Dynamic Coalition on Community Connectivity (DC3) 2020 Yearly Report

Over the past five years the work of the Dynamic Coalition on Community Connectivity (DC3) has provided a clear example of internet governance, providing a platform for stakeholders to define shared principles, norms, rules, decision-making procedures, and programmes that shape the evolution and use of Internet connectivity.

Two telling examples are offered by the DC3 outcome report on "Building Community Network Policies: A Collaborative Governance towards Enabling Frameworks" as well as "The Community Network Manual, published by FGV, ITU and ISOC. Notably, this latter book consolidates best practices that shape establishment the evolution of community networks (that in turn shape the evolution of the Internet) and has already influenced national policy development. As an instance, see the recent adoption (February 2020) of a community network definition by the Brazilian Telecoms regulator (ANATEL), explicitly mentioning and quoting the Community Network Manual to provide guidance on Community Networks.

Both books mentioned above have been submitted, on behalf of DC3, to the Open Consultation on Expanding Internet Connectivity of the CWG-Internet). The consultation ended on 20 December 2020.

The book The Community Network Manual How to Build the Internet Yourself is <u>now available</u> on the ITU website.

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The In light of the relevance of internet connectivity, DC3 organised an <u>online symposium dedicated to Internet Openness and Covid19</u>, hosted by the Indian tech Portal Medianama. The online symposium was organised in partnership with the Dynamic Coalition on Net Neutrality, considering the common interest and expertise that DC3 and DCNN members have on such issues.

The symposium was organised by Professor Luca Belli, from FGV Law School and by Nikhil Pahwa, Funder an Editor of Medianama. Articles were published during May 2020.

The articles published in the symposium, about the expansion of Internet access and the role of community connectivity strategies are listed below:

COVID-19 Makes Internet Access and Openness an Absolute Priority – by Luca Belli

Beyond Connectivity: Networks of Care — by APC, Rhizomatica

<u>Innovative spectrum approaches for internet openness in South Africa — by Senka Hadzic, Pablo Aguera, Alison Gillwald</u>

Access as a human right — by Rolf H. Weber

Meaningful Connectivity: Advancing the Open Internet during COVID19 – by Dhanaraj Thakur, Teddy Woodhouse, and Sonia Jorge

After the symposium, a further call for papers was shared on the DC3 list to expand the number of stakeholder and opinions participating in the discussion. The additional contributions received between July and August were consolidated into the joint DC3 and DCNN outcome report on "The Value of Internet Openness at Times of Crisis".

The volume was edited by Prof Luca Belli, Nikhil Pahwa and Osama Manzar and presented at the IGF session of the DC3, dedicated to **Community Networks at Times of Crises and Pandemics**.

The DC3 session explored the importance of Internet access and the relevance of community networks as a credible strategy to expand access empowering people, at times of crises. As the recent Covid19 pandemic is tellingly demonstrating, connectivity is becoming increasingly essential for our social, economic, and political lives.