inclusion of women and girls, youth, parliamentarians, IGF newcomers, schools on IG etc.

IGF PARLIAMENTARY TRACK
Discussing legislative approaches to shaping our common digital future with and among MPs from different parts of the world through workshops and parliamentary roundtable at the annual IGF meeting.

IGF YOUTH TRACK
Cooperation with youth IGFs, int. youth-focused organizations, IGF Host Country and IGF Secretariat to deliver capacity development workshops hosted at regional IGFs leading to the IGF Global Youth Summit hosted at the annual IGF meeting.
What are the NRIs?

The NRIs are the IGFs organized around the world

- Multistakeholder
- Open
- Bottom-up
- Inclusive
- Transparent
- Non-commercial
Supporting and cooperating with 168 National (Sub)Regional and Youth IGFs (NRIs)
National IGFs (104) exist on five different continents in five different UN regional groups:
- Africa (34)
- Asia Pacific (15)
- Eastern Europe (17)
- GRULAC (21)
- WEOG (17)

A number of national and regional IGFs have integrated youth-focused programmes.
How to establish an NRI?

How to start?

1. Contact IGF Secretariat
2. Consult NRIs Toolkit
3. Ensure your NRI adheres to core principles & procedures

Multistakeholder Organizing Committee (Government, Civil Society, Private Sector, Technical Community) + Neutral Secretariat + Designated Coordinator(s)

Bottom-up Agenda setting
Multistakeholder programme delivery
Open, inclusive, transparent & non-commercial process
Website & open Mailing List
Transparent reporting and outputs
NRIs Toolkit: how to start your IGF Initiative?

English language version

In case there is a need within one respective community to organize an IGF, this Toolkit can assist in establishing the IGF initiative. It was developed by the existing IGF initiatives for the IGF initiatives.

As a result of the continuous collaboration of all NRIs, the Toolkit stands as an advisory document. It consists of relevant guidelines on how to establish an IGF initiative and it explains the main IGF principles that need to be followed and applied in the overall work.

It reflects the internal organization of the initiatives and relationship between the NRIs and the IGF. The first edition of the formatted Toolkit is available here.

Some members of the NRIs community volunteered to translate the NRIs Toolkit to: Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish languages. The translated publications are available below. They are a result of the best efforts invested by the community members, and the IGF Secretariat does not take any responsibility for the accuracy of the content.

The NRIs Toolkit is available at IGF website in all six UN official languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish)

https://www.intgovforum.org/en/content/nris-toolkit-how-to-start-your-igf-initiative
NRIs Process

AGENDA SETTING
• Public call for inputs issued to broad community
• Consultative process among multistakeholder organizing committee (MOC) to reach consensus

MEETING PLANNING
• MOC sets overall meeting framework and potential intersessional work
• Sessions can be planned by the community; and/or MOC

INTERSESSIONAL WORK
• School on Internet governance (SIG)
• Course
• Research work, publications, other outputs
• Workshops, panels etc.
• ... and other forms

FINANCING
• Finance management by NRI secretariat and/or MOC
• Explore local and int. funding sources (in kind + financial)
• Grants from international funding sources
• Consider hosting IGF back-to-back with bigger events

SUSTAINABILITY
• MOC renewal
• Youth engagement
• Engage other stakeholders (e.g. MPs)
• Continuous outreach & awareness raising
• Branding and social media management
• Meeting photos and videos available

OUTPUTS
• Session rapporteurs
• Messages and summaries
• Pledges and action points

IGF Secretariat advises | Learn from good practices from other NRIs
Some of the recently recognized NRIs

1st SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES Internet Governance Forum

IGF Internet Governance Forum Honduras

Québec

MANO RIVER INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM

SWISS YOUTH IGF SINCE 2023

yigf Vietnam

YOUTH IGF Bangladesh

IGF Internet Governance Forum CZECH REPUBLIC

INTERNET GENERATION FORUM

KIGF KYRGYZSTAN INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM

Youth IGF Nepal

INDIA INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM

অসাধারণতাপন্ডিত
NRIs Network Cooperation

• IGF Secretariat facilitates cooperation among and with all NRIs
  • Annual work plan agreed
  • Monthly public calls
  • Open mailing list exchanges
  • Consultative work (joint publications, participation at NRI meetings etc., capacity development workshops etc.)
  • NRIs sessions at annual IGF meeting
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>IMPLEMENTATION METHOD</th>
<th>TIMELINE 2024</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. NRIs AGENDAS    | NRIs to illustrate the evolution of the IGF by contributing to WSIS+20 and GDC processes. | NRIs annual agendas could address WSIS+20 and GDC.  
NRIs could contribute to the WSIS+20 and GDC processes. For example, to respond to CSTD consultations on WSIS+20 (dedicated questionnaire).  
Cooperate with CSTD through the guidance of the CSTD Chair and coordinator of Portugal IGF.  
There could be separate monthly meetings for exchange of views on WSIS+20 and GDC. | Continuous.  
WSIS+20 questionnaire is open until 29 February. |
| 2. PARTICIPATION IN THE IGF | Better connect with the IGF intersessional work.  
Create synergies with other sessions and tracks at the annual IGF meeting (e.g. DCs, parliamentary track).  
NRIs coordinators to make themselves available to other sessions. | NRIs contribute inputs to the intersessional work (can be through individual inputs or common messages developed at the NRIs collective level). | Continuous. |
| 3. NRIs SESSIONS  | Engage better inputs from national and regional levels. | NRIs coordination sessions to be hosted at the annual IGF meeting. Better linkages could be sought across the NRIs to prepare them. Avoid repetition of speakers. | Continuous.  
15-19 Dec – IGF 2024 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>NRIs REMOTE HUBS</strong></th>
<th>Support local multistakeholder engagement through hosting of remote hubs during the annual IGF meeting.</th>
<th>Remote Hubs to have better visibility at the IGF annual meeting.</th>
<th>Continuous. 15-19 Dec – IGF 2024</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td><strong>COOPERATION WITH MAG</strong></td>
<td>Strengthen engagement with the MAG.</td>
<td>Invite new MAG Chair to one of the NRIs meetings to exchange views on cooperation.</td>
<td>January – NRIs Call I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>NRIs to take active participation in the MAG WG-Strategy through posting on the mailing list and participating in monthly meetings.</td>
<td>Continuous.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td><strong>ENHANCE COMMUNICATION</strong></td>
<td>Create strategy to better articulate the role and impact of the NRIs.</td>
<td>NRIs and IGF Secretariat to create a mechanism to publish NRIs good practices via IGF website, social media and mailing list.</td>
<td>Continuous.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Monthly update on the NRIs to be shared by the Secretariat.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td><strong>GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT</strong></td>
<td>Document exchange of practices on ways to engage governments in NRIs processes.</td>
<td>One NRI meeting in this year to be dedicated to this exchange, to feed into a working document of good practices.</td>
<td>February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td><strong>SUSTAINABILITY</strong></td>
<td>Discuss ways of ensuring financial sustainability for the NRIs.</td>
<td>Dedicate one NRIs meeting to this matter and document exchanges. Invite those who provide grants to the NRIs to participate in the call.</td>
<td>March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td><strong>STRENGTHEN STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION</strong></td>
<td>NRIs to map the underrepresented stakeholders.</td>
<td>Facilitate exchange among all NRIs on how they could map stakeholder profiles to be further engaged in their processes.</td>
<td>June</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IGF & 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
(11 June 2020) United Nations Secretary-General issued a Roadmap for Digital Cooperation (A/74/821) which addresses how the international community can better harness the opportunities presented by digital technologies while addressing their challenges.

It builds on recommendations made by the High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation, and input from Member States, the private sector, civil society, the technical community and other stakeholder groups and calls on us all to:
(Paragraph 93a) Global digital cooperation

93. ... the following ideas have emerged with a view to making the Internet Governance Forum more responsive and relevant to current digital issues. These include:

(a) Creating a strategic and empowered multi-stakeholder high-level body, building on the experience of the existing multi-stakeholder advisory group, which would address urgent issues, coordinate follow-up action on Forum discussions and relay proposed policy approaches and recommendations from the Forum to the appropriate normative and decision-making forums;

(b) Having a more focused agenda for the Forum based on a limited number of strategic policy issues;

(c) Establishing a high-level segment and ministerial or parliamentarian tracks, ensuring more actionable outcomes;

(d) Forging stronger links among the global Forum and its regional, national, subregional and youth initiatives;

(e) Better integrating programme and intersessional policy development work to support other priority areas outlined in the present report;

(f) Addressing the long-term sustainability of the Forum and the resources necessary for increased participation, through an innovative and viable fundraising strategy, as promoted by the round table;

(g) Enhancing the visibility of the Forum, including through a stronger corporate identity and improved reporting to other United Nations entities.
United Nations as convener and platform

73. The United Nations is ready to serve as a platform for multi-stakeholder policy dialogue on the emerging technologies outlined above.

74. To facilitate such a dialogue, I intend to appoint an Envoy on Technology in 2021, whose role will be to advise the senior leadership of the United Nations on key trends in technology, so as to guide the strategic approach taken by the Organization on such issues.

**Stakeholder consultations** on “creating a strategic and empowered multi-stakeholder high-level body, building on the experience of the existing multi-stakeholder advisory group, which would address urgent issues, coordinate follow-up action on Forum discussions and relay proposed policy approaches and recommendations from the Forum to the appropriate normative and decision-making forums”

**[OUTCOME] IGF LEADERSHIP PANEL – Call for Nominations** (closed on 29 Nov 2021)

In line with the IGF mandate and as recommended in the Secretary-General’s Roadmap for Digital Cooperation, the United Nations Secretary-General has established the IGF Leadership Panel as a strategic, empowered, and multistakeholder body, to address strategic and urgent issues, and to highlight Forum discussions and possible follow-up actions, in order to promote greater impact and dissemination of IGF discussions.
“Our Common Agenda” report looks ahead to the next 25 years and represents the Secretary-General’s vision on the future of global cooperation and reinvigorating inclusive, networked, and effective multilateralism. The Secretary-General presented his report to the General Assembly in September 2021 before the end of the 75th session of the General Assembly.

93. It is time to protect the online space and strengthen its governance. I would urge the Internet Governance Forum to adapt, innovate and reform to support effective governance of the digital commons and keep pace with rapid, real-world developments.

Furthermore, building on the recommendations of the roadmap for digital cooperation (see A/74/821), the United Nations, Governments, the private sector and civil society could come together as a multi-stakeholder digital technology track in preparation for a Summit of the Future to agree on a Global Digital Compact. This would outline shared principles for an open, free and secure digital future for all.
Agree on **Global Digital Compact** to outline shared principles for an open, free and secure digital future for all:

- Connect all people to the Internet, including all schools
- Avoid Internet fragmentation
- Protect data
- Apply human rights online
- Introduce accountability criteria for discrimination and misleading content
- Promote regulation of artificial intelligence
- Digital commons as a global public good