Virtual Fellowship Program Post ICANN72 Report

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(On behalf of ICANN72 fellows)

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FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM – ICANN72 OVERVIEW

The Fellowship Program strengthens the diversity of the multistakeholder model by fostering opportunities for individuals from underserved and underrepresented communities to become active participants in the ICANN community. This visual represents an overview of the latest cohort of fellows.
To learn more and to read the fellows' complete report, go to **http://www.icann.org/en/fellowships**.

NUMBER OF FELLOWS
38

NUMBER OF COACHES
5

GENDER DIVERSITY

74% MALE
26% FEMALE

NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN BY FELLOWS
27

NUMBER OF COUNTRIES REPRESENTED
29

NUMBER OF WORKING SECTORS AND/OR AREAS OF INTEREST
11

HOURS OF SESSIONS ATTENDED
470

NUMBER OF ICANN LEARN COURSES COMPLETED
490

NUMBER OF WORKING GROUP SESSIONS ATTENDED
88

PERCENTAGE SATISFIED WITH MENTORING EXPERIENCE
84%

Find out how you can participate by visiting: **www.icann.org**

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One World, One Internet

What is the Fellowship Program?

The goal of the ICANN Fellowship Program is to strengthen the diversity of the multistakeholder model by fostering opportunities for individuals from underserved and underrepresented communities to become active participants in the ICANN community.

Fellows are exposed to the workings of the ICANN community, assigned a mentor, and receive training across different areas of knowledge and skill building before, during, and after an ICANN meeting. Travel assistance to attend an in-person meeting is also provided, where appropriate.

To apply or learn more about the Fellowship Program, go to http://www.icann.org/en/fellowships.

ICANN72 Virtual Fellowship Participants

The ICANN72 Virtual Fellowship Program had 38 fellows and five mentors. Mentors are appointed by ICANN's Supporting Organizations (SOs) and Advisory Committees (ACs).

For this report, fellow profile metrics are derived from data provided during the Fellowship Program application process.

Fellows

Name	Country or region of residence	Working sector and/or area of interest
Abdullah Cemil Akcam	Turkey	ccTLD Operations, Technical
Afi Edoh	Togo	Academia, Internet service providers and connectivity providers, Technical, Security
Andrey Shcherbovich	Russian Federation	Academia
Ashirwad Tripathy	Nepal	Civil Society
Bafima Téli Martin Daouda Traore	Burkina Faso	Civil Society, Internet End User, Security
Bendjedid Rachad Sanoussi	Benin	Academia, Technical Security
Cherkaoui Leghris	Morocco	Academia, Civil Society, Technical, Internet End User, Security
Clement Genty	France	Academia, Internet End User
Dedlyne Cloiseau	Haiti	Civil Society, Internet End User
Dhanalakshmi Karanahalli Thyagaraj	India	Internet End User
Eileen Kwiponya	Kenya	Academia, Civil Society, Internet End User
Emmanuel OGU	Nigeria	Academia, Civil Society, Internet End User
Friso Roman P. Bostoen	Belgium	Academia
Idil Kula	Turkey	Academia, Civil Society

Name	Country or region of residence	Working sector and/or area of interest
Gerardo Martinez Hernandez	Mexico	Academia, Civil Society, Internet End User
Herman Ângelo Miguel Ramos	Mozambique	Academia, Technical
Innocent Adriko	Uganda	Civil Society, Internet End User
Isaac Maposa	Zimbabwe	Business & Commerce, Internet end user – Recipient of Tarek Kamel Fellowship Recognition
Jade Makory	Kenya	Academia, Business & Commerce
Jean-Paul Voilleque	United States of America	Business & Commerce, Intellectual Property
Juliana Harsianti	Indonesia	Civil Society
Kossi Amessinou	Benin	Academia
Laxmi Prasad Yadav	Nepal	Academia, Internet End User, Technical
Lilian Kamara	Uganda	Academia, Civil Society, Internet End User, Technical
Mansur Mirzoev	Tajikistan	ccTLD operations, Intellectual property, Internet service providers and connectivity providers, Technical, Security
Minata Zong-Naba	Burkina Faso	Civil Society, Security
Nelson Juarez	Nicaragua	Academia, ccTLD Operations
Nicolò Emanuele Passaro	Italy	Academia, Intellectual Property, Technical, Security
Nicolas Fiumarelli	Uruguay	ccNSO
Pavanaja Ubaradka Bellippady	India	Academia, Civil Society, Technical
Philip Fomba Johnson	Liberia	Civil Society, Internet End User
Robert Nkambwe	Uganda	Academia, Technical, Security
Samwel Kariuki	Kenya	Academia
Shadrach Ankrah	Ghana	Civil Society, Technical, Security
Shah Zahidur Rahman	Bangladesh	Business & Commerce, Internet end user, Technical, Security
Yilin Sun	China	Academia, Civil Society, Security
Zaher Qassrawi	Palestine	Civil Society, Technical, Security
Zeina Bou Harb	Lebanon	ccTLD operations, Internet end user, Internet service providers and connectivity providers

Note: All information above is self-reported by applicants.

Mentors

- Jenifer Lopez – appointed by the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO)
- Farell Folly – appointed by the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)
- Kristina Hakobyan – appointed by the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)
- Afifa Abbas – appointed by the Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)
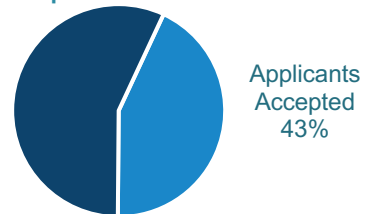- Alfredo Calderon – appointed by the At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC)

Program Statistics

In this section, the metrics are derived from data provided by fellows during the application process and fellowship post-meeting survey.

Application Process

88 applications were received. 38 individuals were selected to participate as fellows. All of them were able to attend and successfully completed the ICANN72 Fellowship Program.

Fellowship Program Acceptance Rate
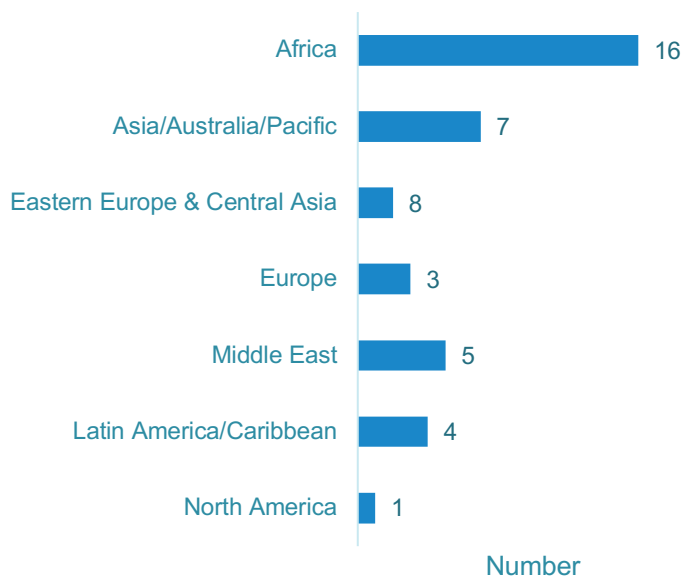
Applicants Accepted 43%
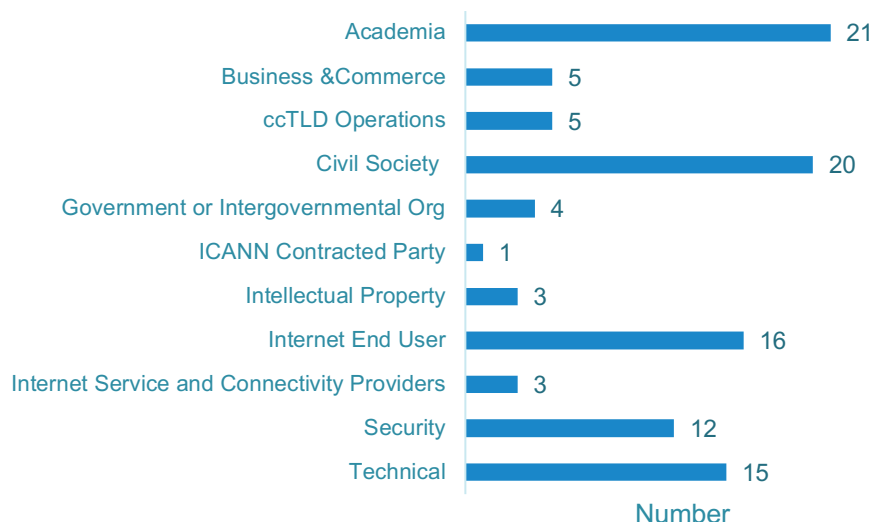
Fellowship Cohort Profile

The 38 ICANN72 fellows came from different regions, with Africa being the most common, followed by the Asia/Australia Pacific.

The regions reflect the ICANN regions. Note that applicants and fellows could select multiple stakeholder groups.

Regional Representation

Region	Number
Africa	16
Asia/Australia/Pacific	7
Eastern Europe & Central Asia	8
Europe	3
Middle East	5
Latin America/Caribbean	4
North America	1

Number

Working Sector and/or Area of Interest

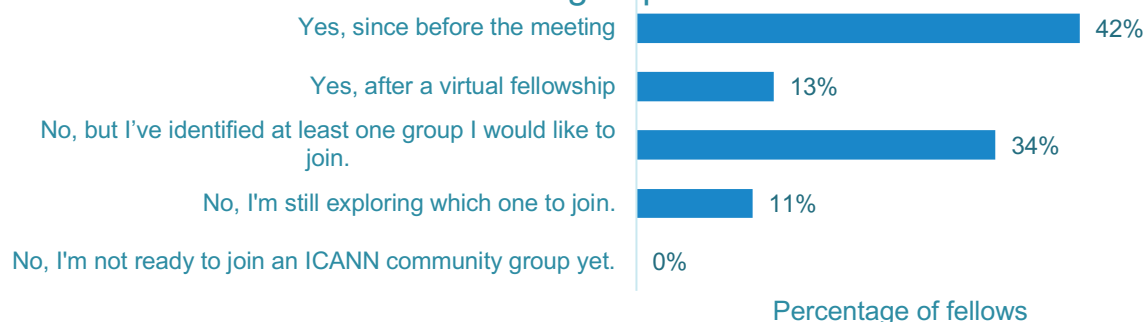| Sector	Number
Academia	21
Business &Commerce	5
ccTLD Operations	5
Civil Society	20
Government or Intergovernmental Org	4
ICANN Contracted Party	1
Intellectual Property	3
Internet End User	16
Internet Service and Connectivity Providers	3
Security	12
Technical	15

Number

Community Engagement

SO/AC Affiliations

In total, 42% of the fellows indicated that they were affiliated with at least one ICANN community group (Supporting Organization, Advisory Committee, Stakeholder Group or Constituency) before the ICANN72 meeting, 13% indicated that they became affiliated after ICANN72 was over, 34% have already identified at least one group to join, while 11% are still exploring which group to join.

Are you affiliated with at least one ICANN community group?

	Percentage of fellows
Yes, since before the meeting	42%
Yes, after a virtual fellowship	13%
No, but I've identified at least one group I would like to join.	34%
No, I'm still exploring which one to join.	11%
No, I'm not ready to join an ICANN community group yet.	0%

Percentage of fellows

Out of the 38 fellows, 17 mentioned that they are affiliated with At-Large community (particularly 10 with AFRALO, 4 with APRALO, 2 with LACRALO, and 1 with EURALO); 7 fellows with Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO), 2 fellows are affiliated with Government Advisory Committee (GAC), and per one fellow respectively with Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) and Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC).

Main Takeaways from the Virtual Fellowship

Here are the main points from the fellows regarding the virtual fellowship experience:

⊙ Fellows became familiar with how ICANN works, the topics related to Internet governance, and the policy development process. They also loved to meet with people behind the scenes, making ICANN community alive.

⊙ Some of the fellows found TechDay events particularly interesting as they were interactive.

⊙ A big number of fellows liked the joint meetings between constituencies and the ICANN Board. These were high level meetings open to everyone and in which current topics were discussed. Some also liked the meetings between constituencies such as the joint meeting between GAC and GNSO.

⊙ ccNSO sessions were another point of interest among fellows since intriguing policy debates as well as contemporary topics such as DNS abuse took place in those meetings. For example, it was fruitful to learn about how the policies regarding ccTLDs are developed and amended thanks to those meetings.

⊙ In terms of virtual experience, some fellows thought that ICANN should organize hybrid public meetings to equalize in-person and remote participation. They felt that virtual meetings have become the new trend, yet the community seemed to have a big problem with them. On the other hand, some fellows found virtual tools so easy to interact and network with their peers all around the world. Both groups, however, stated that they want to experience physical meetings to fully grasp what it meant to be a part of an international, multilingual, and multicultural community.

⊙ All the fellows enjoyed having a direct address to the top managers such as ICANN CEO and the board members. They also appreciated the transparent policy development process utilized by ICANN. They were also impressed by the open work style in which anyone interested in Internet governance topics can easily get involved.

⊙ Many fellows, especially newcomers highlighted the well-structured Fellowship Program, from the mandatory ICANN Learn courses to prep-week sessions, and the importance of the mentoring process prior to the meeting, which helps them to understand the ICANN community and ICANN multistakeholder approach.

ICANN72 Virtual Fellowship Program Activities

Pre-Meeting Activities

The fellows had an important session with the ICANN Board Chair, members, and ICANN President and CEO during the first day of the Prep-Week. It was a great opportunity for the fellows to approach the leadership of ICANN and prepare for ICANN activities in the week after. Thus, the fellows attended the webinar and were able to interact directly with these leaders by asking them questions. The fellows also attended the GNSO webinar, considered among the most important ICANN activities.

The idea to schedule the prep week sessions and offer the ICANN Learn courses to prepare the fellows for the Meeting is very helpful. The fellows took several courses and attended several sessions where they got to know more about the fellowship program and had a clear understanding of what to expect from the Meeting and how the things are working.

The fellows participated in the following Prep Week sessions:

Day 1 Highlights Tuesday, 12 October 2021

- ⊙ Joint Meeting: ICANN Board Members and ICANN CEO
- ⊙ Generic Names Supporting Organization Policy Update Webinar

Day 2 Highlights - Wednesday, 13 October 2021
- ⊙ What to Expect During ICANN72: A Guide for Newcomers
- ⊙ The Global Public Interest at ICANN - Update

Day 3 Highlight - Thursday, 14 October 2021
- ⊙ Pre-ICANN72 Policy Update

In addition to the above meetings, two important sessions exclusive to fellows and not included in the official ICANN72 schedule were held as explained in the next session.

Special Day Highlights - Thursday, 21 October 2021
- ⊙ Meet & Greet Session with ICANN72 Fellows and Global Stakeholder Engagement Teams (regional breakouts)
- ⊙ How Consensus Works in ICANN, an interactive session with Melissa Allgood

This long afternoon was very fruitful for the fellows with two sessions planned. The first allowed the fellows to meet each other and have a first contact with each other. This meeting was then split into small regional groups with Global Stakeholder Engagement Teams (regional breakouts).

The second consisted of a sort of training on How Consensus Works in ICANN, with expert Melissa Allgood. This session allowed the fellows to have the basic principles of consensus. It was followed by a workshop in small groups to work on the principle of consensus.

Virtual Meeting Activities

ICANN72 Virtual AGM took 4 days and the following 6 sessions were mandatory to attend for all the fellows:

1. How it Works: ICANN Policy – Session for ICANN72 Fellows
2. At least one session of three Tech Day events
3. Q&A with ICANN Org Executive Team
4. At least one of three DNSSEC and Security Workshops
5. ICANN Public Forum
6. ICANN 23rd Annual General Meeting - Public Board Meeting with the ICANN Board of Directors

Apart from above mentioned meetings, fellows were encouraged to attend as many sessions as possible depending on their sector of interest. Since the fellowship program is a big opportunity to explore different areas of work of ICANN, taking the best of various sessions was highly beneficial.

Some of the sessions were informational, in which fellows listened to presentations whereas some others such as TechDay were interactive. Fellows showed genuine interest in the meetings by asking questions, answering polls, and sharing their personal view on the topic.

Highlights and the main events for each day and for each SO/AC are summarized as follows:

Day 1 – Monday, 25 October 2021

Day 1 Highlights
- ⊙ Tech Day
- ⊙ GAC Opening Plenary
- ⊙ Joint Meeting: ICANN Board and ALAC
- ⊙ How it Works: ICANN Policy – Session for ICANN72 Fellows
- ⊙ GNSO: CPH DNS Abuse Work Group Community Update
- ⊙ NextGen Presentations

Tech Day:
- ⊙ PoC of DNS Identifiers
- ⊙ DNS Core Census
- ⊙ RDAP Enabled Security Initiative
- ⊙ DNSSEC Parameters for TLDs

GNSO:
- ⊙ ISPCP Membership Meeting
- ⊙ RrSG Membership Meeting
- ⊙ RySG Membership Meeting
- ⊙ CPH DNS Abuse Work Group Community Update
- ⊙ GNSO Council Priorities and Prep Session
- ⊙ BRG-Regulation, DNS Abuse and The Next Round - dotBrand Perspectives

ALAC:
- ⊙ Joint Meeting: ICANN Board and ALAC

GAC:
- ⊙ GAC Opening Plenary

NextGen:
- ⊙ NextGen Presentation 1 & 2

Day 2 – Tuesday, 26 October 2021

Day 2 Highlights
- ⊙ Joint meeting: ICANN Board and CSG
- ⊙ RSSAC Meeting
- ⊙ Joint meeting: ICANN Board and RSSAC
- ⊙ Joint meeting: ICANN Board and CSG
- ⊙ Joint Meeting: GAC and the GNSO

GNSO:
- ⊙ RySG GeoTLD Group Community Outreach
- ⊙ Joint Meeting: GAC and the GNSO
- ⊙ Joint meeting:ICANN Board and GNSO Council

ccNSO:
- ⊙ Governance Session
- ⊙ Questions and Answers Session with Council Candidates
- ⊙ Strategic and Operational Planning Standing Committee Session

ALAC:

- ⊙ Joint Meeting: GAC and the ALAC
- ⊙ Joint AFRALO-AfrICANN Meeting
- ⊙ LAC Space

GAC:
- ⊙ GAC Working Group Updates
- ⊙ Discussions on Subsequent Procedures and GAC Communique review

SSAC:
- ⊙ SSAC Public Meeting

Day 3 – Wednesday, 27 October 2022

Day 3 Highlights
- ⊙ Q&A with ICANN Org Executive Team
- ⊙ GAC Discussion: WHOIS and Data Protection
- ⊙ Joint Meeting: ICANN Board and SSAC
- ⊙ Joint Meeting: ICANN Board and GAC
- ⊙ DNSSEC and Security Workshop

GNSO:
- ⊙ EPDP on Internationalized Domain names
- ⊙ Registration Data Policy IRT Meeting

ALAC:
- ⊙ Joint Meeting: GAC and the ALAC
- ⊙ Joint AFRALO-AfrICANN Meeting
- ⊙ LAC Space

GAC:
- ⊙ Joint Meeting: ICANN Board and GAC
- ⊙ GAC ICANN72 Communique Drafting (1/5)

SSAC:
- ⊙ Joint Meeting: ICANN Board and SSAC

DNSSEC Session:
- ⊙ DNSSEC and Security Workshop (1/3)

Day 4 – Thursday, 28 October 2021

Day 4 Highlights
- ⊙ ICANN Public Forum
- ⊙ ICANN 23rd Annual General Meeting - Public Board Meeting with the ICANN Board of Directors
- ⊙ ccNSO: DNS Abuse - What's the role of the ccNSO?
- ⊙ DNS Women: Universal Acceptance - Where are we today
- ⊙ Joint Meeting: ICANN Board and ccNSO Council

GNSO:
◉ GNSO Council Meeting (2/2)
◉ IPC Membership Meeting
◉ CPH Membership Meeting

ccNSO:
◉ ccNSO: Council Meeting
◉ ccNSO: DNS Abuse - What's the role of the ccNSO?
◉ Joint Meeting: ICANN Board and ccNSO Council
◉ ccNSO: TLD Ops Standing Committee Session

ALAC:
◉ At-large Leadership Transition

GAC:
◉ GAC ICANN72 Communique Drafting (2/5, 3/5, 4/5, 5/5)
◉ GAC meeting with the UASG
◉ GAC Wrap-up

DNSSEC Session:
◉ DNSSEC and Security Workshop (2/3 and 3/3)

Social/Networking
◉ NARALO Taste of Seattle, Beer Appreciation Night

The ICANN Public Forum and Public Board Meeting were the prominent closing sessions, in which fellows participated actively. Fellows found the ICANN Public Board Meeting as one of the most interesting sessions as they were able to watch and interact with a live meeting. This meeting demonstrated how the board discusses various topics, how they reach consensus on controversial topics, and how it makes the final managerial decision.

Post-Meeting Activities

ICANN72 fellows consist of both those who are already engaged with several ICANN activities and others who are newcomers. Thanks to the fellowship program, fellows had the chance to learn and experience various constituencies of ICANN and explore potential areas of interest for their future plans. Following the ICANN72 meeting, many fellows reported that they wanted to engage more and be a part of the wider ICANN community. For example, some fellows want to take part in regional working groups whereas some others intend to contribute to PDPs (Policy Development Process) by providing feedback or directly joining the development team.
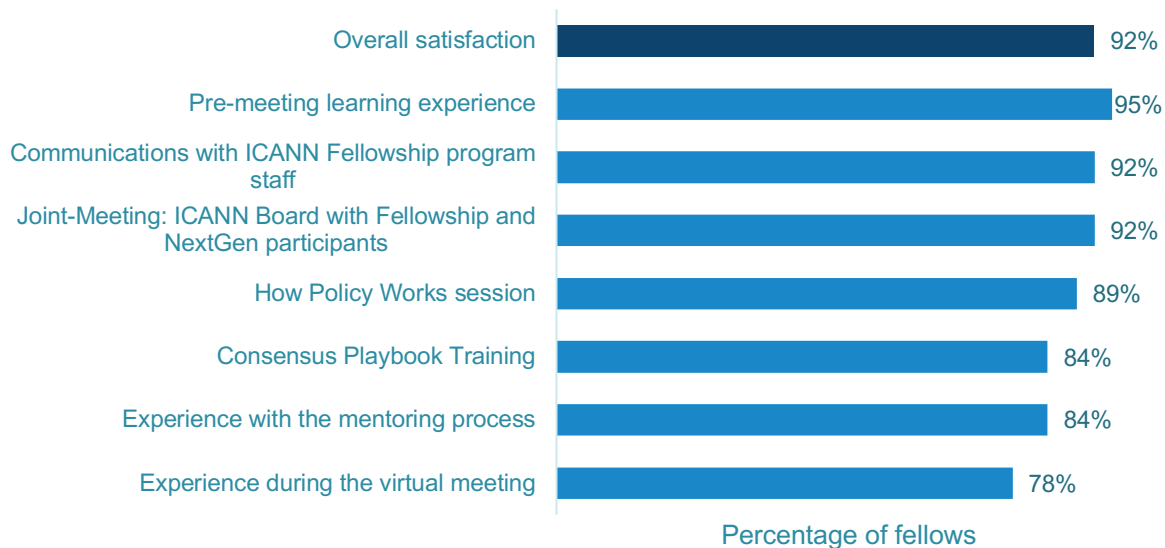
Some of the fellows also attended post ICANN72 readout sessions held by local communities in which ICANN72 meeting was evaluated and summarized.

Fellows' Feedback

Although virtual environments are not a full substitute for face-to-face interaction, fellows reported that they were satisfied with the networking opportunities. They were also highly satisfied with the

content of the meetings and the speakers. As seen on the following chart, the overall satisfaction rate for the meeting is quite high.

Fellows Satisfied with the Virtual Program

Overall satisfaction	92%
Pre-meeting learning experience	95%
Communications with ICANN Fellowship program staff	92%
Joint-Meeting: ICANN Board with Fellowship and NextGen participants	92%
How Policy Works session	89%
Consensus Playbook Training	84%
Experience with the mentoring process	84%
Experience during the virtual meeting	78%

Percentage of fellows

Feedback on Prep-Week Meetings Activities

Pre-meeting activities are important not only for virtual but also for all kind of meetings. The prep-week format is good for all participants of different backgrounds. These formats could be used throughout the year for intersessional activities of engagement.

All the fellows expressed their satisfaction with the pre-meeting activities, where there were special sessions for them as well as a lot of mentoring that allowed them to prepare well for the ICANN meeting. The online courses were also a great help to them to understand the organization of the functioning of ICANN.

Pre-meeting experience can be improved if fellows are more engaged. The experience can be rich if the fellows are encouraged to interact more by the means of collective work e.g. presentations, webinars. If the fellows are given a bit of space to move freely they could have represented themselves with more motivation. The interaction between ICANN could be improved.

Given the importance of the pre-week sessions, some fellows even suggested that:
- Presence should be compulsory at the next ICANN prep-week meetings.
- Provide more time for fellows to speak and discuss during scheduled sessions.
- Invite alumni to share their experiences with newcomers, within special sessions.
- Take linguistic diversity into account for the effective involvement and participation of all, during remote meetings.

Areas of Opportunity to Improve Newcomers' Experience

Although ICANN keeps improving the tools and contents of presentations in each of its meetings, the fellows made these suggestions:

- Involve newcomers in certain topics (based on real scenarios) and organize a separate meeting to discuss them.
- There should be a follow-up virtual gathering for ICANN72 newcomers to discuss the way forward. Each one can be an ICANN ambassador in its community, and we can share an experience.
- Virtual reality session with Meta for example.
- Networking sessions, online games.
- Since we cannot meet with SOs and ACs members face to face, which could build up networks for SOs and ACs recruiting from newcomers and fellows, maybe SOs and ACs could provide some part-time tasks for fellows to work with, which could build up the network better.
- Improving post-meeting experience by doing follow-ups with the newcomer in their respective regions and ensuring they actively engage in the community.
- Facilitate mentoring with community members after the fellowship.
- Time-zone remains a big challenge to newcomers, probably ICANN can think of scaling up the schedules to include night sessions which will turn out to be day sessions in some regions so that to help newcomers fully participate in live sessions.
- The use of platforms that could be like NETMundial or High-Level Panel on Digital Cooperation, like this software paragraph/comments-based, is ideal for massive participation, something that is necessary for ICANN Public Consultations. If you look at the history, the ICANN Open Calls have not been very attractive for the general population of citizens that are worried about some of the topics, so it is a matter of user experience within the platform that maybe needs to be improved for multistakeholder consensus processes.
- Role-play and informal meetings with other fellows. It will increase the engagement within fellows, and we get to know more about other fellows.
- It will be more impactful for newcomers to have frequent ICANN interactions before the ICANN meeting prep week. Frequent interactions will allow the newcomer to gradually ease into ICANN, which I believe would be the best approach as opposed to an information overload through the courses and the prep meetings, which happen just before the ICANN meeting.
- Better platform for interaction.
- Continue the mentoring program for newcomers.
- Virtual engagement is a true challenge. While ICANN has already done a lot, and can undoubtedly do more, I am afraid that the only full solution lies in ensuring that future meetings can take place in person. I realize, of course, that this is not a very satisfying answer

Areas of Opportunity to Improve Overall ICANN Virtual Meetings

Although the ICANN72 meeting was productive, there is always room for improvement and fellows highlighted specific areas of opportunities to improve the overall virtual engagement and participation.

These are some of the areas highlighted:

- The quality of the platform must be reviewed, taking into account the poor Internet connections that the participating parties must use in certain countries to have access to it.
- Promote various online learning initiatives to deepen and broaden stakeholder engagement where fellows gain exposure to the working of the ICANN community, participate in virtual meetings/workshops, receive training across the different areas of knowledge, and complete meaningful projects.
- More sessions on DNS and its security, PDP, Domain name generation rules, gTLD.

- The example of using "escape rooms" - this kind of interaction activities may be increased. There might also be some sessions to provide career advice for fellows. They may be shown what kind of opportunities they have or some successful profiles to admire.
- Living in a different time zone is very challenging. We need to rely on recordings to follow up on the issues of interest. The fellows' experience is not complete unless one can attend a physical meeting. Hopefully ICANN72 fellows will have a chance to attend a future onsite meeting.
- The experience can be improved by adding more useful ICANN courses for the fellowship program for the sessions in the meeting to make more sense as they attend.
- Include more role-plays.
- Maybe, provide supplementary support for data connectivity due to the need to participate in the ICANN learn courses, the preparatory webinars, and the ICANN meeting.
- More informal engagement with other fellows within events e.g. Fika Lounge for fellows.
- There is a need for capacity building and the use of more practical exercises.
- Of course, the courses are in the fellowship recipient's language or subtitled, and if possible, mentors have fellowship recipients with the same language in their group and thus facilitate communication.
- Provide translation or interpretation in a way that creates inclusion rather than exclusion of stakeholders.

What is Next?

Some ICANN72 fellows indicated they are already engaged in ICANN activities in general and at a regional level particularly. Some participate in policy development through mailing lists. Some of them are already members of Regional At-Large Structures (ALSs).

ICANN72 fellows describe their further plans for engagement as:

Abdullah Cemil Akcam stated that in the short run, he plans to apply for the vice-chair position in either IGLC or MPC. He also wants to join one of the GNSO working groups (most probably technical). In the mid-long term, he wants to dig more into Internet governance work. He may take responsibility for regional activities and apply for jobs at ICANN or other organizations. He also plans to start a registrar business.

Afi Edoh said that as always, he has learned a lot of new things and topics that he did not have the chance of discussing with previous groups, but he got the chance to do with this new group.

Andrey Shcherbovich stressed that this was his first time participating in the ICANN Fellowship Program. He has significant experience with the UN Internet Governance Forum. Although the ICANN fellowship was carried out in a remote format, the experience gained there was certainly interesting. Of course, the very format of holding both the fellowship program and the ICANN72 itself led to discussions about how it is possible to resume face-to-face meetings in the context of the ongoing pandemic. At McGill University he would like to establish a student working group of interested people to create the draft of the Universal Declaration of Digital Rights. The campaign of this drafting could be good scientific research and academic experience for students and other members of the group.

Ashirwad Tripathy expressed that he has been working to bridge the digital divide to attain SDGs mostly education. These works have a lot to do with the technological and human aspects of the Internet and its unique identifiers. Especially with a multistakeholder model of governance, he plans to actively participate and engage in this community so that the voices of the marginalized community are also heard and so that he can take back my learning to the marginalized community. He plans to learn more, then join the various committees, and even lead them when the community members deem him ready.

Bafima Teli Martin Daouda Traore witnessed that from a learning perspective he could not have hoped for better, from the advice of the ICANN players to the coaching of the mentors, it was a great experience. Modules are quite well put together for the sole purpose of making good learning easy. As a result, he came away better equipped to support the ICANN community. At the country level, actions have been taken to allow better participation of young people in discussion forums. He intended to join the Burkinese Association of Internet Domains (ABDI), which aims to promote the development of the Internet in Burkina Faso.

Bendjedid Rachad Sanoussi said that he would like to get more involved in GNSO work and also continue to engage more people on issues related to the DNS and especially the technical aspects of future mobile networks.

Cherkaoui Leghris affirmed that ICANN has been a great experience for him both in terms of networking and in terms of learning. This allowed him to understand the mechanism, objectives, and issues related to the management of the Internet. At the ICANN level, he intends to be more active in the actions of universal acceptance. Also at the country level, actions have been taken to allow better participation of young people in the discussion forum of ICANN.

Clement Genty thinks that because of VR, domain names will be useless. However, he aims to participate in the Meta ecosystem.

Dedlyne Cloiseau said that her participation in ICANN was a beautiful and enriching experience, and a very good moment of learning and networking. She intends to get involved in one of the At-Large working groups to make her contribution.

Eileen Nay Kwiponya expressed that her participation in the virtual ICANN meeting has been a worthwhile experience as she has been able to gain more insight into ICANN decision-making processes and how different activities are conducted within the ICANN structure. She hopes to continue engaging in the ICANN community by working together with the regional engagement team to ensure more individuals are brought onboard and can make meaningful contributions to the community.

Friso Bostoen mentioned that as a newcomer the ICANN experience was eye-opening. The learning curve was steep (so many acronyms!), but he now feels like having a good view of the mission and operation of ICANN. In the future, he wants to do more work (as an academic) on open standards, and engagement with(in) ICANN seems very complementary to this mission. While he might be able to find a more suitable forum as time goes by, his initial plan is to join At-Large.

Gerardo Martinez Hernandez, fellow for the first time, and observer of a LACRALO At-Large structure, is interested in executing programs that support ICANN's work. He also plans to participate more fully in working groups, promote universal acceptance, and governance, in addition to being able to mentor and help more people interested in learning more about ICANN, in Spanish, breaking that language barrier so that it is not a determining factor for getting involved in ICANN.

Herman Angelo Miguel Ramos, a first-time fellow, plans to get involved as a member of AFRALO. Also, he will continue to explore other working groups and participate actively on the working groups' mailing lists. In general, he plans to continue to contribute to ICANN's mission and work by strengthening and advancing the development, application, operation, and security of Internet infrastructure, Internet systems of unique identifiers, technologies, and open standards.

Idil Kula will use the knowledge and skills acquired through the course of the Fellowship, to ignite community engagement and canalize public discussions. As a co-leader of a regional capacity development project on digital citizenship and as a part of Internet Society Turkey Chapter, she will bridge issues both on the last mile Internet and domain names field. Moreover, she aims to participate in the future events and contribute to the public comments more frequently.

Innocent Adriko said that having studied the ICANN community further, he plans to join the GNSO because he feels he can fit perfectly there besides his engagement in At-Large.

Isaac Maposa wants to engage more in Leadership positions within the ICANN working groups. The only way to know more is through engagement.

Jade Makory stated that ICANN72 was very eye opening, especially being the first time fellow. Following the meeting, she intends to participate more in the ICANN community by being actively involved in the discussions touching on data protection, intellectual property, DNSSEC, and general security, including measures such as encryption. The Intellectual Property Constituency is of great interest to her and she would like to work towards joining the constituency and engaging pro-actively. She is excited to play her part in making the Internet the best that it can be.

Jean-Paul S. Voilleque intended to continue his engagement with ICANN both through his work at ICANNWiki and more directly through input into the prioritization framework project and its opportunities for public comment.

Juliana Harsianti, as a first-time fellow, is interested to join the At-Large community in her region and be involved in their respective activity and engagement. The lessons she got from the fellowship activity hopefully could apply in ICANN community policy development and other Internet community fora.

Lilian Kamara said that she plans to continue participating through the ALS and the different working groups. Most importantly, she plans to focus on spearheading an aggressive engagement in the ICANN collaboration with universities in her country. The target audience for engagement is university students and educators.

Kossi Amessinou mentioned that this was the first time attending an ICANN Annual General Meeting. He found the experience to be very informative. He learned about the work method and organizational approaches. He thinks that he will be very effective in representing his country in the GAC and he has already started the advocacy for this. He is interested in the dissemination of ICANN course materials in the training courses of computer science students at the computer training and research institute at the University of Abomey-Calavi in Benin, though there will be a need for financial support to do this. Through this mechanism, he will be able to train many experts in questions related to ICANN's mission in the world.

Laxmi Prasad Yadav mentioned that his participation was very fruitful and his expectation had been fulfilled. He would like to be involved in Policy Development Process through PDP working group/s.

Mansur Mirzoev, a first-time fellow, is interested in joining one of the constituencies, such as IPC, BC, or ISPCP and plans to engage with ICANN regional engagement staff. Participating in an ICANN meeting as a fellow provided him a possibility to engage with Internet and DNS stakeholders and gain more clarity and better understand how to collaborate on the latest issues, policy development, and operations of ICANN, the SOs/ACs, and the Internet community. He already knew a lot about the technicalities of the Internet as he had a technical background in networking and security and participation in the ICANN Fellowship Program both broadened and deepened his professional horizon. He has the intention to promote Fellowship programs as well as ICANN Learn courses to his community through academic cooperation.

Nelson Juarez stated that his experience in ICANN72 was very valuable in knowing how ICANN works and the participation they have in both policy areas and technical aspects related to global connectivity. Likewise, in establishing collaboration ties with the rest of the participants to promote teamwork in his community.

Nicolas Fiumarelli said that, with an eye on the following ICANN events and the intersessional work, he will continue to be involved and promote the work that ICANN is doing, He also thinks it is important to start spreading more about ICANN's openness with the open community, that way he thinks there is a good job that can be done to trace a bit the participation in the at-large groups in particular, but also in what has to do with the inclusion of all the operators of ccTLDs, the work of ASO that requires some motivation for the community and some issues that are not being addressed. Anyway, he thinks it will be very positive to continue delving into content and not so much in the structure. He hopes to continue participating in this excellent community full of friends and colleagues from all over the world united by the same specific causes.

Nicolo Emanuele Passaro looks forward for future opportunities and to be engaged in a such wonderful organization.

Pavanaja Bellippady mentioned that it was his first ICANN meeting albeit virtual. Since he did not attend any physical ICANN event, he have no idea how such an event works and could not relate to the virtual event. Some connecting dots are missing. Nevertheless, many sessions were quite useful and provided some directions to ponder and work. He comes from IDN and Universal Acceptance background. His focus is taking IDNs to next level, make more people aware about IDNs, make them more usable and help in bringing the next billion people online. That will help to bridge the digital divide from a language point of view.

Robert Nkambwe mentioned that he chaired the security subcommittee of the ICANN Africa Regional Plan for FY 2021-2025 and he plans to engage in activities which will strengthen this regional plan such as training and creating DNSSEC awareness campaigns. He also plans to join a number of working groups such as UASG, At-Large Capacity Building Working Group and the Consolidated Policy Development WG whose work is geared towards making internet inclusive, secure, stable, and resilient.

Samwel Kariuki stated that as a first-time fellow, he was motivated to engage with AFRALO and members of different working groups he attended. He plans to join more working groups and take part in policy development. He intends to carry out capacity or skill development at his university and within his community and shall volunteer to enlighten his community members on the operations of ICANN. He will also share with his community his valuable experiences in the ICANN72 fellowship program. He plans to be fully involved in regional and national outreach activities and looks forward to participating in future ICANN meetings.

Shadrach Ankrah hopes to learn more about the work of ALAC and the GNSO and also share the knowledge gained with his local community. This will help more people to know the work of ICANN and also contribute to this work within their communities. He also hopes to attend an on-site ICANN meeting and have an experience of how the community work is being done, particularly how consensus works during Policy Development process.

Shah Zahidur Rahman mentioned that this was his first-time fellowship but he is not a newcomer in the ICANN community, he is already a member of APRALO At-Large, NCSG, and NCUC. During the meeting he was actively following NCSG-NCUC policy discussion and wants to continue his engagement there. He is interested to contribute in a working group (New gTLD Subpro) and will observe the EPDP to engage near future. In addition he will join At-large capacity development working group related to IG activities in national, regional, and international level. However, he has a plan to share his ICANN knowledge and experience with the community and encourage them to participate and in collaboration with the ICANN regional GSE team, he will plan to organize ICANN outreach program in his country.

Yilin Sun, a first-time fellow, is interested in At-large, APRALO, and NCUC. He has incorporated multistakeholder Internet Governance and ICANN's mission into his lectures and papers. He hopes

to participate in ICANN working groups and build-up a personal network to better serve the goal of maintaining and developing a global unified Internet.

Zaher Qassrawi affirmed that attending the ICANN72 meeting was a unique opportunity. The huge amount of knowledge he got in the meeting will need time to be absorbed. The real work will start after the meeting. He plans to start in these tracks: DNSSEC, DNS abuse, and Policy Development Process (PDP).

Zeina Bou Harb said that although it is not her first collaboration with ICANN, however, after this meeting, she realized that a lot still needed to be done in her community and at the national level. She is very much interested in joining At-Large as a start and in strengthening Lebanon's engagement with ICANN in general and within GAC.

Minata Zong-Naba noted that she was truly honored by this opportunity to be a fellow and to have gained more knowledge during ICANN72. However, huge challenges remain at her own level related to the language barrier and she intends to continue learning on ICANN Learn to improve her English for a better experience within the ICANN community. She is already a member of the At-Large community via the ICT Initiative and Citizenship association, she will continue to participate in the various meeting sessions and to get involved in the work of certain At-Large groups. Being interested in the work of the NCUC, she plans to join the GNSO mailing list to follow the PDPs closely.

Acknowledgements

We want to thank those who made the ICANN72 Virtual Annual General Meeting such a flawless and lively event. As ICANN72 fellows, we really loved the sessions during both prep week and the meeting week. We felt particularly special, when attending fellow-specific events, in which we were able to meet with ICANN board members and CEO in a small group discussion.

We would love to explicitly mention our mentors' names here: Jenifer Lopez assigned by ccNSO, Farell Folly assigned by GNSO, Kristina Hakobyan assigned by GAC, Afifa Abbas assigned by RSSAC, and Alfredo Calderon assigned by At-Large.

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