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Input to the Call for inputs for 2020 and taking stock of 2019

1. Taking Stock of the 2019 programming, outputs, preparatory process, community intersessional activities and the event itself: What worked well? What worked not so well?

1.1 Preparatory process (timeline, call for workshop proposals, workshop selection, MAG meetings etc.)

My comments relate to workshop selection. I think more input should be obtained in selecting workshops specifically as it concerns people with accessibility issues. People with expertise in this area should be consulted prior to selection so they can inform others on which sessions are more inclusive and which may be inclusive in name only. Also, great care should be taken in the naming of workshops to prevent offending people. This was a particular problem for people with disabilities as the translated names were not culturally sensitive or minimized people. This can be solved by having people with expertise read these proposals and flag them so that the translations can be improved.

I also think there should be a focus on having less panelists and having them speak for a longer time

1.2 Community intersessional activities (Best Practice Forums, Dynamic Coalitions) and National, Regional and Youth IGFs - please comment on process, content, and in particular on how these intersessional activities were included in the programme content of the Berlin IGF.

I very much like the inclusion but because of the schedule I was not able to attend as many of these as I had wanted

1.3 IGF 2019 overall program structure and flow (in particular the three thematic tracks: digital inclusion; data governance; and security, safety, stability and resilience)

I liked these themes and thought the intro sessions and the concluding ones were very well done.

1.4 IGF 2019 programme content: Please comment on the content of workshops, main sessions, high level sessions, open forums, BPF, DC and NRIs sessions, as well as on the speakers and quality of discussions.

Some of the sessions I went to were excellent. I thought the ones with fewer speakers were better since it led to more in-depth discussions and then also more interesting questions from the audience.

When there are too many panelist iw as hard to get a real feeling for the subject

1.5 IGF 2019 participants

Missed seeing the list of the participants and think next year we can get a permission so all the names can be listed

1.6 IGF 2019 village

The setup and layout of the tables and the space granted to each of the booths were excellent. my only issue is that for groups that were in the second village they got much less traffic as their placement was not near the rooms.

Also, the signage as to how to get to the second village was poor and the people giving out info could not really describe where this village was. Signs pointing to the village needed to be lower down so they would catch people's eyes.

The booths in the first village had much more foot traffic as people were always around there as the majority of the rooms were in there as well as the lunch and eating area. Since the second village had to be sought out it got less traffic and also did not get the traffic of quick visits that the first village got by virtue of all the rooms, the eating area, and other coffee and snack stands.

1.7 IGF 2019 communications, outreach and outputs (add relevant link here)

Fine

1.8 IGF 2019 logistics (venue, catering, security, registration etc.)

Loved having the transportation pass on the registration made it super helpful to come each day to the venue, get around the city and go to different side events or parties

Registration worked very well and smoothy. First IGF I have been to where there were no lines. This was due to the registration being open on Sunday when people arrived.

Security also went smooth even with everyone going through the metal detectors. It was particularly helpful and very thoughtful to the host providing lunch and also a large enough room for people to sit and eat. I also appreciated the prepared salads to go as sometimes the sessions were back to back and you only had a few minutes for lunch.

I also appreciated the large number and quantity of vegetarian food available.

Lastly, I liked that lunch was open for 3 hours as different sessions broke at different times so it enabled you to attend as many sessions and not worry about getting lunch

1.9 Any other comments on the IGF 2019

Accessibility help was excellent. Two colleagues with accessibility challenges were able to attend many sessions as there were people assigned to them to help them move around the venue. I thought they did an excellent job.

Also thought it was an excellent idea to have people stationed on the street directing people

2. What are your suggestions for improvements for 2020?

2.1 Preparatory process (timeline, call for workshop proposals, workshop selection, MAG and OC meetings etc.)

See earlier comments on the workshops

2.2 Community intersessional activities (BPFs, Dynamic Coalitions) and National, Regional and Youth IGFs and how they can best connect with the global IGF.

see earlier notes

2.3 Overall programme structure and flow (introductory and concluding sessions, main and other sessions, schedule structure etc.)

see earlier notes

2.4 Do you think there should be thematic tracks as there were in 2019? Please indicate if you believe the three 2019 thematic tracks should be retained (digital inclusion; data governance; and security, safety, stability and resilience). If not, what should take their place or what theme should be added?

I think the tracks should be maintained as they were good ones but possibly if new ideas come up during the year, it can be reviewed

2.5 Programme content (workshops, main sessions, high level sessions, open forums, speakers)

See earlier notes

2.6 IGF 2020 Participants

see earlier note

2.7 Any other comments on the IGF 2020

The logistics and all preparation was excellent and should serve as a model. It was especially very helpful to have lunch provided free every day and to have so many options to choose from. Hope this can be continued. Also the ease of registration and to having the place open on sunday for registration.