2019 INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM
BEST PRACTIVE FORUM

GENDER AND ACCESS

- Virtual Meeting I, 15 July 2019, 13:00 p.m. UTC -

SUMMARY REPORT

1. The third meeting of the BPF Gender took place on Monday, 15 July 2019.

2. The agenda (see Annex A1) for the meeting was focused on finaling the survey intended to request input to help the BPF refine its workprogramme for 2019.

3. New participants were welcomed by the coordinators and each participant was again given the opportunity to introduce herself, along with the opportunity to comment on the draft survey, and to provide input on how and to whom it should be distributed. Reaching out to the broader IGF community (including NRIs) as well as to people and organisations active in working with gender and the digital economy was discussped and concrete next steps identified. The next call will be thematic, consting of one or more organisation working in the field presenting their work. It will take place on 29 July at 13h00 UTC. The list of meeting participants is attached as Annex A2 to this Report.

Summary of raised key points

1. Survey and methodology

The chair shared the link to the survey which was compiled by a small group to help the BPF focus its work on participation of women and LGBTQI persons and in-dividuals in the digital economy "after access". It was explained that we can still make changes to the questions but we do want to get it out by the middle of this week. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1SR9YBEV7JZfGIOuA2Hvqyep8Xy6NrCTXIoRqJxJrWRQ/edi

It was pointed out that there were a few issues that needs to be agreed before the survey goes live such as translation; whether responses can be anonymous; who the main intended audience is, etc.. In 2019 the BPF provided people with the op-tion of responding anonymous. The group agreed that it is important to allow anonymous responses again in 2019.

Who is the survey targeting? It was pointed out that many women who are involved in digital economy activities do not speak English and would find the language and some of the questions difficult to respond to. The coordinator pointed out the questions are intended for people already working in this field or who are interested in it, as well those who are part of the IGF process such as NRIs, the Gender Dynamic Coalition, other DCs (e.g. Community Networks DC), business associations and so on. It is not primarily intended for practitioners, not at this point.

Do we want to survey practitioners? If so, we could ask people in the network to translate some of the questions, or to rephrase them so that they are suitable for women at community level. They could also be part of the case studies.

Changes to be made to the survey before we go public: We should add a bit more background text to the survey. What the purpose is etc.. It was suggested to also explain what is meant by "after access" and explain why the focus this year is on "after access." challenges and opportunities. We should also make the option of being anonymous clear, and not rely on the intgovforum platform's log -n system to identify respondents. There should be a clear question that ask people to share there details should they wish to along with a clear option to remain anonymous. It was also suggested that we consider the impact of the "type" and quality of access.

Translation: People volunteered to translate the questions into other languages as follows. We should try to find a volunteer to do French translation. Responses would need ideally to be in English. If not, then the same people would need to translate responses into English. The volunteers are Agustina (Spanish); Bruna (Portuguese); and Cynthia (Arabic).

Distribution: We will use BPF and all our networks to distribute the questions. Also NRI lists – including regional and national lists - and other IGF spaces.

Time frame: Go live on Wednesday. Leave open until Monday 5 August.

2. Engagement with other groups (BPFs-NRIs)

People agree we should invite groups working in this area to join. Names will be shared and people will be invited to join the call, and present some of their work during the next call. MAG members on the call reminded everyone on the call of the importance of reaching out to other disciplines to achieve the objective of understanding the digital economy from a multi-disciplinary perspective. Examples mentioned were Fairwork Foundation from the Oxford Internet Institute, UNHCR, (they convened a panel in 2018 on women and Economic Social and Cultural Rights), SheTrades; Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO).

3. Any other business

No other topics were discussed.

4. Next meetings

The coordinators proposed that the frequency of calls be increased to two a month. One call will focus on the work outputs of the BPF, and the other will be thematic - still linked to the work agenda of the BPF for 2019 - with someone invited to present their work.

Centre for Internet and Society (CIS) has done work on gender and the future of work which they can present. ITU Equals will also be invited to present their work. Research ICT Africa (RIA) and LIRNEasia have also done work on the digital economy looking at "gig" work and could also be invited to give a presentation.

A provisional schedule for calls for the next two months:

29 July - Thematic

5 August - BPF work programme

19 August - Thematic - presenter to be determined

2 September - BPF work programme

16 September - Thematic

30 September - BPF work programme

Planning the Next Meeting

1. The BPF Gender will have its next call at 13h00 UTC on Monday, 29 July. The call will be thematic and consist of one or more groups presenting the work they are doing on women's participation in the digital economy, followed by an open discussion.

Annex A1

Meeting Agenda

* Welcome and introductions
* Survey and methodology
* Engagement with other groups (BPFs-NRIs)
* AOB

* Next meeting

Annex A2

List of participants

Agustina Callegari; Cynthia El Khoury;

Maria Paz Canales;

Bruna Martins dos Santos;

Amrita Choudhury;

Chenai Chair;

Bruna Zanolli;

Ambika Tandon;

Nameeta Aavriti;

Radhika Radhakrishnan;

Rohini Lakshane;

Oreowula;

Anriette Esterhuysen (BPF support consultant)