

## **Best Practice Forum on Gender: Access**

### **Objectives/Goals:**

Building on the 2015 & 2016 BPF Gender work, to:

- Further the sustained work of unpacking the various policy issues in relation to gender and internet governance;
- Prioritise particular thematic focus each year within the area of gender and internet governance policy issues to respond to emerging issues;
- In 2017, to further the work on gender and access, with a focus on:
  - Identifying initiatives that addresses already identified barriers, in particular filling in gaps from the 2016 work.
  - Prioritising innovative solutions that addresses identified barriers, in particular community or local access networks and work to address social and cultural norms as barriers (which was widely discussed at the 2016 IGF)
  - Identifying best practices towards the development of a guideline/best practices document that can be used as a resource for those working on this issue.

### **Expected Output(s):**

- Report that provides summary of initiatives mapped against barriers identified in the 2016 report
- Mapped initiatives to also be shared on the UN Women and ITU EQUALS platform
- Potentially 5 case studies to illustrate factors that contribute towards their success
- Guideline/recommendations document that synthesises key elements/best practices in addressing gender barriers to access
- Engagement with and outreach to different stakeholder groups through various methodologies, platforms and processes as seen as strategic or valuable (e.g. survey, engagement in national/regional internet governance/policy processes, webinars, infographics)

### **Outreach and dissemination:**

- Continued collaboration with UN Women and ITU through the EQUALS partnership, to which the Gender and Access BPF community has already made contributions in 2016. This will focus also on methodology, and identifying gaps so as to not replicate efforts
- Engagement with relevant DCs and other intersessional activities such as the DC on Gender, DC on Innovative Approaches to Connecting the Unconnected and Phase III of the Connecting the Next Billion.
- Engagement with national and regional internet governance policy processes and initiatives, such as NRIs and ISOC AP Gender WG.

- Engagement with the ITU Broadband Working Group on Gender and Access, with a focus on non-replication of efforts
- Outreach and engagement through various online platforms as identified as strategic (e.g. survey, twitter conversations, webinar)

**Timeframe:**

- May - June: Convening of fortnightly BPF meetings to discuss framework, methodology, process and distribution of tasks
- July - Sept: Gathering/mapping initiatives through different methodologies
- Oct - Nov: Draft write-ups

**Co-facilitators:**

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