Virtual Fellowship Program Post ICANN73 Report

20 April 2022



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This report was written by fellows Simone Catania, Bendjedid Rachad Sanoussi and Koupam Malick Alassane on behalf of the ICANN73 class of fellows as part of the Virtual Fellowship Program.







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

31



NUMBER OF COACHES

5



74% MALE 26% FEMALE



NUMBER OF LANGUAGES SPOKEN BY FELLOWS

24



NUMBER OF COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

20



NUMBER OF WORKING SECTORS AND/OR AREAS OF INTEREST

10



HOURS OF SESSIONS
ATTENDED

619



NUMBER OF ICANN LEARN COURSES COMPLETED

467



NUMBER OF WORKING GROUP SESSIONS ATTENDED

50



PERCENTAGE SATISFIED WITH MENTORING EXPERIENCE

72

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



ICANN73 Virtual Fellowship Participants

The ICANN73 Virtual Fellowship Program featured 31 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	COUNTRY OR REGION OF RESIDENCE	WORKING SECTOR AND/OR AREA OF INTEREST
Ahmad Al Aghar	USA	Business & Commerce, Civil Society
Alexiaa Jordan	USA	Business & Commerce, ICANN Contracted Party, Internet Service Providers and Connectivity Providers
Allan Magezi	Uganda	Civil Society, ISPCP
Ayesha Iftikhar	Pakistan	Academia, Civil Society, Technical, Security
Bendjedid Rachad Sanoussi	Benin	Academia, Technical, Security
Bolutife Adisa	Nigeria	Civil Society, ICANN Contracted Party
Eva Nadege Ncho	Cote d'Ivoire	ISPCP, Technical
Frank Anati	Ghana	ISPCP, Technical, Security
Georgina Iva Sakimi Naigulevu	Fiji	Business & Commerce, Civil Society, Technical
Isaac Majeed	Ghana	Business & Commerce
Jackline Akello	Kenya	Civil Society, Academia
James Paek	USA	Academia, Business & Commerce, Civil Society, Intellectual Property
Keolebogile Rantsetse	Botswana	Academia, Internet End User
Koupam Malick Alassane	Benin	Academia, Internet End User, Technical, Security – Recipient of Tarek Kamel Fellowship Recognition
Laxmi Prasad Yadav	Nepal	Academia, Internet End User, Technical
Marko Paloski	North Macedonia	ICANN Contracted Party, ISPCP, Technical
Md. Mahedi Hasan	Bangladesh	ISPCP
Megan Kathure	Kenya	Country code top-level domain (ccTLD) Operations, Business & Commerce, Civil Society
Mouloud Khelif	Switzerland	Civil Society, Internet End User

FELLOWS	COUNTRY OR REGION OF RESIDENCE	WORKING SECTOR AND/OR AREA OF INTEREST
Nabeel Yasin Mohammed Amin	Yemen	Academia, ISPCP, Technical
Nepomucene Mucowimana	Burundi	ccTLD Operations
Nojus Saad	Iraq	Civil Society, Internet End User
Pavanaja Ubaradka Bellippady	India	Academia, Civil Society, Internet End User
Pavel Farhan	Thailand	Academia, Civil Society, Technical
Prince Andrew Livingstone Zutah	Ghana	Civil Society, Technical, Security
Rashid Munir	Pakistan	Academia, Civil Society
Robert Nkambwe	Uganda	Academia, Technical, Security
Romulo Chacin Gonzalez	Venezuela	Academia, Internet End User, Security
Samik Kharel	Nepal	Academia, Civil Society
Sheilla Ayot Nyeko	Uganda	Academia
Simone Catania	Germany	Civil Society, Internet End User

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

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





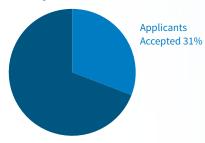


In this section, the metrics are derived from data provided by the fellows during the application process and from a fellowship post-meeting survey.

Application Process

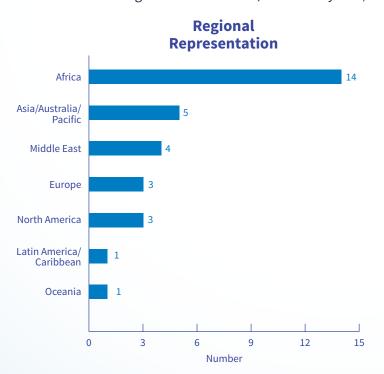
Ninety-nine applications were received. Thirty-one individuals were selected to participate as fellows, and all of them were able to attend and successfully complete the ICANN73 Fellowship Program.

Fellowship Program Acceptance Rate

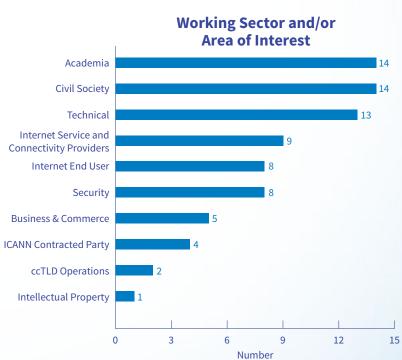


Fellowship Cohort Profile

Thirty-one individuals participated in the ICANN73 virtual Fellowship. ICANN73 Fellows came from a variety of regions, with Africa being the most common, followed by Asia/Australia/Pacific.



The regions reflect the ICANN regions.



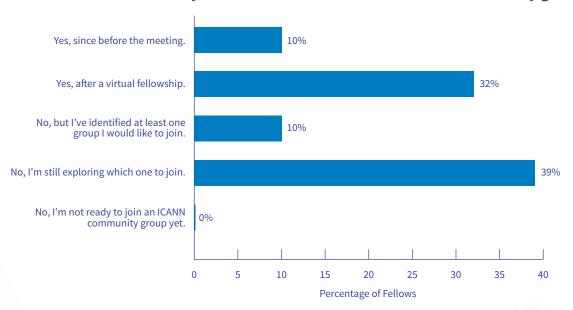
Note that applicants and fellows could select multiple stakeholder groups.

Community Engagement

SO/AC Affiliations

In total, 10 percent of the fellows indicated that they are affiliated with at least one ICANN community group (Supporting Organization, Advisory Committee, Stakeholder Group or Constituency) before the ICANN73 meeting and 32 percent indicated that they became affiliated after the virtual ICANN73 meeting. An additional 10 percent have already identified at least one group to join and 39 percent are still exploring which group to join. It is worth mentioning that out of 31 selected fellows for ICANN73, only six were alumni, only four had ever been at any in person ICANN Meeting and 25 were newcomers to ICANN.

Are you affiliated with at least one ICANN community group?



Out of 31 fellows, 10 mentioned that they are affiliated with the At-Large community, four fellows with the GNSO, two fellows with the GAC, and one fellow respectively with the RSSAC and the SSAC. Two fellows stated that they are affiliated with the Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG).



Main Takeaways from the Virtual Fellowship

The Fellowship Program offered by ICANN has been a great learning, sharing, and discussion experience for all ICANN73 Fellows. They appreciated its excellent structure and the support provided by the ICANN Learning platform, the mentoring process, and the prep-week session before the ICANN73 meeting.

All fellows (especially newcomers) gained a high-level understanding of the ICANN structure (ICANN Board, ICANN org, ICANN community) and its mission globally and in their specific region. It was an excellent opportunity for all fellows to discover different stakeholder groups, constituencies, and advisory committees of ICANN and how to contribute. Most fellows enjoyed the consensus playbook training, which was interactive and practical, and geared towards learning about the decision-making process within ICANN and helping to develop a sense of consensus as embedded within the multistakeholder model. Sessions on ICANN's Policy Development Processes were of interest to several fellows. The quality and relevance of the topics discussed during the ICANN 73 sessions were of great interest to the fellows. Most appreciated Blockchain, NFTs, Decentralized Domains Networking, DNS abuse, DNSSEC, and Universal Acceptance issues.

One of the essential elements that all fellows enjoyed despite the virtual aspect of this ICANN meeting was the networking. The meet-and greet session and the virtual coffee/Fika were entertaining. Although it was virtual, fellows had the great opportunities to ask, interact, and improve their networking skills with the friendly people from the ICANN community, staff, Board members, executives, and other fellows.



ICANN73 Virtual Fellowship Program Activities



ICANN Learn Course

The first phase of our Fellowship Program consisted of the mandatory ICANN Learn courses. They provided the fellows with a deep dive into what ICANN is all about and how policy works at ICANN. The learning phase was conducted through an online learning platform built for the global ICANN community: ICANN Learn.

Mentoring Process

To be fully engaged in this Fellowship Program, each fellow was assigned to a mentor and mentoring team. For the fellows, the active collaboration with and the timely responsiveness of their mentor was very helpful for the mentor-mentees teams' follow-up calls.

As part of the mentoring process, all ICANN73 fellows were invited to join three by-weekly calls. Those joint calls helped the fellows to get to know each other better, to learn about the ICANN multistakeholder model, and provided important guidance for identifying the best community or sector the fellows would like to learn more about.

Our planned three by-weekly calls took place on the following days:

	DATE	ТОРІС	GUEST
1	January 18th, 17:00-18:00 UTC time	At-Large and Country Code Name Supporting Organization (ccNSO)	 Alfredo Calderon, At-Large appointed mentor Eduardo Diaz – North American Regional At-Large Organization Chair (At-Large) Jenifer Lopez, ccNSO appointed mentor Alejandra Reynoso, ccNSO Chair Pablo Rodriguez, ccNSO Vice-Chair
2	February 1st, 17:00-18:00 UTC time	General Name Supporting Organization (GNSO)	Farell Folly, mentor from GNSO
3	February 15th, 17:00-18:00 UTC time	Government Advisory Committee (GAC) and Root Server System Advisory Committee (RSSAC)	 Manal Ismail, GAC Chair Robert Hoggarth, ICANN Org, Policy Development and GAC Relations Fred Baker, RSSAC Chair Ken Renard, RSSAC Vice Chair

All fellows also benefited from three special sessions during the mentoring phase. These special sessions were described as:

- February 16, 14:00-15:00 UTC Time: The first one was a special interactive session for the ICANN73 Fellowship and NextGen@ICANN Programs participants facilitated by Melissa Allgood, a Conflict Resolution Specialist at ICANN.
- March 3, 13:00-15:00 UTC Time: The second special session was the meet-and-greet session with the ICANN73
 Fellows and ICANN Global Stakeholder Engagement regional representatives, facilitated by Siranush Vardanyan,
 Fellowship Program Manager.
- March 4, 14:00-15:30 UTC Time: The third and last special session was an interactive session with Melissa Allgood (ICANN Conflict Resolution Specialist) for the consensus playbook training.

Pre-Meeting Activities

The fellows also benefited from the ICANN73 Prep Week, which ICANN holds a few weeks before each public meeting to improve community preparation and increase awareness of the plenary topics. There were five sessions during the Prep Week (out of a total of 12 sessions listed), which were assigned to fellows as **mandatory**. One of the important sessions, and a great opportunity for the fellows to approach the leadership of ICANN was a joint session with ICANN Board, fellows, and NextGen@ICANN Program participants. The fellows appreciated attending this session. They were able to interact directly with ICANN CEO Göran Marby, ICANN Board Chair Maarten Botterman and Board Vice-Chair Leon Sanchez, who is a Fellowship Program Alumnus.

The fellows participated in the following Prep Week sessions:

Tuesday 22 February 2022:

- 1. Joint Session: ICANN Board, Fellows, and NextGen@ICANN Program Participants
- 2. What to Expect During ICANN73: A Guide for Newcomers
- 3. Generic Names Supporting Organization Policy Update

Wednesday 23 February 2022:

- 1. Community Update on Universal Acceptance
- 2. Knowledge-Sharing and Instantiating Norms for DNS and Naming Security (KINDNS) Update
- 3. Contractual Compliance Update
- 4. 10th Anniversary of the New gTLD Program: A Conversation With the Operators

Thursday 24 February 2022:

- 1. Policy Update
- 2. Reviews and Implementation Status Update
- 3. Fiscal Year 2023 Planning Update
- 4. Nominating Committee Review Implementation Working Group





Virtual Meeting Activities

The ICANN73 Community Forum was held virtually, 7-10 March 2022, and all sessions were conducted during regular working hours in San Juan, Puerto Rico (Atlantic Standard Time / UTC-4).

Day 1 Highlights

- At Large Leadership Session
- GAC Opening Plenary
- GNSO: RrSG Membership Meeting
- Joint Session: ICANN Board and NCSG
- Tech Day

The sessions attended by the fellows were:

- At Large
 - > At-Large Leadership Session: Welcome to ICANN73
- GAC
 - > GAC Discussion on the Global Public Interest Framework and Preparation for Meeting with the ICANN Board
- GNSO
 - > Registration Data Accuracy Scoping Team Meeting
 - > RySG GeoTLD Group Outreach: Engagement and Improvement
- Tech Day
 - > DNS Core Census
 - > PSD DMARC
 - > DNS Abuse Round Table
 - > DoS on a ccTLD
- NextGen
 - > NextGen Presentations
- Others
 - > DNS Women in Support of Local Initiatives
 - > Virtual Coffee / Fika
 - > Q&A with ICANN Org Executive Team
 - > Plenary Session: The Global Public Interest Framework: Is it Useful?



Day 2 Highlights

- Universal Acceptance session
- Joint Session: GAC and ccNSO
- Joint Session: ICANN Board and GNSO Council
- Joint Session: ICANN Board and ALAC
- Joint Session: ICANN Board and CSG
- Joint Session: ICANN Board and SSAC
- RSSAC Meeting

The major sessions that the fellows attended were:

ALAC

- Achieving Universal Acceptance: The Way Forward
- > At-Large NARALO: Blockchain, NFT's, and Decentralized Domains What is the impact on end users, Internet security and stability, and ICANN?
- Joint Session: ICANN Board and ALAC
- > RSSAC Meeting
- > At-Large Policy Session 2: Prioritization Framework: ALAC Prioritization Assessment Tool Review

GAC.

- Joint Session: GAC and ccNSO
- > GAC Operating Principles WG Update and Discussions on Work Stream 2 Matters
- > GAC PSWG Update/DNS Abuse Session and Discussions on Subsequent Rounds
- > GAC Discussions on IGO Matters and on WHOIS/Data Protection

GNSO

- > Joint Session: ICANN Board and GNSO Council
- > GNSO Transfer Policy Review PDP Working Group
- GNSO: IPC Membership Meeting
- > RySG Membership Meeting
- GNSO: BC Membership Meeting
- › Joint Session: ICANN Board and CSG

ccNSO

- > ccNSO: ccNSO and DNS Abuse
- > ccNSO: Governance Session

Others

- > 5 Years Since the IANA Transition: What's Next?
- › Virtual Coffee/Fika





Day 3 Highlights

- Africa Space
- How it works: ICANN Policy
- Joint Session: ICANN Board and GAC
- Evolving the DNS Abuse Conversation
- DNSSEC and Security Workshop
- ICANN Fellowship Social Networking Hour

The major sessions that the fellows attended were:

- GNSO
 - → GNSO Council Meeting
 - > Evolving the DNS Abuse Conversation
- ALAC & At-Large
 - > North America Space
- Tech Day
 - DNSSEC and Security Workshop
- Others
 - > How it Works: ICANN Policy
 - > ICANN Fellowship Social Networking Hour

Day 4 Highlights

- ICANN Public Forum
- ICANN Public Board Meeting
- Wrap-Up Sessions: At-Large Leadership, GNSO Council, ccNSO council, RSSAC Public Meeting

Day 4 notable sessions for the fellows:

- ICANN Public Board Meeting
- ICANN Public Forum
- At-Large Leadership Wrap-Up
- GNSO Council Wrap-Up
- Discussion Forum on Geopolitical, Legislative, and Regulatory Developments

Post-Meeting Activities

After ICANN73, fellows who had issues with time zones followed up the event by listening to the recordings of various sessions. Based on the data provided by fellows, 125.5 hours had been spent listening to the recorded sessions. This is one of the benefits of participation at the ICANN meeting. It allows you to go back to the recordings and connect the missing dots.



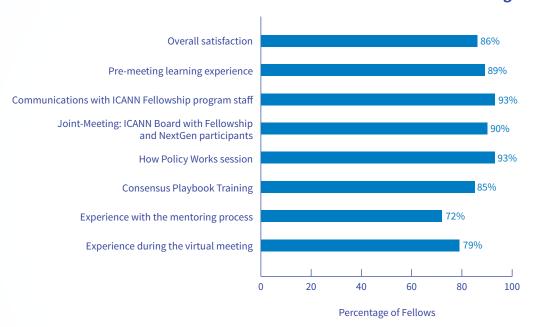




Although they would have preferred a physical meeting, the fellows were satisfied with this new virtual ICANN meeting. They found the topics discussed in the different sessions very relevant and topical for the future of the Internet.

The following graph shows the high overall satisfaction with the meeting.

Fellows Satisfied with the Virtual Program



Feedback on Prep-Week Meetings Activities

Most of the fellows enjoyed the pre-meeting programs as they gave them insight into what to expect during the ICANN73 meeting. The virtual pre-meetings were well organized and included some fun elements. They were well planned and encouraging. The online courses were also helpful as they enabled fellows to understand how ICANN is set up. Pre-meeting experience, however, could be improved if there were more one-to-one meetings with the mentors. Also, the fellowship experience could be more helpful if fellows are encouraged to interact more through collective work, for example presentations and sessions.

Below are some suggestions:

- Starting the mentoring process earlier so that fellows do not feel overwhelmed as the meeting approaches.
- More pre-meeting networking social sessions so that the fellows can interact more with each other since they can't really interact in person yet.
- Webinar series led by the staff members and leaders of ICANN org and representatives from companies and organizations like Google, Microsoft, Facebook, Internet Society, etc., to talk about how the DNS and ICANN's work affects their work and share their contributions to the DNS development. This would be unique and successful.





- Separate sessions led by each SO/AC in the ICANN community instead of one for two SO/ACs simultaneously, to enhance productivity and engagement.
- Providing room for fellows during the sessions to share their anticipations for the ICANN meetings. This will go a long way in giving them clarity about the meetings.
- Providing more space for fellows to build personal and professional connections and showcase their work and expertise during sessions with ICANN community leaders (presentation by each fellow during mentoring process (task/project/activities), private mentoring session for each mentee/fellow).
- Simultaneous interpretation to ensure everyone understands what is being said.
- Having mentors and mentees in closed groups, for example a Whatsapp group.
- Receiving a consolidated document with the complete structure of the Fellowship Program and all events.
- Providing materials or background texts for sessions like Policy Updates to enable fellows to understand the subject matter of discussion.
- Empower our fellow team with tools that enable them to communicate and collaborate effectively.
- Providing the financial Internet support package a week before pre-meeting activities begin. This will help those in need to prepare well in advance of the meeting.
- Offering an interactive mobile app that can help newcomers understand the multitude of acronyms used by different ICANN constituents!

Areas of Opportunity to Improve Newcomers' Experience

The current programs and processes for newcomers experience have prepared fellows to learn about the ICANN organization. Although ICANN keeps improving the tools and contents of presentations in each of its meetings, the fellows want:

- Face-to-face or hybrid meeting which will be better suited for training newcomers
- Specific session that talks about all the important ICANN jargon because that can be quite overwhelming for newcomers to ICANN.
- Sometimes three or four meetings start at the same time and this allows you to join only one.
- Sending ICANN souvenirs.
- Offering more "get-to-know" sessions and icebreakers.
- Providing opportunities for newcomers to make presentations during the meetings (for those who wish to present). The presentations can be projects that relate to ICANN's work or even submissions on policies.
- Providing background materials, brief learning sessions or write-ups for certain topics that will be under discussion to enable a better understanding of the subject matter in discussion.
- More mentors for a more individualized experience.
- Continuing engagement of the mentors with newcomers throughout all sessions to keep track of progress.
- Meeting format rather than webinar format for better collaboration and networking.

Areas of Opportunity to Improve Overall ICANN Virtual Meetings

Although the ICANN73 meeting was productive, there is always room for improvement. Fellows highlighted specific areas of opportunities to improve the overall virtual engagement and participation. These are some of the areas highlighted:

- Specific sessions on the culture and Internet-related policies of the host country of each meeting so that the community can get a sense of the on-site experience, the country's culture, and its progress in DNS evolution.
- More space for the fellows to deliver presentations related to the DNS and ICANN ecosystem issues at the ICANN Community Forums, so that they can have a chance to share their unique ideas and perspectives with the ICANN community and create an actual impact through the audience of the forums.
- More role-play activities to help better understand the different positions of the SOs/ACs, and other Stakeholder Groups.
- Adding a formal closing session for the ICANN week to signal the end of the current round and serve as an
 opportunity for all participants and attendees to get a briefing on the most important highlights. This would
 have also helped some of the newcomers who were not yet accustomed to the ICANN week and felt that
 ICANN73 ended just like a regular business day.

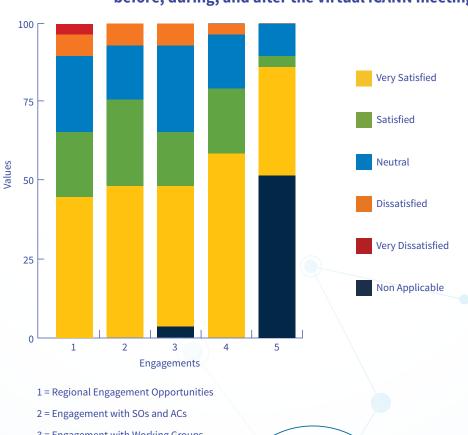
What can ICANN do to facilitate your participation and engagement into policy and advice work? Select all that apply.





- Hybrid format for all ICANN meetings.
- More awareness and financial support for participants.
- Exclusive meetings between newcomers and the ICANN Board and organization to afford newcomers an opportunity to ask questions about ICANN processes and activities.
- More opportunities to interact with and get more involved in the ICANN processes.
- More virtual sessions and breakout rooms to allow for more interactive sessions.
- · Providing some ICANN goodies.
- More opportunities for social interaction through games and fun activities, more interaction with @NextGen (who often become fellows later).
- Mentors should continue to engage with fellows even during sessions.

How satisfied are you with engagement opportunities during the current pandemic, before, during, and after the virtual ICANN meetings?



3 = Engagement with Working Groups

4 = Engagement with ICANN Staff

5 = Other









What's Next?

The ICANN Fellowship motto states: "Once a fellow, always a fellow". But what comes next after the ICANN73 Fellowship Program? What concrete actions will we take to impact the future of the Internet and contribute to ICANN's mission? The answers to this question are as diverse as the backgrounds and profiles of the ICANN73 fellows!

We asked ourselves what next steps we aim to take in the short and long term. From regional engagement to policy contributions and DNS security: Remember the names, an ICANN73 fellow is about to join your next ICANN meeting!

AHMAD AGHAR

I've joined NARALO and I would like to help strengthen the participation of less-engaged communities at ICANN. I also plan to apply for another ICANN Fellowship.

ALEXIAA JORDAN

I would like to expand my network with other Brazilian ICANN members, engage with the DNS Women's group, and contribute to geopolitical security issues.

ALLAN MAGEZI

I want to engage in ALAC and help spread Universal Acceptance in Africa. I want my region to understand the immediate need for a more inclusive Internet.

AYESHA IFTIKHAR

As a cybersecurity and Internet governance researcher, I want to contribute to ICANN At-Large and SSAC both from a technical and policy point of view.

BENDJEDID RACHAD SANOUSSI

I want to engage more in GNSO and continue to advocate for the Internet by sharing and transmitting hope to young people in my community. I currently serve as a tutor on the Net Operations course (authoritative DNS, e-mail, Apache Web Server, etc).

BOLUTIFE OLUYINKA ADISA

I want to get involved more with policy working groups within my constituency and ICANN At-Large.

FRANK ANATI

I've joined AFRALO and the ALAC Sub-Committee on Outreach and Engagement. I plan to get involved with the Universal Acceptance measurement working group. Of course, I want to keep attending ICANN meetings regularly.

GEORGINA NAIGULEVU

I would like to have more engagement in my region.

ISAAC MAJEED

Thanks to the ICANN Fellowship Program, I learned a lot, and also met many people across the globe. I would love to have the opportunity to become a second-time fellow to gain a much deeper understanding of ICANN's activities and get more involved.

JACKLINE AKELLO

As a tech policy researcher, I would like to contribute to ICANN's policy-making processes by submitting comments on policy drafts. I would also like to be involved in the At-Large Community and the Generic Names Supporting Organization.

JAMES PAEK

I want to contribute to various ICANN-related issues and ensure that the Internet remains accessible to future generations.

KEOLEBOGILE RANTSETSE

As a second-time fellow and AFRALO member, I intend to continue participating in the ALAC space and engage more in regional activities for better outreach and capacity building. I want to contribute to policy development through public comments and policy drafting.

LAXMI PRASAD YADAV

I want to join the Policy Development Process working groups and help raise awareness about the Internet and its ecosystem in Nepal and Asia.

KOUPAM MALICK ALASSANE

I want to continue contributing to the RSSAC working group and raising awareness of Universal Acceptance for a truly multilingual and inclusive Internet. As a cybersecurity expert, I am interested in conducting or working on research projects on DNS security.

MARKO PALOSKI

My first step will be to join working groups, particularly GNSO, ccNSO and At-Large. I want to write a blog post and hold a presentation in my region about my experience as an ICANN73 fellow and include more ICANN-related topics in my blog.

MEGAN KATHURE

I look forward to joining ccNSO working groups and enhancing my participation with AFRALO and the African regional engagement staff at ICANN.

MD. MAHEDI HASAN

I want to share my experience with my regional community platform, help young leaders build future Internet governance policies and align these activities at the government level in Bangladesh.







MOULOUD KHELIF

I intend to get involved within At-Large and join the CPWG. I want to participate in Universal Acceptance awareness initiatives and outreach and engagement programs within EURALO. I also plan to join NCSG/NCUC and contribute to any relevant policy development.

EVA NADEGE

I want to encourage more people to join the different working groups and supporting committees, especially in my region.

NABEEL YASIN

I want to remain engaged with ICANN, I will attend meetings and I'm about to apply for joining the APRALO. I am planning to promote and raise awareness in my community and in my country Yemen about ICANN, its important mission, and its crucial role in the Internet ecosystem.

NOJUS SAAD

As a first-time fellow and head of an organizational member of the Noncommercial Users Constituency (NCUC), GNSO, I aim to organize local and national training and advocacy campaigns on Internet governance and digital health inclusion to amplify the expertise gained through ICANN73 with marginalized digital minorities and community stakeholders. I am also planning on actively engaging in the upcoming meetings, making a considerable impact on the NCUC/GNSO's digital rights advocacy, and accelerating my digital health rights initiatives with ICANN, UN IGF, ITU, Internet Society, WHO and other leading civil society and Internet stakeholders for rural and vulnerable communities of France, Iraq, and India.

PAVANAJA BELLIPPADY

I want to contribute to spreading the Universal Acceptance cause with special emphasis in India. I would like to see broader use of Indian languages on ICT applications and the Internet.

PAVEL FARHAN

I am interested in joining At-Large. I will start my journey with APRALO and engage thoroughly with the ICANN regional engagement staff to find my place in ICANN.

PRINCE ANDREW LIVINGSTONE ZUTAH

I plan to promote the ICANN Fellowship Program and the ICANN Learn courses. Furthermore, I want to help raise awareness for Universal Acceptance in the technical and governmental communities.

ROBERT NKAMBWE

I plan to organize events related to ICANN topics such as DNS abuse and mitigation at my university. I look forward to engaging with the regional GSE team in planning activities geared towards implementing the ICANN Africa Regional Plan 2021-2025.

ROMULO CHACIN

I want to join ALAC or the SSAC as they are of particular interest to me. I plan to apply for another ICANN Fellowship to gain more experience and knowledge.

SAMIK KHAREL

I believe in making the Internet an egalitarian ecosystem, and engaging with ICANN and its activities is crucial to my vision. I've joined APRALO because I want to advocate the voices of end users, especially in developing countries like Nepal.

SHEILLA AYOT NYEKO

I look forward to re-establishing the DNS Women Africa Chapter and exploring the viability of developing smaller DNS Women chapters within active African countries to encourage more women to join ICANN and participate in shaping the future of the Internet.

SIMONE CATANIA

I joined EURALO during ICANN73 and look forward to contributing to the regional engagement and learning more about Internet governance and policymaking. I will keep serving the Comms Group at UASG and follow the next ICANN meetings.



Acknowledgments

We want to thank ICANN for giving us the opportunity to participate in this Fellowship Program and offering us a guided entry into the community. Throughout the past months, we received a great deal of support and assistance and we appreciate the work you all have done in running the virtual fellowship.

We enjoyed the Fellowship Program you organized to put us on the right path and are particularly thankful for the extra effort in running a friendly and engaging virtual environment. You provided us with the knowledge and skills to choose the right direction to successfully participate in the ICANN73 Virtual Community Forum.

Thanks to all those who facilitated our fellowship from the engaging Melissa Allgood to Roberto Gaetano, the ICANN Board and staff. We would like to explicitly thank the mentors who have guided us through this path: Jenifer Lopez – ccNSO, Farell Folly - GNSO, Kristina Hakobyan - GAC, Afifa Abbas - RSSAC, Alfredo Calderon - At-Large. Last but not least, a big thank you goes to Siranush Vardanyan for being such a great and empathetic guide and a true reference for all fellows!

