The quality of life for people in all parts of the world is enhanced by their ability to enjoy the benefits of an open and global Internet.

Well-informed individuals and public and private policy makers are the essential foundation of an open and global Internet society.

The genius of the Internet is that its decentralized architecture maximizes individual users’ power to choose (or create) and use the hardware, software, and services that best meet their needs, and if the Internet is to continue to be a platform for innovation and creativity, its open, decentralized nature must be preserved.

Enduring and sustainable progress toward our vision is best achieved by a combination of global initiatives and activities at a local level that engage people in their home regions.

The Internet Society’s core values are the fundamental principles that guide all of our activities. They are the beliefs and commitments on which our mission is based.

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Technical standards and Internet operating procedures should be developed and asserted through open and transparent processes, with minimal barriers to participation or access to information.

The social, political, and economic benefits of the Internet are substantially diminished by excessively restrictive governmental or private controls on computer hardware or software, telecommunications infrastructure, or Internet content.

Rewarding and productive use of the Internet depends on the ability to trust critical services.
2011 KEY FOCUS AREAS

Regionalization
The Internet Society’s Regional Bureaus are at the core of our ability to scale our efforts and impact. They cover functional areas such as policy, capacity building, membership, and business development. Along with the Strategic Initiative leaders, they are responsible for meeting the collective goals as well as the regional goals for these Initiatives and other strategic programmatic goals.

Expanding Membership and Sponsorship
In 2010, we laid the foundation for strong, evolutionary growth in traditional focus areas having made significant gains in these areas. Our 2011 efforts built on these successes and focused on membership recruitment and retention, regionalization of relationship management and new campaign execution, as well as continued emphasis on sponsorship and grants.

IETF Visibility
The work of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) is a cornerstone to the open development and evolution of the global Internet. In addition to its administrative responsibilities to the IETF, the Internet Society has worked to raise awareness among policy makers, technologists, and other interested groups about the IETF’s critical role, functions, and participatory working methods.

Mission Integral Programme Expansion
The Internet Society pursued a number of opportunities integral to our drive to expand our influence within the Internet community and with policy makers. These include Deploy360 Programme and Internet Leadership.

Technology and Policy
The Internet Society plays a unique role in advancing technology and policy on key areas for the Internet’s development, providing a neutral position, often able to gain access where others cannot, and recognized as carrying (credible) perspective from other groups.
A family shares a tablet in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

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