

Global Digital Compact

Internet Society's Contribution to the Stakeholder Consultation, 21 June 2024



The Internet Society welcomes the opportunity to participate in this consultation and thanks the co-facilitators for this timely update on the consideration of Revision 1 of the Global Digital Compact (GDC).

The Internet Society is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1992. It has more than 130 Chapters, nearly 70,000 individual members worldwide, over 100 Organization Members, and 10 Special Interest Groups.

Our work aligns with our goals for the Internet to be open, globally connected, secure, and trustworthy. We seek collaboration with all who share these goals of growing and strengthening the Internet.

Digital cooperation and digital transformation can be a reality of the GDC only if we successfully preserve the Internet's critical properties, which have allowed the Internet to thrive as a global technical infrastructure and a force for good in society.

We recognize the references to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum as a multistakeholder venue to accelerate progress across all Sustainable Development Goals, especially considering the collaborative opportunities for the GDC follow-up.

We also welcome the references to uphold and support the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) to enable it to fulfill its key role in the digital cooperation ecosystem, and we encourage you to retain this language.

We believe there is no way, other than a **multistakeholder approach**, to truly bridge the digital divide and govern all things digital.

Since its inception, the IGF has effectively served as the primary multistakeholder process to advance digital policy discussions.

However, we believe additional debate is needed on how the IGF may evolve to implement the GDC commitments and recognize that most of the discourse on implementation must occur in the context of the WSIS+20 review.



The technical community remains willing to provide valuable insights to the GDC deliberations by building on our knowledge of the Internet as a complex global interaction of technology, standards, and policies.

We look forward to remaining actively engaged in the process and wish the co-facilitators luck in finalizing Revision 2.

