

RECOMMENDATIONS 1, 2, 3: GNSO OUTREACH AND WORKING GROUP PARTICIPATION

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

Part One – Which ICANN Objective does this meet

Promote role clarity and establish mechanisms to increase trust within the ecosystem rooted in the public interest. Also, evolve policy development and governance processes, structures and meetings to be more accountable, inclusive, efficient, effective and responsive. See Strategic Plan main web page at: <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/strategic-engagement-2013-10-10-en>.

Alignment with Strategic Objectives

Goal

- Shared understanding by Board, staff and stakeholders of the allocation of responsibilities for design, development and implementation of policy and operational processes.
- Shared understanding of the roles, responsibilities and accountability of the Board, staff and stakeholders.
- Board, staff, and stakeholders use best practices and exercises appropriate behavioral norms.

Project/Recommendation

Recommendation 1: That the GNSO develop and monitor metrics to evaluate the ongoing effectiveness of current outreach strategies and pilot programs with regard to GNSO Working Groups.

Recommendation 2: That the GNSO develop and fund more targeted programs to recruit volunteers and broaden participation in PDP Working Groups, given the vital role volunteers play in Working Groups and policy development.

Recommendation 3: That the GNSO Council reduce or remove cost barriers to volunteer participation in Working Groups.

SCOPE DESCRIPTION

Scope Statement

1. Staff will provide an overview of current outreach strategies and pilot programs with regard to GNSO Working Groups.
2. The GNSO Review Working Group to determine what metrics to develop and monitor to evaluate ongoing effectiveness of current outreach strategies and pilot programs.
3. The GNSO Review Working Group determine whether the GNSO should develop and fund more targeted programs, beyond those already offered.
4. The GNSO Review Working Group determine how best to reduce or remove cost barriers to volunteer participation in Working Groups and policy development.
5. The GNSO Review Working Group to determine whether this recommendation has been implemented or whether further work needs to be undertaken to meet the intent of this recommendation.

Out of Scope

The above scope is sufficiently clear.

Assumptions

None.

Deliverables

None.

OPTION ANALYSIS

None were considered or were necessary to be considered.

SOLUTION

1. Current Outreach Strategies and Pilot Programs:

Staff identified the following current outreach and volunteer development initiatives:

- *Stakeholder Journey Project*: Seeks to build pathways for interested stakeholders to become active participants in bottom-up policy processes.
- *The ICANN Academy Leadership Program*: Provides training in leadership and facilitation skills for members of the ICANN community across the ACs, SOs, and SGs.
- *The ICANN Academy Chairing Skills Program Pilot*: Seeks to prepare community members to take on leadership roles in working groups and stakeholder groups.
- *The Volunteer Engagement Project*: Seeks to improve ICANN's ability to identify and attract new and productive community participation while retaining existing participants who dedicate their time and efforts to ICANN's work.
- *NextGen@ICANN*: Sponsors young adults to attend ICANN meetings, focusing on individuals ages 18-30 from the region in which the meeting is taking place.
- *The ICANN Fellows Program*: Offers sponsorship to ICANN meetings and capacity-building activities for select participants, focusing on individuals from underserved and underrepresented communities. Includes continuing review of the program; evaluation through the annual budget process.
- *ICANN Learn*: Offers a free and open learning platform for members of the community.
- *Other Activities*: Within the GNSO, several activities support onboarding of newcomers: Monthly webinars for working group newcomers co-hosted with GNSO Council members; PDP Working Group Member Onboarding Program; and the Membership Enrollment Portal (currently in the planning stages).

Community Regional Outreach Program (CROPP): <https://community.icann.org/display/soaceoutreach>

The Community Regional Outreach Pilot Program (CROPP) has been in place since FY14 - for three and one half fiscal years as a pilot program. In its various pilot phases, the CROPP showed steady growth in community interest and usage for eligible communities. Required community activity reports depicted innovative uses of the program by eligible pilot communities that employed annual outreach and engagement strategies.

For FY18, the ICANN Org continued to administer a comprehensive Regional Outreach Program that will permit eligible communities that have developed a strategic outreach and engagement plan (and posted that plan on the ICANN Community Wiki) to choose to continue to employ the newly labeled "CROP" program.

After testing a pilot outreach event capability in FY17, the CROP program reverted to focusing on regional travel for all eligible communities, rather than outreach events. All communities will be able to target five individual regional trips for FY18 to maximize their outreach and engagement opportunities. To confirm their FY18 eligibility, potentially-eligible communities in the ALAC and GNSO non-contracted communities had to produce a clear and comprehensive outreach plan explaining their FY18 outreach goals and planned expectations so that the selected activities can be coordinated with the appropriate ICANN Regional engagement teams. The recommended submission target date for those community plans was 30 September 2017. ICANN Org will develop/modify program parameters and calendars as appropriate to effectively manage the provision of these resources.

For FY19, the draft budget does not include funding for CROP. The justification, published here <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/draft-fy19-opplan-budget-questions-responses-13feb18-en.pdf> is: “Is the CROP (Community Regional Outreach Participation Program) included in the FY19? No. In considering the cost of support to constituent travelers in the draft FY19 budget, as the locations of ICANN Public meetings in FY19 are more expensive than in FY18 and ICANN’s resources are stable, ICANN has suggested to preserve the core constituent travel support to SOs/ACs to participate in ICANN Public meetings but eliminate the fund of the CROP, among other reductions.” In its comments in the Public Forum, the GNSO Council noted: “The GNSO Council understands the need for ICANN to consider areas where cost-savings can be achieved, and we applaud ICANN for the changing philosophy in providing for more responsible budget management. However, we were surprised that the recent announcement of cost-savings was made absent any consultation with the community and contained no detailed rationale. Similarly, core activities such as the Community Regional Outreach Program were discontinued without prior community input and/or notification. Without commenting specifically on any particular program, we do note that drastic cuts were made in the proposed budget, without consultation, to programs that were previously considered “core”. Going forward, the GNSO Council respectfully requests an opportunity to provide input in advance of any future proposed discontinuation of programs related the management and operation of policy development processes.”

Staff notes that the Council comment is focused on its role as manager of the PDP and does not necessarily incorporate the views of individual Stakeholder Groups and Constituencies some of whom submitted comments separately.

Global Stakeholder Engagement:

See: <https://community.icann.org/display/projcommoutreachws>

Mission: To work with our stakeholders around the world making everyone affected by ICANN’s work aware of their rights and responsibilities and of how they can engage with the issues and policies that affect their future.

Funding for engagement activities: With regards to funding for supported travelers to attend capacity development opportunities in the regions, such as the GAC Capacity Development Workshops or regional DNS events, this funding is part of regional engagement strategies, such as the Latin American and Caribbean Strategy and Africa Strategy. These two are examples of bottom-up, community-driven strategies, each of these has capacity development as part of their core. See: <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/draft-fy19-opplan-budget-questions-responses-13feb18-en.pdf>.

Community Workspaces:

- > [Africa](#)
- > [Asia](#)
- > [Australia/Pacific Islands \(Oceania\)](#)
- > [Europe](#)
- > [Latin America & Caribbean](#)
- > [Middle East](#)
- > [North America](#)
- > [Russia, CIS, & Eastern Europe](#)

Example: African Region:

[Africa Strategic Plan FY16-FY20](#) [Version française](#)

[Main Africa Strategy Plan](#)

[Documents for Public comments](#)

[Webinars](#)

[RFP documents](#)

[AC/SO members](#)

[Working Group / Constituency members](#)

[Other documents](#)

2. Stakeholder Group and Constituency Outreach:

Commercial Stakeholder Group:

a. Business Constituency: See: <http://www.bizconst.org/> and <http://www.bizconst.org/category-fees>.

b. Intellectual Property Constituency: See: <http://www.ipconstituency.org/> and

<http://www.ipconstituency.org/join-the-ipc>.

c. Internet Service Provider and Connectivity Provider Constituency: See <http://www.ispcp.info/> and <http://www.ispcp.info/membership>.

Non-Commercial Stakeholder Group:

a. Non-Commercial Users Constituency: See <https://www.ncuc.org/>, <https://www.ncuc.org/get-involved/join-ncuc/>, and <https://www.ncuc.org/about/membership/>.

b. Not-for-Profit Operational Concerns Constituency: See <https://www.ncuc.org/about/membership/>

Registrar Stakeholder Group: See: <http://icannregistrars.org/membership/>

Registries Stakeholder Group: See: <https://www.rysg.info/>

Some Constituencies, such as the BC, may use dues (<http://www.bizconst.org/category-fees>) for outreach events (printing, etc., that is not covered by ICANN). For example, see the latest BC Newsletter from March 2018: <http://www.bizconst.org/assets/docs/newsletters/2018%20BC-NEWSLETTER-ICANN61-ENG-web.pdf>.

3. GNSO Outreach: See: <https://gns0.icann.org/sites/gns0.icann.org/files/gns0/presentations/policy-efforts.htm>

Newcomers:

[ICANN Newcomer Programme](#)

[Newcomers Webinars](#)

[PDP Updates](#)

[ICANN Meeting Reports & Webinars](#)

[Introduction to the GNSO course on ICANN Learn](#)

GNSO How to participate: <https://gns0.icann.org/en/about/participation.htm>

3. Suggested Metrics:

1. Identify Fellows who are members of stakeholder groups and constituencies, and participate in Working Groups and track the numbers annually.

Staff notes that these metrics are already gathered and tracked. See the Fellowship Program at ICANN: <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/fellowship-community-process-review-20mar18-en.pdf> and the following table as examples.

Data on Fellows in the Community:

ICANN Stakeholders	Leadership Team	Members	Total
ICANN Org		9	9
ICANN Board	2		2
SO/ACs/SGs/Constituencies	17	30	47
ALAC	3	3	6
ccNSO Council	5		5
GAC		15	15
GNSO Council	2		2
NCSG	3		3
NCUC	4		4
BC		4	4
RSSAC Caucus		8	8
RALOS	11		11
AFRALO	4		4
APRALO	4		4
LACRALO	3		3
Total	30	39	69

With respect to the question from the GNSO Review Working Group as to whether the data is based on information that was self-reported from the fellows, or captured based on their participation, ICANN staff has confirmed the latter -- that the data is based on the actual participation/roles of the Fellows that ICANN has captured and confirmed.

In addition, staff notes that extensive reports have been produced for each year the CROPP has operated, including statistics relating to effectiveness and use. See: FY 2017 at <https://community.icann.org/x/7YxEB>, FY16: <https://community.icann.org/x/mgS4Aw>, FY15: <https://community.icann.org/x/pldlAw>, FY14: <https://community.icann.org/x/SqRYAw>)

2. Track Newcomers who apply for and participate in the Fellows program.

These data are already collected. See above.

3. Gather statistics from stakeholder groups and constituencies on membership numbers annually, including engagement/level of activity/sustainability. For example, the GNSO should gather statistics on members attendance and participating in Working Groups via the attendance statistics gather for Working Groups.

These data are already collected. Staff track stakeholder group and constituency participation in Working Groups via the attendance sheets that are collected on the Working Group wikis. Furthermore, the stakeholder groups and constituencies use these data to determine their members' participation.

4. Whether to develop and fund more targeted programs, beyond those already offered

The question of whether to develop and fund more targeted programs is likely to be informed by metrics. Some questions to consider when gathering metrics are: Does the Fellows program result in an increase in participation of newcomers in stakeholder groups and constituencies, and on working groups? Do newcomers advance into the Fellows program? Did CROPP increase participation in the GNSO regionally? Can stakeholder groups and constituencies show how CROPP has benefitted them? Does the membership outreach by stakeholder groups and constituencies increase membership and participation?

Staff notes that with respect to the Fellowship Program, there is already a community consultation underway that is addressing questions relating to the effectiveness of the program and whether metrics could be useful in this regard. With respect to the CROPP, staff notes that extensive reporting has been performed for each year of the program (see above links).

5. How best to reduce or remove cost barriers to volunteer participation in Working Groups and policy development

Participation in Working Groups is already a low-cost, or no-cost, option for members and observers. All meetings are accessible via remote participation and there are recordings and transcripts. For meetings at ICANN meetings real time transcription and translation of transcripts often are provided. Newcomers may be eligible for travel funding for ICANN meetings via the NextGEN and Fellowship programs, although face-to-face participation is not a requisite for effective participation in the policy making process. Via a separate recommendation the cost of providing real time transcription for Working Group meetings will be gathered and the GNSO Review Working Group will consider whether the benefits justify the costs, or whether the determination to provide real time transcription will be evaluated based on the needs and composition of individual Working Groups.

Working Group Determination:

Recommendation 1: That the GNSO develop and monitor metrics to evaluate the ongoing effectiveness of current outreach strategies and pilot programs with regard to GNSO Working Groups.

The GNSO Review Working Group has reviewed existing metrics and determined that these are sufficient to evaluate the ongoing effectiveness of current outreach strategies and pilot programs with regard to GNSO Working Groups.

Recommendation 2: That the GNSO develop and fund more targeted programs to recruit volunteers and broaden participation in PDP Working Groups, given the vital role volunteers play in Working Groups and policy development.

The GNSO Review Working Group evaluated the current programs and determined that these are sufficient to recruit volunteers and broaden participation in PDP Working Groups, while noting that the Fellowship Community Process Review will likely result in improvements to that program and additional metrics to measure effectiveness.

Recommendation 3: That the GNSO Council reduce or remove cost barriers to volunteer participation in Working Groups.

The GNSO Review Working Group notes that participation in Working Groups is already a low-cost, or no-cost, option for members and observers. All meetings are accessible via remote participation and there are recordings and transcripts. For meetings at ICANN meetings real time transcription (RTT) and translation of transcripts often are provided. Newcomers may be eligible for travel funding for ICANN meetings via the NextGEN and Fellowship programs, although face-to-face participation is not a requisite for effective participation in the policy making process. Furthermore, the Working Group notes that a traditional RTT solution typically includes professional translators. Understanding that the costs for such translators may be prohibitive for some uses, other solutions may include automated services, volunteers or translations of executive summaries of transcripts after public meetings.

Based on its evaluation concerning the three recommendations, the GNSO Review Working Group determines that the recommendations have been implemented based on current processes and programs, and that no further action is required.

KEY DEPENDENCIES

None.

RISK IDENTIFICATION

None.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

It is not clear to staff whether a KPI applies in the implementation of these recommendations.

NECESSARY TO PROCEED**Next Phase Activities/Resources**

Staff resources.

APPROVERS

Name	Completion of Recommendation Approved by Consensus
GNSO Review Working Group	24 May 2018

REVISION HISTORY

Date	Version	Description	Author
17 January 2018	V1	Original Draft.	Julie Hedlund, Policy Director
14 February 2018	V2	Revised based on the discussion during the Working Group meeting on 08 February 2018.	Julie Hedlund, Policy Director
29 March 2018	V3	Revised based on the discussion during the Working Group meeting on 01 March 2018.	Julie Hedlund, Policy Director
26 April 2018	V4	For Review -- Revised based on the discussion during the Working Group meeting on 29 March 2018.	Julie Hedlund, Policy Director
24 May 2018	V5	Final implementation charter approved by consensus on 24 May 2018	Julie Hedlund, Policy Director

Attachments, as applicable: None