PacINET 2012 Conference
Access for All
22nd - 26th November 2012
Japan Pacific ICT Centre, The University of the South Pacific (USP), Suva, Fiji Islands
What is Internet Governance?

- The Internet has become an integral part of people’s lives. Despite the advantages, misuses and abuses can lead to social problems such as digital divide, Internet addiction, information safety, security, privacy, and other evolving issues.

- These issues have no respect to national borders, and therefore require collaboration between countries and territories to address.

- So who is in charge of making sure that there’s an open forum for knowledge sharing between stakeholders across borders which in turn inform local policy development?
The Internet Governance Forum (IGF):

- Convened when the UN General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Negotiators then could not possibly have imagined many decades later that there would be a new invention, the Internet; yet, it seems that they had the Internet in mind when they drafted Article 19:

  “Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.”

- The Internet Governance Forum is an open forum bringing together various stakeholder groups, in discussions on public policy issues relating to the Internet.

- Established by the World Summit on the Information Society in 2006. Since then, it has become the leading global multi-stakeholder forum on public policy issues related to Internet governance.
A small Secretariat was set up in Geneva to support the IGF, and the UN Secretary-General appointed a group of advisers, representing all stakeholder groups, to assist him in convening the IGF. The United Nations General Assembly agreed in December 2010 to extend the IGF’s mandate for another five years. The IGF is financed through voluntary contributions.

- facilitates a common understanding of how to maximize Internet opportunities and address risks and challenges that arise.

- For information: [http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/](http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/)
The Secretary-General of the United Nations established the Advisory Group (now referred to as the Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG). Its purpose is to advise the Secretary General on the programme and schedule of the Internet Governance Forum meetings.

The MAG comprises of 56 Members from governments, the private sector and civil society, including representatives from the academic and technical communities. The MAG holds meetings three times a year at the Palais des Nations in Geneva and is preceded by open consultations meetings.

MAG members are renewed every 2 years.

IGF Dynamic Coalitions are informal, issue-specific groups comprising members of various stakeholder groups.

- List of Active Dynamic Coalitions
  - Dynamic Coalition on Internet and Climate Change
  - Dynamic Coalition on Accessibility and Disability
  - Dynamic Coalition on Child Online Safety
  - Gender and Internet Governance
  - Freedom of Expression and Freedom of the Media on the Internet
  - Dynamic Coalition on Internet Rights and Principles
  - Dynamic Coalition on Core Internet Values
  - Youth Coalition on Internet Governance
  - Dynamic Coalition on Public Access in Libraries
  - Dynamic Coalition on the Internet of Things
Pacific Internet Governance Forum (PIGF)
How did the Pacific IGF start?

- During the 2012 Ministerial meeting in Tonga, the Pacific Forum Ministers recognized the need for forward planning on Internet Governance issues and supported the concept of convening a Pacific IGF in 2011.

- Due to the unique occurrence of the Pacific Forum Ministers meeting in Noumea, New Caledonia from 4 to 8 April 2011, and the Pacific Islands Telecommunications Association (PITA) meeting in Noumea also, in the week of 11 to 18 April, a multistakeholder community gathered together...

- With the extremely generous support from a large number of sponsors, a useful travel fellowship program was able to fund civil society groups and individuals from civil society groups and individuals and business interests to also be represented at this meeting.
Pacific IGF Report

- Internet Access for All and the Digital Divide
- Public Policy
- Critical Infrastructure
- Emerging Issues