Empowering our community with online learning and leadership resources

Since its inception, the Internet Society has committed to fostering a community of leaders and influencers who can effectively navigate across complex Internet technology, policy, and development issues.

In 2014, as part of the Internet Society’s ongoing commitment to fostering next generation leaders and influencers, we formally launched Inforum, an innovative online learning platform. Evolving from a 100-user pilot with a single flagship course on Internet Governance, we now offer courses on a range of topics to thousands of users. Inforum delivers interactive instructional courses—both self-paced and moderated—to learners around the world. It integrates the knowledge of the Internet Society’s subject matter experts with advanced community-building tools to deliver flexible, scalable, and portable interactive content.

Through anytime, anywhere access to dynamic and engaging curricula developed by subject matter and learning experts, participants can receive training in a wide range of Internet-related topics to help strengthen the Internet ecosystem and all that it enables. Course modules, currently available in up to three languages, cover topics that include the history of the Internet; an introduction to regulatory frameworks, actors and stakeholder groups; Internet governance for development; and many others. There are also courses geared to our Chapters, such as Fundraising for Internet Society Chapters, designed for Chapter leaders and members interested in supporting activities through fundraising. Additional course titles include Introduction to IPv6, Spam and Online Threats, and Wireless Networking Basics.

A key differentiator and benefit of membership, these courses help strengthen the open Internet and all that the Internet enables for societal transformation and good. As it evolves, the Inforum platform will also serve as a support resource for our strategic university partnerships. And its access to experts, discussion forums, and online communications encourages community building and professional development.

By making online learning on critical topics more accessible, we are providing a working example of the Internet as a catalyst for innovation, human expression, and professional growth for those online now—and the billions yet to come.
“The [online] course provides EVERYTHING you need to know about Internet Governance: the actors, the forums, the levels of analysis—local, regional, global—the current challenges, and how they all interact.”

– Participants in a NIC.MX-sponsored course

“The Inforum platform was unique considering the fact I could actually type system commands and they are executed on the platform. This gave me a better understanding of the course topics.”

– PASCAL (RWANDA), Participant in the Intro to Network Operations Training course

“The course has exceeded my expectations. The information received in the modules, the suggested readings and experience of my classmates helped me to significantly expand my knowledge and vision of the Internet globally.”

– MÓNICA (COLOMBIA), Participant in the “Shaping the Internet – History and Futures” IG Course

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