IGF 2020 Best Practice Forum on Gender and Access
Online meeting IX | 3 September 2020

Summary report

The ninth online meeting of the IGF 2020 Best Practice Forum (BPF) on Gender and Access was dedicated to discussing the next steps in the BPF work.

1. BPF survey
With the deadline for the BPF public survey extended until 20 September, a discussion was held on what actions could be taken to encourage more responses (at the date of the meeting, there were 29 submissions). The following next steps were agreed:

- Producing a **short video** promoting the BPF and encouraging people to respond to the survey. The video will then be shared via social media channels.
    - *Marwa and Bruna to work on this*
- **Inviting the MAG chair to a brief interview/conversation** that could also be used as a way to promote the BPF and invite survey responses.
    - *Sorina to ask at the next BPF coordination call*
- Publishing **blog posts** on websites of partner organisations
    - *Zoey to check with ISOC*
    - *Other suggestions for organisations we might ask to help us spread the work about the survey and the BPF work are welcome.*
- Reaching out to **other organisations**
    - *See our outreach doc; feel free to add more suggestions or indicate whether you could get in touch with any of those organisations.*

2. BPF report
The BPF has previously agreed that a section of this year's report will include an **overview of whether and how the IGF has tackled this year's BPF focus issues (violence, harm, pleasure and consent online, from a gender-diversity perspective) since its 2016 meeting**. Below is a summary of the updates and further possible work on this:

- An initial analysis of session reports and transcripts for IGF 2016 - IGF 2019 has been conducted. Further work is needed to look at some initially missing transcripts and fix some inconsistencies across the analysis. Once this is done, the draft will be shared for review and comments.
- In previous BPF calls, it was suggested to also look at sessions proposals that were rejected by the MAG and see to what extent they covered issues under the BPF focus and what reasons were offered for their rejections. Such an analysis could form the basis

for recommendations on what could be done to support such proposals in the future so they can make it into the IGF schedule.

- *○ Sorina will check with the Secretariat if it still holds this information and whether it can be made available in an aggregated form.*
- *○ If BPF members are aware of organisations whose proposals (focused on the BPF thematic issues) were rejected over the past few years, we could also reach out to them directly. Bruna has offered to look into this. Others are encouraged to do the same.*
- It was previously suggested that the analysis is also looking at whether and how the discussions on BPF thematic issues have included women and gender-diverse people. The review conducted so far has revealed that: (1) information could be obtained from session descriptions on the men-women ratio on IGF sessions; (2) where available, session reports that include gender report cards could offer estimated information on the number of women participants in the sessions. This means that the information (1) would not be complete (since not all sessions have filled out report cards) and (2) would only offer insights into women participation (without also covering other gender-diverse communities). A discussion on these issues concluded with the following recommendation:
  - *○ Include a section in the analysis explaining the points and problems mentioned above and outlining a few suggestions/recommendations related to the fact that more disaggregated data needs to be collected at the IGF (in terms of participation, gender diversity on sessions, etc).*
- Further documents that might constitute sources of input for the analysis include: submissions for the taking stock process conducted after annual IGF meetings; Chair summary reports; annual IGF Messages.
  - *○ Sorina to look into these.*

The following other issues were discussed in relation to the BPF report:
- On the previously raised question on whether the BPF report could also include a case study on the work being done to advance femminist approaches to technical protocols in the context of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), it was said that a short reflection on this could be helpful. This will be further looked into.
  - *○ Bruna to get in touch and coordinate with Maria-Paz on this.*
- In the recommendations section of the report, it would be useful to have some mentions on why it is important to focus more on gender issues in the context of the IGF+.
- Volunteers will be welcome to contribute to various sections of the report (for instance, the intro section providing an overview of the BPF thematic issues; the recommendations sections; the overview of other processes (if any) that tackle the BPF thematic issues; etc.).
  - *○ Bruna and Zoey have volunteered to contribute.*
  - *○ Other volunteers are welcome.*

3. BPF session at IGF 2020

The BPF also needs to start planning its session at the upcoming IGF 2020 meeting. As a starting point, everyone is invited to start thinking about people/organisations to be invited at the session. The discussion will continue at the next BPF meeting.

Next steps

- BPF meeting IX will take place on **17 September 2020, from 13:00 UTC**.

- Until then, work will continue, as outlined above, on:
  - Promoting the survey
  - Continuing the analysis of BPF thematic issues surfacing at the IGF
  - Starting to shape the BPF session at IGF 2020