Internet Society (ISOC)

Recent Activities
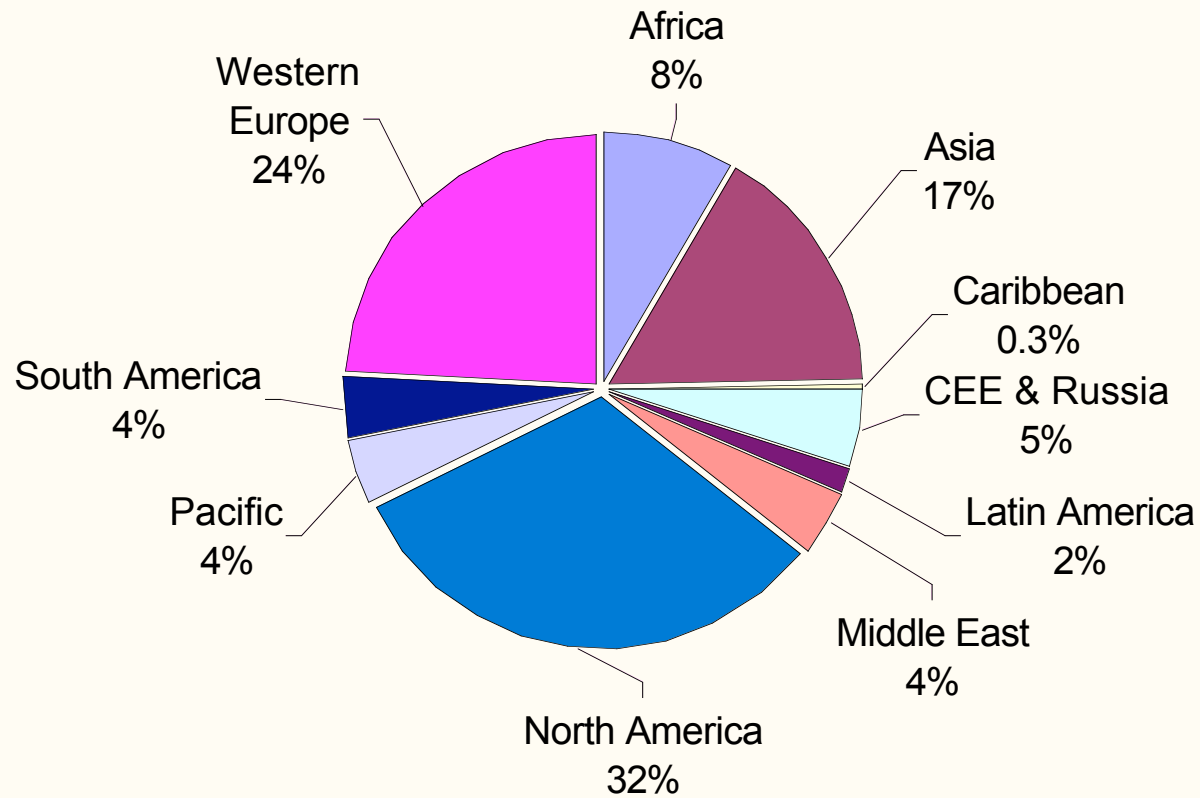
Mirjam Kühne

ISOC

Overview

- ## What is ISOC?

  - Mission

  - Membership & Chapters

- ## Activities & Initiatives

  - Education

  - Policy

  - Standards

What is ISOC?

- ## Mission and purpose

  - "To assure the open development, evolution and use of the Internet for the benefit of all people throughout the world."

- ## Not-for-profit charitable organisation

  - Global, but with a local perspective

    - 84+ ISOC Chapters worldwide, including ISOC Pakistan
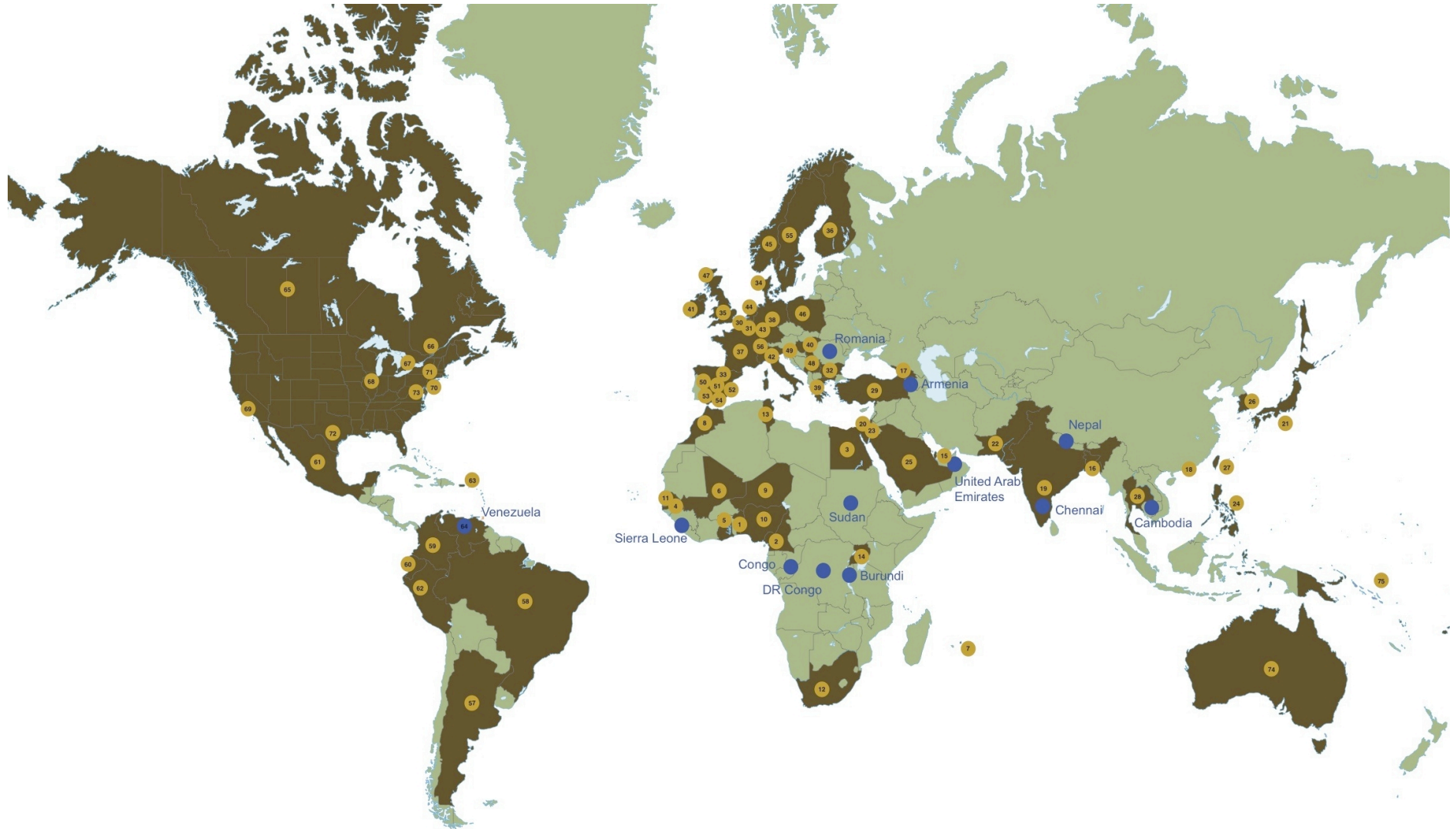   - 26,000+ Individual members, 150 Organisational members

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Global Membership

ISOC Chapters

- Mostly volunteer entities supporting ISOC's Mission & Principles

  - Vital to ISOC's "global" reach

  - Important component of ISOC's Strategic Operating Plan

- Serve interests of local community

  - Organise activities/events/education locally

  - Provide services in local language

  - Amplify ISOC efforts locally/regionally

- Provide local perspective back to ISOC
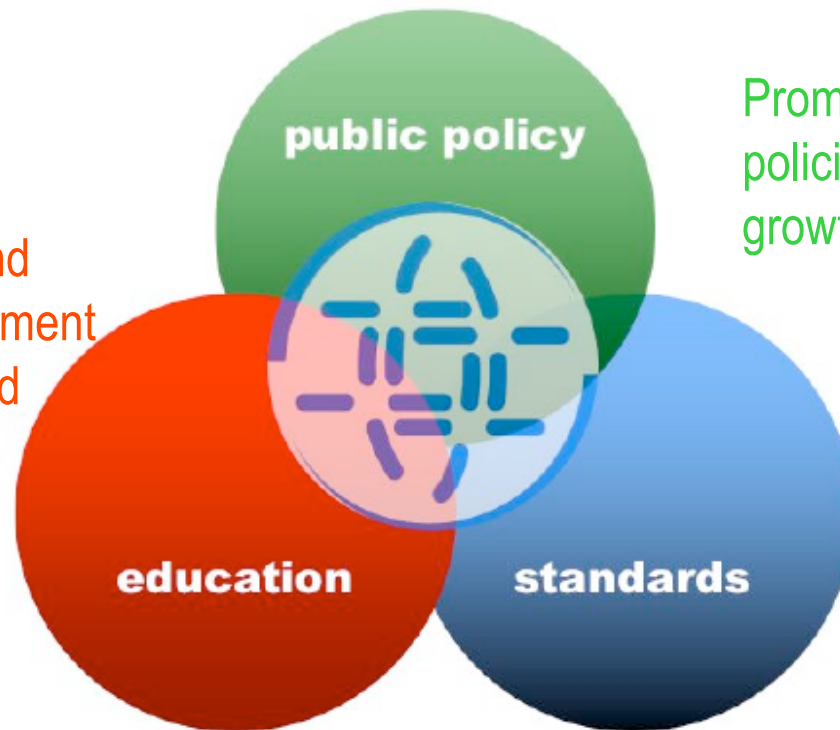
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ISOC Chapters

What Makes the Internet Society Unique?

- Sole focus is the Internet

  – Education, Standards, Policy

- Organisational home of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)

- Enable capacity and technical community building throughout the world

- Key player in Internet policy

  – Particularly in the Internet Governance Forum

What does ISOC do?

Promoting governmental policies that support Internet growth

Enabling technical capacity building and community development throughout the world

public policy

education

standards

Organisational home of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)

ISOC's Activities

- **Education**
  - Transfer of technical knowledge
  - Technical workshops, presentations
  - Support of local/regional initiatives and community building

- **Policy**
  - Education of policy & decision makers
  - Building bridge between Technology and Policy
  - Defending the 'Internet Model' (bottom-up)

- **Support for Internet Standards**
  - Umbrella organisation for the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF)
  - Financial, administrative and legal support

Internet Society

Education Activities

- Regional Bureaus

- Support for Regional Operators Fora

- ccTLD Workshops

- ISOC Fellowship to IETF

- Workshop Resource Center

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Education Activities

- Support for regional *NOGs (eg.SANOG or NSP.365)
  - Fellowships for individuals to attend regional operators Internet meetings & technical training sessions

- INET regional conferences
  - Focus on Internet technology & policy issues of regional interest & importance are the focus

- ccTLD workshops and tutorials
  - Hands-on technical training & tutorials for ccTLD operators

- Research/development small grants
  - PanAsia program grants available for R&D & ICT projects
    - http://www.isoc.org/educpillar/grants/

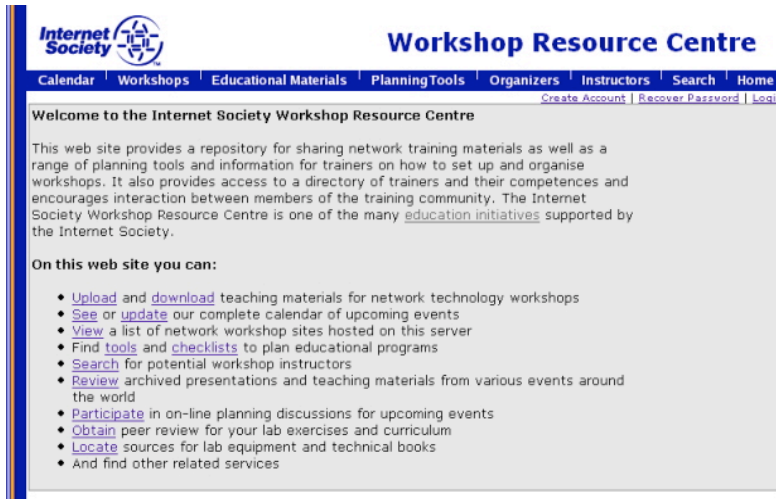- Miscellaneous workshop support

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Education Publications & Resources

- IETF Journal
  - A review of what's happening in the world of Internet standards with a focus on the activities of IETF Working Groups
  - Highlights hot issues being discussed in IETF meetings and IETF mailing lists
  - Published 3 times per year
  - http://www.isoc.org/ietfjournal

- Workshop Resource Centre
  - On-line repository of presentations and materials from Internet conferences worldwide
  - Managed by NSRC
  - Improvements planned for 2007
  - http://ws.edu.isoc.org

ISOC Policy Involvement and Goals

- Bridge between policy and technology

- Inform about responsible Internet development and use

- Education of policy & decision makers

- Close cooperation with other technical Internet org's. (RIR's, ICANN, Operators Groups)

- Active role in WSIS and now IGF

- Defending the "Internet Model" (bottom-up industry self-regulation and decision making)

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Internet Governance Forum (IGF)

- Established as a result of the WSIS process
    - Bridging the "digital divide"

- "Multi-stakeholder" forum
    - Governments, private sector, & civil society on equal footing
    - Not a decisional body, no oversight, no duplication

- Capacity building and development
    - Access, security, multilingual/local content & critical Internet resources

- Meets annually, next meeting Rio, Brazil Nov 12-15
    - IGF 2008 hosted by Indian Government in December

- Remote participation www.intgovforum.org

IGF – Key Success Criteria

- Ensure fullest multi-stakeholder participation
- Focus, focus
  - IGF will only be successful if it has a clear, focused and defined agenda
  - Issue focus should be in those areas that impact access to and availability of the Internet
- Minimise costs
  - Account for personnel and financial constraints
  - Limit organisational structures and meetings
- Share, inform, collaborate
  - Promote best practice and expertise sharing
  - Leverage existing organisations and knowledge base

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Standards Activities: IETF Support

- Began at IETF request in 1996

- Organisational home for the IETF

- Legal umbrella & Insurance

- Financial support
  - RFC Editor
  - IETF chair
  - Internet Administrative Director

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ISOC Fellowship Program to IETF

- At the IETF standards for the Internet are developed

- Aims of fellowship programme

  - Raise global awareness of the IETF

  - Allow for better understanding and participation by technical experts from developing countries

  - Provide opportunity for engineers around the world to meet people working in the same field

  - Foster cooperation and collaboration

- First pilot in May 2006

Mentorship Program & Follow Up

- Every fellow paired with a mentor
  - Experienced IETF participant
  - Working in the same area of interest
  - Preparing the fellow before the meeting
  - Helping the fellow during the meeting (chose WG mtgs. to attend, introduce to people etc.)

- Fellows mailing list
  - Follow-up from time to time (Alumni network)

- Evaluation forms for fellows & mentors

- Must engage in "experience sharing" project on returning to home country

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Application and Selection

- Application process for IETF 70 & 71 has just closed
  - http://www.isoc.org/educpillar/fellowship

- Competitive application process
  - Over 200 applications received
  - Many from academic community

- Past fellows from region
  - IETF 68 Sri Lanka and Pakistan
  - IETF 69 Nepal, Mongolia

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A Few of the People We Reach…

Students and instructors, ccTLD Workshop in Guyana, Feb. 2007

ISOC Fellows at IETF 67 (L to R): Azael Fernandez Alcantara
(Mexico), Alfred Prasad (Fiji), and Laupue Raymond Hughes (Samoa)

ccTLD Workshop in Nairobi, Kenya, Sept. 2005

Pre-SANOG Workshop Participants, Bhutan Jan. 2005

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Other Resources

- **http://www.isoc.org**

- **http://ietfjournal.isoc.org**

- **http://ws.edu.isoc.org/**