Internet Governance Forum
Multi-Donor Trust Fund

Information Session
Geneva, 13 June 2017
IGF Trust Fund 101 – What Is It?

- The Secretariat of the Internet Governance Forum was established to support the United Nations Secretary-General in carrying out the mandate given to him by the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) with regard to convening a new forum for multi-stakeholder policy dialogue - the Internet Governance Forum (IGF).

- The IGF Secretariat is an extra budgetary project. The IGF Trust Fund is a multi-donor, multi-stakeholder trust fund managed by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA).

- The Trust Fund covers core financial costs of running the IGF Secretariat, namely: the staffing of the IGF Secretariat, including fellowships and consultancies, and associated office expenses; preparatory meetings, such as MAG meetings; capacity building activities; and travel as outlined in the IGF Project Document.
The fund is administratively aligned with the mandate durations of the IGF. It supported the IGF in its first and second phases, from 2006 to 2010, and then from 2011 through 2016. Following the IGF’s ten-year mandate renewal by the General Assembly, a third budgetary phase will begin in April 2017 until December 2025. Residual funds from each phase are transferred into the next phase on the agreement of the current donors.

We acknowledge the role of the Internet Governance Forum as a multi-stakeholder platform for discussion of Internet governance issues. We support the recommendations in the report of the Working Group on Improvements to the Internet Governance Forum of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, which the General Assembly took note of in its resolution 68/198 of 20 December 2013, and we call for their accelerated implementation. We extend for another 10 years the existing mandate of the Internet Governance Forum as set out in paragraphs 72 to 78 of the Tunis Agenda. (General Assembly resolution A/RES/70/125, 1 February 2016)

All contributions to the fund are administered and accounted for in accordance with UN Financial Rules and Regulations.
Common Misconceptions about the Trust Fund...

“The trust fund pays for the IGF annual meetings”

The annual meetings are paid for in their entirety by IGF host countries. This arrangement is formalized through a host country agreement entered into by UNDESA and the host government, and is unrelated to the trust fund.

“The UN can cover costs that the trust fund does not”

All costs arising from the IGF must be covered by the trust fund and if they pertain to the annual meeting, by the host country that year. By agreement of UN member states, the IGF is classified as ‘extra budgetary’ and the UN’s regular budget cannot be used to cover its costs. The functioning of the IGF depends on the trust fund.

“Only governments and major organizations can contribute to the trust fund”

Any government, any organization, as well as any private individual, can contribute to the trust fund. There is no minimum amount for a contribution or restrictions, as long the contribution comes from a legal source.

“Contributions are not made public”

All individual contributions by year are available on the IGF website: https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/funding
Funding in 2017 (Update)

2015 Contributions: $671,772
China Energy Fund, EU, IGFSA, NRO, Nominet, AT&T, UK, Microsoft, Portugal, Afilias, Danish IGF

2016 Contributions: $482,762
ISOC, IGFSA, Tides, Verizon, Nominet, Verisign, Microsoft, Netherlands, ICC-BASIS

2017 so far: $837,000

Received $370,000
Afilias, ICANN, IGFSA, UK, NRO

Pledged $467,000
Amazon, AT&T, Brazil cgi, EC, ICC-BASIS, ISOC, Nominet, NRO
Thank You
Merci
Спасибо
Gracias
...but we are not out of the woods

- Need to provide travel support for IGF 2017
- Need to recreate a reserve, to be able to extend staff beyond 2017
- Need to fill posts

Objective:
Have pledges of $1,000,000 by October 2017
Making a Contribution to the Trust Fund

1. **Contact the IGF Secretariat with your pledge.**

2. **First-time donors receive the IGF project document.**

3. **Review and sign the trust fund agreement (TFA) with UNDESA.**

4. **Receive invoice for payment.**

- Donors and donation amounts are publicly listed on the IGF’s website.

- All donors are sent a budget revision in the middle of the year with trust fund expenditures.

- Donors are automatically subscribed to the IGF donors mailing list.

- Donors who have made a contribution within the last three years are invited to attend periodic donors meetings.
Making a Contribution to the Trust Fund

1. **Contact the IGF Secretariat with your pledge.**

2. Donors write a pledge letter to IGF Secretariat (can be submitted electronically, but needs to be signed by authorized person) Sample letter will be posted on the IGF Website

3. DESA replies with an acceptance letter (contains banking info) This is considered an invoice

4. Donor transfers funds.
   - Donors and donation amounts are publicly listed on the IGF’s website.
   - All donors are sent a budget revision in the middle of the year with trust fund expenditures.
   - Donors are automatically subscribed to the IGF donors mailing list.
   - Donors who have made a contribution within the last three years are invited to attend periodic donors meetings.