



## 1st National Internet Governance (IGF) Report

**“Building Partnerships for Good Internet Go**



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# Acronym

**CTU-Caribbean Telecommunications Union**

**ECTEL - Eastern Caribbean Telecommunications Authority**

**ICANN – Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers**

**IGF – Internet Governance Forum**

**IGFSA - Internet Governance Forum Support Organization**

**ISOC – Internet Society**

**ISOC SVG - Internet Society Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**

**NIS – National Insurance Services**

**NTRC – National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission**

**SVGIGF- St. Vincent and the Grenadines Internet Governance Forum**

## Acknowledgement

We wish to express gratitude to several organisations and individuals who have contributed to the success of the inaugural forum. These include:

**Financial Support:** Internet Governance Forum Support Office (IGFSA)

**Secretariat:** ISOC SVG Chapter and MHR Holdings Ltd

### **Multi-stakeholder Coordinating team:**

*ISOC SVG Board:*

- Roxanne John, President - Government
- Andre Gaymes, Vice President - Private Sector
- Jonté Burke, Treasurer- Private Sector
- Harriet Caine, Secretary -Government
- Hannif Sutherland, Board member- Technical
- Willis Williams, Board member -Private Sector
- Rohan Providence, Programme Committee leader
- Rayshorn Richardson, SVGIGF Coordinator -Tech

*Other support:*

- Marcellus Constance-Technical support

## Executive Summary

The inaugural National IGF was convened on April 5, 2016, in the Insurance Conference room in Kingstown under the theme **“Partnerships for Good Internet Governance”**. It was organized by the Internet Society Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (ISOC SVG) and financially supported by the Internet Governance Association (IGFSA).

Mr. Kerry Kerr, a member of the ISOC SVG Chapter, presented the welcoming remarks. Mrs. Roxanne Jones, Chair of the SVG IGF, gave an overview of the SVG IGF, its mandate, and the inaugural forum. This was followed by brief congratulations from Mr. Albert Daniels, Regional Manager - ICANN, and Ms. Bernadette D. General, the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU).

The forum had 5 main sessions as listed below. The panels with Mr. Osepa were conducted virtually as he was unable to face. Also, virtually was the panel of the representatives from Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Tobago and Dominican Republic Chapters. The sessions were:

- Understanding the internet ecosystem by Albert Daniels
- The importance of Internet Governance and how to address the challenges by Shernon Osepa
- Understanding Net Neutrality and Relevance to the Caribbean by Maurice John and Eben Wilkins
- Understanding Digital Finances and how it will change the way of conducting business by Nihan Beharry (Tobago Chapter) and Osvaldo Larancuent, President - Dominican Republic Chapter

# 1. Background

St. Vincent and the Grenadines Internet Governance established in 2017 with its Secretariat being the Vincent and the Grenadines Chapter (ISOC SVG). Its create an open, all-inclusive, multi-stakeholder platform governance issues and policies that affect St. Vincent the Caribbean region and globally.

The Forum will organize annual IGF events where part exchange information and share good practices on issues. The SVGIGF will help to facilitate common und maximize Internet opportunities, address different typ arise, in a bottom up, multi-stakeholder, open and tran

The Internet Governance Forum of St Vincent and the recognised IGF by the Global IGF Secretariat on M <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/latin-america-regional-group-grulac>

The SVGIGF initiatives will therefore, commit to t principles (access, security, trust, openness and c governing the IGF as set out in the National, Su Youth IGF Initiatives (NRIs) tool kit of the global IGF.

In preparation for the forum, a multi-stakeholder com to plan for the event. Topics for consideration to be di were solicited online through the Chapter's website, Fa membership group. The final topics and presenters multi-stakeholder Committee level.

## 2. Opening Session- main feature

### Featured remarks

Ms. Bernadette Lewis, conveyed



appreciation  
for conven  
national IG  
sense of g  
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world, an  
executed  
governance  
region. She  
IGF to no  
discuss iss  
internet us

and execute them expeditiously. There is need to raise the importance of internet governance and how to address it

## 3. Main highlights of Sessions

### a. Understanding the Internet Ecosystem

Mr. Daniels, at the beginning of his presentation, highl

Mr. Osepa reminded the audience that the internet so two (2) internet pioneers (Vinton “Vint” Cerf and Robert Kahn) in 1973 and 1992 who wanted a mechanism to continue to promote. He further elaborated on seven (7) areas/baskets of into a country can focus on according to their needs. These

- a. Infrastructure and Standardizations
- b. Legal
- c. Economic
- d. Development
- e. Socio-Cultural
- f. Human Rights
- g. Security

He also stated that in order to understand the challenges, one must understands the two worlds of traditional telecoms/circuit-switched technology and switched technology. The challenge lies in the attempt environment with old tools and the impact of the internet sectors such as transport, hospitality industry, banking market and broadcasting.

He emphasized the need to embrace change and opportunities such as the development of ICT and application development and innovation. All these would as there is access to broadband.

### **c. Building resilience and security of the internet**

Mr. Osepa highlighted three operational layers that must be considered when considering internet security. These layers are network infrastructure, the domain name system and application

#### **d. Understanding Digital Finances and how it differs from the traditional way of conducting business**



Inset: Osvaldo during presentation

This session was a virtual panel conducted by Nihan B. (Tobago ISOC Chapter and Osvaldo Larancuent, Dominican Republic ISOC Chapter). Mr. Osvaldo was well involved in the process of electronic payment in Dominican Republic from the Republic. He was very involved in the process of the transformation of payment systems and benefit to the poor. He looked at the electronic payment trend and highlighted how the electronic payments cost less than the traditional process of conducting transactions. Such as credit cards and other electronic means such as internet banking. A main issue is the culture of people to know how to conduct a transaction and how to surpass the challenges that come with it.

indicated that those who are mining will be paid transaction fee and the network will be stabilized.

b. How secure are the transactions with crypto currency? Mr. Niran said it has to do with the security of the exchange crypto/bit coin and store offline in a flash drive. Also regularly.

c. What is the potential for Government to use block chain? Niran indicated that it could be used to store public records view at any time such as land record/health record to reduce redundancy in the protection of information. It provides a balance to government transaction.

## e. Net neutrality

Mr. John and Wilkins discussed what is net neutrality and against it and what is St. Vincent and the Grenadines rest of the Caribbean. Using the oxford dictionary definition of net neutrality as, “the principle that internet service providers should provide access to all content and applications regardless of the source, without favoring or blocking particular products or websites.”

They pointed out some fears of net neutrality:

- Big companies paying ISPs to slow down rival businesses via bandwidth throttling.
- ISPs blocking content from users
- ISPs charging extra to visit certain sites
- Content/website that may negatively affect their business
- Resourcing the freedom to use the web by individuals
- Slows innovation

## 4. Open Forum

There was an open forum just over 20 minutes that v  
Some of the concerns raised include:

- The end users may do all they can to protect  
problems may come from companies that they  
be the source of hacking or virus attack. I  
everyone that all systems were designed by I  
persons involved hold a PHD in computer engi  
have a job so they used their skills for survival  
blindly trust a system. We need to be aware of wh
- Also raised, is that trust may be placed on entiti  
google, facebook or another service provider an  
hacked and thus make all our in  
available/exposed. Mr. Osepa said that access an  
of the internet society.

## 5. Special Award to CTU

At the end of the sessions, the SVG IGF took the opportunity to r  
contribution of CTU to internet governance in the region for the  
the first to convene such a forum in the world. A plaque was pre



In photo: (left to right), the ISOC SVG President- Roxanne John and board member Willis Williams presented plaque to Ms. Bernadette Lewis- Secretary General

## 6. Feedback/Survey

A survey was designed to get feedback on the event using a survey form. Only 7 of the 25 persons responded to the survey in ample time to complete it. The questionnaire with responses showed that despite the low responses, the result showed that most were satisfied with the event, found it important to them and would like to see future IGFs.

## 7. Looking forward to IGF 2019

# Annexes

## Annex 1: Social media presence

Website: <http://igf.isoc.vc>  
<https://www.facebook.com/isocsvg/>

**Linkedin:** [www.linkedin.com/in/isoc-svg-7a6695151](http://www.linkedin.com/in/isoc-svg-7a6695151)

<https://www.linkedin.com/mynetwork/>

## Annex 2: Video and Photographs:

Video of proceedings:

<https://livestream.com/internetsociety/svgigf2018>

<https://www.facebook.com/isocsvg/>

**Photos of events:**

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1P3O9Z7OHyn1YmXmsBjx1?usp=sharing>

## Annex 3: Agenda



### 1<sup>st</sup> National IGF

**Theme: “Building Partnerships for Good Internet Governance”**

NIS Conference Room

Thursday April 5, 2018

### Provisional Agenda

Time	Speaker	
<b>CHAIR: MR. KERRY KERR, COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR PASTOR, S</b>		
08:30	Registration	
08:45	Prayer	
	National Anthem	
08:50	Welcome Remarks	<b>Roxanne John</b> President, SV
08:55	Welcome to IGF Remarks	<b>Internet Gov</b> <b>Association (I</b>
09:05	Brief Remarks	Mr Shernon C Mr. Albert Da ICANN
09:15	Feature Remarks	Caribbean Te (CTU)
09:45	<b>Cultural presentation: Mr. Darron Andrews, Violinist</b>	
10:00	<b>Networking Break</b>	
10:30	Understanding the internet ecosystem	Mr. Albert Da

<b>3:30</b>	Open Forum	Mr Kerry Kerr
<b>3:45</b>	Vote of Thanks and Award Recognition	Janelle Ross-F
<b>4:00</b>	<b>END OF FORUM</b>	

## Annex 5: Evaluation form

\*How satisfied were you with the event?

Answer	0%	100%
Very satisfied		
Somewhat satisfied		
Neutral		
Somewhat dissatisfied		
Very dissatisfied		
No Response(s)		
		<b>Total</b>

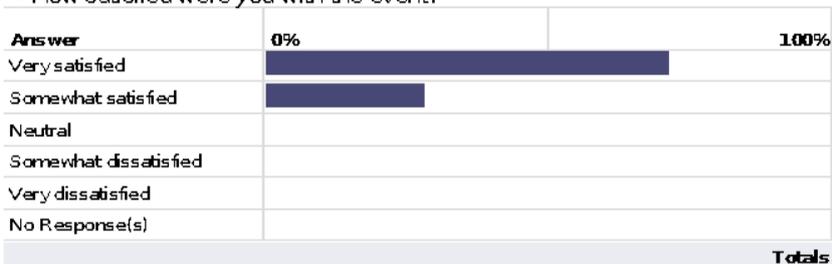
\*How important were each of the following factors in your decision to attend?  
1 =Very Unimportant, 2 =Somewhat Unimportant, 3 =Neutral, 4 =Somewhat Important, 5 =Very Important

Answer	1	2	3	4
Location				
Time				
Date				
Topics				

\*The Rating Score is the weighted average, calculated by dividing the sum of all weighted ratings by the number of total responses.

\*What was your number one reason for attending the event?

\*How satisfied were you with the event?



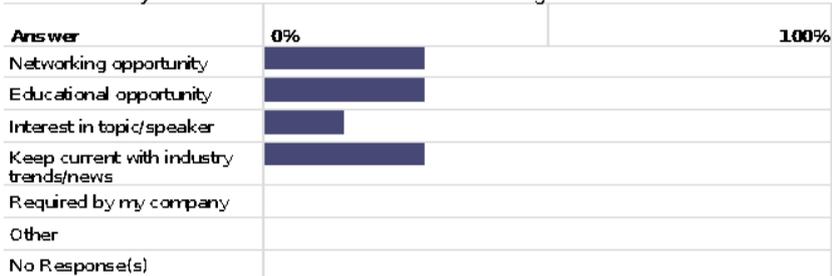
\*How important were each of the following factors in your decision to attend SVI?

1 = Very Unimportant, 2 = Somewhat Unimportant, 3 = Neutral, 4 = Somewhat Important, 5 = Very Important



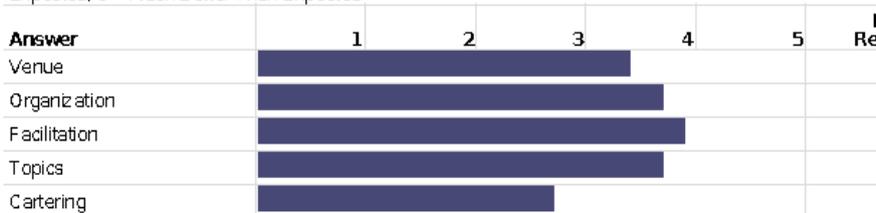
\*The Rating Score is the weighted average calculated by dividing the sum of all weighted ratings by the number of total responses

\*What was your number one reason for attending the event?



\*To what extent did the following aspects of the event meet your expectations?

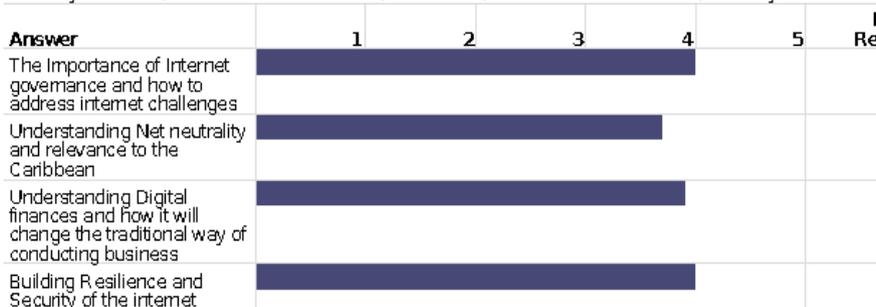
1 =Much Worse Than Expected, 2 =Somewhat Worse Than Expected, 3 =Met Expectations, 4 =Somewhat Better Than Expected, 5 =Much Better Than Expected



\*The Rating Score is the weighted average calculated by dividing the sum of all weighted ratings by the number of total responses.

\*Please rate the relevance of the Topics presented at the event.

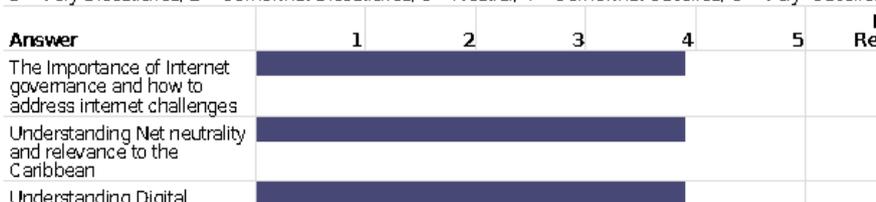
1 =Very Irrelevant, 2 =Somewhat Irrelevant, 3 =Neutral, 4 =Somewhat Relevant, 5 =Very Relevant



\*The Rating Score is the weighted average calculated by dividing the sum of all weighted ratings by the number of total responses.

\*Please rate your satisfaction with the delivery of the Topics presented at the event.

1 =Very Dissatisfied, 2 =Somewhat Dissatisfied, 3 =Neutral, 4 =Somewhat Satisfied, 5 =Very Satisfied



## Annex 6: IGFSA Flyer distributed at Fo



Internet  
Governance  
Forum  
Support  
Association

### The IGF and IGFSA

The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) has proven its worth to the international community and to all those who are committed to an open, thriving, and accessible Internet. The open and inclusive dialogue and debate that it provides is critical to the Internet's continued evolution. The IGF by now is the major annual event for all stakeholders to gather as equals and discuss Internet policy related issues. In 2015 the United Nations General Assembly recognized the value of the IGF and extended its mandate for another 10 years. Part of the IGF success story is the growth of National and Regional IGF Initiatives (NRIs) in all continents, triggered off by the global IGF.

The IGF is funded through voluntary contributions and therefore in constant need of funding. IGFSA's purpose is to promote and support the global IGF as well as NRIs. It is a not-for-profit association incorporated in Switzerland created to broaden the donor base and to provide stable and predictable funding from individuals and entities who want to support the IGF as well as the NRIs. IGFSA aims to build on and complement existing funding sources and strengthen the linkages between the global IGF and the NRIs and provides financial support for the IGF Secretariat through contributions to the UN IGF Trust Fund.

IGFSA's role as a channel for additional funding for the IGF Trust Fund has been recognized by the UN through an exchange of letters. To date, IGFSA has contributed USD 260,000 to the UN IGF Trust Fund and USD 225,500 to the NRIs.



IGF 2016 photo credit to Glenn McKnight

### Membership

Join us now to become a member! By joining IGFSA you show your support for the IGF and help keep the IGF the go-to event for everyone who is interested in the

### Reinforcing the NRI L

National and Regional IGF Initiatives are a natural outcome of the IGF. They were not created spontaneously on all continents. A common wish of the global IGF is their inclusive character. Good Internet governance is a national and regional level and the feedback from the grassroots and people's participation program for the annual Global IGF process. Strengthening the linkages between the national and regional IGFs and the global IGF is part of the core IGFS

In 2017 the IGFSA was able to provide support for Regional and Sub-Regional Initiatives. NRIs require significant human and financial resources. IGFSA provides support to NRIs, providing UN and Sub-Regional and USD 2000 UN Initiatives. (The list of the NRIs who received sponsorship in 2017 is available on page

IGFSA works closely with the IGF Secretariat and identify initiatives that would benefit from IGFSA support.



IGF 2016 photo credit to Glenn McKnight

"We are grateful to the IGFSA for supporting the national IGF in the English speaking Caribbean. The event was a great success and we were able to stream the event beyond the confines of the region and support remote participants with full participation. The event was extremely well received, and has been a great success in the entire English speaking Caribbean. We are looking forward to participating in the 2018 IGF, and are working with the region to share our IGF planning process."





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### IGFSA Sponsored NIGFs

National IGFs			Sub-regional IGFs
• Afghanistan IGF	• Croatia IGF	• Nigeria IGF	• African IGF
• Albania IGF	• Dominican Republic IGF	• Panama IGF	• Caribbean IGF
• Argentina Internet Dialogues	• Ecuador IGF	• Paraguay IGF	• Central America IGF
• Armenia IGF	• Georgia IGF	• Rwanda IGF	• Central Asia IGF
• Barbados IGF	• Guatemala IGF	• Senegal IGF	• Euro-Asia IGF
• Belarus IGF	• Indonesia IGF	• Slovenia IGF	• LAC IGF
• Benin IGF	• Kenya IGF Week	• Sri Lanka IGF	• North America IGF
• Bolivia IGF	• Macedonia IGF	• St. Vincent and the Grenadines	• Pacific IGF
• Bosnia and Herzegovina IGF	• Malawi IGF	• Trinidad & Tobago IGF	• SEEM IGF
• Chad IGF	• Mauritius IGF	• Tunisia IGF	• West Africa IGF
• Colombia IGF	• Namibia IGF	• Ukraine IGF	
	• Nepal IGF	• Uganda IGF	

### The General Assembly and the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is the decision-making body of the Association which manages IGFSA's activities. It sets the annual budget for approval by the General Assembly, engaging in fundraising and outreach to build awareness of the importance of supporting the IGF. The Executive Committee is currently composed as follows: