



Building local access workshop

**Internet Governance Forum (IGF), Athens, Greece
30 October – 2 November**

Organizers:

ISOC (The Internet Society)
GIPI (Global Internet Policy Initiative)

Description:

<http://info.intgovforum.org/yoppy.php?poj=37>

Excerpt:

The workshop will focus on local and regional infrastructure deployment, regulatory mechanisms and capacity building approaches for spurring Internet and communications deployment in developing nations.

The issue of access is a pressing one - economic development can be constrained by the lack of it. There is a perception that more can be done and it is important to understand what can be done locally to ensure progress in this area. Measures, including policy related measures that help to build and deploy infrastructure locally while mitigating connectivity costs are essential to economic and communications development in developing nations. Transferability, replicability and best practices sharing will be essential to developing this important infrastructure locally.

Venue:

Divani Apollon Hotel, workshop room 1; 0930 – 1100, Tuesday October 31st.

Workshop speakers:

Introduction:

- Introduction and overview – George Sadowsky, GIPI

Speakers:

- The role of national legislation and regulation in making local access affordable and available – Jim Dempsey, CDT
- Government policy and local access – Valerie D'Costa, Singapore Govt.
- Local access, connectivity and economic development – Andrew McLaughlin, Google
- From local to international: the access experience in Africa – Nii Quaynor, Ghana and Michuki Mwangi, Kenya
- Access challenges in the Pacific – Rajnish Singh, PISISOC
- The role of IXPs and international connectivity – Gabriel Adonaylo, Comsat/NAP Argentina
- Internet interconnection issues – Sam Paltridge, OECD

Q&A:

- Moderator - Karen Rose, ISOC

Summation:

- Karen Rose, ISOC

Structure:

7 minutes for introductions, setting the scene; 7 minutes per speaker; +/- 20 minutes for Q&A. Discussion (key talking points) rather than lengthy PPTs.

Goals:

The workshop will concentrate on practical examples of how to address some of the challenges related to the deployment of local infrastructure, with a focus on how to put in place local and regional structures and mechanisms to mitigate costs and other connectivity inhibitors. IXPs and other traffic-related structures best practices will be discussed, along with key legislative and regulatory directions that promote enabling environments for the spread of the accessible Internet. We trust that the participants will come away with a greater sense of the ways some of the inhibitors of connectivity can be addressed at the local level and the importance of access for economic development.