Submission #114

Personal information

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Gender Male

How would you define the stakeholder community or communities to which you belong? Civil society

Questions

1. What are your priorities for issues that should be addressed through the Internet Universality framework in each of these five categories?

Rights	--Protect access to strong encryption and anonymity, which is essential to realizing both privacy and freedom of expression in the digital age, and prevent the adoption of policies to undermine encryption and anonymity --Condemn the growing trend of intentional disruptions of internet and mobile access, so-called "internet shutdowns," and contribute to efforts to track and slow the phenomenon --Regulate, assert, and consistently enforce data protection rights --Scrutinise international data transfers arrangements for adherence to human rights law and norms --Oppose the expansion or legitimisation of mass surveillance --Ensure accountability and access to remedy for corporate-related human rights infringement in the ICT sector --Verify that digital identity programmes, particularly those pushed as national efforts by governments, do not undermine privacy and other rights --Oppose programs that extend telecom-type regulation over internet applications, platforms, and services

Openness	--Demand transparency on government requests to private sector ICT firms for access to data as well as for restriction of content, services, and accounts --Secure similar transparency from ICT firms on both the government requests they receive impacting user rights, as well as on their own enforcement of terms of service and related policies and practices --Support development and deployment of open source technology, and open systems and licenses --Ensure that network neutrality, with its three principles of innovation without permission, end to end accessibility, and best efforts delivery, prevents discrimination online
Accessibility	Build in respect for human rights, by design, into new or updated internet infrastructure projects and programs, always including support for civil society-led capacity-building and digital literacy
Multistakeholder participation	Facilitate active and meaningful participation by civil society and local and affected communities in all discussions related to ICTs -- Build capacity among groups at risk of becoming vulnerable or marginalized, including women and girls, to fully develop their control over and participation in the digital sphere
Cross-cutting indicators	Promote stronger human rights language in normative, global cybersecurity discussions

2. Are there are any existing indicators with which you are familiar that you think it would be useful to include in the ROAM indicators framework?

Rights	--The International Principles on the Application of Human Rights to Communications Surveillance (the "Necessary and Proportionate Principles" or "13 Principles") --SecuretheInternet.org's 5 mandates strengthening the integrity of communications and systems https://securetheinternet.org --A Human Rights Response to Government Hacking https://www.accessnow.org/cms/assets/uploads/2016/09/GovernmentHackingDoc.pdf --A Digital Rights Approach to Proposals for Preventing or Countering Violent Extremism Online https://www.accessnow.org/cms/assets/uploads/2016/10/CVE-online-10.27.pdf --
Openness	--Ranking Digital Rights Corporate Accountability Index, 2017 Indicators https://rankingdigitalrights.org/index2017/indicators --Net Neutrality in Europe by Access Now https://www.accessnow.org/cms/assets/uploads/archive/docs/_Access_QA_Footnotes_1.pdf
Accessibility	--The Human Rights Principles for Connectivity and Development
Multistakeholder participation	

Cross-cutting indicators	--Indicators from Access Now paper, "Proposals for Regulating Internet Apps and Services: Understanding the Digital Rights Impact of the Over the Top Debate", including A) Avoid applying one-size-fits-all telecom-style licensing frameworks onto internet applications or services. B) Shape regulatory intervention of internet applications or services on a foundation that considers the public interest and human rights. --The Telco Remedy Plan, which guides ICT companies on delivering meaningful access to remedy under the 3rd Pillar of the UN Guiding Principles on Business & Human Rights https://www.accessnow.org/cms/assets/uploads/archive/Telco%20Remedy%20Plan.pdf

3. What do you think are the most important gaps in data/evidence required for monitoring Internet Universality and the ROAM principles? What approaches do you think could help to address these in your country, region or area of work?

Rights	
Openness	
Accessibility	Tracking of intentional disruptions of connectivity or access to information online remains inadequate, and locked behind paywalls if it exists at all. The public would benefit from knowing what networks, platforms, and applications are accessible to whom, where, and for what price.
Multistakeholder participation	
Cross-cutting indicators	

4. What experience or views do you have of indicators relating to the Internet which are concerned with gender and with children and young people?

Access to information and communications technology is a key pathway for achieving gender equality, because it enables women to enter and succeed in today's working world. Yet, worldwide, women are less likely than men to have access to digital technologies, a divide that exacerbates inequality and also prevents women from exercising their human rights. Worse, when women get online and identify themselves and their gender — willingly or not — they often face hostility. Research has found that women get twice as many death threats and threats of sexual violence online as men do, yet only a tiny fraction of women report these incidents. At the same time, women make up only 30% of the tech workforce, and representation gets smaller and smaller in higher positions. If we want women to participate online, and to be safe while exercising their fundamental human rights, there is a bridge to be built.

Access Now promotes inclusive, digitally secure communities through a number of best practices and norms, including to:

Develop, implement, and share inclusion practices. For example, an Anti-Harassment Policy can help build a

community without intimidation, discrimination, or hostility for everyone — regardless of gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, nationality, origin, race, ethnicity, religion, age, disability, or physical appearance.

Provide direct digital security support. Real-time, direct technical assistance and advice is needed for civil society groups and activists, media organizations, journalists and bloggers, and human rights defenders. Attacks on these groups are often gender-based.

Educate women on threats and security best practices. Understanding common threat models, including on gender-based attacks, help individuals better navigate the online space. To this end we create resources such as our booklet, A First Look at Digital Security, which aims to provide simple-to-follow steps at-risk users can take to improve their security and safety online.

Fund groups that empower women and provide safe spaces. Sustainable funding and resources are an important part of empowering communities and grassroots movements.

Engage in global processes for change. We joined a broad coalition of civil society groups advocating for openness and human rights protections in the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) process. We support the 10-Year Review Outcome Document, which recognized that "only 41% of women have internet access" and drew "attention to the gender digital divide, which persists in access to and use of ICTs, and also in ICT education, employment, and other economic and social development factors."

Develop policy guidance that support inclusion. The Human Rights Principles for Connectivity and Development are grounded in international human rights law and norms; they maintain that "connectivity should be rights-respecting, equitable, inclusive, promote gender equality, and strive to bridge race, class, language, culture, and similar divides. Vulnerable groups should be meaningfully consulted and their human rights robustly protected before and after coming online."

Support advocacy to protect identity online. Work to protect women and other marginalized communities from identity policy requirements that can adversely impact their human rights. The inability to use a pseudonym puts some people in danger, making them targets of persecution and harassment, including on Facebook, one of the world's most popular websites. A coalition of organizations, the Nameless Coalition, including women's rights groups, privacy organizations, human rights organizations, groups fighting for indigenous rights, and groups advocating for religious, ethnic, and sexual rights, "found Facebook's name policies to be culturally biased and technically flawed" and fought for changes <https://www.accessnow.org/facebook-nameless-coalition-demands-fixes-to-real-name-policy>.

See more of our conclusions at https://www.accessnow.org/access-now-backs-u-n-efforts-bridge-gender-digital-divide and
http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Women/WRGS/GenderDigital/ACCESS-NOW.docx

5. How do you think you might use the indicator framework for Internet Universality once it has been developed?

6. How do you think that other stakeholders might use the framework?

UNESCO needs to do more work on explaining how stakeholders will be able to use this framework. UNESCO should work with the development community at the very least to help promote and mainstream their internet universality idea. That should include development aid agencies, the World Bank, IMF, IFC, and others. Those agencies and their

partners hold the key to bringing the next billions online, and will play an outsize role in determining the nature of the internet-connected platforms, applications, services, and infrastructure that welcome the world's new users online. ROAM Principles should play an active role in ensuring free, secure, open, and rights-based designs and safeguards control.

7. Please add any other comments that you think will be helpful to UNESCO in developing the indicators framework.

8. Please upload any documents that you think will be helpful here. cve_paper.pdf

(https://en.unesco.org/sites/default/files/webform/cve_paper.pdf)