Internet Governance In Communities

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Vanuatu IGF – Who we are and what we do

The Vanuatu Internet Governance Forum (Vanuatu IGF) is part of the global Internet Governance Forum (IGF), a multistakeholder platform that facilitates the discussion of public policy issues pertaining to the internet. The Vanuatu IGF was established under the Council of Ministers Decision No. 083 of 2019.

Vanuatu IGF exists to foster dialogue between all local stakeholders from government, private sector, civil society, technical community and consumers on internet governance issues. We aim to grow our internet governance capacity that is based on our traditional values, respect, inclusiveness, and trust. Our scope of work revolves around raising awareness to promote a better understanding of internet governance.

As a platform for discussions, the Vanuatu IGF brings various people and stakeholder groups to the table as equals to exchange information and share good policies and practices relating to the Internet and technologies. While the Vanuatu IGF does not have decision-making mandate, we inform and inspire those who do. We facilitate common understandings and knowledge exchange of how to maximize Internet opportunities and address risks and challenges.

Our office is located at the Rivarec Oceania Building (ex-Development Bank), downtown Port Vila. We are open Monday – Friday, 8 am – 5pm. We work for the people of Vanuatu, and we hope that everyone who care about internet development be part of Vanuatu Internet Governance Forum.

Lukim yu!

Internet Eco System

Wondering who is responsible in making the internet possible today?' The Internet has been successful in a large part due to its unique model. A model that embraces shared global ownership, open standards of development, free accessible processes both for technology and policy development.

Behind the scene based on this model, there are a huge number of communities of IT architects, engineers, technologists, educators, policy makers, decision makers, internet users, local and global organizations that work in collaboration in making our internet possible as it is today. Functioning as a network of

Internet Eco System (*Continued* **)**

interaction among themselves and others, and their environment these various individuals and organizations create the internet ecosystem that is open, transparent, and collaborative. These IT communities, and organization's successful collaboration makes it possible that today it simply takes several clicks online, to take any internet user to their requested sites.

Having described the fact that it takes various IT organizations and communities to make the internet possible reflects the power of the 'Internet Ecosystem'. Internet Ecosystem is grouped into six (6) various categories, namely: **(a) Naming and Addressing** *(ICANN, RIRs, IANA, gTLDS, ccTLDs)*, **(b) Local, National, Regional, Global Policy Development** *(Governments, Governmental Regional Organizations, Multilateral Institutions, Internet So-*

ciety, Other Policy Discussion Forums), **(c) Education and Capacity Building** *(Governments, Internet Society, Multilateral Institutions and Development Agencies, Internet Community Organizations and Businesses)*, **(d) Open Standards Development** *(Other Standards Bodies, Internet Society Affiliated Organization)*, **(e) Shared Global Services and Operations** *(Root Servers, Network Operators, Service Creators / Vendors, Internet Exchange Points, gTLDs, ccTLDs)*, **(f) Users** *(Individuals, Businesses, Governments, Organizations, Machines / Devices, Service Creators, and Equipment builders)*.

As you noticed, each categories includes various organizations, communities, individuals, and processes all of which shaped the coordination and management of the global internet that we now

have today. The willingness of these various parties to collaborate, coordinate, be open and transparent to each other makes internet not only highly interdependent in nature but also aids in giving the internet an unprecedented success which continues to thrive today.

When we refer to the term, Internet Ecosystem, we are referring to these various bodies, individuals and organizations that makes the internet work as it is today. For they are like a network of interaction among organisms, between organisms and their environment. Together, they form and create the internet, making the internet itself an ecosystem. Hence, the term, '**Internet Ecosystem**'.

By Vanuatu IGF

Roslyn's Experience: Internet Privacy

'I never knew someone is watching me from the outside world'.

Wow! How does this happen? A lot of questions coming from her mind after discovering an unwanted picture of herself online – and so, she was confused, wondering how this could happen. It narrows down to the definition of 'Internet Privacy' which refers to the personal privacy one is entitled to when choosing to display, store, or, provide information regarding themselves on the internet.

Roslyn Bob is a facebook user for over 2 years now. She actually share information and even photos of herself on the internet. At one time, an awareness team visited her community giving advice and insights of safe practices for internet users while being online. The two very useful advice that Roslyn took into consideration are (a). 'keep all your personal information to yourself and avoid sharing them', and (b). 'Never click "agree" on any links, until you understand what you are getting yourself into'. With that in mind Roslyn was able to

keep her privacy to herself without sharing it on the internet.

So what's the catch? What Roslyn just learnt from the awareness team was the fact that, each time she is online and go about her business with emailing, Facebook updates, visiting forums, or even checking her bank statements, her activities can be monitored and spied on by others. These can be Internet Service Providers, Advertisers & Corporations, Hackers & Cyber Criminals, Employers, or even the Government for they have the means to do so whether

Roselyn's Experience—Internet Privacy (*Continued*)

or not is with the consent of the individual user. Hence protecting privacy online is something not online users like Roselyn should consider, but everyone who uses internet should consider too.

With a little practice and discipline Roselyn is now able to protect her privacy by following these 3 rules:

- Read instructions carefully before you put something online;
- Think twice before putting anything on the internet;
- Changes her passwords frequently

Lesson learned:

Remember, when you are moving around the internet world, be mindful about the information you put about yourself on the internet.

By Vanuatu IGF

Vanuatu IGF Think Before You Post Campaign

In today's world, posting online has become a common practice for all internet users. However, there are challenges that comes with it.

Today, in social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter etc...the issue of cyber bullying, and other form of abuse are very common in Vanuatu. These result in victims faced with a new kind of problem that their parents, chiefs, church pastor or teachers at school are not well versed on how to deal with it.

Most users felt and thought that they have the right to post anything they wish to. Doing so, at

some point might hurt or be considered offensive to someone elsewhere. The issue of posting has had great impact on people's life, be it positive or negative.

Posting on social media takes a few seconds for the post to be published online, however as responsible users, it is crucial that we take more time to consider our post before clicking the send/post icon. Take time to think about the post and how it might affect you in the future, take time to make decisions that you won't regret, because most of the time your post can be humiliating or offensive to someone else out there .

Internet is unforgivable, therefore make good decisions before texting or posting on the internet. Take time and be mindful about your post, how people might feel about your post, your friends, and other people on the internet.

You might make many mistakes on social media in the past that might hurt others feelings or affects the society, however, make it a goal to be more considerate, and mindful about what you post online starting today onwards. At Vanuatu IGF we say "***Think Before You Post***".

By Vanuatu IGF

TRBR appoints Neustar as new back-end Registry Operator for .vu country code Top-Level Domain

The Office of the Vanuatu Telecommunications, Radiocommunications and Broadcasting Regulator (TRBR) would like to announce the appointment of Neustar Vanuatu Limited (Neustar) as the new Registry Operator for the .vu country code Top-Level Domain (ccTLD).

The announcement follows a

competitive tender process conducted by TRBR, to which Neustar submitted a comprehensive response outlining its technical, policy and marketing experience and capabilities. Neustar was selected from a group of respondents to the tender notice, which sought a Registry Operator to support TRBR in growing and promoting the .vu

namespace.

The TRBR Regulator, Mr Brian Winji said the partnership with Neustar would enhance the profile, performance and security of the .vu ccTLD.

"In seeking a new Registry Operator for the .vu namespace, we sought an organization that would act as a true partner to

TRBR appoints Neustar*... (Continued)*

TRBR in managing and administering .vu in the interests of the Vanuatu Internet Community, as well as the Internet-using community globally."

"Neustar's credentials in TLD operations and marketing, DNS security and performance, policy development and more, uniquely position it to support TRBR in increasing .vu domain name registrations through enhanced promotions, technical innovation and security."

"We look forward to working with Neustar in this next stage of .vu's evolution, and benefiting from Neustar's demonstrated experience in ccTLD management and strong reputation in the industry as an organization of integrity and professionalism."

Neustar is a global information services company with the largest DNS, DDoS mitigation and threat intelligence capabilities in the industry. In addition to .vu, Neustar provides Registry services for .us, .co, .in, .nyc and .biz TLDs, as well as nearly 240 other TLDs for countries, cities, businesses and the world's leading brands. The .vu namespace is now backed by Neustar's award-winning infrastructure, team and experience, which is always evolving with continuous investment and product innovation.

Nicolai Bezsonoff, Vice President and General Manager of Neustar Registry Solutions, said Neustar was excited to bring its expertise in technical innovation and DNS security to benefit all Vanuatu Internet users.

"We are honored to partner with TRBR for this important stage of .vu's history, to grow the .vu namespace by building a strong Registrar network and solid market demand for .vu domain names.

"With Neustar as Registry Operator, .vu will benefit from years of experience in the global ccTLD and wider domain name industry, with specific and dedicated focus on the unique needs and opportunities of the Vanuatu Internet community."

The transition of the .vu Registry to Neustar's back-end platform is anticipated to be completed by the 30th of September 2019, with further project details to be communicated to stakeholders in the coming weeks.

By TRBR Vanuatu

Mr Brian Winji said the partnership with Neustar would enhance the profile, performance and security of the .vu ccTLD.

CERT Vanuatu

The increasing number of online attacks by means of sophisticated attack mechanisms and methods triggered the urgency for Vanuatu to prioritize and expand its cyber security efforts. At a global perspective, cybercriminals are continuing to develop new ways to ensnare victims, execute random cyber-attacks on users or organizations and at some point perform targeted cyber-attacks. Rather, state-sponsored attacks can compromise government agencies, organizations and other critical institutions whereby creating espionage networks and steal sensitive data/information. This is a National Security issue and concern for many Pacific Island Countries like Vanuatu. Thus, prioritizing Vanuatu's National Security is paramount and urgent. It means safeguarding Vanuatu's National Security by protecting its sovereignty, combatting transnational crime, border and territorial infringements, maintaining public safety, addressing climate change and natural disaster threats, safeguarding elements of human security, and maintaining cyber security in local and global perspectives. Effective security mechanisms and controls are the priority for Vanuatu needed to identify and manage security threats. Such priority led to the establishment of Vanuatu's Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT Vanuatu). On the 19th of June 2018, Vanuatu took the step forward in strengthening its National Security by establishing Vanuatu's Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT Vanuatu | CERT

CERT Vanuatu *(Continued)*

VU). CERT Vanuatu is responsible for responding to cyber-threats identified in Vanuatu's IP communications network and Internet. CERT Vanuatu's fundament focus is to promote security awareness, reduce cyber-threats, limit the failure of information availability and/or loss of information integrity and most importantly, respond to malicious incidents penetrating Vanuatu's Internet realm. In doing so, CERT Vanuatu has identified, analyze and mitigated a range of cyberthreats (cases) since its establishment. These cases range from online scamming, spams, cyberbullying/cyberstalking, ransomware attacks, malware attacks, data breach (compromised systems), data leakage and extortion cases.

CERT Vanuatu also promotes cyber security awareness across the whole of Vanuatu, reaching out to all government institutions, private sector organizations, schools and communities throughout Vanuatu. Since its establishment, the CERT Vanuatu awareness team have reached out to the Torba Provincial headquarter, Malampa Secondary Schools and most parts of Tanna schools, communities and provincial offices. In port Vila, Ministries, departments, the University of the South Pacific (Emalus campus), the PitCon (Principals Conference), youth groups, Directors Induction workshop and the Melansian Spearhead group (MSG) are some institutions whom the CERT Vanuatu awareness have delivered cyber security awareness.

Finally, Internet users in can access the official CERT Vanuatu Website or our Official CERTVU Facebook Page to get all the latest Security Advisories, latest cyber security news particularly on global cyber-threats, attacks, vulnerabilities and various Security Best Practices and guidelines on how to stay secure and safe online.

By CERT Vanuatu

Frequently asked questions

1). What is Internet?

Internet is a global system of interconnected computer networks that use the internet protocol suit to link devices worldwide. It is a network of network that consists of private, public, academic, business and government network of local to global scape, linked by a broad array of electronic, wireless and optical networking technologies.

2). What is an Internet Service Provider?

An internet Service Provider (ISP) is the industry term for the company that is able to provide you with access to the internet. (eg. Digicel, TVL, Telsat, Wantok, etc)

3). What is an IP address?

Internet protocol address (IP) is a numerical label assigned to each device connected to a computer network that uses the internet protocol for communication it serves the host or network interface identification and location addressing.

5). What are some of the dangers of the internet ?

Cyberbullying - These term refers to users who use internet to hurt other peoples feeling. They might send hateful messages or even death threats to children, spreading lies about them online, make nasty comments on their society networking profile or creating a website to bash their looks or reputation.

6). Sexual predators

Young people turn to interest with each other or knowing strangers online. John Shehan states that about 1 in 7 kids have been sexually solicited online. (*cyber tipline.)*

7). What is online Child grooming?

Online Child grooming is when someone befriends and builds an emotional connection and relationship with a child or a young person online on social media platforms *(e.g. On Facebook, Instagram, We Chat, Watsapp, etc...)* with the motive and intention of gaining their trust in order to sexually abuse them later.

Upcoming Events

Start	End	Sector	Title	Place	Status
2019-09-10	2019-09-10	Van IGF	Seminar—Introduction to Internet Governance	Vanuatu Internet Governance Forum	Planned
2019-09-24	2019-09-24	Van IGF	Seminar— Internet Actors and Stakeholders	Vanuatu Internet Governance Forum	Planned

Meet the Team

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