

Dynamic Coalition on Innovative Approaches to Connecting the Unconnected Summary of Activities

Conveners:

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Summary of Activities Underway

Set up in February 2016, the Dynamic Coalition on Innovative Approaches to Connecting the Unconnected seeks to document and analyze case studies of innovative approaches to connect the unconnected, with a focus on both supply- and demand-side initiatives aimed at driving Internet adoption.

Literature Review for Identification of Potential Case Studies

A scoping study primarily aimed at collating secondary research has identified close to 20 supply side initiatives across Asia, Africa, North America and Latin America and the Caribbean at a high level. One of the key aims of the dynamic coalition is to document innovative initiatives, and a high level assessment of potential case studies has been undertaken in order to commence the same. Collaborations and enquiries aimed at gathering data on these initiatives from the initiators are currently underway. Over the course of the summer, the aim is to document this data and publish it in order to be able to shed insights on these approaches and analyze them for their cost effectiveness.

Review of Submissions to Last IGF on Connecting the Next Billion

The research team is supporting the intersessional work of the IGF by reviewing the documents submitted to the last IGF in response to its call for submissions on

Connecting the Next Billion. Although this information has generated, little to no analysis is being conducted on it at this time. This Dynamic Coalition is filling that gap.

Outreach to Multistakeholder groups

The research team is building ties to multiple stakeholder groups. We have conferred with numerous civil society organizations, including LIRNEasia, Research ICT Africa, Association for Progressive Communications, Center for Democracy and Technology, and DIRSI. We have reached out to government initiatives, including the Global Connect initiative by the U.S. State Department, participating in their launch event. We are working with ICANN and ISOC in the technical community to generate more initiatives. We are also coordinating with businesses who are exploring new ways to connect the unconnected, including the Cellular Operators Association of India, Facebook, Microsoft, Intel, and the World Economic Forum. We continue to engage in ongoing outreach. In 2017, we plan to participate in key regional IGFs to expand the reach of the program.

Engagement with the IGF

As part of the dynamic coalition's endeavor to engage experts from across the Internet ecosystem in providing insights on issues pertinent to the initiative, the organizers of the DC have proposed three roundtable discussions for consideration by the multistakeholder advisory group, namely:

1. Exploring Demand-Side Drivers of Internet Adoption
2. Exploring Supply-Side Drivers of Internet Adoption
3. Initiatives on Connecting the Unconnected: Where's the Data?

The panelists come from a wide range of stakeholder groups, and will be able to lend their valuable experiences and insights that will inform intersessional work over the course of the next year.

Webpage and Online Engagement

We are in the process of creating a webpage to crowd source case studies and to disseminate information of the activities being undertaken by the dynamic coalition. Interested parties are invited to send us information regarding initiatives in their own community/region, using a contact form that is available on the platform.