A Look at Our Global Impact

2019 Highlights

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Overview

Our first-ever Impact Report highlights some of our work from 2019 toward an open, globally-connected, secure, and trustworthy Internet. It focuses on the four projects we are carrying forward in 2020, including our focus areas of Build, Promote, and Defend.
Community Networks

49% of the world’s unconnected citizens live in the most challenging areas to connect.
Community Networks – Internet Society Role

**Convener**
Brought together stakeholders at five regional Community Network Summits, strengthening the human networks that make connectivity possible

**Advocate**
Worked with governments and intergovernmental organizations around the world to support effective connectivity policies and legislation

**Enabler**
Engaged 28 Chapters through our annual Chapterthon to develop innovative Internet infrastructure solutions
Community Networks – Internet Society Impact

Key Outcomes

- Convened approximately 40,000 stakeholders face-to-face and online to advance community networks as a solution for the unconnected.

- South Africa Chapter’s project, Qokolweni wi-fi hotspots created a network for 350 residents of Qokolweni; New York Chapter helped NYC Mesh expand its urban network to 6 underserved locations.

- As a result of our work, six development agencies and banks supported or provided direct funding to community networks initiatives.
Internet Exchange Points (IXPs)

High data transit costs, poor service quality, and limited local content creation remain pervasive issues for many communities and countries.
IXPs – Internet Society Role

**Supporter and Partner**
Supported the development of 12 new IXPs and scaling up of an additional 10

**Capacity Builder**
Strengthened the community of interest through training more than 400 local experts, networking, and hosting of local IXP peering forums
IXPs – Internet Society Impact

Key Outcomes

Data from Nigeria and Kenya shows that at least 70% of traffic was exchanged locally, reducing transit costs for Internet users in region.

Africa Internet traffic exchanged locally has grown by 456,860% in past 10 years.
Mutually Applied Norms for Routing Security (MANRS)

Ongoing outages, leaks, and hijacks undermine security and trust in the Internet.
MANRS – Internet Society Role

**Catalyst**
Initiated joint MANRS-IXP program

**Thought Leader and Curator**
Launched MANRS Observatory, a new tool that provides global, regional and individual network data on routing security
MANRS – Internet Society Impact

Key Outcomes

- **20 new IXPs** globally began working together to implement crucial fixes
- **Recognition by World Economic Forum** calling on Internet Service Providers to consider joining MANRS
- **113% increase** in members to 311
- MANRS participants can **view the performance of more than 64,000 individuals networks** worldwide
Encryption

Governments are increasingly demanding and securing access to encrypted communications, undermining the security and privacy for all users.
Advocate
Served as a diligent advocate and informed governments and businesses about why it is necessary and in their best interest to maintain ubiquitous encryption.
Encryption – Internet Society Impact

Key Outcomes

Advised a civil society effort that led to the **removal of problematic text** regarding encryption from a Brazilian anti-crime bill

**Successfully countered** the UK’s GCHQ “ghost proposal” for end-to-end encrypted message access
Closing

All of this work is possible because of our **community and partners**. We will be building on these four areas of work in 2020.

The projects highlighted in this report will be complemented by four additional ones:

- Internet Measurement
- Internet Way of Networking
- Open Standards Everywhere
- Time Security
Thank you.