Achieved Recognition as a Respected Voice in Internet Policy
The Internet Society’s increasingly influential position within the global policy-making community was evidenced by, among other things, accreditation to the United Nations Economic and Social Council and permanent observer status with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). These and our other activities supported broader engagement with governments, business, and civil society on many vital important current discussions.

Promoted Identity and Privacy on the Internet
Widespread adoption and use of the Internet depends on the protection of user identity and privacy. The Internet Society advanced that cause through participation in a number of U.S.-government consultations on Internet identity issues, including presentations at a Federal Communications Commission round-table on privacy, and inputs to the U.S.-based National Strategy for Trusted Identities in Cyberspace. We also played a central role in helping the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development establish its Internet Technical Advisory Committee as a respected authority on privacy and data protection.

Advanced Global Internet Stability and Growth
By reaching out to executive-level decision makers throughout the year with facts and a balanced perspective on IPv4 run-out and IPv6 deployment, the Internet Society made significant strides toward ensuring Internet stability and continued growth by promoting the adoption of IPv6.

Supported Renewal of Internet Governance Forum Mandate
The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) meetings have proved to be a constructive and effective venue for idea and information exchanges on important governance policy matters. In 2010, at a joint event with United Nations delegates and the International Chamber of Commerce, the Internet Society urged continuation of the IGF mandate with its founding principles intact.

Built Partnerships to Help Bring the Next Billion Online
The digital divide narrowed in 2010 when the Internet Society, in partnership with the Digital Empowerment Foundation, launched a joint initiative designed to get India’s rural communities connected. The first stage of the project resulted in a highly successful workshop in Chanderi, Madhya Pradesh, in central India (a local community wireless mesh network covering the Chanderi Valley was also deployed). Eleven participants received training on how to design, deploy, and operate community wireless networks. Much of the instruction and discussion during the workshops was in Hindi (as was most of the workshop manual), in line with community needs.

Increased Chapter Support and Visibility
Internet Society Chapters are vitally important engines of influence at the local level. In 2010, numerous resources were put into place to help facilitate Chapter growth and development, including a community-based effort to outline the value exchange between the Internet Society and Chapters, topical toolkits, such as those on mobilizing volunteers and unravelling the network neutrality and open internetworking debate, and increased opportunities for grants and fellowships. The result was more active and vibrant Chapters doing more meaningful policy and capacity-building work in their communities than at any time in our history.
Strengthened Relationships with and Between Operational Community Members

The Internet operational community holds the keys to long-term Internet functionality and stability. Through such activities as an “IPv6 Deployment Day,” discussions and round-tables devoted to key Internet operational issues, and Internet exchange-point development, the Internet Society and its Members and partners succeeded in expanding awareness of the changing broadband landscape, IPv6 deployment, and the domain name system security extensions (DNSSEC).

Brought a Much-Needed User-Centric Framework to the Network Neutrality Debate

The Internet Society has long advocated for putting the needs of users at the centre of complex policy issues, such as what is referred to as network neutrality. In 2010, the Internet Society was widely recognized for crafting and promoting a policy framework that advances user-centric principles of open access, transparency, and competition.

Led the Way in Trust-Promoting Technologies

User confidence got a boost in 2010 when the Internet Society’s isoc.org domain became the first .org domain to implement DNSSEC, a set of extensions that ensures the integrity of domain name data.

Funded and Fostered the Development of User-Empowering Online Technologies

Today users can more easily track policy updates at key websites after Internet Society funding and support resulted in the release of a Firefox Web browser plugin that exposes changes in terms of service.

Groomed Future Internet Leaders

Twenty-three emerging Internet technology and policy leaders completed the Internet Society’s extensive inaugural eLearning course, the newest component of our internationally recognized Next Generation Leaders Programme.

Deepened Local Internet Technical Capacity and Skills in Both Latin America and Africa

In an ongoing commitment to Internet training and capacity building in rural and developing regions, the Internet Society worked with its Chapters to develop in-country workshops that, in addition to skills transfer, resulted in the installation of a network link to a Trinidad school, new networking trainers in Africa, and greater technical leadership roles taken on by women, among other projects.

Established the Internet Society as a Thought Leader on the Future of the Internet

What will the Internet look like in 10 years? In 2010, the Internet community drew inspiration from a coordinated Internet Society campaign to raise awareness of different possible futures for the Internet. Custom-made videos garnered nearly 10,000 combined views on YouTube and hundreds of comments and votes through YouTube’s Web-based polling system.

Advanced the Interconnection and Traffic Exchange Environment in Africa

Internet exchange points (IXPs) help keep local Internet traffic within local infrastructures and reduce the costs associated with traffic exchange between Internet service providers. In 2010, the Internet Society facilitated the launch of two new IXPs, one in Freetown, Sierra Leone, and another in Mombasa, Kenya, and conducted IXP improvements and initiation workshops in four additional countries. The work received coverage on BBC Radio and in the local and international press.