

IGF 2020 Best Practice Forum on Gender and Access

Online meeting V | 9 July 2020

Summary report

The fifth online meeting of the IGF 2020 Best Practice Forum (BPF) on Gender and Access focused on discussing the BPF methodology and the work ahead. The meeting was attended by eight participants.

The meeting started with an overview of this year's BPF. According to the [work plan](#), the BPF intends to look at policy processes and spaces that foster discussions or develop policies, recommendations, guidelines focused on online violence, harm, pleasure and consent online. These policies and/or processes are to be assessed from a double perspective: (a) whether and how the policies, recommendations, guidelines, etc. they develop approach the focus issues from a gender diversity perspective; and (b) whether and how they include women and gender diverse people in their policy discussions and decision-making processes.

During the discussion, it was noted that one important element to decide on is what policy processes the BPF will focus on in the next stages of its work. One suggestion repeated across several meetings and via the [collaborative document](#) was to look at the IGF itself. Other processes/organisations suggested include the UN Secretary-General's High Level Panel on Digital Cooperation (HLPDC), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the World Economic Forum (WEF), the Internet Society, and the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN). In line with previous discussions, emphasis was put on the need to keep the BPF scope focused to allow for meaningful work.

The discussion then moved to how to collect information to feed into the BPF report. To start with, an overview was given of the suggestions made via the collaborative document: a public form/survey on the IGF website to collect comments on and examples of spaces that work on the issues under the BPF focus; reaching out to various organisations to engage them directly; targeted interviews with particular people (e.g. IGF Secretariat team, MAG chairs, UN Women representatives, former members of the HLPDC); and a review of the gender focus within IGF sessions and /or thematic tracks to see what issues are being raised and from what angle.

During the meeting, it was suggested to design an open survey, available to the general public, and target specific organisations/people to collect and analyse case studies. One point was made to consider privacy and confidentiality issues when inviting people and organisations to contribute.

It was also underlined that the BPF work is based on a collaborative approach: (1) input collected from the community (though the mechanisms that will be decided on) will serve as basis for the draft report; (2) the draft report will then be submitted for public comment and

discussed at the IGF 2020 meeting; and (3) a revised version of the report will be produced incorporating submitted comments.

Next steps

- BPF meeting VI is on **23 July, 13:00 UTC**.
- The BPF to: identify the policy processes to focus on; devise the mechanisms to be used for collecting input (e.g. survey, interviews) and move ahead with putting them in practice; revise the work timeline.
 - The coordination group to come up with a plan for the way forward, considering all previous discussions
- The community is invited to further contribute to the [BPF collaborative document](#)