

LACIGF 12 Report

Title of the session: Session 4 – The Future of Internet Governance - PART II – Perspectives on the Future of LACIGF (Keynote) + Open Microphone

Session summary:

The Future of Internet Governance Session / Study Presentation on LACIGF & Open Microphone, moderated by Raúl Echeberría (Consultant, Uruguay), dealt with the theme the future of Internet governance. The session was divided into three moments. First, it was the speech of six panelists on the panel theme. The second one was the presentation of a study with data and suggestions to improve the LACIGF model, made by Raúl Echeberría. In the third moment there was an open microphone for public intervention on the future of LACIGF. In this report, PART II - Perspectives on the future of LACIGF (Keynote) + Open Microphone will be covered, with a report from the LACIGF rapporteur including data and perspectives on the event, and an open microphone moment for public intervention.

Oscar Robles (LACNIC, Uruguay) began by presenting a study conducted with the institutional support of the LACIGF Committee. The intention is for LACIGF to maintain its importance and capacity for change. Therefore, the need for a comprehensive analysis of the event, listening to the institutions and organizations that have been making an effort at LACIGF for many years. The work of doing the research was delivered to Raúl Echeberría, who collected criticism, recommendations and other opinions. LACNIC supports the need to do something based on the recommendations sent to consolidate the event as a source of relevant and authorized information. Finally, Oscar Robles introduced Raúl Echeberría, responsible to present the study.

Raúl Echeberría told that the study consisted of a document translated into Portuguese, Spanish and English, with the participation of 157 people formally in personal interviews, open calls or sending comments. There was no initial proposal, and the entire study on LACIGF was built by public participation. There was a very positive appreciation of what LACIGF was each year, but it is a general consensus of the need to increase relevance.

Some conclusions:

Participation:

- More dissemination of LACIGF.
- Need to strengthen the spirit of collaboration of the event.
- The need for a communication space that allows long-term joint work.
- Formal communication with governments, who say that one of the problems is that they are not invited. One of the advantages of NETmundial is that Brazil formally invited officers from around the world and LACIGF can do that too.
- Need for high level sessions at the beginning or end of the event.

Content:

- More focused agendas considering the reality and problems of the region.
- Diversity in the comprehension that there are countries that move at different speeds, you must be smart and make agendas that contemplate and take advantage of what is interesting for everyone.
- Importance of producing results, in the sense of discussion synthesis, but most people want something that can be contributed to another process.
- Understand that consent cannot be forced into a multisectoral space.
- No one has asked for formal mechanisms to force negotiation.
- Importance of not repeating the content so that the discussions move forward.

Formats:

- More interactive formats, and breakout sessions with groups. When asking for other options, there are more and more proposals to minimize panel formats and more discussions of people from different positions, or moderate sessions without panelists, or motivating key speakers for discussions.
- Less repetition of speakers and moderators.
- More transparency when selecting panelists and speakers.

Work between meetings:

- Need for continuous and focused work.
- Virtual works, online collaboration platforms, better integration with other forums, making key discussions reach decision makers.

Structure:

- Need for visibility of the LACIGF Committee, with a greater leadership role with the commitment of all members to fair work, and that current members have a collective and shared responsibility, since there is a commitment of all concerned.
- Transparency of roles and responsibilities of the LACIGF Committee, and clarity in the selection criteria.
- Creation of a specialized secretariat to continuously support the event.
- Perception that today there is a favorable vision of LACNIC as secretary, and LACIGF can make an intermediate model.

Financing:

- Continue with the donation model, if it makes it more relevant for all groups, more people will want to invest.
- *Membership Program.*

In addition, there were some comments on the publicity of the event and the institutional strengthening of programs such as Youth IGF. The final conclusion of the report is that any

public policy only sees effective and efficient results for the Internet with the participation of multiple actors. In this sense, there is a need to improve and expand the LACIGF model in Latin America, which is an ideal place for multiple actors to cooperate on equal terms.

During the open microphone, there were interventions by several people. **Alfredo Velazco (Ecuador)** congratulated the report and asked how to include Youtubers in the context of governance, as well as the interface and visual improvements to better include online participants. I suggest adding a dashboard that automatically shows LACIGF tweets. **Thiago Tavares (CGI.br, Brazil)** congratulated the inclusive work of the report, which examines and makes clear efforts to develop LACIGF. He revised the relevance of the event when he realized the will to change. He sees LACIGF as an important space to discuss issues that are not discussed elsewhere, covering the technical and content side of the Internet. The current program committee is a kind of original power, but there is no participating Brazilian institution and that is why it is important to expand the program committee by providing more democratic participation, since there are many entities that could contribute. **Luis Rejas (Bolivia)** would like to understand what methodology allowed the current event to be a success. **Maria José** would like to discuss the inclusion of various social classes and ages so that LACIGF is not relegated to an elite bubble. She would also like to understand how to include people and inform them so that everyone can participate. **Andres Piazza (Digital Development, Argentina)** believes that the idea of the secretariat is very rich and that financing is needed. Suggest a contribution from the participants to this. **Ludwig Angel Valverde Botello (Institute of Political Science Research of Bolivia, Bolivia)** would like to better understand the positive experiences of LACIGF. It also inquires about the binding decisions taken at the event so that the governance model can be more relevant. **Juan Cayoja Cortez (UMSA, Bolivia)** believes that it is important to include the results of the governance forums in the creation of public policies. To this end, he would like to capture data that serves as meters for policy implementation and asks if this can only be done by changing the structure of the forums. **Bryan Montes (Private sector)** understands that it is important to strengthen entrepreneurs and those at the end of the activity. For him, entrepreneurship strengthens both the economy and civil society and would like to have seen more new companies discussing in the forum.

The moderator closed the panel inviting everyone to participate in the LACIGF debate and the improvement of the event. He said he was not there to answer all the comments made on the open microphone, but that they would be taken into consideration.

Outputs and other relevant links:

Full session: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NEixgkGamV8>

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