ABOUT APC

APC is an international network dedicated to empowering and supporting groups and individuals working for peace, human rights, development and protection of the environment, through the strategic use of information and communication technologies (ICTs), including the internet. APC has 60 organisational and 35 individual members.
Definitions of the internet
History of IG
Definitions and scope of IG
Key concepts associated with IG
Past and current debates
Q & A: What do you want to know/know about IG?

What I will try to cover...
A story of shifts in players, definitions, scope, issues, power and politics.

... nothing in detail
1970s: DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) creates ARPANET

1980s: ARPANET expands to include universities, research facilities and government

1990: US's National Science Foundation responsible for coordination of the non-military portion of the Internet

1995-6: Emergence of commercial ISPs

1998: Establishment of ICANN

**Internet/ICT milestones up to 2000**
1980s: Library automation and database development
1980s: Bulletin Board Systems; early email networks (Fidonet, GEOnet, Bitnet)
1990s: Interdoc and APC: content and tech unite
1992: Rio Earth Summit – the UN discovers the “internet”
1990s: UN Sustainable Development Networking Programme/APC connect 1000s of people in Africa
1990s: Telecoms liberalisation; USFs; mobile telephony; private monopolies replace government ones
1996: African Information Society Initiative/NICI plans
1999: UNECA’s African Development Forum
Late 1990s: ISPs emerge in parts of Africa

Internet/ICT milestones to 2000
Africa
2001-2003: WSIS 1: Geneva phase
2004-2005: Working Group on IG
2004: AfriNIC established
2004-2005: WSIS 2: Tunis Phase
2006-present: Mobile telephony... data; annual IGF
2008- National and regional IGFs – Africa 2012 onwards
2012: HRC “offline rights apply online” resolution
2013: Snowden revelations
2014: 1st Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation
2014: The NETmundial; AU convention on cybersecurity
2015: WSIS +10
2016: IANA transition

IG/ICT milestones post-2000
A network of autonomous networks of computing devices, which share the same core protocols enabling them to interoperate regardless of the endpoint applications and devices.

What is the internet?
Layer model

Application layer
Content and applications and processes that use the network

Host to host transport layer
Provides end-to-end data delivery services

Internet layer
Defines datagram and handles routing data

Network access layer
Physical network infrastructure
... but is that all?

users...more every year...currently about half of the world’s population experience content transactions relationships behaviour

impact is social, cultural, economic and political
The overlapping IG jigsaw

- Global issues and institutions
- Regional issues and institutions
- Technical issues and institutions
- National issues and institutions
- Cross jurisdiction issues and institutions
- Local issues and institutions
Definitions of the internet and of internet governance have evolved as use of the network has evolved. Actors who were not that interested in the 1990s (e.g. policy-makers, governments, businesses, human rights defenders) are now deeply engaged.

**Shifts in scope and definitions**
The handling of technical coordination required for, and policy issues related to, the interoperability and smooth functioning of the different components of internet infrastructure and the exchange of information/contents over the Internet.
Narrow approach: institutions

Internet Engineering Task Force: architecture and hundreds of protocols including: TCP, IP, UDP

W3C: World Wide Web Consortium - application-layer standards for the Web

ITU: Spectrum & digital migration

IEEE: Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers - Ethernet LAN & Wi-Fi standards
Narrow definition issues

Internet logical resources, globally unique identifiers:
IP addresses
Domain name system
 Autonomous system numbers
IPV4 numbers running out and IPV6 adoption
But technical definitions have ceased to be sufficient...

“A global resource which should be managed in the public interest.”
NETmundial statement, Sao Paulo, April 2014
WSIS UN approach

**WSIS outcomes**
Broad definition of IG and multistakeholder approach and annual IGF
Human rights oriented and people-centered
Stakeholders to be included and have respective roles and responsibilities (not very clearly defined.
Technical coordination to continue to be lead by technical organisations.
Governments: to be involved on an “equal footing” with one another and and “enhanced cooperation” to be addressed.

**WSIS ten year review 2015 outcomes**
IGF renewal, focus on women, affirmed broad definition and multistakeholder approach. Requested more work on enhanced cooperation.
“Internet governance is the development and application by governments, private sector and civil society in their respective roles, of shared principles, norms, rules, decision-making procedures, and programmes that shape the evolution and use of the Internet.”

WGIG report and Tunis Agenda, 2005
Broad approach institutions

National telecoms regulators
UN agencies: ITU, WIPO, HRC
Ministries of information and communication, finance, foreign affairs, security, science and technology, education
Civil society organisations/movements (e.g. women’s movement)
Regional intergovernmental bodies such as African Union and European Union Commissions
Courts: national and regional e.g. European Court of Justice
Broad definition issues

Data transfers, trade
Competition policy
Security and stability of infrastructure
Freedom expression and association
Privacy – data protection
Liability of intermediaries
Surveillance
Shutdowns
... and more
Human rights apply online as they do offline (HRC resolution 2012)

Domains such as .africa, .amazon, .book or .xxx

South African Film and Publication Board online content regulation

Data-breaches

African Declaration on Internet Rights and Freedoms
Current IG priorities and debates

Cyber crime and cyber security
Data protection
Content control
Surveillance by businesses and governments
Competition
Harmful use – elections, hate speech, “fake news”
Role of government – national and intergovernmental
More regulation e.g. GDPR and intellectual property
Institutional arrangements and roles of stakeholders
Given the open and distributed nature of internet architecture, its governance involves coordination and cooperation.
Discussion

Distributed internet governance

Coordination?

Collaboration?

Overight?

Multi-stakeholder?

Cross-border

What is good internet governance?