

GLOBAL INFORMATION SOCIETY WATCH 2017

*Internet governance from the edges:
National and regional IGFs in their own words*



GISWatch 2017
SPECIAL EDITION

Internet governance from the edges: National and regional IGFs in their own words

Global Information Society Watch 2017 Special edition
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Global Information Society Watch 2017 special edition:
Internet governance from the edges: NRIs in their own words

Disclaimer: The views expressed in survey responses are not necessarily the views of APC or of its members.

This report is a special companion edition to Global Information Society Watch 2017: National and Regional Internet Governance Forum Initiatives (NRIs), which can be downloaded from <https://www.giswatch.org/2017-local-and-regional-internet-governance-forums-igfs>

LEBANON IGF

Lebanon

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NRI founding stories and development

*What is the story of the founding of your NRI?
What were its inspiration, its objectives?*

Following OGERO's involvement in the Arab IGF and hosting their event in 2015, OGERO's member in the Arab MAG drafted this initiative that was adopted by the Ministry of Telecommunications.²⁸

How did it develop and what difficulties did you experience along the way?

The Minister of Telecommunications invited the different stakeholders to participate in the multi-stakeholder committee and triggered the process.

How do you imagine your NRI and its activities in the future?

The Multistakeholder Programme Committee (MPC) held its kick-off meeting. Tasks were allocated to the members in order to work on the website, branding, awareness campaign. The first activity is expected in December 2017.

NRI internal governance and initiatives

No response was provided to this section.

Perspectives on the role of NRIs in internet governance

No response was provided to this section.

²⁸ OGERO is Lebanon's main fixed network owner, operator and maintainer in Lebanon for the benefit of the Lebanese Ministry of Telecommunications.

Internet governance from the edges: National and regional IGFs in their own words

National and Regional Internet Governance Forum Initiatives (NRIs) emerged in response to the success of the first two global Internet Governance Forums (IGFs). The Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, the outcome document of the final phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), alongside the call for the creation of the IGF, served as the foundations for the model of bottom-up, multistakeholder internet governance. The first NRIs were set up in 2007 and 2008, and there are now close to a hundred initiatives, comprising national, sub-national, regional and youth initiatives, which organise autonomously and cooperate with the global IGF Secretariat. The importance of NRIs has increased throughout the years, as they have grown in number and their work has expanded in scope. They have acquired such relevance within the IGF that an NRI session was included in the IGF 2016 and 2017 main sessions agendas.

This year, APC has taken the initiative to compile two editions of Global Information Society Watch (GISWatch) focused on the work of NRIs. While the main 2017 GISWatch annual report provides independent and analytical perspectives on the role of NRIs in internet governance broadly, the present companion edition, *Internet governance from the edges: National and regional IGFs in their own words*, aims to give voice and visibility to the stories of each NRI, share their experiences and achievements, and highlight their perspectives on internet governance.

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