

Mapping National Internet Governance Initiatives in Latin America

Dr. Carolina Aguerre

Dr. Diego R. Canabarro, Agustina Callegari,
Louise Marie Hurel, and Nathalia Sautchuk Patrício

April 2018

A Report by the Internet Policy
Observatory at the Annenberg School,
University of Pennsylvania

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ABOUT THIS REPORT

The MIGLAC project is both a research project and an online tool that seeks to organize and make publicly available information about Internet governance initiatives in the Latin American and Caribbean region at miglac.org. The MIGLAC platform provides accessible, up-to-date information about the different National and Regional IGF Initiatives (NRIs) in the Latin American (LAC) region. It aims to provide information on the evolution and status of the Internet governance agenda within different countries.

In addition, it seeks to address the lack of systematized information on national Internet governance initiatives by promoting a comprehensive approach to these developments -- based on the existing evidence and literature on the subject. A broader aim of the research is to enhance the value of National and Regional IGFs (NRIs) and Internet governance more generally in national public policy processes throughout the region, as a means to achieve fairer, more accountable and open societies.

The project was funded by the Internet Policy Observatory at the University of Pennsylvania and was developed between September 2017 and May 2018. The regional partners include CETYS at Universidad de San Andrés in Argentina and NIC.br in Brazil.

CETYS at Universidad de San Andrés is a research center created in 2006 involved in research and advocacy on the Internet Policy, Governance and Regulation; ICTs for Development and Education and the Information Society.

The Brazilian Network Information Center (NIC.br) is a non-profit civil entity that implements, since December 2005, the decisions and projects designed by the Brazilian Internet Steering Committee (CGI.br). NIC.br is responsible for registering and maintaining <.br> ccTLD, allocating Autonomous System Numbers (ASN) and IPv4 or IPv6 addresses in the country, and other ancillary activities.



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JOINT RESEARCH TEAM

Carolina Aguerre, PhD Social Sciences (principal investigator)

Full Adjunct Professor and Co-Director at the Centro de Tecnología y Sociedad (CETYS), Universidad de San Andrés. She has extensive policy experience in the Internet governance ecosystem having been the executive director of LACTLD, MAG member, member of the LACIGF program committee, among others. Some of her most recent publications are available in U. of Texas (2017), MIT Press (2015), Internet Policy Observatory (2015), IberoAmerican Communication Review (2012), Wiley Blackwell (2012).

Agustina Callegari, B.A. Social Communications (researcher)

Former Director of Internet Policy and Governance at the Ministry of Modernization, Argentina. Current policy advisor at the data protection office of the city of Buenos Aires. She has participated in several Internet policy environments such as ICANN's Next Generation of Internet leaders and ISOCs Ambassador's Program. She's a graduate student and researcher at Universidad de San Andrés.

Diego R. Canabarro, PhD Political Science (researcher)

Advisor to the Executive Secretariat of the Brazilian Internet Steering Committee (CGI.br). He worked for five years as a researcher at the Center for International Studies on Government (CEGOV) at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul. During 2012/2013, he worked at the National Center for Digital Government (University of Massachusetts, Amherst). He is currently an associated researcher to the National Institute His most recent work deals with the institutional development of Internet governance from the perspective of the developing World, and the securitization of cyberspace.

Louise Marie Hurel, MSc Candidate, Media and Communications (Data and Society) (researcher)

Louise Marie Hurel is a cybersecurity and Internet governance researcher. She is currently pursuing her Master's in Media and Communications (Data and Society) at the London School of Economics and holds a BA in International Relations from PUC-Rio. She's also a researcher at the Brazilian Naval War College (NAC-EGN) and coordinator of the project "Cybersecurity and Digital Liberties" at Igarapé Institute. Her previous experience includes consultancy for UNESCO and research on IG and privacy at the Center for Technology and Society at Getúlio Vargas Foundation (CTS-FGV).

Nathalia Sautchuk Patrício, MSc Computer Engineering (researcher)

Computer engineer with a Master Degree from University of São Paulo (USP). She works as a Technical Advisor for Brazilian Internet Steering Committee (CGI.br) and she is also lecturer at Anhembi Morumbi University and Senac University. She has participated in several Internet policy and standardization environments such as IETF, LACNIC and IGF.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents an effort to map different Internet governance initiatives in the LAC region in order to better understand the ways these organizations have evolved over time and to be able to compare their governance structures, formal and informal procedures, funding mechanisms, the stakeholders included in decision-making, as well as other characteristics relevant to deliberative and policy outcomes. The research addresses the cases of Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Panama, Peru, Venezuela, Uruguay, Mexico and Nicaragua. Those initiatives have already developed their own national Internet governance mechanisms and are all in different stages of institutionalization .

The project, which was developed between September 2017 and May 2018, aims to provide information on the evolution and status of the Internet governance agenda within different countries. In addition it seeks to address the lack of systematized information on national Internet governance initiatives by promoting a comprehensive approach to these developments -- based on the existing evidence and literature on the subject. A broader aim of the research is to enhance the value of National and Regional IGFs (NRIs) and Internet governance more generally in national public policy processes throughout the region as a means to achieve fairer, more accountable and open societies.

The research relied on a mixed-method approach, combining both qualitative and quantitative tools to support the reconstruction of the history and institutional development (through process tracing) of each of the initiatives described above. More specifically, it involved a review of relevant literature; document analysis and archival research; participant observation; survey analysis; and semi-structured interviews.

The following key dimensions were considered for the mapping exercise:

- a. Thematic: Evolution of the Internet governance topical agenda in each country and in a comparative perspective in the region.
- b. Structural: Formats of the initiatives, including governance structure, work modality and processes.
- c. Institutional: Identifying the resources that sustain these initiatives (human, financial)
- d. Policy impact. Impact analysis of the initiatives on Internet policy in the country/region

As a result of the investigation, this report provides insights to the following areas:

- We have identified two waves of NRIs institutional development in the LAC region and distinct characteristics associated with initiatives organized during these phases.
- The influence from the global Internet governance regime as well as local and international organizations with a strong presence in the global Internet ecosystem in the creation and maintenance of NRIs;
- The structural characteristics and organizational development of individual NRIs, as well as their different approaches to multistakeholderism;
- The importance of uncovering the particularities and nature of participation in individual cases;
- How different initiatives strive to impact the wider policy-making environment, both nationally and internationally.;
- The current common thematic agenda that is being practiced within the context of NRIs in the region.

To better depict the complex institutional and organizational particularities of these NRIs, one of the project's outputs includes a website that maps the different national initiatives in the region, miglac.org. The platform provides accessible, up-to-date information about the different NRI structures available. Academia, civil society groups, students and policy-makers with varying levels of familiarity with Internet governance-related themes should be able to easily navigate the content, as well as use it for educational and policy development purposes.

Among other directions, this undertaking has revealed that for future research there is a need to refine the understanding of the concept of participation in NRIs and how practices inform multistakeholder debates. This includes questions regarding the emergence of national elites around IG and their potential effects in shaping more open or closed environments. An additional path is to pursue the identification of key country dimensions that might help raise awareness of barriers to the development, continuity, relevance, and legitimacy of an NRI. Also, there is a general revision of what "Internet Governance" even means after over two decades of existence and during a time when experts have been scrutinizing the organizational features of the main internet governance forum, the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) to address major changes in its format, extension and scope, which might include a greater amount of inter-sessional work. It will be relevant to monitor how these changes at the global level might interact with ongoing formats at the national level.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ccTLD	country code Top Level Domain
CGI.br	Comitê Gestor da Internet do Brasil (Brazil Internet Steering Committee)
ICANN	Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers
IETF	Internet Engineering Task Force
IG	Internet Governance
IGF	Internet Governance Forum
IGFSA	Internet Governance Forum Support Association
ISOC	Internet Society
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
MAG	Multistakeholder Advisory Group
NIC.br	Network Information Center of Brazil
NRI	National and Regional IGF Initiative
RFC	Request for Comment
WGIG	Working Group on Internet Governance
WSIS	World Forum Information Society



VIEW OF THE MIGLAC.ORG WEBSITE AND INTERACTIVE MAPPING TOOL



1. INTRODUCTION

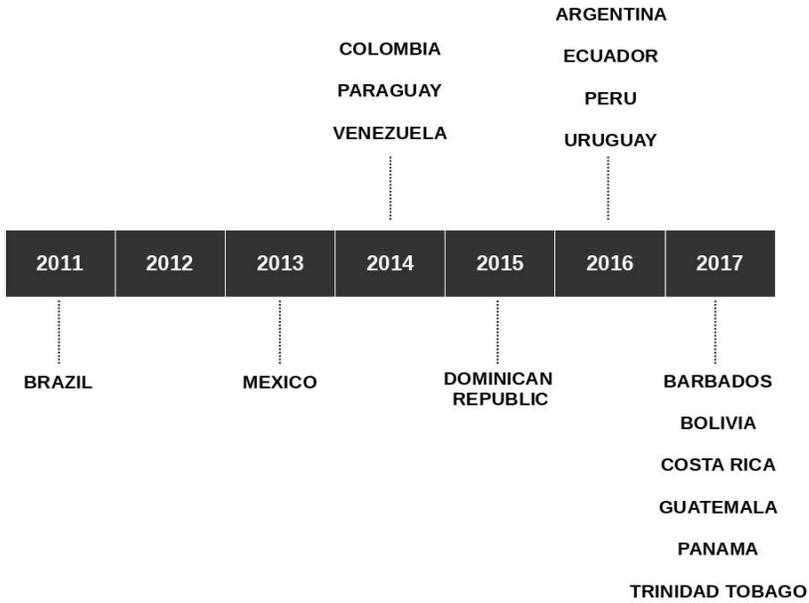
In 2005, the Tunis Agenda invited the UN Secretary General to convene a new forum for multi-stakeholder policy dialogue which led to the creation of the Internet Governance Forum as we know it today. It also encouraged the “development of multi-stakeholder processes at the national, regional and international levels to discuss and collaborate on the expansion and diffusion of the Internet as a means to support development efforts to achieve internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals”. (WSIS, 2005, para. 80)

Almost a decade after the inception of the IGF, several regional, national, subnational and thematic forums (hereafter NRIs) have been organized on an increasing basis. These initiatives have contributed to the creation of spaces for multistakeholder discussions, dialogue and policy coordination at the local level. Moreover, their aim was that of tackling local Internet governance issues while simultaneously creating feedback loops

between processes carried out locally and globally, at the IGF track. By March 2018, the IGFs Secretariat online NRIs database had gathered general information on almost 100 different initiatives: more than 70 national IGFs; around 17 regional and subregional IGFs; and 10 Youth IGFs (convened nationally and regionally).

In Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), the first regional IGF (LACIGF) was established in 2008 and has been reconvening annually ever since. Since then, it has been hosted by 10 different countries across the region. This is a landmark for a developing region that is still striving to connect the remaining 50% of its inhabitants to the Internet. Despite the importance of regional and national mechanisms for Internet governance - as recognized in the Tunis Agenda - it was only in 2011 that the first national event in the region (Brazil) was organized and only after 2013 that these national IGFs clearly began to emerge as a consistent pattern in LAC.

The timeline below provides a general overview of the development of national IGF initiatives in the LAC region:



TIMELINE: EMERGENCE OF NATIONAL INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUMS IN LAC (UPDATED VERSION OF AGUERRE ET. AL. 2017)



The timeline portrays a gradual yet steep proliferation of national IGFs since 2011. Several questions arise from that scenario. For instance:

- Why are National IGFs in general growing?
- Which are the driving forces for the popularization of NRIs?
- What are they trying to accomplish?
- What are the Internet governance issues that these initiatives attempt to address?
- How are they formatted and organized (administrative and financially)?
- What challenges do they face?
- What is (if any) the impact of those projects for the local context as well as more broadly?
- What lessons can be learned from the special case of LAC in terms of governance models and Internet governance processes more specifically?

This report summarizes a research project that aims to shed light on these questions by gathering and organizing relevant information about the origins, evolution and characteristics of each individual initiative as it stands today, as well as from a comparative perspective. It also seeks to determine the extent of their influence on Internet governance and policy in their local and regional contexts more generally.

The effort of “Mapping national and regional Internet governance initiatives in the LAC region” required a mix-method approach which consisted of a literature review, documental, archival and survey analysis and semi-structured interviews that were applied face-to-face and remotely to NRIs coordinators in the region between the second half of 2017 and the first months of 2018. The quantitative and qualitative data gathered with the support of an online survey tool was then used as the basis for the construction of an online interactive map that allows users to engage with this data about the governance structure, objectives, outputs, funding schemes, communications channels and working mechanisms, as well as other characteristics of each individual project that participated in the consultation.

By making publicly available information about national IGFs in the LAC region, the project provides

relevant input for further research about the institutional features of NRIs in general and their role as means to achieve an open, transparent and accountable Internet governance as well as fairer, accountable and open societies. Additionally, in a critical moment for the consolidation of such initiatives as legitimate spaces for agenda-setting processes and policy discussions on the myriad of topics comprised by the Internet governance agenda at-large, this project also aims to assist them in their formalization and engagement with stakeholders in the ecosystem.

The following sections detail: the scientific and policy bases that supported the investigation; the methodology of the different research phases; the results achieved with fieldwork as well as the relevant findings drawn from the data gathered in previous phases of project. Subsequently, the report presents an in-depth discussion of those findings and forecasts policy avenues that are open for NRIs in the region. In the concluding section, this document projects the way forward, both in scholarly as well as in policy terms.

2. SCIENTIFIC & POLICY OBJECTIVES

The idea that IG should be addressed at the national level became established in the discourse after WSIS and the organization of the first IGF in 2006. However, widespread development of national IG initiatives has only begun relatively recently. It is a fair claim to say that by 2018, NRIs around the world have become a permanent (yet still embryonic) feature of the larger global Internet governance ecosystem. They are currently recognized as mechanisms that “serve as a link between local discussions and regional and global instances”. (NETmundial, 2014, 2.I.4).

UNDERSTANDING THE RISE OF NRIs

Already in 2004 one of the members of the Working Group on Internet Governance (WGIG) had claimed that “The national Internet governance regimes in



most countries at the moment do not meet the WSIS criteria of being transparent, accountable, democratic and involving the full participation of all stakeholders” (Siganga, 2004).

Yet, for many scholars and practitioners, it took some time to understand that this need to cope with the subsidiarity principle of Internet governance was an essential process of the legitimization of global processes and institutions around IG. It became increasingly important to frame IG as an issue that calls for the involvement of national policy makers in countries that had not been central to the initial development of the Internet due to two simultaneous processes:

- Internet governance became broader in its definition - after WSIS, IG became much more than solely focused on the management of “critical Internet resources” (the “IG micro and macrocosm” (Kleinwhäcter, 2015)) to include a wide range of issues related to the development of the internet and digital policy;
- More countries - and not only the most developed ones - became increasingly reliant on the Internet as larger numbers of citizens, businesses and governments went online.

There are three IG configurations that mark different conceptions around the mechanisms, processes and issues at stake (Aguerre, Galperin, 2015).

In the “**consensus model**” of IG of the early years, when the Internet community was small and relatively homogeneous, the RFC model of “rough consensus and running code” typically applied by the technical stakeholders around the IETF was an effective mechanism for reaching agreement on the basic architectural pillars of the emerging technology.

However, when the Internet became more complex in its structure and wider in geographical scope in the second half of the 1990s, a new policymaking model began to coalesce around ICANN and other focal institutions, such as those provided for the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and the

IGF as an autonomous track. While this second phase retained the openness that characterized the first one, the mechanisms were increasingly formalized and national governments began to demand a larger role in the global policymaking process surrounding the Internet. This **second phase labeled “U.S. Led Multi-stakeholder”**, given the prominent role played by the United States government with respect to ICANN’s attributions, marks a definite shift towards the consolidation of a more complex and broader global regime to address IG issues that range from the management of core internet infrastructure to new themes such as human rights online and access issues.

The third configuration which emerged forcefully in 2014 as part of the NETmundial process and beginning of the IANA Stewardship Transition has been characterized by increasing pressure from state actors in the developing world calling for a systemic shift in the policymaking process. This configuration is labelled the **Global Mixed Regime**. The “Mixed” accounts for the combination of multistakeholder and multilateral policy venues in IG processes, while the “Global” points to the mechanisms that national communities develop to interact with the international sphere.

A key hypothesis of this work is that the proliferation of NRIs in LAC (but also at a global level) are part of the effort to address the global Internet governance regime as well as to frame “macro” problems from the perspectives of local players in their context. A secondary hypothesis is that these processes take place in the region and respect multistakeholder principles of diversity in representation and participation within governance functions.

WHAT IS A NATIONAL IG INITIATIVE FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS STUDY?

What constitutes a National IG initiative avoids a single definition. According to the IGF Secretariat, “National and Regional IGF initiatives (NRIs) are organic and independent formations that are discussing issues pertaining to Internet Governance from the perspective



of their respective communities, while acting in accordance with the main principles of the global IGF". Those principles, according to the NRI section of the IGF website are the following: "open, inclusive, non-commercial, and multistakeholder participation in both formulation of the initiative and in any other initiative related events".

This definition is not enough to differentiate the sorts of processes and events studied here vis à vis a wider spectrum of public and private IG-related initiatives that take place in a country at a given time (i.e., fairs, seminars, conferences, symposia, etc.), which sometimes tend to resemble a national IGF or an IG mechanism.

In terms of scope, the IGF Secretariat defines NRIs as "Internet Governance Forums organized on a national basis in different countries, or on a regional or sub-regional level, depending on the size of the geographic area, where the main criteria for identifying region is geography, but also in some cases mutual language and culture". That latter definition ("Internet Governance Forums") provide a better idea of the sorts of initiatives that form the subject of inquiry in this study. Here, that definition is restricted even further by the employment of jurisdictional criteria.

"National IG Initiatives" for the purposes of this study are those processes that take place within the domestic level of specific countries and follow the overall characteristics defined for the Global IGF in paragraphs 72 and 73 of the Tunis Agenda. These initiatives:

- Meet periodically;
- Provide a space for the discussion of public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance (included but not restricted to critical Internet resources);
- Facilitate discourse between bodies dealing with different cross-cutting (national and international) public policies regarding the Internet;
- Identify emerging issues (including those arising from the use and misuse of the Internet), bring

them to the attention of the relevant bodies and the general public, and, where appropriate, make recommendations;

- Interface with appropriate organizations on matters related to Internet governance at-large;
- Facilitate the exchange of information and best practices among all stakeholder groups; and, among other endeavors,
- Contribute to capacity building for Internet governance and both strengthen and enhance the engagement of stakeholders in the IG governance ecosystem.

Bearing those defining features in mind, this project focuses solely on National IG Initiatives that occur in LAC countries, namely: Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Venezuela, Uruguay. These initiatives have already developed their own national Internet governance mechanism and are all in different stages of formalization.

NATIONAL IG INITIATIVES AS A RELEVANT SUBJECT OF ACADEMIC AND POLICY INQUIRY

While multistakeholderism (sometimes with other labels) is not a new feature of institutionalized political activities within the context of contemporary democracy (Baiocchi & Ganuza, 2016; Avritzer, 2017), the notion of multistakeholder Internet governance is mainly a term that became popular in the context of the transition from the "consensus model IG" to the US-centered regime described above. That transition took place more than twenty years ago, and even so multistakeholderism is still considered an "inchoate global institution" (Raymond & Denardis, 2015). Within internet governance discourse and scholarship, "multistakeholderism" is generally defined as the involvement of stakeholders from a wide range of fields and expertise in governance processes. These stakeholders include the technical community, private actors, governments, and civil society groups.



The process that led to the creation of the global Internet Governance Forum, its institutional development, its multistakeholder approach for policy discussion as well as its meaning for Internet governance and global governance in a broader sense have been extensively studied (Malcolm, 2008; Kleinwächter in Drake & Wilson III, 2008; Pavan, 2012; Musiani et al., 2015; Epstein, Nonnecke, 2016; Drake, 2017). The different institutional branches of the regime created around the IGF in national and regional contexts however have not been subject of much scholarly attention. An exception is a recent compilation of reports about the activities of NRIs organized by the APC Global Information Society in 2017 (Association for Progressive Communications, 2017).

National IG Initiatives are per se a relevant subject of academic and policy inquiry for three main reasons:

- National IGFs (individually and collectively) represent a relatively new and autonomous phenomenon within the evolving IG ecosystem. Their institutional evolution, the organizational characteristics of each instance, their processes, as well as their domestic and international impact are all issues that call for detailed attention both from scholars and practitioners.
- As NRIs emulate to a large extent the format and processes of the global IGF, it is important to know whether their scope and remit is also maintained in the national environments, supporting or refuting claims about the relevance of the current role and structure of the IGF. For instance, considering the steps of decision-making within any organizational context framing, drafting, validation, implementation and conflict adjudication, it is widely known that the Global IGF was created with a mandate restricted to framing and in exceptional cases drafting. It is important to understand if this would also be the case of NRIs and especially National IGFs considering that they are closer to local power and decisional centers? Is it possible that innovation in the Internet governance regime can emerge from the margins rather than the center?
- There is a complex network revolving around the global IGF. This multitude of different initiatives related to IG processes in different geographic contexts form a complex network whose practices and policies can span across the national, regional and international levels and could contribute to providing valuable information within a local-global feedback loop. To what extent do NRIs influence the general contours of the global IGF and vice-versa? And to what extent does the IGF track as a whole influence the processes and results of other parts of the ecosystem?

These are all issues that are yet to be assessed in the larger debates about Internet governance and also within wider scholarship around globalized governance and policymaking processes. This study attempts to provide a greater understanding of some of these questions by providing an empirically grounded work that addresses some of the policy and theoretical concerns described above.

By studying particularly the configurations and mechanisms that are taking place in the national IG Initiatives in the LAC region, it provides initial input that might help answer the following questions (presented in a summarized version in the introduction):

- Why are they growing? Why has this phenomenon only began to take place in the region five years after the conclusion of the World Summit on the Information Society and the first edition of the global IGF?
- Where do we strike the balance between the influence of national and international forces in the inception and development of NRIs throughout the years?
- What are NRIs trying to accomplish? Which Internet governance issues do they attempt to address? How does their agenda relate to the Internet governance & policy agenda in each country?
- What form does each of these individual projects take? In which ways are they similar and/or different? How do they organize themselves administratively and financially? What does a



particular organizational format say about these initiatives?

- What are the local and broader regional / international impacts of those projects? What challenges do they face to impact national / international Internet policies?
- Finally, but no less important: what does the development timeline and the case of LAC illustrate in terms of governance models in general, and Internet governance processes, in particular?

To tackle those questions, the next sessions of this report present structured information on the history, the contours of the policy agenda as well as the institutional and organizational characteristics of National IGFs in each country listed above. It also attempts to assess the extent of the impact that those processes have individually and collectively on Internet policy in the region. By providing an initial assessment of Latin America and the Caribbean, the research paves the way for further investigation about governance models and Internet governance processes more generally in other places.

3. METHODOLOGY

This study relies on a mix-method approach that is largely empirical, based on the combination of both qualitative and quantitative tools to support the reconstruction of the history and institutional development (process tracing) of each of the initiatives described above. The key dimensions of the methodology employed for data gathering and processing are detailed as follows:

- Literature review focusing on governance and regime theory in general and Internet governance specifically.
- Document analysis and archival research comprising: reports and other documents that depict the historical evolution of the IGF regime, from its creation up to date (including its regional and national developments); content of websites

and other relevant documents produced within the context of each initiative studied here; the IGF NRIs mailing list database.

- Participant observation and face-to-face engagement with the NRI community in events that occurred in parallel to: the LAC IGF 2017, the global IGF 2017, the regular IGFSAs meetings that were part of the agenda of ICANN 59, 60 and 61.
- An overarching survey was applied to the initiatives' organizers to complement the collection of data and to support the evaluation of the impact of these national experiences in national and/or regional Internet policy. The list of questions that structured the survey questionnaire is presented in Annex 1.
- Semi-structured interviews were employed as a complement to the previous tools but also to approximate researchers to the organizers of the initiative in a closer dialogue around structural trends in the development of national initiatives in the LAC region. The list of questions employed during the interview phase presented in Annex 2.

The next session organizes the results obtained by the research and summarizes its findings.

4. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

When assessing the role and evolution of the NRI landscape in the LAC region it is vital to understand that these are still very recent experiences in most places -- with the exception of Brazil where events have been organized since 2011. Chart 1 reveals this trend.

The first wave of national IGFs emerged in 2014, shortly after the Snowden declarations and the resulting effects on global Internet policy. The impact of Snowden's revelations about global mass surveillance cannot be underestimated since it played a significant role in introducing the relevance of Internet governance into the regional and national policy agendas (Aguerre,



Galperin, 2015). For the first time, cyber governance was not a niche topic for specialists as it was covered by the media and became a very political public policy issue - thus capturing the attention of governments. In that context, the organization of a national IGF made sense as a space to enable discussion and to forge ways of addressing issues of concern to many stakeholders and wider audiences. In all the cases where there was a national IGF emerging in 2013-2014, there was also a direct interest to begin to address Internet governance issues. That need was entirely captured by the “Global Multistakeholder Meeting on the Future of Internet Governance (NETmundial)” hosted in Brazil in 2014.

A second wave of national IGF initiatives in the region appeared throughout 2016-2017.

While 2013 was a significant point for Internet governance in the region, as it was introduced to national agendas as an important policy arena, in the following years, organizational and structural formats became clearer for stakeholders interested in these issues as more national IGFs emerged in the region (mirroring a broader phenomenon at the global level). The consolidation of these spaces made it easier to share best practices such as the creation of “preparatory events” to host ad hoc discussions on specific topics of interest for the local IG community, which generated capacity building even before the establishment of an

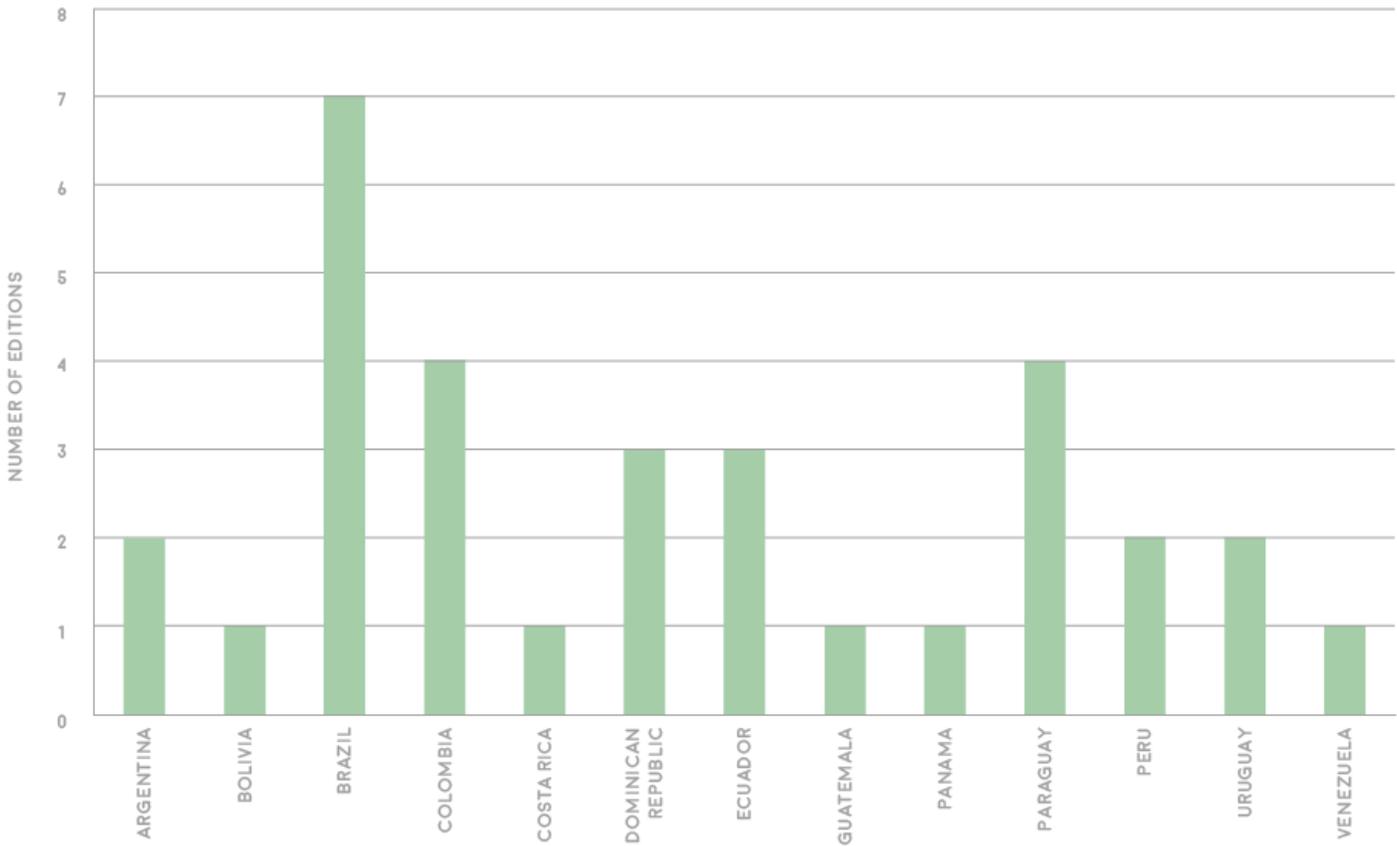


CHART 1: NUMBER OF EDITIONS BY INITIATIVE



actual national IGF.

During this period, many NRIs began the development of open consultation mechanisms for building national agendas so that input from the community can be sought to organize the program of national IGFs and other convenings. There is evidence that many of the regional and occasionally global representatives of ICANN, ISOC and LACNIC have participated in these more local events. This suggests that NRIs at this point might begin to generate linkages and feedback cycles between the local agendas formed through NRIs and more global IG-agendas.

In addition to greater participation from international and regional IG experts in national IGFs, throughout these past few years the global Internet governance community has also provided greater support to NRIs, helping to mobilize the initiatives with more organized sources of funding coming from the Internet Governance Forum Support Association (IGFSA), ISOC and ICANN, as well as through resources such as toolkits and recommendations developed by organizations such as ISOC (ISOC, 2015) and the National and Regional IGF Initiative group of the IGF Secretariat (United Nations, 2016).

Influence from the global Internet governance regime and the role of organizations with a strong presence in the global Internet ecosystem

Even though the global Internet governance regime constitutes a much more open, less formalized and an “inchoate” system vis-à-vis other governance approaches (Raymond & DeNardis, 2015), it is very close to the concept of an institution in its capacity to provide structure, stability and reference values within a social setting (Peters, 2005). From the initial evidence collected on the national cases studied here, the global regime – structured in a mesh of institutional actors and policy processes – has managed to exert its influence by promoting a framework that has “streamlined” these initiatives to conform to these expectations in terms of format and overall objectives. In support of this argument, one can see that ISOC chapters and

ccTLDs tend to be pioneering organizations that have promoted and sustained the engagement in these initiatives. Organizations such as ISOC and ccTLD administrators have a foot in both their local community and the international environment.

Despite this influx and influence from the outside, one can see strong variations in terms of organizational development from country to country, especially with regards to the integration of NRIs into national policy environment and local institutional culture. One of the most salient distinctive features among them relates to whether they are one-off annual events, or whether they manage to become part of a broader mechanism, as is the case with Brazil, Colombia and Costa Rica, where the national IGF is but one of the initiatives related to Internet governance.

Two types of local organizations with strong ties to the global regime have emerged as leading organizations in the creation and maintenance of NRIs in the region: National ISOC chapters and the ccTLDs. ISOC chapters have played a dominant leadership role in the establishment of many of these initiatives. It is also important to note that national chapters of ISOC work as an important focal point linked to the international ISOC, one of the central players in the development of Internet governance globally. These ISOC chapters were catalytic in the experiences of NRIs in Bolivia, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, Venezuela, Uruguay and Paraguay, and also played a key role in Mexico. In the case of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica and Trinidad Tobago, the ccTLD played a vital role in the creation and sustainability of the initiative.

In the countries under analysis, the central motivation to promote the initiative arose from other Internet governance processes nationally and prominent international events. Ecuador’s NRI was inspired by the WSIS principles, while representatives interviewed from Panama and Argentina both pointed to the NETmundial Meeting as a pivotal moment for the creation of their own initiatives. Mexican representatives described how the WSIS process led to the national government’s increased interest in IG issues and the formation of the



first national dialogue in 2013, which evolved into a formal NRI by 2016. In Colombia, the creation of the NRI was triggered by the LACIGF and the need to generate a national focal point for discussion of IG issues. Brazil, already with several hubs for internet policy development and implementation, including CGI.br and NIC.br, created the Brazilian NRI after deciding that a space was needed for a broader governance discussion with society at-large.

According to chart 2, all initiatives coalesce around the idea that one of their motivations is to promote a national space for following international trends in Internet governance. Eighty five percent of them are

committed to the idea of becoming “a focal point for IG discussions in the country”.

In terms of funding, this research indicates that there is a strong influence of relevant global Internet governance actors (ISOC; ISOC Chapters, IGFSAs; ICANN; IGF Secretariat - NRI group) in supporting NRIs. As briefly mentioned in the previous sections, these organizations exert influence both in terms of resources as well as in laying out normative values and principles. The IGF, ICANN and ISOC are organizations that have shaped the institutional development of Internet governance internationally. These organizations have also developed mechanisms to reach the regional and

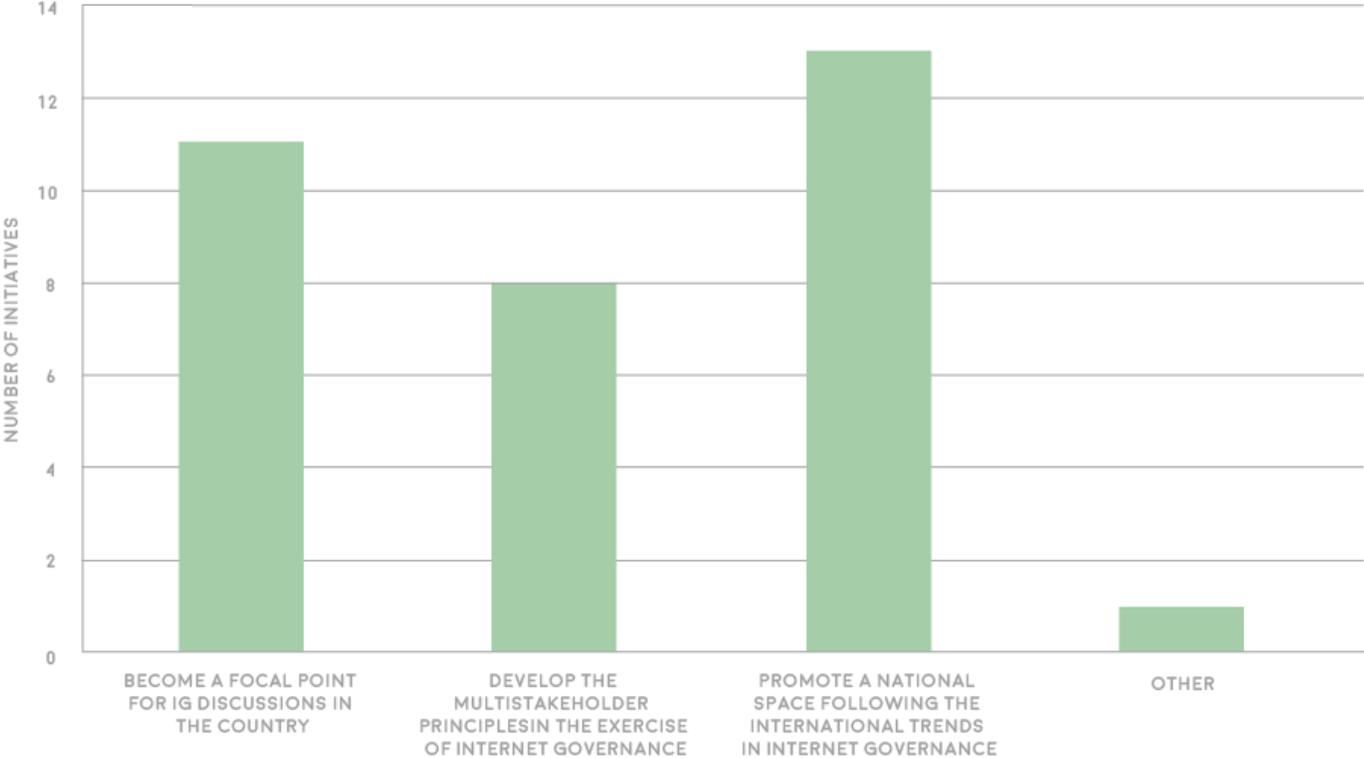


CHART 2: GENERAL MOTIVATION/MISSION OF THE INITIATIVE

national level and thus serve as entry points, in particular ISOC's chapter structure, for national stakeholders to take part in global Internet governance processes and develop local conversations around topics discussed at the global level. In addition to these global IG actors, local Internet and telecommunications companies tend to support these initiatives with resources. While these actors seem to play a significant support role at the local level, they are not as involved in the global IGF which mainly attracts participation and funding from companies with a global and/or regional presence.

Chart 3 (see below) reveals that the ISOC and the IGFSAs are the most frequent sources of funding for National

IGFs in the region. The second source of funding is support from national companies. At this point, no initiatives report that they have received funding from international NGOs other than ISOC and IGFSAs.

Both figures (chart 2 and 3) illustrate that the global Internet governance regime has provided strong support to national processes. Additionally, more than half of the funding for these initiatives rely on well-established organizations in the regime. However, it is important to underscore that national companies play a larger role in funding NRIs than some large global internet governance organizations, such as ICANN. Some initiatives, especially recently-established NRIs, have, early-on adopted agenda-setting procedures

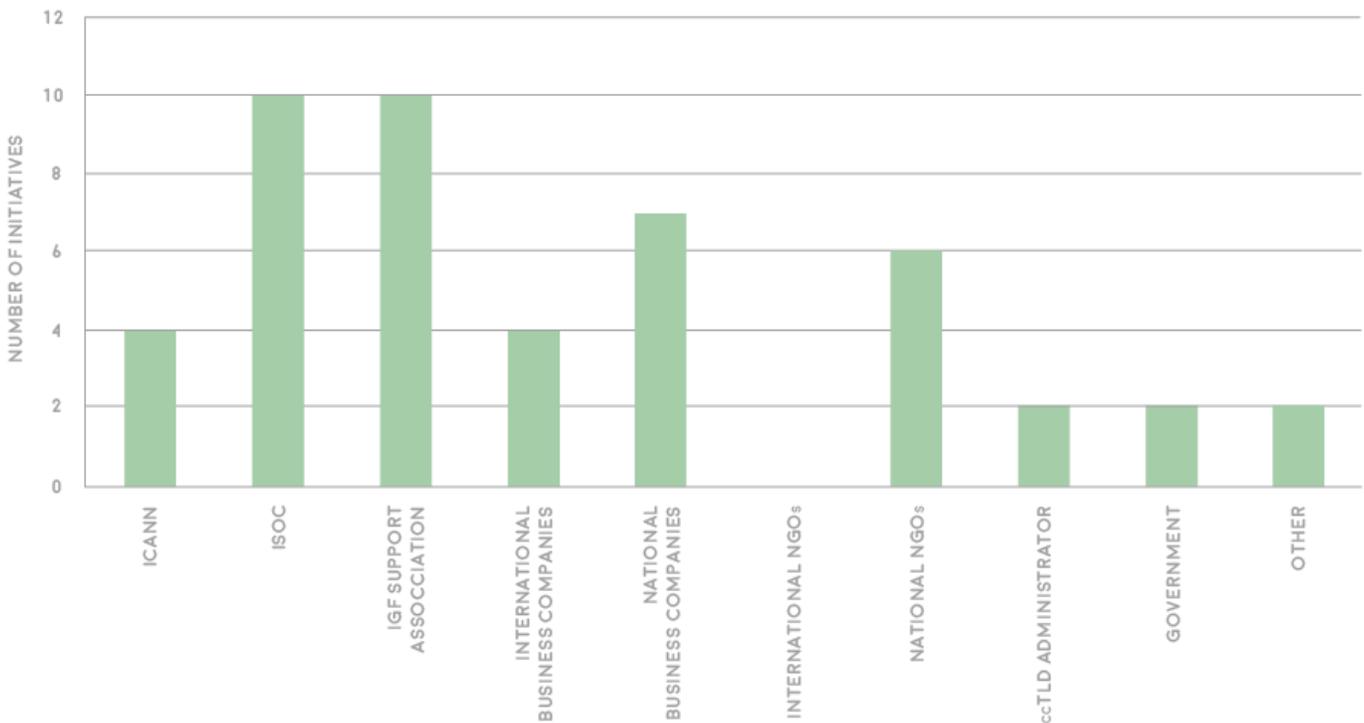


CHART 3: FUNDING SOURCES



STRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT

that are quite similar to the global IGF with open solicitations from the community. Other initiatives have adopted models that either rely on a committee to set the agenda or entities that elect representatives to take part in this process. Moreover, some initiatives noted that they have changed their approaches throughout their existence, eventually adopting the IGF model.

Charts 4 and 5 seek to unpack particular organizational arrangements in each NRI. The former strongly

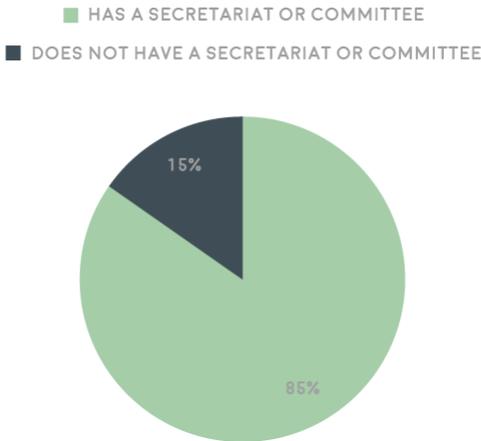


CHART 4: DOES THE INITIATIVE HAVE A SECRETARIAT OR AN ORGANIZING COMMITTEE?

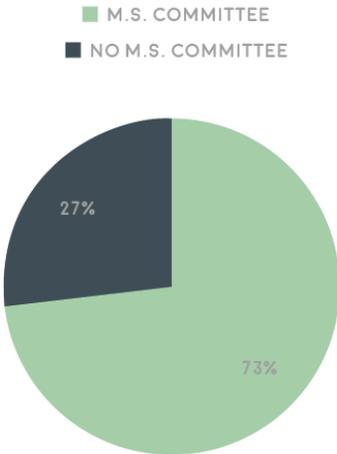


CHART 5: PERCENTAGE OF ORGANIZING COMMITTEES WITH A MULTISTAKEHOLDER COMPOSITION

suggests that the majority of the Initiatives have either a secretariat or an organizing committee. Building on this data, the latter further indicates that most of these Initiatives' committees have adopted a multistakeholder composition.

When it comes to staffing, the majority of the initiatives also rely largely on volunteer work or a mix of volunteer

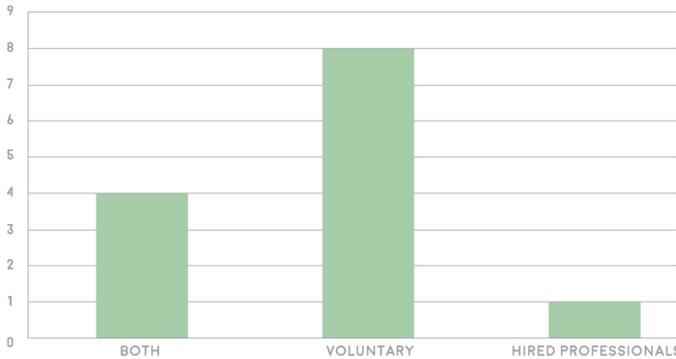


CHART 6: VOLUNTEER OR PROFESSIONAL STAFF COMPOSITION

and professional staff. Again, Brazil is the exception: the Brazilian IGF is the only NRI in the region that exclusively uses hired professionals (and does not use volunteers) to organize the event (Chart 6).

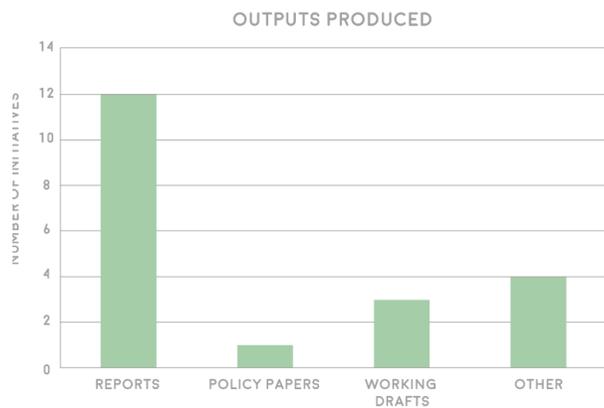


CHART 7: OUTPUTS PRODUCED BY THE NATIONAL IGF INITIATIVE

As chart 7 indicates, the most frequent form of output produced by these initiatives are written reports. But the records have varying formats, as depicted in chart 8. Seventy seven percent of the initiatives generate video records of the events and sixty-nine percent produce minutes of the events (chart 8). Full transcripts are the least common form of output produced by the Initiatives.

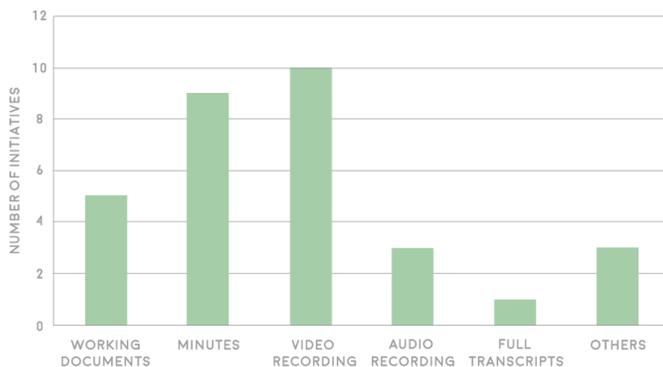


CHART 8: TYPE OF RECORD PRODUCED

One of the most common patterns among the initiatives relates to their format. We can see that there is not a great level of variance concerning organizational structure and funding sources. There is a broad shared belief that NRIs should embody the multistakeholder principles and seek to increase and promote participation from a greater diversity of players, including “traditional” IG stakeholder metrics as well as to promote demographic diversity and inclusion (gender, disabled, ethnic

minorities, rural communities, etc). These efforts to include a variety of stakeholders can also be reflected in the choice to allocate resources for travel grants to improve participation (Chart 9). The influence of the global regime is present through the references to the IGF, IGFSAs, ISOC chapters, ccTLDs: these all form a mélange of relationships, agendas, perspectives that build bridges between the international and the local sphere.

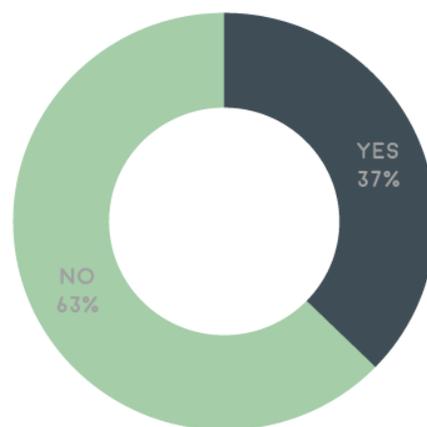


CHART 9: EXISTENCE OF TRAVEL GRANTS/SCHOLARSHIPS TO IMPROVE PARTICIPATION AND INCLUSION FOR THE MOST RECENT NRI

While the development of NRIs within the region is fairly recent, the findings indicate a rising level of organizational structures and complexities. This section has provided information on some of the potential variables that underlie the analysis of the common threads and disparities among them, such as: mission, funding sources, structural organization (i.e. secretariat, committee or other), staffing, and scholarships, for example.

MAKING SENSE OF MULTISTAKEHOLDER APPROACHES IN PRACTICE

Multistakeholder participation is one of the core aspects characterizing the historical and institutional development of Internet governance, particularly since the creation of ICANN and notably during the WSIS process. Building multistakeholder mechanisms into NRIs involves a combination of organizational and administrative processes (means) and a set of more general objectives (ends). The former includes, but is not restricted to, establishing multistakeholder committees, public calls for setting the agenda and similar process-related decisions. The latter refers to the desired impact of the initiative in stimulating an open dialogue among stakeholder groups and/or ensuring that the country's national multistakeholder experience is fully developed and can inform locally-relevant conversations at global IGF venues.

In order to better understand these differences in what we call “multistakeholder impetus”, we have categorized how each country describes their NRI's own multistakeholder processes and the objectives emphasized for adopted these practices:

There are distinct nuances as to how each initiative interprets the necessity to establish a multistakeholder mechanism at the national level.

For example, Brazilian NRI representatives mentioned the importance of having balanced participation (equal footing), while Uruguay and Paraguay underscored consensus building among all stakeholders. In Ecuador, the accent was placed on open participation, which was also mentioned by Venezuela as an important value along with transparency. In Argentina and Guatemala, the multistakeholder vision is expressed as the importance that all stakeholders involved in Internet governance processes participate and have a voice.

In both Mexico and Dominican Republic, the strategic approach emphasized increasing the dialogue between all stakeholders. For the representatives of the Costa Rican NRI, inclusion of all stakeholders is central to enhancing the quality of discussions. The Peruvian NRI representatives highlighted the importance of the engagement of each actor within their respective roles. In Nicaragua, the initiative was described as an opportunity to broaden the discussion of Internet issues beyond merely a technical standpoint to include wider social issues. Panama and Bolivia share a vision that

	CONSENSUS	PARTICIPATION	OPENNESS/ TRANSPARENCY	DIVERSITY	IMPACT ON PUBLIC POLICY
DESCRIPTION OF MULTISTAKEHOLDERISM	URUGUAY. PARAGUAY	BRAZIL. ARGENTINA	ECUADOR. VENEZUELA	MEXICO. COSTA RICA. NICARAGUA	BOLIVIA. PANAMA

multistakeholder experiences have a greater impact on public policies. Bolivian NRI representatives indicated that impact could be achieved through a permanent dialogue between the sectors.

With regard to format of the organizing committees, countries such as Brazil that have used the multistakeholder committee structure (the Brazilian Internet Steering Committee - CGL.br) as the organizing body for the national IGF. Bolivia, on the other hand, has hosted a series of “prep comms” before organizing its first IGF.

Taking into account that most countries have little or no previous experience with more institutionalized multistakeholder processes, many see the consolidation of these initiatives as an opportunity to introduce more participatory mechanisms in debating Internet related themes, in particular, and as part of a wider national policymaking experience.

Costa Rica, for example, had already established its own multistakeholder national Committee (Consejo Consultivo de Internet) in 2012, but saw the national IGF as an opportunity to incorporate a more diverse pool of actors in Internet governance dialogues at the domestic level.

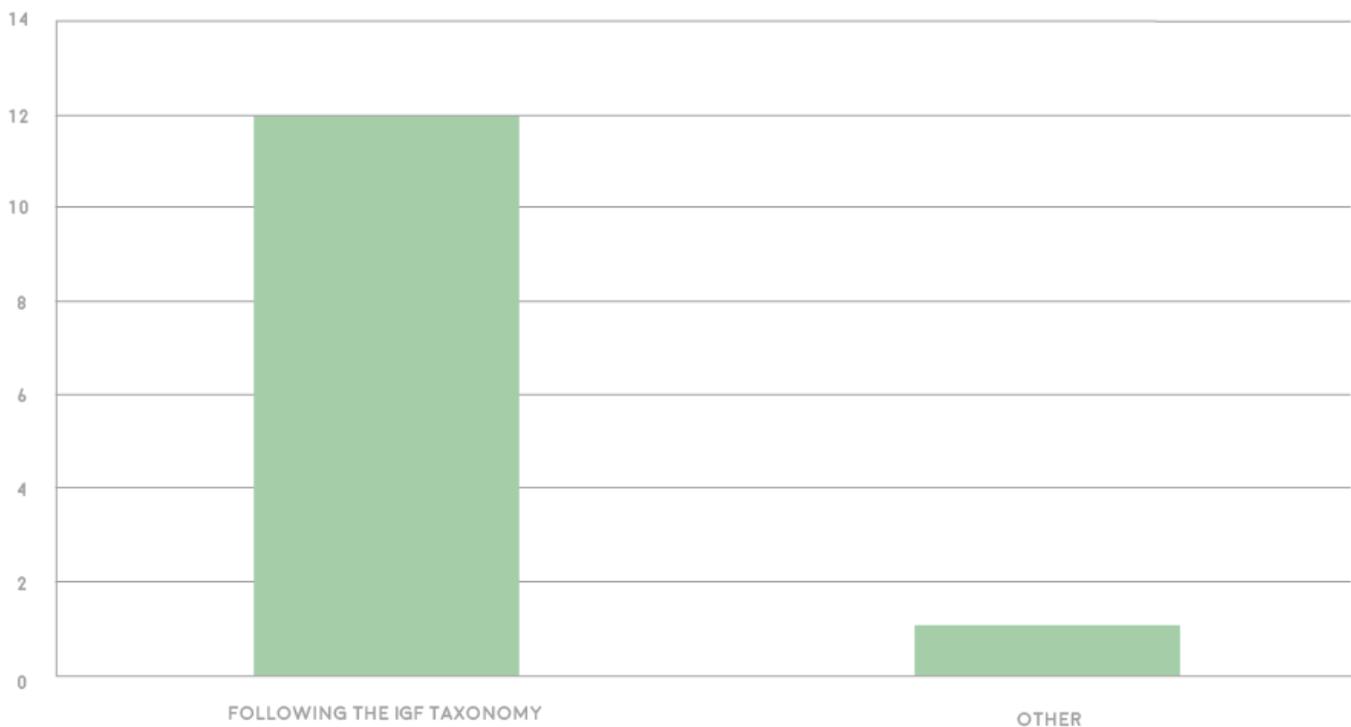


CHART 10: CATEGORIZATION OF PARTICIPANTS



While all initiatives referred to multistakeholder principles as part of their vision, they use different language to express it and, as such, they mentioned different aspects of multistakeholder governance. Almost all initiatives follow a five-category IGF stakeholder taxonomy in structuring their multistakeholder processes and objectives: Government, Business, Civil Society, Academia/Technical Communities, and International Organizations (chart 10).

The Brazilian IGF is the only NRI that adopts a different type of categorization, that employed by CGI.br: Government, Business sector, Civil Society Sector, and Academic and Technical Community. As both spaces aim at gathering local stakeholder groups, the

participation of international governmental and non governmental organizations seem to be subsidiary and ad hoc.

UNDERSTANDING PARTICIPATION

This research also compiled information on the levels and nature of participation in the first (inaugural) edition and last (most recent) edition of each NRI. Figures for Bolivia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Panama and Venezuela include information on only one event as they had organized only one edition at the time of this research.

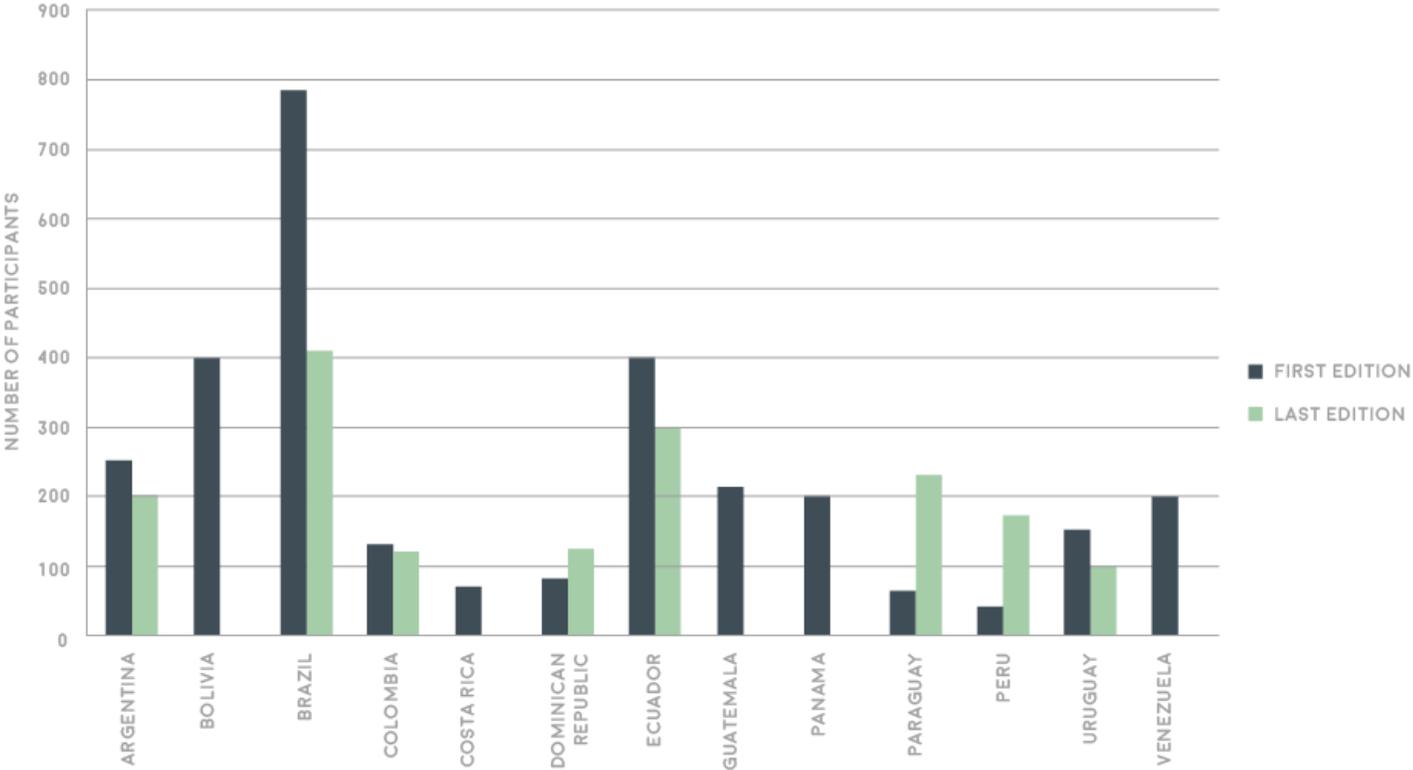


CHART 11: NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

As can be seen from chart 11, roughly half of the initiatives had a greater number of participants in the first edition as compared to the figures related to the most recent edition. A key issue for most initiatives, particularly in larger countries, is to foster participation from people who are not in the same city where the event is organized in order to achieve more demographic diversity and improve representativeness. As can be

seen by charts 12 and 13, there has been significant progress over time in this area amongst the initiatives. Almost all of the initiatives surveyed report that they do not record quantitative data about regional diversity. Brazil is the only initiative that has consistently collected data on participants' geographic demographics since its first edition. Within interviews, it is mentioned that foreign experts are often invited to serve as panelists.

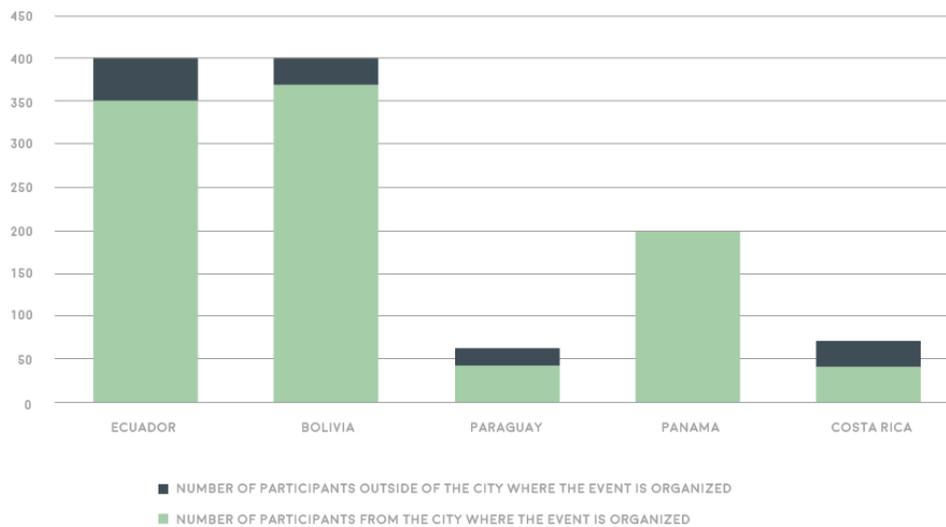


CHART 12: PARTICIPANTS OUTSIDE OF THE CITY (FIRST EDITION)

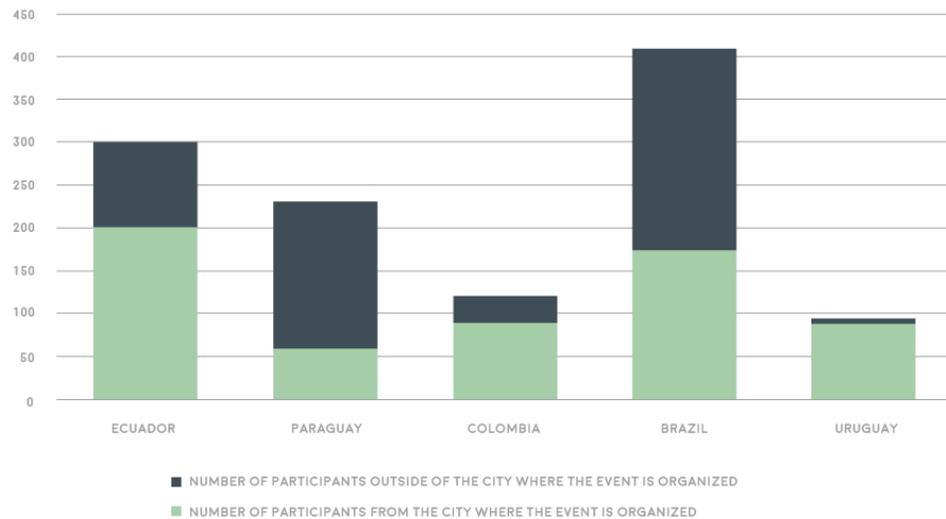


CHART 13: PARTICIPANTS OUTSIDE OF THE CITY (LAST EDITION)



Other interview subjects suggest that travel grants can be used to bring more diversity to the meetings.

As displayed in chart 14, the NRIs report that the majority of the participants are men. This gender disparity has not changed over time and with frequency of hosting events.

Numbers related to participation reveal two significant trends. The first is that overall there has been reduced participation in the last editions of five out of eight NRIs. Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador and Uruguay have seen reduced participation over time. However, the Dominican Republic, Paraguay and Peru

have seen participation increases. There are several factors that can explain the increase and/or decrease in participation: the position of Internet governance within the policy agenda of a country in a given place and time; the contextual socio-political economic conditions that enable or impair in loco participation including, for instance, the amount of funding available to provide for subsidies for participation and the geographic conditions of the country where the NRI is held; and the maturity of the use of remote participation tools. As in other policy spaces, the perceived capacity or incapacity over time for a forum or body to translate policy discussions into policy making processes and to influence the public policy cycle might be an

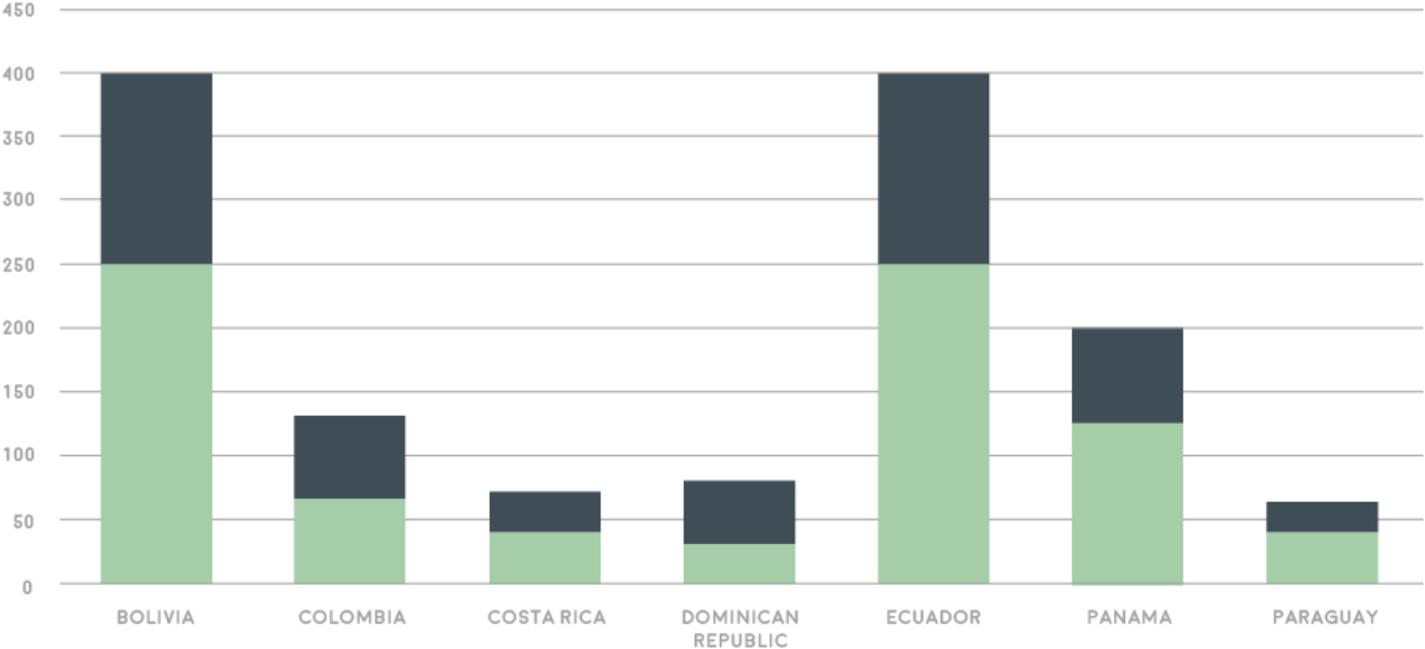


CHART 14: PARTICIPANT BREAKDOWN BY GENDER (FIRST EDITION)



overall determinant to the level of participation: some stakeholders with more limited resources or those who are more accustomed to traditional activities aimed at influencing policy-making - such as lobbying - might adopt a strategy of selective engagement not only with the NRIs, but also with other IG governance processes and institutions. It might also be the case that reductions in absolute numbers represent a qualitative shift in participation: for each individual case there might be an optimal stable number that reflects more or less the size of the community directly involved with the field of Internet governance in a given country, with slight variations depending on the circumstances within which an NRI event is developed (which might attract more or less attention). The risk of 'elitization' (as explained in the section that deals with emerging challenges) in this case must be considered for the sake of diversity and pluralism. Analyses with larger time horizons, as well as comparative research with other regions and the global IGF might provide deeper insights into those aspects.

The second trend relates to those cases where data was available for the number of participants from outside the city where the event was held. Paraguay revealed a remarkable number of participants from outside of Asunción (the city where the last edition of the Paraguayan NRI was held). Brazil follows Paraguay, and considering the territorial dimensions of both countries, it might be the case that geography matters for attracting people from cities other than the host city. Additionally, Paraguay and Ecuador show a considerable increase in the number of participants from cities other than the host city over time. While geography might be a decisive factor, the existence of subsidies and other sorts of funding opportunities (which is the case of other initiatives) also have a role to play in order to generate more diverse environments for NRIs.

At this point it is not possible to affirm whether the level and quality of participation translates into more or less national legitimacy for IG processes as well as increased support for NRIs. However, it might be the case that NRI's institutional development over

time could contribute to general capacity building by enabling the participation of national citizens in global IG tracks and creating a cohesive group of practitioners working on internet governance issues at the domestic level.

EVALUATION OF ACHIEVEMENTS

Many initiatives highlighted that there is plenty of work to be undertaken to consolidate these processes (Guatemala, Uruguay, Peru, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, Bolivia, Venezuela). In other countries, the inclusion of more stakeholders was mentioned as an aspect that requires further efforts for improvement (in some cases the participatory challenges are identified as related to civil society participation while in other the challenges are identified in the private sector).

According to some initiatives, the challenges associated with sustaining the NRI's activities are related to a decline in interest in the subject and multistakeholder objective over time amongst the mix of national stakeholder groups. Only three initiatives (Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, and Guatemala) mentioned other events that are organized in their countries with multistakeholder characteristics. There is a general agreement amongst the NRI representatives that there is still a lack of such spaces and knowledge about multistakeholder processes in most countries in the region.

For those who qualify the initiatives as successful, the parameters to measure this success are very different: one initiative took into account the number of international events about Internet governance that are taking place in the country (Panama); others consider the relevance of the national IGF itself to policy outcomes (Ecuador) while others referred to the creation of other ongoing consolidated Internet Governance initiatives and processes (Costa Rica, Colombia). The degree of expertise of the community involved in these processes was also mentioned as an indicator of success (Argentina).



THEMES AND ISSUES

While the format and organizational settings of these initiatives and the “multistakeholder” principles are emphasized within our interviews as well as within Internet governance discourse, the issues that are addressed in their respective agendas are key dimensions for comparative analysis.

According to the survey, each initiative develops its agenda using different methods. Many of them engage in a public consultation and then the program committee develop the agenda by consensus. Another common method is to conduct a call for workshops and sessions, such as in done in the organization of the global IGF. In this case, the selection of the workshops is made by an evaluation committee. For the first editions, many initiatives defined their agendas using the expertise and interests of the members of the organizing committee. In many cases, it can be observed that there is an evolution in the agenda-building process, with the development of the agenda made more open to community participation over time.

While the issue of **Internet infrastructure and the digital divide** is undoubtedly a key theme in the region, it is by no means the main topic in most of these forums. **Cybersecurity, surveillance, and human rights online** have become common themes at most of the national IGFs. Sometimes these discussions have a grounding in the national context, while in other cases they are issues that have been framed at the international level. In the last two years, issues related to the concept of the **“digital economy”** have been featured prominently at the national IGFs in Peru, Panama, Argentina, and Trinidad and Tobago. Finally, many national IGFs feature debates about meta-governance (Peters, 2010; Kooiman, 2004), reflections on the rules and mechanisms of interaction among the stakeholders in these governance processes. This is a common feature of these events, usually set up (as with the global IGF) as a “Taking Stock” session to assess governance processes and take steps to improve participation, representation, and impact.

EMERGING CHALLENGES: POLICY IMPACT

One of the most pressing challenges for these initiatives is the difficulty in assessing their impact on the wider policy-making environment, both at the national but also at the international level. While most stakeholders involved in the organization of these initiatives are aware of the difficulties in tracing a direct linkage between a national IGF and a policy outcome, there is pressure to show results.

This anxiety over outcomes is more evident in the case of those NRIs which are actually annual one-off activities rather than permanent ongoing efforts. If there is a perception that these events have no consequence on the policy-making process or in the national ecosystem more generally, it might be the case that incentives for participation tend to decrease. This kind of “reality sets in” effect might at least partially explain the trend that this project has measured of declining participation rates (Graphic 10). Therefore, one of the most important challenges for NRIs is to identify and establish specific criteria to evaluate the success of these initiatives, mirroring a similar evaluation process that occurred at the 2014 global IGF in response to such a need.

Most initiatives cannot at the moment establish a causal relationship of impact on policy outcomes or private sector procedures (Peru, Nicaragua, Bolivia, Guatemala, Dominican Republic). The interviewed largely attributed this lack of impact to the degree of maturity of the national initiatives. In their words, it is still “too soon” to notice any real and lasting outcomes.

The process of establishing NRIs is deeply entrenched in the context of a specific country/region. Experiences at the national level are not only important to raise awareness and promote a general understanding about Internet governance but also to contribute to the quality and form of overarching Internet policy developments among countries in the LAC region. However, most initiatives recognize that, while impact



in policy-making processes is desirable, the forum has only an indirect influence in national Internet policy per se. Beyond policy creation as an outcome, NRIs are important spaces that can serve as a means to set agendas, identify key policy areas, and provide policy feedback to national, regional and international Internet governance debates. Further work is needed to define and develop tools that can measure different types of impact NRIs have and build capacity for the NRIs' to influence Internet policy-making at-large.

Moreover, the age of the initiatives is also an important dimension to consider when analyzing their respective policy impact. Initiatives that have been around for longer might develop some level of organizational maturity and thus be better able to implement international organizational mandates while also more strategically affecting the local policy environment. Impact with regards to the latter refers to both the impact of the discussions in shaping the national Internet governance agenda as well as in the number of participants that take part in NRI activities.

Internationally, the NRIs play a fundamental role as part of the global IGF's intersessional activities. They are capable of expanding the time-span of the international processes, dynamics and debates that would be previously limited to the one-week IGF. Moreover, the NRIs can strengthen the IGF by delivering knowledge and information on culturally-diverse settings, structured realities, agreements/disagreements among stakeholders, institutional experiences and persistent challenges that characterize the complex global dimension of Internet governance. In sum, they provide an outstanding opportunity for the creation of national and regional sub-groups that can operate between the global and the local contexts and create positive feedback loops between those levels.

Participation rates were mentioned throughout our interviews as a key criteria to measure the impact of the initiatives within the different sectors. Initiatives with high rates of participation from both the private sector and government references participation from these two important groups as key to the success of

the process (Argentina), while the lack of participation of these stakeholders in Panama and Nicaragua was lamented. Impact is also considered in terms of other multistakeholder processes that emerge after the NRI, particularly those organized by the government in fields other than Internet governance. Finally, the Mexican NRI described the adoption of the multistakeholder discourse by more sectors in the country as a metric to understand its impact.

Another threat facing these initiatives is the lack of continuity and resources in the near and middle-future, as well as low levels of intersessional work between annual national IGF editions. These initiatives rely on voluntary work in most cases and unless there is a formal secretariat – which is usually sustained by either a ccTLD or a local ISOC Chapter – the organization of these initiatives tends to become more difficult. For example, in the case of the Mexican Dialogues, there has been a mechanism in place for multistakeholder work on Internet governance issues for nearly five years. However, due to organizational challenges it has only managed to organize two national IGFs.

The NRIs interviewed for this research also indicated the desire to attract diverse new voices and leaders to participate. There is a risk of “elitisation” (Chenou, 2011) and closure among the groups that participate in these initiatives, illustrated by the declining participation rates at many of the NRIs. The NRI organizers and participants make up an “epistemic community”, a network of professionals with recognized experience and competence in a certain policy field. This community shares principles, norms and beliefs, notions of validity and causality, as well as policy objectives (Haas, 1992). However, this kind of expert community also has a tendency to promote closure around the group. A major indicator that these initiatives tend to be self-referenced is that the same people appear each year in the programs and agendas of specific meetings. While the creation of this close community of experts does promote consistency, identity and a common mission, it is also problematic to the extent that these initiatives might exclude new perspectives and voices from joining these debates.



5. CONCLUSIONS & WAY FORWARD

This report has attempted to map the current state of development of NRIs in the LAC region in order to better understand these organizations' roles in the international internet governance ecosystem as well as setting local internet governance agendas. In addition, the work addressed the issue of multistakeholder principles and governance around the Internet in a region which does not have a tradition for this approach.

In the era of the “Global Mixed Regime” for Internet governance there are a variety of multistakeholder and multilateral policy venues addressing IG processes and issues. Beyond these global fora, there is a greater need for national communities to have a space where they can address the challenges posed by the Internet in their local contexts and on an ongoing basis. At this point in the early development of these initiatives, it remains to be seen what kind of impact NRIs can have both locally and internationally. While this report did not seek to determine the direct policy influence of these organizations, it does provide background on the emergence and evolution of these local governance innovations and evaluates the perceptions of those involved in the development of these initiatives. This study evinces common patterns and threads that are related with the institutional formats, the focal points of interaction with the global regime, themes, funding sources and the commitment to multistakeholder principles.

This report makes clear that the practice of multistakeholder governance is not uniform across national initiatives but materialized and interpreted differently. In most cases, the initiatives have managed to capture some important aspect of the multistakeholder model. Further research could examine the longterm effects of multistakeholder governance processes on other national policy spaces as well as the variation across countries in the development of these governance models. Future research can also

analyze participation rates and better understand the role of national elites and experts around IG and the “professionalization” of these supposedly open and participatory spaces.

After nearly two decades of existence, there are now calls for greater critical understanding of the impact of multistakeholder internet governance processes at the international level. The international IGF is currently under scrutiny to address major changes in its format, extension and scope, and many have acknowledged the need for increased inter-sessional work. Continued research on NRIs can provide insight into what role national initiatives can play in lending legitimacy to multistakeholder Internet governance processes, provide on-going and localized feedback, and in potentially generating greater impact on national policy outcomes.



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ANNEXES

ANNEX 1 - SURVEY QUESTIONS

MAPPING NATIONAL INTERNET GOVERNANCE INITIATIVES IN LAC // MAPEO DE INICIATIVAS NACIONALES DE GOBERNANZA DE INTERNET EN ALC

This survey is part of a research project of CETYS, Universidad de San Andres and NIC.br with the support of the Internet Policy Observatory. The objective is to map the different existing initiatives in order to enhance the understanding of IG processes in the region. The information will be uploaded onto a platform for public information and use. Thanks for your time.

Este sondeo es parte de un proyecto de investigación del CETYS, Universidad de San Andrés y NIC.br con el apoyo del Observatorio de Políticas de Internet. El objetivo es mapear las distintas iniciativas para mejorar la comprensión de los procesos de GI en la región. La información será subida a una plataforma para información y uso público. Agradecemos su tiempo.

ORGANIZATION. Governance structure // ORGANIZACIÓN. Estructura organizativa

1. Does the initiative have a secretariat or organizing committee? / ¿La iniciativa cuenta si iniciativa con una secretaría o comité de organización?
 - Yes/Si
 - No/No
2. If yes, please provide a description of the secretariat considering: renewal, terms, number of members, stakeholder composition. / Si la respuesta fue "Si", por favor realice una descripción de la secretaría o comité considerando lo siguiente: renovación, condiciones, número de miembros.
3. Staff
 - Hired professionals / Profesionales contratados
 - Voluntary / Voluntarios
 - Both. Please describe the organization of the work

/ Ambos - Por favor, describa cómo se organiza el trabajo.

ORGANIZATION - Finance // ORGANIZACIÓN - Finanzas

4. Funding sources / Fuentes de financiamiento
 - ICANN
 - ISOC
 - IGF Support Association
 - International business companies / Empresas internacionales
 - National business companies / Empresas nacionales
 - International NGOs / ONGs internacionales
 - National NGOs / ONGs nacionales
 - ccTLD administrator / Administrador de ccTLDs
 - Government/Gobierno
 - Other (please specify) / Otros (por favor especificar)

ORGANIZATION - Documentation // ORGANIZACIÓN - Documentación

5. Outputs produced / Resultados producidos
 - Reports / Reportes
 - Policy papers / Documentos de políticas
 - Working drafts / Documentos de trabajo
 - Other (please specify) / Otros (por favor especificar)
6. Records produced / Registros producidos
 - Working documents / Documentos de trabajo
 - Minutes / Minutas
 - Video recording / Grabaciones de video
 - Audio recording / Grabaciones de audio
 - Full transcripts / Transcripciones completas
 - Others (please specify) / Otros (por favor especificar)

COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH // COMUNICACIÓN Y PROMOCIÓN

7. Does the initiative have a website? / ¿La iniciativa tiene sitio web?
 - Yes/ Si

- No / No
 - In progress / En desarrollo
8. If yes, please provide the link / Si la respuesta es “Sí”, por favor indique el link:
9. Does the initiative use social media? / ¿La iniciativa utiliza redes sociales?
- Facebook
 - Twitter
 - Instagram
 - LinkedIn
 - Others / Otros
10. Does the Initiative have any partnership with other similar projects? / ¿La iniciativa tiene acuerdos/asociación con otros proyectos similares?
- Yes / Sí
 - No
11. If yes, please provide a description of the partnership(s) / Si la respuesta es “Sí”, por favor describa el acuerdo/asociación.
12. Please provide the links to the social media selected above or any other used by the Initiative / Por favor indique los links a los canales de las redes sociales de la iniciativa
- Facebook
 - Twitter
 - Instagram
 - LinkedIn
 - Others / Otros
13. Does the initiative use any the following channels? / ¿La iniciativa usó alguno de los siguientes canales de comunicación?
- Mailing list - Listas de mail
 - Newsletter - Boletín de noticias
 - Blog - Blog
 - Forum - Foro
 - Wiki - Wiki
 - Other (please specify) - Otros (especificar)

NUMBER OF EDITIONS / NÚMERO DE EDICIONES

14. Has the Initiative had more than one edition? / ¿La iniciativa tuvo más de una edición?
- Yes/ Si
 - No/ No
15. If yes, how many / Si la respuesta es “Sí”, ¿cuántas ediciones?

AGENDA

16. List the topics in the agenda of the first edition / Liste por favor los temas en agenda en la primera edición.
17. * List the topics in the agenda of the last edition / Liste por favor los temas en agenda en la última edición.
18. How was the agenda developed? / ¿Cómo se seleccionaron los temas de agenda? (Please provide information as to whether there was a public consultation with the community and the role of the “organizing committee” of the initiative” as well as any other relevant information / Por favor detalle si hubo una consulta pública con la comunidad y el rol del Comité de organización/ Comité de agenda de la iniciativa durante el proceso así como toda información que pueda ser relevante para el proceso)

IMPACT / REACH - PARTICIPATION (Last Edition) // IMPACTO - PARTICIPACIÓN (última edición)

19. Number of participants / Número de participantes
20. * How are participants categorized? / ¿Cuáles fueron las categorías de participantes?
- Following the IGF taxonomy (Government, Business, Civil Society, Academia / Technical Communities, International Organizations) / Siguiendo la taxonomía del IGF (gobiernos, sector privado, sociedad civil, academia, comunidad técnica, organizaciones internacionales)

- Other (please describe) / Otros (por favor describa)

agenda del IGF nacional o de la agenda del IGF nacional en iniciativas de otros países)

21. * Gender breakdown / Datos de género

- Male / Masculino
- Female /Femenino
- Non binary / No binario
- Not declared / No declarado

30. * Does the initiative invite international speakers? / ¿Fueron invitados panelistas internacionales?

- Yes / Si
- No /No

22. Number of youth participants (18-25) / Número de participantes dentro de la categoría jóvenes (18-25)

IMPACT / REACH - PARTICIPATION (First Edition)
// IMPACTO PARTICIPACIÓN (primera edición)

23. Number of participants outside of the city where the event is organized / Número de participantes provenientes de otras localidades diferentes a del evento

31. Number of participants / Número de participantes

32. How are participants categorized? / ¿Cuáles fueron las categorías de participantes?

24. * Description of regional diversity / Descripción de diversidad regional

- Following the IGF taxonomy (Government, Business, Civil Society, Academia / Technical Communities, International Organizations) / Siguiendo la taxonomía del IGF (gobiernos, sector privado, sociedad civil, academia, comunidad técnica, organizaciones internacionales)
- Other (please describe) / Otros (por favor describa)

25. Number of participants with disabilities / Número de participantes con discapacidad

33. Gender breakdown / Datos de género

- Male / Masculino
- Female /Femenino
- Non binary / No binario
- Not declared / No declarado

26. Does the initiative provide remote participation opportunities? / ¿La iniciativa ofrecía oportunidades de participación remota?

- Yes / Si
- No /No

34. Number of youth participants (18-25) / Número de participantes dentro de la categoría jóvenes (18-25)

27. If yes, please describe the modalities of remote participation / Si la respuesta es "Sí"; por favor describa las modalidades de participación remota

35. Number of participants outside of the city where the event is organized / Número de participantes provenientes de otras ciudades diferentes a la localidad del evento

28. Existence of travel grants - scholarships / Existencia de becas de asistencia (viaje)

- Yes / Si
- No /No

36. Description of regional diversity / Descripción de diversidad regional

29. If yes, please describe the enabling partnership(s) and provide an assessment on the influence of foreign initiatives on the agenda of the National IGF and of the national agenda on foreign initiatives. / Si la respuesta es "Sí", por favor describa los acuerdos que lo hicieron posible y señale si existió influencia de iniciativas de otros países en la

37. Number of participants with disabilities / Número de participantes con discapacidad

38. Does the initiative provide remote participation

opportunities? / ¿La iniciativa ofrecía oportunidades de participación remota?

- Yes / Si
- No /No

39. If yes, please describe the modalities of remote participation / Si la respuesta es “Si”; por favor describa las modalidades de participación remota

40. Existence of travel grants - scholarships / Existencia de becas de asistencia (viaje)

- Yes / Si
- No /No

41. Does the initiative invite international speakers? / ¿Fueron invitados panelistas internacionales?

- Yes / Si
- No /No

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE INITIATIVE // INFORMACIÓN GENERAL SOBRE LA INICIATIVA

42. * General motivation/mission of the Initiative (you can choose more than one)/ Motivación general/ misión de la iniciativa (puede elegir más de una):

- Become a focal point for IG discussions in the country / Constituirse en un espacio focal en el país para las discusiones sobre gobernanza de Internet
- Develop the multistakeholder principles in the exercise of Internet governance / Desarrollar los principios multi-sectoriales en el ejercicio de la gobernanza de Internet.
- Promote a national space following the international trends in Internet governance / Promover un espacio nacional siguiendo las tendencias internacionales en materia de gobernanza de Internet
- Other (Please develop) / Otro (Favor ampliar)

43. * What are the perspectives of the Initiative on “multistakeholder Internet governance”? / ¿Cuál es la perspectiva de la iniciativa sobre la gobernanza de Internet de múltiples partes interesadas?

44. Perception on the influence of the Initiative vis-

à-vis national Internet governance policies and processes? / ¿Cuál es su percepción del impacto de esta iniciativa considerando otros procesos y políticas nacionales de gobernanza de Internet?

THANKS! // MUCHAS GRACIAS

ANNEX 2 - QUESTIONNAIRE USED FOR INTERVIEWS

A. History of the Initiative:

Tell us a bit about the Initiative..

Who/What spurred it? What was the main motivation to kick start a national/regional/thematic IGF?

Who got on board as partners of this Initiative? (Describe the other actors that take/took part)

B. Organization:

How does the functional organization of the national/regional/thematic work?

- Is there a Committee or Executive board? How is it updated/renewed? Is there a fixed time-frame for members of this body/in this position?
- Hires staff? Most of the work is paid or voluntary - paid by whom? Please develop.

Please tell us, how does the financial administration of the national/regional/thematic Initiative work?

- Sources of funding: please describe what are the sources; if requires support from national, regional or international organizations. Any crowdsourcing?
- Are there any accountability mechanisms regarding the funding of the event? Are there any budget/ expenses reports? Is this information public?

C. Multistakeholder Vision:

How did you define/structure the participation of other stakeholders/actors?

What is the Initiative's take on multistakeholder



governance? What is its vision on that?

What role does specific sectors play in this Initiative?

Going beyond this initiative, how do you evaluate the multistakeholder Internet governance experience of your country?

D. Thematic Approach:

What mechanisms have been developed to set the themes in the agenda?

What are the current thematic areas of priority of the national initiative? If the Initiative has more than one year, what themes were part of the agenda previously?

E. Policy-impact:

Do you believe that your country's IGF impacts national policies and processes related to the Internet? (If yes, develop with concrete examples; if not, why?)

Do you believe that the national IGF impacts governance processes in the private sector?

The national Initiative that you participate in is attached in any way to other regional and/or international Initiatives? Please develop on the mechanisms linking the Initiatives. If yes, do you notice any impact of the international and regional initiatives on the national IGF agenda? What about the impact of the national Initiative in the international and regional Initiatives? Please develop.

Short Version of the Questionnaire

1. Who supported[review] it? What was the main motivation to start a national IGF?
2. How does the functional organization of the national/regional/thematic work? Is there a Committee or an Executive board? How is it formed/updated/renewed? Is there a re-established period for its members?
3. Possesses hired staff? Mostly payed or voluntary work — payed by an oversight organization? Please develop on that.
4. What is the Initiative's take on multistakeholder

governance?

5. Beyond the Initiative, how do you evaluate your country's national experience in multistakeholder Internet governance?
6. What mechanisms has the Initiative put in place to define the themes to be included in the agenda?
7. Do you believe that your country's IGF has an impact on national policies and processes related to the Internet? (If yes, please elaborate giving concrete examples; if not, why?)
8. Do you believe your country's IGF has an impact in policies and processes within the private sector?

ANNEX 3 - THE MIGLAC PLATFORM

During the course of the project, the research team built an online platform that maps the different national initiatives in the region (only those that replied the survey are displayed on the map). Academia, civil society groups, students and policy-makers with varying levels of familiarity with Internet governance-related themes, should be able to easily navigate the content, as well as use it for educational and policy development purposes.



FIGURE 1: MIGLAC MAP



FIGURE 2: MIGLAC MAP WITH MOUSE OVER A COUNTRY

Continente		sur X	sur X
Código HighMaps		ar	br
Iniciativa		Argentina	Brazil
Site		Link	Link
General motivation/mission of the initiative (you can choose more than one):	Become a focal point for IG discussions in the country	X	X
	Develop the multistakeholder principles in the exercise of Internet governance	X	
	Promote a national space following the international trends in Internet governance	X	X
	Other (Please develop)		
Number of editions / Número de ediciones		2 y un diálogo previo	7
Does the initiative have a secretariat or organizing committee?		Yes	Yes

FIGURE 3: COMPARISON TABLE BEHIND THE MAP

To build the MIGLAC platform, the research team (product owner) relied on a development methodology called Scrum implemented by two developers that work for NIC.br (development team).

Scrum is an agile model of software project management that does not determine how the development team will perform the programming tasks, allowing the integration with other agile models specific to programming practices, such as extreme programming (BASSI, 2008). To follow scrum practices, feature cards are used. These cards are grouped into backlogs. The product backlog contains a list of all cards indicating product features that pend implementation. The product owner chooses a subset of functionality from the product backlog to be implemented in the current cycle, forming the selected backlog. That allows for the specification and prioritization of tasks, which then form the sprint backlog (PATRÍCIO, 2013). A sprint is the implementation phase in which the development team will work to deliver the part of the software that is

selected for the sprint backlog. Usually, a sprint lasts 30 days, but it can be changed according to the needs of project and the owner. At the end of each sprint, the development team presents the new features implemented for the revision of the product owner. The owner then tests each item to check whether it meets expectations and to determine if the goal has been reached.

The beta version of the MIGLAC platform is based on an interactive map of LAC region. When the user clicks on a country, its related data is displayed on a table behind the map. The table allows for a comparison of data from different countries. The current version of the platform is already fully accessible according to international standards and has a responsive design for multi-platform use. All content can be displayed in three languages: English, Spanish and Portuguese.

To implement the interactive map the development team used a Javascript mapping library called Highmaps .



Highmaps is based on Highcharts, an SVG-based and multi-platform charting library. Among its main features, the library works with any back-end database and data can be given in any form, such as CSV, JSON, or conventional databases. Also there is a collection of off-the-shelf maps, all optimized for fast download and rendering, but it is also possible to create custom maps. Additionally, the development team used Bootstrap for positioning elements in the website. Bootstrap is an open source toolkit for developing with HTML, CSS, and Javascript. This toolkit is based on a responsive grid system, and it allows plugins built on jQuery. Finally, jQuery was used for generating the comparison table. It is a JavaScript library that makes things like HTML document traversal, enabling event handling and manipulation, animation, and Ajax simpler with an API that works across all browsers.



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