IGF 2016 Workshop Report Template

Session Title	WS225: Hands-on youth-driven Internet initiatives
Date	Friday, December 9
Time	09:00 - 10:00
Session Organizer	Mark W. Datysgeld and Lucas Moura
Chair/Moderator	Mark W. Datysgeld
Rapporteur/Notetaker	Antonella Perini
List of Speakers and their institutional affiliations	Mark W. Datysgeld (NextGen ICANN/São Paulo State University) Lucas Moura (NextGen ICANN/Axur) Agustina Callegari (NextGen ICANN/Ministry of Modernization of Argentina) Sara Fratti (Youth Observatory/Guatemala ICC) Ivan Martinez (Wikimedia México) June Tessy Okal (Youth@IGF/Nairobi Legal Hackers)
Key Issues raised (1 sentence per issue):	* The role of young people in promoting Internet Governance discussions. * The lack of clarity in the methods of financing available. * Guiding principles for youth-driven initiatives. * Possibilities for the replication of open and resilient projects. * Challenges and solutions for youth-driven initiatives.

| If there were presentations during the session, please provide a 1-paragraph summary for each Presentation | Mark Datysgeld presented the Governance Primer project, a course that seeks to address the knowledge gap and lower barriers of entry for non-engineers or social scientists who want to participate in the IETF, IGF, ICANN, etc. After his ICANN NextGen scholarship, he made a project and sought funding from the institution, designing this open and free introductory Internet Governance program for people of different ages and backgrounds.

Lucas Moura described the workshop "Peregrino" that seeks to teach kids about cybersecurity by explaining to them how the Internet works. The workshop consists in playing games and creating a network. It is all licensed under Creative Commons or open sourced. He also addressed the importance of openness and resilience of youth-driven projects and suggested different types of funding, including crowd funding.

Agustina Callegari presented the NextGen program ran by ICANN. It is aimed at young people living at the region where the ICANN meeting will be held. Its scope is for them to engage in the ICANN ecosystem and community, learn about ICANN topics and make a public presentation about a subject or a project. Agustina also described her current initiative within Argentinian Ministry of Modernizations, which consists of creating a multi-stakeholder Working Group to approach different Internet policy issues. However, she stressed the main challenges of explaining Internet Governance to people working inside the government.

Ivan Martinez talked about the Wikimedia movement around the world, i.e. the movement behind Wikipedia, and particularly about its Mexican chapter. It is entirely volunteer based and it is constituted by an average 26 year-old group of people, 60% of them being women. Wikipedia's philosophy is centered in the free knowledge principle (openness) and collective intelligence. Ivan highlighted that it was key to approach schools directly and make more projects that engage them in content creation.

Sara Fratti presented the Youth Observatory, a nonprofit organization founded in September 2015 that joined the Internet Society as a special interest group in 2016. It is mostly formed by young people between 18 and 25 years from different countries and has a structure, rules and regulations. It puts emphasis on the training of young people in Internet Governance related issues in order to increase their participation in these spaces. The organization wrote the Youth Declaration on Internet Governance and organized the first Youth LACIGF. The former was focused on discussing Internet Governance issues from the focus of young people. It had an informal format, it was funded by ISOC and ICANN, it was attended by more than 100 people and scholarships were given to 13 young people.

June Tessy Okal talked about the project youth.com, a one day conference for young people around 17 to 25 years old that seeks to train them on Internet Governance related issues. It was held in Kenya and other countries in Africa. They had funding from different stakeholders, such as the Kenyan ICT regulator and the Kenyan CCTLD. She also stressed how African youth is engaged starting to have youth IGFs and trying to partner with ICANN and ISOC to promote remote participation hubs in major events, such as IGF. |

Please describe the Discussions that took place during the workshop session: (3 paragraphs)	The discussions that took place during the workshop sessions concentrated in three main issues: the role of young people on promoting Internet Governance discussions, the principles that youth-driven projects should have and the challenges youth driven projects face. First of all, triggered by the presentation of the project called Ambassadors of Internet, which has been presented by the audience and started by Latin American participants of Youth@IGF 2016, the discussions moved to addressing the role of youth on promoting internet governance within their communities. The audience stressed youth role as the most valuable outcomes of these conversations and how young people need to take back what is being discussed in Internet Governance forums to their own places. Finally, it was highlighted the role of young people in contributing to the internet in general and to open projects in particular, such as Wikipedia.

Secondly, the workshop session was centered on the principles that should prevail in this type of initiative. In fact, all the initiatives presented had an open component and were replicable in other communities. It was highlighted the principle of sharing with other people. On the one hand, openness and creative commons let people have access to numerous projects which can then be used or replicated. On the other hand, sharing is based in offering what you do better and promotes, thus, collective intelligence. Finally, it was stressed the need to be rebellious, be it by being not too attached to institutions or by not passively waiting for the next opportunity.

Thirdly, participants named the main challenges faced by youth-driven initiatives. In this regard, funding was seen as the main challenge, although alternatives such as collective or crowd funding were suggested. Other participants stressed that it was also about being on the ground and engaging informatively in Internet Governance related issues. Moreover, one of the participants indicated that young people face lack of persistence: they can't establish long-term ideas or they are not willing to tackle strategies of five or ten years. Lastly, in response to the moderator's suggestion to discuss how can young people guarantee networking options, a participant believed that making young people an actual stakeholder would allow that to continue. However, he was optimistic in believing that this guarantee naturally comes with freedom of expression. |

Please describe any Participant suggestions regarding the way forward/ potential next steps /key takeaways: (3 paragraphs)	A BPF has been proposed for development until 2017. As regards the role of youth on the Internet Governance ecosystem, participants suggested young people should be ambassadors of the internet in their own places (colleges, towns, etc.). More specifically, one person from the audience suggested creating Internet Governance centres in the organizations participants worked or studied. It was also suggested to go from the local to the regional. In fact, a participant encouraged young people to gain experience locally and then participate in these forums and talk about how they achieved their projects and what things did not go so well. In order to address the knowledge gap, it was suggested to minimize the use of jargon, for it excludes people who has not spent enough time dedicated to Internet Governance related issues. The proposal is to use simple universal language to be comprehensible, identify other problems that are particularly affecting young people and find their relationship. Moreover, it was suggested to approach Internet Governance with a youth approach instead of talking about youth issues. Finally, participants suggested funding transparency. More specifically, documenting how young people are getting funding for their projects and participation in events, how they reach each stakeholder, etc., i.e., a best practices guide. It was also highlighted to add crowdfunding as a funding strategy, as well as get funding from different sectors and stakeholders so that youth drive initiatives are not dependent on one source of funding.