Dynamic Coalition on Community Connectivity (DC3) Annual Report

1. Background info about the DC (short)

The IGF Dynamic Coalition on Community Connectivity (DC3) as a multistakeholder group, fostering a collaborative analysis of community networks (CNs), exploring how such initiatives can improve and expand connectivity while empowering Internet users. During the past years, the works of the members of DC3 has been fundamental as a platform where stakeholders can discuss and define shared principles, norms, rules, and programs that have been shaping the evolution and use of Internet connectivity via CNs.

2. Activities conducted in the past year

a. Activities within the IGF

During <u>DC3's session at IGF 2021</u>, we had the opportunity to launch the Official 2021 Outcome "<u>Community Networks: towards sustainable funding models</u>", which compiles several studies on the sustainably of various funding models for CNs, providing insights on existing CN policies and governance.

The session IGF session of DC3 gathered several of the authors of the book chapters as well as specialists from various organizations to present case studies and discuss new avenues of cooperation on CNs.

b. Activities beyond the IGF

Several DC3 members discussed DC3 works in a variety of venues. Most notably DC3 participated to the ITU consultation on "Expanding Internet Connectivity," submitting two DC3 outcome reports as contributions: "The Community Network Manual: How to Build the Internet Yourself"; and "Building Community Network Policies: A Collaborative Governance towards Enabling Framework." After their official submission, the volumes have been presented during an online meeting organized by the ITU, which was attended by several DC3 members.

The French Telecoms Regulator (ARCEP) referred for the first time to community networks in its official 2021 report dedicated to "<u>The State of the Internet</u>", including a full section on "The Value of Internet Openness in Times of Crisis: Net Neutrality, Community Networks and Digital Self-determination" (page 16-17 of the ARCEP report), drawing on the joint DC3-DCNN 2020 output report on "<u>The Value of Internet Openness in Times of Crisis</u>"

Lastly, Prof. Luca Belli, coordinator of DC3 was invited to present research conducted by DC3 at the <u>Alliance for Affordable Internet (A4AI) Nigeria Online Forum</u>, an event dedicated "Understanding Community Networks and Exploring Policy & Regulatory Frameworks".

c. Any outputs produced and/or research/studies conducted.

The book on "<u>Community Networks: Towards Sustainable Funding Models</u>" is the Official 2021 Outcome of DC3. The volume is a collective effort aimed at providing a missing, yet essential, perspective to the community network debate: how to fund these initiatives sustainably.

Importantly, more than 70% of book authors are female. The authors of this book are (in alphabetical order): Sana Alam, Carlos Baca, Mariela Baladrón, Luca Belli, Sarbani Belur, Nicola Bidwell, Peter Bloom, Nils Brock, Kathleen Diga, Anriette Esterhuysen, Walter B. Gaspar, Senka Hadzic, Mike Jensen, David Johnson, Osama Manzar, Juan Peirano, Abhishek Raj, Carlos Rey-Moreno, Will Ruddick, Ritu Srivastava, Mariano Suárez, João Paulo de Vasconcelos, Karla Velasco, Natalia Vinelli, and Bruna Zanolli.

The book was edited by Prof Luca Belli and Dr Senja Hadzic published by FGV Law School Editor with the generous support of the Internet Society.

3. Updates on internal processes

The DC3 website was updated to include the latest research developed by DC3. Please visit https://comconnectivity.org/

4. Priorities/objectives for the following year

DC3 members suggested the interest of exploring partnerships and discuss the creation of capacity building initiatives and the elaboration of pedagogical material. These issues will be further discussed on the DC3 mailing list.