

**IGF 2016 ISOC Open Forum Report**  
**Day 1, Tuesday, 6th December, 2016**  
**OF39**

**Title:**

**ISOC Open Forum - Future Internet Scenarios in 5-7 years**

**Report:**

The Internet Society has held Open Forums at IGFs in order to connect with IGF participants that share the common goal of promoting an open, resilient, trusted internet, and engaging with our own ISOC community comprised of chapters, organizational and individual members. This year's focus has been to discuss the Internet's future, in a new interactive and participatory format.

Our high level executives, Sally Wentworth (Vice President for Global Policy Development) and Raul Echeberría (Vice President for Global Engagement) have spoken about the Internet Society history, our past 2016 activities and accomplishments, as well as next year priorities to work under Trust and Access pillars. The importance of connecting the unconnected, but also beyond connectivity looking into the demand side, and restore the trust on the Internet.

Karen Rose and Michael Nelson then facilitated an interactive, break-out discussion under the umbrella of ISOC's Internet Future Scenarios work.

In their introduction, they stressed that while the Internet is one of the most important tools of our time, we can't take its future for granted. There are many challenges and forces of change impacting the Internet today. And the direction in which they evolve in the next decade will have a profound impact on users globally. Earlier this year, ISOC embarked on a project to gather community input and look into the forces of change impacting the Internet in the next few years. We received over 1,100 responses from some 134 countries around the world. Many believe we are in a time of great uncertainty regarding the future of the Internet — an inflection point. The evolution and intersection of issues such as the Internet of Things, artificial intelligence, the future role of government, the evolution of cybersecurity, privacy, and rights, emerging business models, and the future of access are presenting both opportunity and risk.

Consistently with the theme of the IGF, the session was shaped to discuss and debate key questions being raised by our community. Starting with the assumption that in 10 years we will have achieved a world where everyone has Internet access, the participants divided into different breakout groups to tackle the following questions:

- 1- Will all segments of society have an equal opportunity to meaningfully participate in and benefit from the Internet?
- 2 - Will countries that are ahead in Internet technology, infrastructure, and innovation simply accelerate their lead in the future or will developing regions equalize the gap?
- 3- Will differences in connection technology, quality, and level of Internet openness lead to fundamentally different Internet experiences and levels of opportunity?

After the break-out sessions, the groups ideas were shared into short sentence propositions, which then were ranked into a voting in the room. Proposals have tackled several issues such as: Internet affordability, digital education, trust on the Internet, usability of online services, flexibility to local contexts and meaningful access. Some of the solutions that were raised are: user friendly and accessible e-government interface, toolkit with mobile access equipment, parents awareness about benefits of the Internet, children and young training about safety online, recognition of rganizations that make big advances in access to Internet, local technology development, among others. The most voted proposal was about understanding the local needs and why people want to be connected,

and learn even if they have access to the Internet doesn't just come down to costs, it comes down to having access to content in a language you understand, to get more e-government services.

The inputs generated from this session will be added to the ongoing work at ISOC Future Internet Scenarios, which can be followed here: <http://www.internetsociety.org/future-internet>

## **Agenda:**

Moderator: Sebastian Bellagamba, Regional Bureau Director, Latin America and Caribbean (ISOC)

10:45-11:00 Opening remarks

- Sally Wentworth, Vice President of Global Policy Development (ISOC)
- Raúl Echeberría, Vice President of Global Engagement (ISOC)
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11:00-11:40 Interactive discussions: Future Internet Scenarios

- Karen Rose, Senior Director of Strategy & Analysis (ISOC)
- Michael Nelson, ISOC DC Chapter member

10:40-11:45 Closing remarks

Reported by: Raquel Gatto (ISOC)