

# Annual Report 2011



APC Annual Report 2011

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## FROM OUR DIRECTOR

In March 2011 the APC network gathered on the small island of Panglao in the Philippines. For one week, 120 APC members and partners came together for a Networking and Learning Forum for an Open, Fair and Sustainable Internet. We also celebrated ten years of the APC Internet Rights Charter, which was launched in 2001, and 21 years since APC's founding in 1990. Thanks to Al Alegre and the rest of the team at APC member Foundation for Media Alternatives who hosted us so warmly in the Philippines.



Huge political shifts occurred around the world in 2011, particularly in the Middle East and North Africa. Our 2011 edition of Global Information Society Watch (GISWatch) was dedicated to the people who made the revolutions happen through their activism both online and offline. Their struggles prepared the ground for a watershed moment that occurred at the Human Rights Council in June. Frank la Rue, Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Opinion and Expression presented a report on freedom of expression on the internet. It was an excellent report highlighting two key points that APC has focused on since 2001: human rights apply online as much as they do offline and without affordable access to infrastructure, the huge potential of the internet to extend rights will not be realised. APC's "Internet Rights are Human Rights" project supported the work of the Special Rapporteur before, during and after he

presented his report in Geneva, and the 2011 edition of GISWatch focused on internet rights and democracy. Stories from GISWatch partners contained in the report illustrate that the internet is a robust tool for social action, but it is also vulnerable. This vulnerability is not only in relation to repressive governments who restrict free expression. It is also in relation to the influence of special interest groups who are increasingly trying to make governments, and internet service providers, responsible for protecting what they consider intellectual property in ways that entail disproportionate sanction, and that will limit access to knowledge and free expression in many parts of the world.

Our work in gender and ICTs asked challenging questions: how are sexual rights and sexual expression being affected by internet filtering and content control? And, how can we respond to the increased

## The APC vision

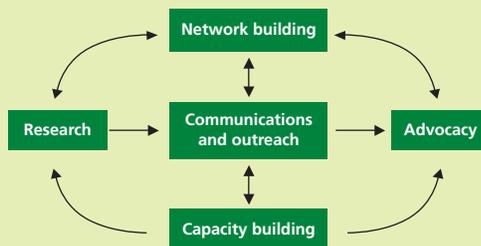
All people have easy and affordable access to a free and open internet to improve their lives and create a more just world.

## The APC mission

APC's mission is to empower and support organisations, social movements and individuals in and through the use of information and communications technologies (ICTs) to build strategic communities and initiatives for the purpose of making meaningful contributions to equitable human development, social justice, participatory political processes and environmental sustainability.

## APC's theory of change

APC works to achieve our vision and mission through five interlinked strategies: research, advocacy, building networks and capacity, communications and outreach. To be instrumental to the APC community, evidence resulting from research has to be communicated effectively in order to support advocacy activities with the utmost objective of achieving change.



*Depicted in the figure are the ways activities reinforce each other. For example, research will generate information resources that are used to influence policy outcomes or learning materials used in capacity building interventions.*

presence of violence against women online? To empower women activists to make effective and safer use of the internet, we partnered with women's human rights defence networks to increase the

capacity of 160 women through a series of workshops and strategic dialogues.

Affordable access to the internet remained on our agenda. We focused

on spectrum and how more dynamic approaches to regulating spectrum can make a positive difference. In particular we explored the potential of television white spaces to extend wireless broadband access to rural areas and poor communities. Through research and awareness raising we managed to take frequency allocation and management from the “boardrooms” to the “streets” – in a manner of speaking – by helping ICT for development organisations, small businesses and regulators understand the potential of a public resource which has been mostly monopolised by mobile telephony operators and broadcasters.

Read more about these and other activities in this report. Pay particular attention to the highlights from APC members. Every story provides insights into the evolving terrain of the APC network and the people we work with.

Finally, thank you to everyone who contributes to APC. Members, the board of directors, staff, partners, friends and donors. You are many, you are diverse, and you are indispensable!

Warm greetings,

*Anriette Esterhuysen*

This report wishes to give special mention of a very special person. Karen Higgs joined APC as a website coordinator in 1999. Karen left at the end of 2011 as APC’s communications manager. The impact she has had on strengthening APC’s public profile and media and communications strategy cannot be over-stated.

Karen Higgs led the process of producing APC’s first ever annual report in 2001. It is therefore fitting to dedicate this, the 2011 report to her: Karen, we wish you well in all that you do in the future.



Thank you for your massive contribution in the twelve years with APC.

## FROM OUR CHAIR

**W**e share and change alike. If I were summarise a year of what APC does I would say that we, the organisation and the community of members, share and change alike.

Sharing is the essence of a network, where people and organisations work remotely, physically distant in their own countries and territories, and then meet virtually or in person to share their visions, actions and inspiration. In this era, sometimes acting locally or regionally is the same as acting globally.

What the APC network shares is the vast digital domain of the internet and its impact on our individual lives and rights. Questions of infrastructure and affordability intersect with new and emerging technologies and environmental sustainability, which must be articulated in terms of access, discrimination and equal opportunity.

APC shares its visions for tools, practices and human rights. We learn and propose, monitor and ask for policies that are people-centred. One year on the APC executive board means an intense and close-up view of this struggle for change. Our strategic priorities enable a political praxis of change. They span from the Take Back The Tech global campaign against violence against women and the mapping of online violence to the Global Information Society Watch reporting, GreeningIT and the Action Research Network. All these are examples of global communities that value and practice decentralisation and local ownership while capturing APC's myriad of members to



reconvene and articulate policies using the global governance fora of the internet.

It is this transformative relationship between members that we not only witness but also contribute to during our council meetings, board meetings, thematic trainings and conferences that take place around the world.

Share and change alike is the open standard protocol at APC. It is an exciting and motivating relationship that requires time, care and vision.

I would like to finish by thanking our former chair, Danilo Lujambio, and the members of the previous board, who have worked to ensure that APC remains a vibrant community committed to social change. I would also like to give a warm welcome to my colleagues in the new executive board. We are excited to contribute to more sharing and changing.

*Valentina Pellizzer*

# ACHIEVEMENTS



*Group collaboration during the Networking and Learning Forum, focused on building organisational capacity for conducting people-centred research.*

Photo by Lisa Cyr

APC is both a network and an organisation working to ensure that all people have easy and affordable access to a free and open internet to improve their lives and create a more just world. Members of the APC network are groups working in their own countries with the same vision and to advance the same mission as APC.

APC members from five continents met in 2007 to debate the challenges for a free and open internet for the next five years. Six strategic priorities emerged which have guided APC's work as a network and an organisation:

1. Advocate for affordable internet access for all
2. Secure and defend internet rights
3. Use emerging technologies for social change
4. Make technology work to sustain the environment
5. Build the information commons
6. Improve governance, especially internet governance.

Two cross-cutting goals were also identified: gender equality and women's empowerment, both in policy and strategic use of ICTs, and "openness", including access to information and freedom of expression. APC members also agreed on internal goals for APC as a network: mobilising the necessary resources, and keeping the APC a vibrant, participatory hub for the innovative use of strategic technology and networking for social justice and development.

## 1. ADVOCATING FOR AFFORDABLE INTERNET ACCESS FOR ALL



*With digital broadcasting, the use and management of spectrum have changed. If the right policies are in place, this can mean more and better internet access for all.*

Photo via Flickr by Facundo A. Fernández

Today, new advances in technology are creating new opportunities for accessing the internet. However, inadequate public policies to increase the prevalence and reach of these technologies have hindered their potential. There are still wide disparities in access, especially for those living at the economic and geographic margins of society, making access both a regulatory issue and a rights one. This is why APC focuses on identifying new policy challenges that have implications for ensuring access to a free and open internet. Our ongoing and recent initiatives include open spectrum for development and Gender Evaluation Methodology for internet and ICTs (GEM).

## 1a. Open spectrum for development<sup>1</sup>

### *Country studies*

Spectrum, used by communications technologies since the 1930s, is today one of the most effective ways of bringing internet connectivity to populations around the world, thereby increasing access on a global scale. Emerging technologies and migration from older, analog technologies to digital broadcasting mean that “spectrum scarcity” no longer applies. However, challenges remain in the realisation of the use of spectrum to broaden internet access both in terms of regulation and human rights.

As technology rapidly changes, approaches to managing the spectrum should change as well, yet powerful broadcasting companies and mobile phone operators dominate the regulation debate, opposing more open and dynamic approaches to spectrum allocation and licensing in order to retain control of a large portion of spectrum bands. Regulators must resist pressure from these companies and adopt more open approaches in order to enable the spectrum to be used by everyone to their fullest potential in terms of social, cultural and economic development.

In 2011 APC continued working with members and partner organisations to examine how spectrum is used and managed. This time, the focus was put on the Latin American region. Country studies were developed in Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela. The new series of country studies and a summary report on the situation of spectrum regulation in the Latin American region are available online.<sup>2</sup>

### *Workshop on spectrum in Kenya and South Africa*

APC and partners offered an important workshop for government officials, regulators and professionals in October 2011 on Television White Spaces (TVWS) spectrum. The workshop deepened understanding of opportunities offered by Television White Spaces Spectrum in Africa focusing on Kenya and South Africa, explored how TVWS can transform the connectivity landscape in Africa to achieve the goal of creating affordable access for all and shared ideas and experiences on how TVWS can boost growth of the technology sector in sub-Saharan Africa.

### *Internet Governance Forum workshop*

As part of APC’s efforts to raise awareness among decision makers in relation to the need to adapt spectrum regulation in order to respond to current needs and possibilities, a workshop was organised at the sixth Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in Nairobi, Kenya. One of the issues raised by the workshop participants was the importance of having spectrum policies and regulations that are a result of multi-stakeholder dialogues – involving industry, government and civil society. This discussion needs to factor in the needs of these different actors in order to arrive at

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1 Open Spectrum survey project funded by The Open Society Institute (OSI-ZUG)

2 [www.apc.org/en/pubs/spectrum-use-latin-america-summary-report-case-stu](http://www.apc.org/en/pubs/spectrum-use-latin-america-summary-report-case-stu)

the best possible decisions for all, as the consequences of bad decisions in this area are not only profound but also difficult to correct.

### *Issue paper*

We know that decreasing the cost and increasing the pervasiveness of access will have a positive social and economic impact in developing countries and we know that wireless technologies hold the key to the last mile. How can we catalyse both decreased costs and increased access? What are the barriers?

The issue paper *Spectrum for development*,<sup>3</sup> written by Steve Song, not only explains in simple language the key issues behind the potential of spectrum to improve access – in particular, in the developing world – but also provides answers to these important questions.

### *New spectrum website*

APC developed a new website<sup>4</sup> in order to provide better access to materials produced by APC, its members and partners on the issue of spectrum use and regulation.

The website is initially available in English and Spanish and includes all of the materials produced in the context of the open spectrum for development initiative, as well as links to other related initiatives, such as the digital migration project.

## **1b. Digital migration in Africa<sup>5</sup>**

APC supported awareness-raising, advocacy and capacity-building activities around the issue of digital broadcast migration in a number of countries in Africa. The intervention aimed to help policy makers and others focus their efforts on lowering the cost of digital migration and reaping a wider range of benefits. Research on digital migration was done in Senegal, Ghana and Nigeria and information disseminated on the issues, bringing together stakeholders at a regional event and at workshops held in each of the focus countries to start to build awareness of the issues. The key findings from this project include:

- Many countries are at the early stages of the process and a number have taken no action despite the 2015 deadline set by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). Across Africa, 35 countries appear to have done nothing.
- Much of the discussion on digital migration is focused on technical issues. However, there are a range of issues which impact on both the cost and potential benefits of digital migration that need to be considered. Analysis shows there is a need to strengthen the capacity of regulatory bodies.

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<sup>3</sup> [www.apc.org/en/system/files/OpenSpectrumIssuePaper\\_EN.pdf](http://www.apc.org/en/system/files/OpenSpectrumIssuePaper_EN.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> [spectrum.apc.org](http://spectrum.apc.org)

<sup>5</sup> Digital Broadcast Migration in West Africa project funded by The Open Society Institute (OSI-ZUG)

- There are very few civil society and consumer groups currently participating and interested in this issue despite the significance of the changes and opportunities that it can bring. There is a need for these groups to be more aware of the importance of the issues related to digital migration and why they need to be involved as well as to have the capacity to be able to better engage in what is often considered a difficult technical issue.

► **TO WATCH IN THE FUTURE** *Citizens' guide to the airwaves* will be ready in 2012 to orientate advocacy actions by civil society organisations around open spectrum issues. It is being developed by Ermanno Pietrosemoli, and provides the background needed by citizens and civil society organisations in order to understand the complex and multi-dimensional issue of spectrum regulation and be able to participate effectively in multi-stakeholder dialogues around spectrum regulation. The guide covers basic issues such as what is the electromagnetic spectrum and which are the economic and political interests in spectrum management. It examines arguments that proclaim the scarcity of spectrum and looks at new models of spectrum allocation that take into account new spectrum-sensing and frequency-changing technologies.

Additionally, there is a need for national consultations, more awareness raising on digital migration and advocacy for spectrum regulation that maximises and extends internet infrastructure to those populations most excluded.



*Migration from traditional to digital broadcasting is not only a technical issue. It impacts how people access and produce information.*

Photo via Flickr by Ben Sutherland

## 1c. Gender Evaluation Methodology for internet and ICTs (GEM)<sup>6</sup>



*After participating in the Global GEM Exchange in 2009, Huda Sarfraz decided to organise a digital storytelling workshop with violence survivors in Pakistan.*

Photo by SUBH-E-NA

In June 2011 the GEM II project came to an end. One of its main results, after four and a half years of groundwork and research, is the adaptation of the Gender Evaluation Methodology (GEM) to three areas of work: GEM for localisation, GEM for rural ICTs and GEM for telecentres. These adaptations provide guidelines, materials and on-the-ground experiences that promote gender inclusion in ICT access and use at grassroots and local levels. An online GEM portal<sup>7</sup> was created to make these guides and tools available, to offer GEM services to programmes, organisations and government units, and to build a practitioners' network with the aim of sharing experiences and results of evaluation activities using GEM. An APC consulting services coordinator was hired to establish a system, proper documentation and processes for GEM consulting services and products.

In the practitioners' network we find experiences like the one shared by Huda Sarfraz, a 29-year-old software developer in Pakistan who coordinated an ICT training project for school children and teachers and used GEM to plan and evaluate. It was the first time that the Centre for Research in Urdu Language Processing (CRULP)

<sup>6</sup> Gender Evaluation Methodology (GEM) II: Building Gender Evaluation Practice within the ICT for Development Community is funded by International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

<sup>7</sup> [www.genderevaluation.net](http://www.genderevaluation.net)

in Pakistan had directly taken on the social perspective of a project by taking technology to the people, and Huda decided she would give it a try. The project aimed to train school children and teachers from the rural Punjab to use the internet so that they could eventually create their own content. The training team used GEM to complement other planning methods for the project and this tool helped them reach a segment of the population that other, more traditional, planning methods may not have achieved: women and girls.

In fact, the way they dealt with the different needs of both sexes meant that girls, too, could learn about computers. The young girls were not letting this opportunity go, it seemed. "Women teachers were quite insistent in getting the girls involved," recounts Sarfraz. The desire to participate in the programme by so many girls, and their strong presence at the awards ceremonies (both as attendees and award recipients), sent out a clear message: girls are willing and capable of taking part in the information society.<sup>8</sup>

### *Major achievement*

The impact of GEM has been captured and documented in the *GEM Evaluation Report*,<sup>9</sup> which shows that GEM is being used beyond APC's boundaries. In an evaluation survey, 25% of respondents stated that they use GEM for projects outside their collaboration with the APC WNSP/GEM II project team. The report also shows that GEM does change attitudes and practices in relation to gender and gender power among GEM practitioners and facilitators. Francis, a trainer from Uganda, reported he had learned a lot since he had not initially thought that gender could have such an adverse effect on how ICTs are embraced in rural communities. He felt that the GEM experience was an eye-opener for him and that since using GEM he has become more gender sensitive in both his professional and personal endeavours.

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8 [www.genderevaluation.net/mygem/?q=es/news/introducing\\_internet\\_pakistan039s\\_rural\\_schools\\_gi](http://www.genderevaluation.net/mygem/?q=es/news/introducing_internet_pakistan039s_rural_schools_gi)

9 [www.genderevaluation.net/?q=gemworks/lessons-learned-evaluation-findings](http://www.genderevaluation.net/?q=gemworks/lessons-learned-evaluation-findings)

## 2. SECURING AND DEFENDING INTERNET RIGHTS



*The campaign Connect Your Rights! Internet Rights Are Human Rights was launched in English, French and Spanish.*

Since its creation in 1990, APC has been committed to making the internet serve the needs of global civil society and working to ensure the internet is free and open. In 2011, APC continued shaping its human rights approach to internet communications based on the belief that the ability to share information and communicate freely, safely and securely is vital to the realisation of human rights as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1976), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1976) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW, 1980). APC also continued to respond to the increasing trends to restrict free expression, free association and the free flow of information on the internet which deeply impact all countries, not only those lacking a culture of democracy or strong human rights regimes.

## 2a. Internet rights are human rights<sup>10</sup>

### *Incorporating internet rights in the international human rights agenda and supporting human rights defenders*

In 2011 APC's work took a major step into the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC) working with human rights defenders and women's human rights defenders to highlight internet-related rights violations and to call for the same rights that we have offline to apply online. Highlights include:

- Engagement with the special rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression including a side event at HRC 17.
- Secure online communication training for women's human rights defenders.
- Calls to action in response to the arrest and detention of network members, including Egyptian blogger and activist Alaa Abdel El Fatah, and emergency responses to events in Malaysia, Indonesia, Colombia, Pakistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo and the United States (SOPA and PIPA).
- Connect Your Rights! Internet Rights Are Human Rights campaign.
- Establishment of the IR (Internet Rights) Monitor.
- HRC Universal Periodic Review (UPR) submissions for Ecuador, India, Brazil, South Africa and the Philippines, where APC along with members of the Human Rights Council evaluated the human rights record of each UN member state.

### *The mobile internet from a human rights perspective*

The dramatic increase in the number of people using mobile phones worldwide constitutes an enormous opportunity for the enforcement of human rights and for using information and communication technologies for social development. In collaboration with partners, policy briefs were developed to examine challenges and opportunities of mobile technologies in relation to the protection and promotion of human rights in online environments. These papers were used as a basis for background documents prepared by APC for the First Southern African Internet Governance Forum and the Sixth Internet Governance Forum.

#### A human rights approach to the mobile internet

Written by Lisa Horner of Global Partners and coordinator of the Internet Rights and Principles IGF dynamic coalition, this paper<sup>11</sup> examines the implications of the ongoing evolution and spread of the mobile internet from a human rights perspective. It considers the dimensions of a human rights approach to communications and provides an outline of what policy and regulation of the mobile internet should aim to achieve.

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<sup>10</sup> The project Internet Rights Are Human Rights: Monitoring and defending freedom of expression and association on the internet is funded by Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)

<sup>11</sup> [www.apc.org/en/pubs/12431](http://www.apc.org/en/pubs/12431)

Twitter revolutions and cyber crackdowns: User-generated content and social networking in the Arab spring and beyond

In this paper,<sup>12</sup> Alex Comminos investigates the role of user-generated content and social networking websites in the recent protests and uprisings in the Middle East and North Africa, and the extent to which these protests and uprisings can be called “Twitter revolutions” or “Facebook revolutions”.

Policy and regulatory issues in the mobile internet

This paper,<sup>13</sup> by Russell Southwood, argues that mobile is both media and a media delivery platform. The author maintains that the internet represents a “gold standard” for freedom of expression and that lawmakers and regulators should seek to emulate its success when looking at mobile media.

### *Internet rights research*

The internet is believed to have substantially extended the ability of citizens to exercise freedom of expression and freedom of association. At the same time, it is seen as having raised new challenges concerning the relationship between the citizen and the state, privacy and surveillance, content controls, and the relationship between rights and responsibilities. The work of human rights organisations has been substantially affected by the internet in terms of caseload and working methods, yet there has been relatively little contact between mainstream human rights organisations and the internet community.

The report *Human rights and the internet: A review of perceptions in human rights organisations*, by David Souter, is based on the author’s research to assess perceptions of the relationship between the internet and international rights among human rights specialists. This report provides new ground for collaboration between the communications rights community and human rights advocates for the protection and promotion of human rights.

► **TO WATCH IN THE FUTURE** We are developing a series of country studies documenting the current status of rights of freedom of expression and association on the internet, the existence and actual implementation of policy and regulatory frameworks to seek redress for rights violations in the country, and the use of the internet made by human rights defenders, media groups and civil society organisations.

In 2012, APC expects to implement the project “Access, rights and innovation: Improving governance and accountability in ICT policy and regulation in Africa”. Look for the research, advocacy, networking, capacity-building and outreach activities we will conduct in the areas of:

- Innovative approaches to spectrum use and management as a means of extending affordable access
- Securing and defending fundamental human rights on the internet.

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12 [www.apc.org/en/node/12432](http://www.apc.org/en/node/12432)

13 [www.apc.org/en/node/12433](http://www.apc.org/en/node/12433)

## 2b. Providing support to human rights defenders

As in previous years, in 2011 APC continued providing support to groups and individuals whose communication rights are under fire. Support includes assisting activists whose websites have been attacked, people whose access to online services has been blocked, and people who have been attacked and harassed online. A number of women human rights defenders have also been trained in becoming safer online.

► **TO WATCH IN THE FUTURE** This work is fundamental to APC. We encourage groups and individuals to look to APC's network of support if their communication safety is in danger. APC's message to those who plan to censor others, spy on their communications, or violate other communications rights and freedoms is that we will be ever vigilant, watching our radar.

## 2c. Take Back the Tech! to end violence against women

In June 2011, the project "Take Back the Tech! to end violence against women"<sup>14</sup> came to an end with successful work in twelve developing countries. An additional grant was received to fund follow-up activities from July to December 2011. This project had three main objectives:

- To mobilise key stakeholders to stop violence against women and girls by building feminist analysis into global, regional and national ICT policy processes.
- To build and strengthen the capacity of women and adolescent girls and women's rights organisations to use, reclaim and shape ICTs to stop violence against women and girls.
- To create platforms and opportunities for women and adolescent girls to critically engage with ICTs to combat violence, and as survivors of violence to contribute towards self and collective healing.

In ICT training events called Feminist Tech Exchanges (FTX), 247 women produced digital stories and a further 365 developed skills in using ICTs for their activism. They used ICTs to build evidence, document violations, and build solidarity and networks across previously limiting geographical boundaries. The uptake of these technologies facilitated organising, mobilising and solidarity building to end violence against women. Through these tools, service providers improved prevention methods and approaches, resulting in more powerful impacts. At the same time, women's rights activists have learned valuable skills in keeping themselves and their members safe

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<sup>14</sup> Funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DGIS) MDG 3 Fund. Take Back the Tech! project page: [www.apc.org/en/projects/mdg3-take-back-tech-end-violence-against-women](http://www.apc.org/en/projects/mdg3-take-back-tech-end-violence-against-women)

as they continue to maximise the use of the internet for their own advocacy work. Being able to learn and strengthen their knowledge and use of technology allowed women to gain effectiveness, competence and confidence in their work.

Women who have participated in capacity-building activities start to play new roles in their organisations and communities, growing in leadership. Sellah, from Uganda, who is HIV positive, was trained as a paralegal and achieved ICT skills in training workshops in the framework of the Take Back the Tech campaign. Along with other colleagues she contributes to a blog where violations of women's rights in the community are denounced and also uses her mobile phone and laptop to record cases and to help women to stand up for their rights.

Thanks to this activity, community behaviours have changed. Sellah says that "people now know what is good and they know what the law prescribes for those that do wrong." Because of their new training, there have been changes in their statuses in their communities. Women find they are respected because of their new knowledge of ICTs. Sellah confirms that her new skills and knowledge "have helped me to be free and respected in the community. People recognise me as an important person even though I am HIV positive."

### *Major achievements*

Through awareness-raising and advocacy activities, the project succeeded in informing women's rights organisations, service providers, law enforcement authorities and key policy makers about the nature, scope and prevalence of the violence that is being inflicted on women and girls through the use of technologies. Country partners' research confirmed that in all twelve countries the incidence of technology-related violence against women is increasing.

The most common cases documented were cyber stalking, sexual harassment, surveillance and the unauthorised use and manipulation of personal information including images and videos. Advocacy and lobbying in national, regional and global ICT policy spaces, particularly at the IGF, have benefitted from the visibility and interventions of women's rights activists.



*The internet can both perpetuate violence and empower women to speak up, organise themselves and fight it.*

*Image by Fabricio Caiazza*

## 2d. Sexuality rights and the internet: EROTICS<sup>15</sup>

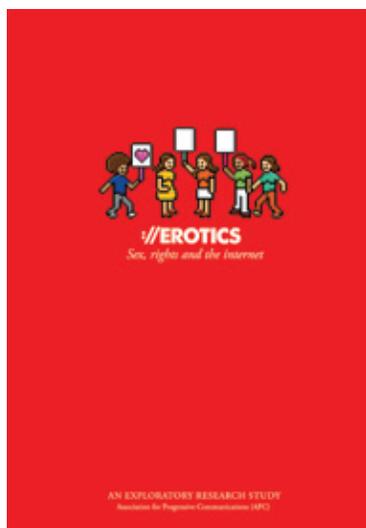
The EROTICS project took place between June 2008 and June 2011. The primary research goal was to respond to the question:

*How does the internet facilitate the exercise of sexual rights and the expression of sexualities, particularly of women living in different socio-political, economic and cultural contexts? And, how does emerging regulation online affect this ability?*

Five research countries were identified from a preliminary policy review, and demonstrated conditions that the project wanted to investigate, including reasonable and/or growing rates of internet access, extent of internet filtering practices, the availability of research partners, and the prevalence of public debates on sexual rights and internet regulation issues. Country partners were selected from an open call based on their experience and knowledge in either research on sexuality or on internet rights issues from a feminist or gendered analysis.

The EROTICS research was also conceived as an advocacy platform to initiate discussions and linkages with related rights-based actors through the research process. As such, country partners were also selected based on their networking with local rights-based organisations or advocates.

Due to the diversity of the countries, including social, political and legislative contexts, access and infrastructure, historical development of related rights-based movements and the in/visibility of sexuality and sexual rights discourse, the coordinators decided to conduct in-depth analysis in each of the countries based on local priorities and realities as opposed to a strictly comparative study.



*How is the internet promoting or censoring the expression of alternative sexualities?*

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15 The Ford Foundation funds the project Sexuality and the internet - An exploratory research project

The EROTICS final report<sup>16</sup> was published in August 2012, and comprises six chapters, including a synthesis report. This was distributed and launched through a two-part GenderIT.org edition, with editorials by the EROTICS policy review writer, interviews and articles.<sup>17</sup> The report was widely distributed to networks, lists and partners.

### *Major achievements*

The EROTICS research helps to understand that the internet, because of its unique characteristics, has provided a critical space for the proliferation of multiple discourses that can act to challenge and rupture normative ideals of sexual hierarchies. The internet has become an important avenue to interrogate existing standards of sexual legitimacy, and to raise broader questions around justice, equality and non-discrimination. Due to its relatively low barriers to access and dissemination (as compared to, for example, traditional mainstream media), the internet enables perspectives and voices from the margins to infuse dominant discourses that anchor normative sexual hierarchies. The in-depth research with diverse communities and individuals who use the internet in the expression, articulation, exploration and realisation of their sexualities in the five EROTICS countries demonstrates the key function of the internet in the exercise of sexual citizenship and the advancement of sexual rights.<sup>18</sup>

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16 [www.genderit.org/sites/default/upload/erotics\\_finalresearch\\_apcwmsp.pdf](http://www.genderit.org/sites/default/upload/erotics_finalresearch_apcwmsp.pdf)

17 GenderIT edition part 1: [www.genderit.org/newsletter/erotics-sex-rights-and-net-part-1](http://www.genderit.org/newsletter/erotics-sex-rights-and-net-part-1)  
GenderIT edition part 2: [www.genderit.org/edition/erotics-sex-rights-and-net-part-2](http://www.genderit.org/edition/erotics-sex-rights-and-net-part-2)

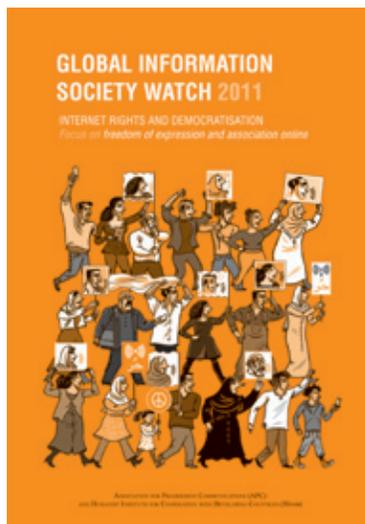
18 Jac sm Kee "Emerging threads and common gaps: a synthesis" [www.genderit.org/resources/erotics-sex-rights-and-internet-research-study](http://www.genderit.org/resources/erotics-sex-rights-and-internet-research-study)

## 2e. Global Information Society Watch 2011: Internet rights and democratisation<sup>19</sup>

The title and theme for Global Information Society Watch (GISWatch) 2011 was *Internet rights and democratisation: Focus on freedom of expression and association online*. Produced with support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), it included a series of expert reports covering areas such as internet rights from a human rights perspective, the so-called e-revolutions in the Middle East and North Africa, freedom of expression on the internet and its implications for foreign policy, internet intermediaries, cyber security, workers' rights, and sexuality and women's rights, among other issues that currently impact on the promotion, respect and defence of human rights online.

Other lesser-known stories were compiled from national reports from over 50 countries. The result was a rich collection of reports that approached the topic of the internet, human rights and social resistance from different angles – whether discussing the rights of prisoners to access the internet in Argentina, candlelight vigils against “mad cow” beef imports in South Korea, the UK Uncut demonstrations in London, or online poetry as protest in China.

“Written by internationally renowned experts, the report brings its readers easy-to-read and yet comprehensive articles, many with policy proposals, on the most important challenges protecting human rights on the internet is facing today,” says lawyer Matthias C. Kettemann, co-chair of the Internet Rights and Principles Coalition. “The report’s country studies – which are in turn saddening, moving, uplifting – shed light on how the internet can truly be a catalyst for change – and how it can be misused.” In his preface to the report, Frank La Rue, UN Special Rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression, says, “GISWatch 2011 offers timely commentary on the future of the internet as an open and shared platform that everyone has the right to access.”



*Global Information Society Watch: this year's edition focused on freedom of expression and association online and included timely analysis on the so-called e-revolutions in the Middle East and North Africa.*

<sup>19</sup> The project Internet Rights Are Human Rights: Monitoring and defending freedom of expression and association on the internet is funded by Sida

### 3. USING EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

#### 3a. Women leaders who combat technology-related violence: Defending a safe, secure environment for women and girls<sup>20</sup>

In March 2011, national coordinators from APC's twelve MDG 3 project countries met in Bohol, Philippines, to share the results of their actions and experiences of their anti-violence against women (VAW) work.

These activities ranged from meetings with women's rights organisations to identify and analyse local relevant issues and determine corresponding policy concerns at the country level, to pinpointing responsibilities of policy makers, law enforcement and other actors for women's safety and security.

These results were more evident in four countries (Philippines, South Africa, Pakistan and Uganda) and their significance can be seen from the new alliances that were forged among stakeholders, and the shared understanding of the nature of violations and the responses required to combat them.

For example, in the Philippines, national policy advocacy activities revealed policy gaps in current laws and regulations and their implementation by law enforcement. The identified gaps meant that privacy, safety, access to information and freedom of expression online for women and girls are not currently protected. Engaging with the cyber-crime units of the Philippine National Police and National Bureau of Investigation led to the recognition of technology-related VAW as a cyber crime and attempts by both units to streamline and coordinate their responses to reported violations in a manner that protects women's rights.

► **TO WATCH IN THE FUTURE** As a result of the positive evaluation achieved by this project, the APC Women's Networking Support Programme (APC WNSP) has secured funding from the Funding Leadership and Opportunities for Women (FLOW) programme to continue activities in eight countries from 2012 to 2015.

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<sup>20</sup> Strengthening Women's Strategic Use of Information and Communication Technologies to Combat Violence Against Women and Girls is funded by DGIS MDG3 Fund Grant

### 3b. Secure Online Communications: Training workshops for women's human rights defenders

Two Secure Online Communications workshops took place in Mombasa, Kenya and San José, Costa Rica to train women's human rights defenders from many countries: 21 activists participated in Mombasa and 18 in San José. It was a strategic decision to have APC staff represented to be trained as well and continue this project. In Mombasa, three APC staff were trained to be able to lead the Secure Online Communications workshop in San José.

Women's human rights defenders represented the following sectors among others: sexual and reproductive rights, transgender movement, LGBTIQ, abortion rights, women's communication rights, VAW-related organisations, rural women and migrant women's rights. In Costa Rica, the workshop was organised in partnership with APC member Sulá Batsú and included an open event at the Faculty of Social Communications, University of Costa Rica.

When evaluating the workshops, participants expressed the following opinions:

"Learning about tools and software was important, but it was best to listen to colleagues' stories about how they went through dangerous situations that they could have avoided if they had taken security measures for their online activity."

"I'm very happy because now I have a more critical perspective on security – now I'm able to share with my colleagues new security options, easy to implement. I'm ready now to migrate to FOSS [free and open source software], especially software that can be used to surf the internet."

"We cannot be naïve when we consider what tools to use. We also have to learn about secure ways to use ICTs. There are so many risks and it is good to learn to overcome our bad daily practices. I plan to share all this with my colleagues at the radio station."

GenderIT.org published an English and Spanish bilingual edition titled *Danger and opportunity: ICTs and women's human rights defenders*, devoted to women's human rights defenders and how their rights to freedom of expression and association are affected by internet restrictions. Part of the edition included in-depth analysis of how ICTs are used to mobilise around women's and sexual rights and the risks many defenders face online. The edition was part of APC's "Connect Your Rights" campaign, financed by Sida. More than 14,000 readers from 135 countries accessed the site within its first month of publication.

### 3c. Mapping the intersection of technology and gender-based violence

Take Back the Tech! (TBTT!) is a campaign that aims to halt and reverse the spread of gender-based violence using new technologies. One important step is mapping the intersection between gender-based violence and technology. This allows campaigners and policy makers to appreciate the scale of gender-based violence online to see which are the most prevalent abuses and come up with strategies for tackling the problem. In 2011, TBTT! generated an interactive map, allowing visitors to share their stories, local news and personal experiences of gender-based violence using technology. This map was launched during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence in November 2011. A total of 193 stories were recorded from across the globe, with the majority of stories coming from Africa, Latin America and Asia. This is an example of one shared story:

“P was in the process of leaving her abusive husband when she received an SMS from him stating he had her phone records and accusing her of having an affair. P was very disturbed as she had not given him her new phone number. When she asked him how he had obtained her number, her husband refused to tell her.

“Eventually she discovered that her husband had bribed someone at her mobile phone service provider. Using her private details, he had managed to secure a printout of all the calls she had made and received. He then proceeded to threaten all the people whose numbers were on the record.

“When P found this out, she wrote to the service provider and demanded they change her number and make her records private. This ended the harassment and she proceeded with the divorce.”

To prevent gender-based violence online, it is vital to listen to women who are suffering abuse. The TBTT! map is one tool that allows visualisation of the spread of online violence against women. This in turn tells an important story. First, there is a need to look beyond the state and large corporations as perpetrators of rights abuses online. By far the largest abusers in these stories are individuals or groups. Second, there is a need to tie gender-based violence offline with what is happening online. The online environment is providing new tools for abusers to use, but patterns of abuse and their “real-world” implications are identical to the harm from more traditional forms of VAW. There must be policy at the levels of both the state and service providers.<sup>21</sup>

GenderIT.org promoted the 2011 TBTT! campaign and its daily actions by producing the bilingual edition *Taking control of technology to end VAW*. It included analysis of the data collected through the TBTT! mapping platform between 25 November and 7 December 2011. The edition was published on 15 December 2011, and it drew 11,500 visits between 15 December 2011 and 15 January 2012.

► **TO WATCH IN THE FUTURE** More individuals and women’s organisations in more countries should be invited to get involved in this mapping exercise to build evidence that supports lobbying at all levels.

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21 [www.genderit.org/articles/mapping-intersection-technology-and-gender-based-violence](http://www.genderit.org/articles/mapping-intersection-technology-and-gender-based-violence)

### 3d. Research, Web 2.0 and policy impact<sup>22</sup>

Finding efficient ways of getting their message to policy makers continues to be one of the main challenges for researchers who aspire to use their research outcomes to influence policies. Regardless of the validity or importance of research findings, without having an established relationship with secretariats where public policies are being made, such findings rarely have an effect beyond academic communities and tend to not influence policy-making processes.

The dawn of Web 2.0 tools brings completely new opportunities for researchers to disseminate their conclusions, establish and maintain relationships with those who make policies, and build and maintain alliances. While these opportunities are typically ignored by traditional researchers, APC teamed up with Fundación Comunica<sup>23</sup> and developed a guide for all researchers who wish to use Web 2.0 tools to communicate research. iGuide offers solutions for achieving strategies to follow what a specific minister is up to, collaborate with like-minded researchers and activists, or build a solid reputation in the online arena. Users can also find hints on specific tools that can help them get their message out in the format they need.

iGuide is a collaborative project built on the same wiki tool used by Wikipedia. Currently, there are English<sup>24</sup> and Spanish<sup>25</sup> versions of the guide.

► **TO WATCH IN THE FUTURE** Future plans for iGuide development include development of a French version of the site and the development of a repository of case studies capturing researchers' successes in using Web 2.0 to influence policy.

Next year, APC will publish "Communications for Influence", a cross-cutting analysis and guide to best practices when communicating research results to audiences both broad and targeted in order to effect maximum change.

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22 Funded by APC's partnership with Fundación Comunica on Impact 2.0: Linking research, advocacy and policy through web 2.0 practices and tools at national levels in Uruguay, Peru and Ecuador

23 [www.comunica.org](http://www.comunica.org)

24 [iguides.comunica.org](http://iguides.comunica.org)

25 [iguias.comunica.org](http://iguias.comunica.org)

### 3e. Operating as a truly virtual, international organisation<sup>26</sup>

In the last several years, internet users have sparked a massive trend to replace physical travel with online conferencing. Motivated by savings, carbon footprint considerations and time demands, activists and civil society groups are also increasingly finding strength in international networking online.

Despite the boom in online conferencing services, finding the right tool is not an easy task for those who cannot afford to spend weeks on research, feature comparison and testing. To make finding the right tool easier, APC's Strategic Technologies & Network Development programme developed the guide *Online Conferencing Tools for Development Practitioners*.<sup>27</sup>

The guide is intended for anyone who needs to meet with others online, wherever they are based, however much bandwidth they have, and whichever operating system they use.

► **TO WATCH IN THE FUTURE** APC continues its research of online conferencing tools suitable in whatever environments we, our partners and many other activists work. This research places particular emphasis on free and open source software (FOSS) solutions, since we believe them to be safer and their developers key players in the future of the internet.

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26 The project Building research and communications capacity for an open, fair and sustainable networked society: The APC Action Research Network 2010-11 is funded by IDRC

27 [www.apc.org/en/pubs/issue/strategic/online-conferencing-tools-development-practitioner](http://www.apc.org/en/pubs/issue/strategic/online-conferencing-tools-development-practitioner)

### 3.f Impact 2.0: New mechanisms to link research and policy<sup>28</sup>

Building on the work of the previous year, in 2011 APC's Communications and Information Policy Programme (CIPP) continued to research and analyse the potential of Web 2.0 tools and behaviours to link research, advocacy and policy. A regional workshop with experts and researchers was held in October 2011 in Quito, Ecuador, which contributed to analysing the issue from different perspectives.

- ▶ **TO WATCH IN THE FUTURE** A publication to be launched in 2012 will compile the created body of knowledge on this subject. Its aim is to empower researchers and activists in playing a more dominant role in policy-making processes, and decision makers in tapping efficiently into the wealth of knowledge generated by independent and alternative evidence and analysis.

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<sup>28</sup> Funded by APC's partnership with Fundación Comunica on Impact 2.0: Linking research, advocacy and policy through web 2.0 practices and tools at national levels in Uruguay, Peru and Ecuador

#### 4. MAKING TECHNOLOGY WORK TO SUSTAIN THE ENVIRONMENT



*Members from India, Bangladesh, Egypt, Costa Rica and Mexico took part in this initiative that combines research and advocacy.*

Photo via Flickr by Emilia Tjernström

2011 saw the further development of APC's focus on ICTs and environmental sustainability – a process which had begun with various activities in 2010, including the publication of GISWatch, in which authors tackled the sometimes difficult terrain of ICTs and climate change and e-waste.

The process of contributing to GISWatch and participating in an APC learning forum in Bohol in early 2011 consolidated the interest of a number of APC members in the area of environmental sustainability. One notable example was APC member DEF kick-starting its own projects and initiatives in the field. By the end of 2011, APC members considered part of the "green group" working with APC on environmental issues included ALIN, ArabDev, BlueLink Information Network, Bytes for All, CEPES, CIPESA, Colnodo, DEF, Fantsuam Foundation, GreenNet, LaNeta, owpsee, StrawberryNet, Sulá Batsú and VOICE.

Most of this work was project-driven, with two main projects directing the course of work during 2011: the Action Research Network (ARN) and the ICTs, climate change and water (CCW) project. Both of these were funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

#### 4a. Action Research Network (ARN)<sup>29</sup>

The ARN research into ICTs and environmental sustainability involved baseline policy studies by members in India (DEF), Bangladesh (Bytes for all), Egypt (ArabDev), Costa Rica (Sulá Batsú) and Mexico (LaNeta). These were then compiled into a comparative report. An inventory of sustainable tools and practices was also developed by GreenNet, with Colnodo working on a survey of practitioners' awareness of environmental sustainability, behaviours and needs.

The research encouraged the participating APC members to survey the policy environment, both in the context of e-waste and ICTs and climate change, laying the groundwork for future advocacy interventions. While showing that the policy terrain for ICTs and environmental sustainability is a complex and even contradictory one, the researchers identified key areas for future advocacy work, including advocating for participative and inclusive policies, pushing for the link between ICTs and the environment to be made explicit in policy documents, and the need for the development of knowledge banks, training and support.

► **TO WATCH IN THE FUTURE** In particular, the APC team felt that the work done on the sustainable tools and practices inventory by GreenNet laid good ground for further development. This, together with a manual on ecological computing, were earmarked for project work in 2012.

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<sup>29</sup> The project Building research and communications capacity for an open, fair and sustainable networked society: The APC Action Research Network 2010-11 is funded by IDRC

## 4b. ICTs, climate change and water<sup>30</sup>

In 2010 the IDRC approached APC to help develop the next steps in its ICTs, climate change and water programme. This entailed several project activities, including coordinating regional research, conducting a call for project write-ups, an online practitioners' survey, hosting a workshop in Johannesburg and the publication of the project's outputs.

In January 2011, three regional researchers were contracted to carry out research into ICTs, climate change and water: Washington Ochola (Africa), Gilles Cliche (Latin America) and Rajib Shaw (Asia). Their research considered practical water security issues facing developing countries as well as the emerging research agendas in the field. Draft research reports fed into the workshop discussions, and are set to be published in book form in early 2012.

Tina James, a longstanding APC friend and partner, was brought in as rapporteur, with a specific brief to identify the research questions that emerged during workshop discussions. A total of 27 participants including the regional researchers and case study authors attended the workshop. The combined expertise of participants included ICTs, climate change, water, media, research, teaching, networking and policy advocacy, as well as working both at the level of global institutions and at the grassroots level with communities, offering a rich exchange of views and ideas on the topic of ICTs, climate change and water.

A highlight of the workshop was the day trip to Harbeestpoort Dam, about an hour's drive from the workshop venue. This was facilitated by Petrus Venter and Morne de Jager from the Harties Metsi A Me project.<sup>31</sup> The site was selected due to the fact that the project uses water monitoring technology to monitor the flow and quality of the Crocodile River, which runs into the dam.



*We looked at how ICTs are being used to monitor, prevent and mitigate the impact of climate change on water resources.*

30 Innovative Application of ICTs in Addressing Water-related Impacts of Climate Change is funded by IDRC

31 [www.harties.org.za](http://www.harties.org.za)

#### 4c. Global summits on environmental sustainability

One objective at the 2011 IGF was to engage in ICT and environmental sustainability sessions. While APC had proposed a session on conflict minerals, an emerging advocacy issue, expert panellists did not prioritise their participation, perhaps suggesting the extent to which green ICT issues are low on the IGF agenda. However, the IGF provided an opportunity to network with various stakeholders involved in APC activities.

APC also travelled to the climate change summit (COP 17) which was held in Durban, South Africa in December 2011. The summit offered a useful opportunity to try to better understand the dynamics of the climate negotiations and how APC could best interact with the process. Critical issues included foregrounding of the role of ICTs in the negotiations, the structure of the Green Climate Fund and how sometimes costly but necessary adaptation projects were going to be supported at the grassroots level.

## 5. BUILDING THE “INFORMATION COMMONS”



*APC did research on the nature and impact of piracy and alternative economies in South Africa.*

Photo by Lisa Cyr

APC publishes all of its content, both in print and online, under Creative Commons (CC) licensing,<sup>32</sup> which places all of our work in the public domain. Like CC, APC supports legal and technical infrastructure that maximises digital creativity, sharing and innovation.

While APC releases its own content into the public domain, we also work to build access to information and the information commons through our support of campaigns against stronger enforcement of intellectual property laws, which often drive the debate in international policy circles but ultimately limit access to information and rights in the name of purely economic considerations.

In 2011, APC contributed to the publication “Media piracy in emerging economies”,<sup>33</sup> published by the Social Sciences Research Council (SSRC). Our contribution, titled “Towards Détente in Media Piracy”, examined the nature and extent of media piracy and the effect of anti-piracy legislative and enforcement frameworks on access to knowledge in South Africa.

<sup>32</sup> [www.creativecommons.org](http://www.creativecommons.org)

<sup>33</sup> [piracy.ssrc.org/the-report](http://piracy.ssrc.org/the-report)

## 6. IMPROVING GOVERNANCE, ESPECIALLY GOVERNANCE OF THE INTERNET



*One of APC's objectives at the IGF was to engage in ICT and environmental sustainability sessions.*

*Photo via Flickr by Christopher Rose*

In 2011, APC advocated consistently for policies and regulatory approaches that ensure the adoption of a development agenda for internet governance and increase the visibility of a rights-based approach to how the internet is governed. APC staff and members had an active role in supporting the structuring of the programme of the IGF 2011, regionalising the IGF process by organising regional meetings in Latin America and Africa, and organising workshops and pre-events. We have contributed also to increasing the understanding of the internet governance ecosystem and assisting civil society organisations in thinking through their advocacy objectives.

## **6a. Internet Governance Forum (IGF)**

APC actively contributed to shaping the IGF 2011, providing inputs to structure the main sessions, organising relevant workshops on key issues, and ensuring civil society perspectives were included in the agenda and panels. APC was also instrumental in organising a regional internet governance meeting in Latin America as well as the Southern African IGF, which was a collaboration between APC, NEPAD (New Partnership for African Development), SANGONeT and the South African government's Department of Communications. These regional meetings provide spaces for multi-stakeholder political dialogue, contribute to the understanding of the challenges posed by internet governance, and respond to regional priorities.

## **6b. IBSA Seminar on global internet governance**

APC participated in the IBSA (India, Brazil and South Africa) Seminar held in Rio de Janeiro in September 2011, where representatives from government and civil society organisations discussed the current state of internet governance from a developing country perspective. The three governments drafted a statement which created a storm of reaction and debate at the subsequent Internet Governance Forum in Nairobi as it proposed the establishment of a new multilateral body to have oversight over internet public policy making. Demonstrating the IGF's capacity for dialogue among different stakeholders, representatives from the India, Brazil and South Africa governments agreed with civil society during a side-meeting in Nairobi that they would not pursue the proposals further until more dialogue and consultation took place at national level. However, when India, without the support of South Africa and Brazil, moved ahead with the proposal at the General Assembly, the IBSA process came to an end.

## 6c. Participation in the Gender Dynamic Coalition of the Internet Governance Forum

The APC women's programme, WNSP, played an active role during the 6th IGF in Nairobi, Kenya, September 2011.

WNSP organised a Women's Rights and Internet Governance workshop in Nairobi with the participation of fifteen women's organisations and activists from Africa, Asia and Latin America, to discuss and strategise around women's rights issues related to the IGF and internet policy advocacy. As a result of this meeting, articles were commissioned for a policy toolkit on women's rights and internet governance. The toolkit includes a compilation of all materials on [apc.org](http://apc.org) and [genderit.org](http://genderit.org) relevant to this thematic area.

Also during the IGF in Nairobi, WNSP staff and members were active in gathering information for the Gender Report Card.<sup>34</sup> The results were published in GenderIT.org. This Gender Report Card reported on the number of women participating in sessions and as panel speakers, and whether the session included a gender analysis.

As a member of the Gender Dynamic Coalition, WNSP participated in the discussion to produce a statement to be presented to the IGF plenary<sup>35</sup> and coordinated the drafting committee. WNSP was also a co-organiser and presenter at the roundtable on Women and Internet Governance, which was attended by around 100 women and was included in the IGF programme.

In the Gender Dynamic Coalition statement, women express their concern about the increasing evidence that shows "how private interests and state control can compromise the potential of the internet to be an open and inclusive space." They also insist that "the IGF must move in the direction of helping national level legal and policy processes as well as regional bodies engaged in policy making, to frame issues and agenda in a manner that brings in gender justice not as an afterthought, but an essential ingredient of policy considerations."

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34 [www.genderit.org/feminist-talk/what-gender-vi-igf-help-us-find-out](http://www.genderit.org/feminist-talk/what-gender-vi-igf-help-us-find-out)

35 [www.genderit.org/resources/6th-un-igf-statement-gender-dynamic-coalition-gender-equality-and-womens-rights](http://www.genderit.org/resources/6th-un-igf-statement-gender-dynamic-coalition-gender-equality-and-womens-rights)

GenderIT.org produced a bilingual edition on *Gender Peripheries of the 2011 Internet Governance Forum*,<sup>36</sup> reflecting on why this space seems to be resistant to the inclusion of gender perspectives and how to get the women's movement more involved within this new arena of public policy. Published in October 2011, the site drew over 14,000 visits within its first month of publication.

► **TO WATCH IN THE FUTURE** APC WNSP should keep actively involved in IGF activities, co-organising with partner organisations opportunities for sharing and discussion and making women's participation and gender issues visible in the IGF forum and agenda.

Additionally in 2012, APC will be publish "Critically absent: Women in internet governance. A policy advocacy toolkit", which encourages women and their organisations to engage in political discussions regarding internet development with a vision of inclusion, fairness and respect for women's rights.

## 6d. Contributing to the global debate on internet governance

In collaboration with project partners, APC developed two policy briefs oriented towards deepening the understanding of multi-stakeholder participation, particularly civil society engagement, in internet governance processes and institutions.

Civil society involvement in ICANN: Strengthening future civil society influence in ICANN policy making

This paper,<sup>37</sup> written by Robin Gross, investigates ICANN's processes and the role of civil society within decision making, and highlights lessons learned from this "multi-stakeholderism" experiment as well as recommendations for future similar initiatives.

Multi-stakeholder participation on internet governance: An analysis from a developing country, civil society perspective

Marília Maciel and Carlos Affonso Pereira de Souza developed this paper<sup>38</sup> to present an analysis of multi-stakeholder participation in internet governance processes, focusing on the obstacles and opportunities for the engagement of civil society.

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36 [www.genderit.org/edition/gender-peripheries-2011-internet-governance-forum](http://www.genderit.org/edition/gender-peripheries-2011-internet-governance-forum)

37 [www.apc.org/en/node/12973](http://www.apc.org/en/node/12973)

38 [www.apc.org/en/node/12965](http://www.apc.org/en/node/12965)

## 6e. Open governance research

Whereas free speech and access to information do not necessarily lead to improved government accountability, citizens are more likely to demand and receive accountability and transparency from their leaders when they are fully informed of what goes on in government from day to day. It follows that where there is no open and accountable government, democracy suffers. Aided by the increasing use of ICTs in their many facets, there emerges a strong link between greater freedom of information and speech and the status of democracy in a country.

Research in this area was conducted by APC member CIPESA in Uganda and codifies notions of “open government/open governance”, while providing policy makers with yardsticks and standards on which to base initiatives to produce concrete advances in this area. This was done by implementing activities centred around research, network building, advocacy and awareness raising.

The state of play in Uganda and best practices in the region were documented and citizens’ needs and expectations were assessed in the context of this research. Its findings supported advocacy activities targeted at achieving good governance by moving towards implementing initiatives identified by country advocates, with the goal of contributing to empower citizens to hold their leaders accountable, minimise corruption in the conduct of public affairs, and enable citizens to enjoy a greater range of rights and freedoms with the ultimate goal of consolidating democracy in the East African countries.

## 6f. Improving the Internet Governance Forum: APC’s participation in the working group on IGF improvements

Towards the end of 2010, the CSTD convened a Working Group on Internet Governance Forum Improvements, composed of 21 member states and five representatives from the private sector, civil society, the technical and academic community and five representatives from intergovernmental organisations. APC’s Anriette Esterhuysen was one of five civil society participants in the working group, which focused on how to increase participation from developing countries and improve the functioning of the IGF as well as the preparatory process for the annual event. The group broke new ground by achieving consensus on the need for the IGF to communicate the outcomes of its discussions more effectively. Previously, several interest groups felt that doing so would take the IGF into the terrain of “policy making” rather than “policy shaping”. APC, which has long advocated for more intentional capturing of the consensus as well as disagreements emerging from the IGF, feels this is a major achievement that will strengthen the long-term sustainability of the IGF as an experimental space for policy dialogue.

## 6g. OECD

In June 2011, a High Level Meeting of members of the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) in Paris released a communiqué on principles for internet policy making. APC's executive director participated in this meeting as a representative of the Civil Society Information Society Advisory Council to the OECD (CSISAC). CSISAC members, after much deliberation, decided not to endorse the communiqué, stating that it could undermine "online freedom of expression, freedom of information, the right to privacy, access to knowledge and innovation across the world," a decision that APC strongly supported. However, governments and members of the technical and business communities tried to convince CSISAC to endorse the principles, essentially challenging the multi-stakeholder policy process. A representative from the US government went out of his way to create an opportunity for negotiations to be reopened so that some compromise could be reached. Some degree of compromise was found, but not on issues related to copyright enforcement.

This was not seen as a failure of multi-stakeholder policy processes, but rather a demonstration that these processes have matured and can accommodate divergent views. It also demonstrated that civil society's influence is still limited and reliant on governments willing to listen to and represent our views in negotiations. Building robust, open and respectful multi-stakeholder policy processes in which power is more equally distributed among stakeholders has a long way to go.

## 7. NETWORKING AND COLLABORATION WITHIN APC



*The networking, learning and collaboration forum (NLF) brought together over 100 researchers in Panglao Island, the Philippines.*

Photo by Lisa Cyr

### 7a. Taking a critical look at the network

Towards the end of 2011, APC participated in Keystone Accountability's comparative network survey, carried out among six large international networks. The survey measured the health and cohesion of these networks, analysing such aspects as trust of network members, identification with the network, satisfaction with the networks' governance, and others.

In the survey, APC received a vote of trust from its members. Naturally, not everybody is happy with the state of things in APC and we received some pretty clear indications on what should be improved. However, APC team members enjoy a very high level of trust from representatives of APC member organisations. Members see in APC a unique opportunity to meet with like-minded activists, to share knowledge, and to bring local issues to global attention. They trust that APC has the potential and the drive to make a big change in influencing processes that will lead to better internet governance, protecting internet and human rights and promoting social justice.

## *Major achievement*

What members say about APC:

### *On motivation for being part of APC*

"The cutting edge pioneering work that APC does for the civil society in the world."

"Find a group of people and organisations that work around the world for the same type of ideals and goals as the ones I have at a personal and organisational level."

### *Biggest achievements related to membership in the APC network*

"Participation in globally relevant ICT-related projects, such as GISWatch."

"Being acknowledged and emerging as entity in the ICT & Environment domain."

"Biggest achievement has been the collaborative projects we have undertaken with APC in the access theme, internet governance. These projects promoted our name and as such we were able to use them as success stories for our works."

### *Readiness and willingness to participate in the network*

"The network is a dynamic entity, full of imagination for exploring new ways of thinking towards universal access to internet and communications."

"Collaborative global projects that match advocacy, policy and knowledge transfer are naturally generated by APC, one example for all: Take Back the Tech campaign, the Ushahidi map, the Be Safe tool are all things a big and knowledgeable organisation can do. We suffer a bit the speed but get enriched by the perspective, the commitment and the depth."

### *Network synergy*

"APC is global and deals with very complex and potentially abstract issues, but the people at APC have a fresh activist approach, which is very much missed among global civil society, combined with competence and sense of humour."

### *Our network's impact in the field*

"I have been very impressed with the work on human rights and influence that APC has had in this area. I think it is a result of the hard work done over many years building the reputation of the network in international arenas."

## 7b. Networking and learning forum<sup>39</sup>

In the context of the Action Research Network project, APC convened a networking, learning and collaboration forum (NLF) on 17-19 March 2011 in Panglao Island, Philippines. The forum brought together over 100 researchers from the APC community and its strategic partners, who had the opportunity to present research results, learn about critical issues for research and action, discuss research methodologies and define new strategies to effectively communicate research results.

The main objectives of the forum were to:

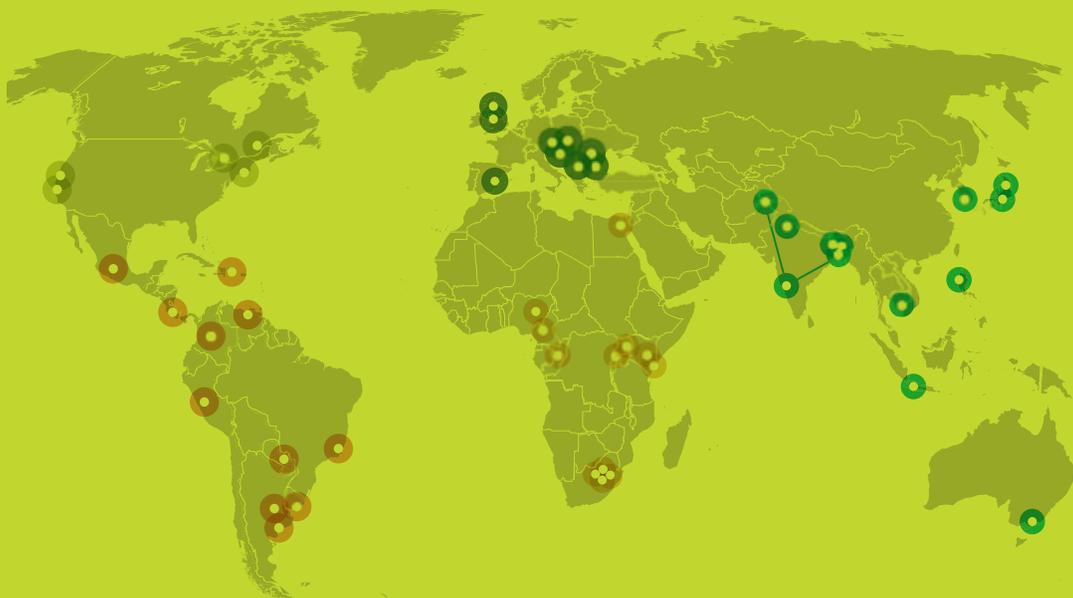
- Build a common understanding of what an open, fair and sustainable internet means to us.
- Look back as activists and advocates on what we have achieved in the last two years.
- Learn from one another, share skills and strategies among APC members, partners, research networks and project teams.
- Plan and collaborate for an open, fair and sustainable internet.

The NLF discussions were structured in six thematic clusters, related to some of APC's strategic priorities for the period 2009-2012. Throughout the three days of the event, the NLF participants engaged in discussions in small groups as well as in plenary sessions. From these discussions, several challenges and opportunities were highlighted in each of the thematic areas and initiatives for future collaborations were identified.

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<sup>39</sup> The project Building research and communications capacity for an open, fair and sustainable networked society: The APC Action Research Network 2010-11 is funded by IDRC

# MEMBER ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2011



*APC network in 2011.*  
Graphic by APC

## Argentina, Nodo Tau Bringing ICTs to Argentina's Qom community



*Students at one of the telecentres set up  
by Nodo Tau in Rosario.*

Photo by Nodo Tau

Nodo Tau organised a basic skills workshop with a group of 28 people from the Qom community in Los Pumitas, which had moved itself from the province of Chaco to Rosario in search of a higher quality of life. The workshop covered theoretical and practical aspects of computers – hardware, software, operating systems like GNU/Linux and Windows, free software like Ubuntu and programmes for word processing, internet and email.

The popular education course aimed at building the capacity of youth and adults to use information and communications technologies. Popular education allows participants to share their projects and achievements with others. The workshop coordinators were respectful of cultural differences, adjusted to the group's skill level, and helped to solve particular issues and questions related to the use of ICTs by the participants' communities. This solidarity work increased the young people's self-confidence and has helped them believe in the possibility of a better, more inclusive future.

[www.tau.org.ar](http://www.tau.org.ar)

## Australia/Indonesia, EngageMedia

Hybrid video distribution  
makes sharing and viewing  
videos possible

Indonesia has over 30 million internet users, but its vast geographic spread and haphazard IT infrastructure often make it difficult to maintain a steady and reliable internet connection for sharing and viewing video. For these reasons, EngageMedia has been working on hybrid video distribution methods through existing community television networks and offline video databases.

One of the projects that kept EngageMedia busy in 2010 and 2011 was a partnership with ASTEKI, or the People's Television Association. Together with EngageMedia and the AirPutih Foundation, ASTEKI has been working to strengthen the TV network through enhanced IT capacity. Before EngageMedia intervened, ASTEKI members around Indonesia were using YouTube to distribute and store their videos online. EngageMedia and AirPutih worked with ASTEKI to create their own storage server which, like [engagemedia.org](http://engagemedia.org), is based on the free software Plumi platform. Over the past several years, EngageMedia has used Plumi to set up four offline video databases in Indonesia with local partners Kampung Halaman, the Indonesian Visual Art Archive, Combine Resource Institution and Ruangrupa.

In order to strengthen the ASTEKI network's capacity to produce and disseminate videos, EngageMedia has also been conducting trainings with ASTEKI members, such as Kendari TV, a community television station in South East Sulawesi.

[www.engagemedia.org](http://www.engagemedia.org)

## Bangladesh, Bangladesh Friendship Education Society (BFES)

### Women lead ICT centre in remote Bangladeshi village

The Bangladesh Friendship Education Society (BFES) has developed the Amader Gram (Our Village) programme, in which women in the rural village of Shugandhi lead the community IT centre. The centre is meant for women only and is frequented by female students from several distant villages. This IT hub, known as “knowledge headquarters”, is equipped with computers with programmes like the Computer Fundamentals curriculum, which was created by the Amader Gram team.



*Nowreen Shetu, manager of the all-women ICT centre, is also a graduate of the Amader Gram IT programme by BFES. The programme gives women computer skills and is helping improve their family income and quality of life.*

Photo by BFES

Aside from gaining basic computer knowledge, graduates of the programme also receive education on improving their livelihoods and health through a database and interconnected IT-enabled services. The centre is managed by Nowreen Shetu, who was previously a student of the Amader Gram IT Centre. She now has her own IT training centre which offers other women and girls from her village the opportunity to receive IT training without having to travel very far. On account of her success, Shetu has been invited by Microsoft in Singapore to participate in their Regional Asia-Pacific Innovate4Good summit.

The Shugandhi Knowledge Centre has helped demonstrate the potential of ICTs among villagers in the Bagerhat district. Amader Gram believes that its village knowledge centre model can increase family income and improve their quality of life.

[www.bfes.net](http://www.bfes.net)

## Bangladesh, VOICE

### Privacy matters

Privacy across the world is in jeopardy with the advancement of new technologies, including in Bangladesh, and protecting citizens' information in the country has become ever more crucial. In 2010, VOICE started a project with Privacy International, in which a survey was conducted on “peoples' perceptions of privacy.” The survey aimed at collecting people's views, experiences and perceptions of privacy rights; gauging people's understanding of the legal framework of privacy; and documenting problems and examples of violations of privacy rights.

Research results showed that the overall privacy situation and state of awareness, especially for women, put citizens at risk.

Respondents said they feel uneasy about sharing very personal information such as sexual desire (83%), income (79%), and information about their own resources (75%). Fifty-two percent of respondents felt that information would be unsafe and ultimately used for other purposes while 40% of respondents said their privacy had been threatened by mobile phone companies. Eighty percent of respondents felt that personal information given for voter ID card/national ID should not be kept. Finally, 92% of respondents supported the protection of personal information while 73% supported the establishment of a commission on privacy to secure privacy rights.

[www.voicebd.org](http://www.voicebd.org)

## Bosnia and Herzegovina, owpsee

New game to help unify youth and develop a culture of tolerance



Scene from the game "In search of the treasure of Bosnia and Herzegovina".

Photo by owpsee

In June 2011, the OneWorld Platform for Southeast Europe (owpsee) began developing an online game for children and adolescents that aimed to promote the cultural and historical heritage of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The game, "In search of the treasure of Bosnia and Herzegovina", was initiated and financed by UNICEF Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), through the MDGF Culture for Development Programme.

It is important to the future of the country's social, political and economic development to promote a cultural vision and revival. It is especially essential for this cultural vision to foster respect for cultural differences and coexistence.

This is the first project of its kind to be developed in the country and also represents a turning point for owpsee in integrating ICTs for development in its work.

The game will be launched in 2012.

[www.oneworldsee.org](http://www.oneworldsee.org)

## Brazil, Nupef

poliTICS: A reference magazine on ICT policies

Nupef publishes a quarterly magazine called poliTICS (TICS is the Portuguese abbreviation for "information and communications technologies"). poliTICS is not an academic journal, but it aims to bridge academic knowledge and social movement practices with ICTs for development, thereby serving as a reference for advocacy and policy making. Issues are distributed at no charge under Creative Commons licensing both in print and online to thousands of subscribers from the government, academia, civil society and the private sector. Today, poliTICS is one of the main references in Portuguese on issues related to ICT policies, internet rights and internet governance.

[www.nupef.org.br](http://www.nupef.org.br)



Cover of the most recent edition of poliTICS (December 2011).

Image by Nupef

## Cambodia, Open Institute Developing a gender ICT policy



*The panelist on the Second Consultation Meeting on "Gender Perspectives on the ICT Policy Development", 31 May, 2011.*

In May 2011, the Open Institute, in collaboration with the Ministry of Women's Affairs, the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications and other members of government and civil society, convened a second consultation on gender and ICT policy development. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss how to bring gender into the development of sectoral and national ICT policy.

Chim Manavy, the Open Institute's executive director, expressed the need to mainstream gender into all five pillars of the policy. As key actors in social development, women need to be encouraged and engaged from the beginning of the policy-making process.

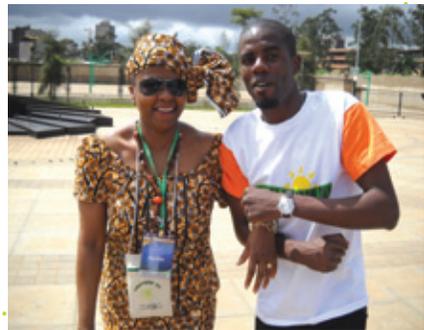
The different groups held discussions to identify problems and propose solutions and actions. Collaboration between organisations and sectors will help make many of these proposed actions possible. Being inclusive of gender in national ICT policy elaboration will also help mitigate ICT-enabled violence against women.

[www.open.org.kh/en](http://www.open.org.kh/en)

## Cameroon, PROTEGE QV PROTEGE QV among winners of Software Freedom Day

For years, PROTEGE QV has been involved in Software Freedom Day, a worldwide celebration of free and open source software (FOSS) which aims to educate the public about FOSS and its advantages for educational, business, governmental and recreational use. They have organised presentations, workshops, exhibitions and interaction between speakers and the audience. In 2010 they even managed to have the Minister of Post and Telecommunications speak at the event! They also handed out CDs with free software and Ubuntu, and USB keys to the winners of the FOSS trivia game they organised.

Announced in mid-2011, PROTEGE QV'S team in Cameroon was awarded the Software Freedom Day Best Event prize for 2010. The Best Event competition recognises teams from around the world who proved to be outstanding organisers and promoters of Software Freedom in the previous year. Spread out over three continents, three teams are chosen and the awards given to those teams are meant to help them further in their tasks for years to come.



*PROTEGE QV president Sylvie Siam with one of the Software Freedom Day participants.*

Photo by PROTEGE QV

[www.protegeqv.org](http://www.protegeqv.org)

## Canada, Alternatives

Plugged in and Root.ED: Young Montreal interns connect and record ideas in Senegal



*Alternatives was a key supporter in the logistics of going to Senegal and helped with the overall direction of the project.*

Photo by Root.ED

Root.ED, a Montreal-based environmental initiative catering to youth of colour, spent two months in Senegal to assist in the documentation of food sovereignty issues. Root.ED interns learned how to use the internet as a tool for activism, experienced hands-on blogging workshops, and learned how to record, edit and upload their stories. Root.ED interns were thrilled at the empowering opportunity to transition from unaware internet users to engaged, critically thinking online journalists!

After months of technical training organised and co-led by Alternatives, the team of seven flew to Dakar where they met up with environmental activists and community workers. They worked in collaboration with Alternatives's partner RAPDA (Réseau africain pour le droit à l'alimentation) and recorded stories, adding a flavourful digital twist to the oral tradition. Skill sets were shared, with interns helping activists use audio recorders and editing software to share podcasts online. Root.ED is now committed to using the internet to support the African diaspora connect ideas, and especially to contribute to the food sovereignty struggle.

[www.alternatives.ca](http://www.alternatives.ca)

## Canada, Web Networks

New literacy application puts students in charge of their own learning

Yodigo is a multimedia web application that delivers literacy, quickly, in any language. In 2011, Web Networks conducted a proof of concept test for Yodigo with seven- to nine-year-old English language learners at Forest Manor Public School in Toronto, representing a diverse immigrant youth population from all parts of the world, including Afghanistan, Europe and South Asia.

Yodigo video lessons were recorded with both the students and the teacher providing the acting for Yodigo lessons, flipping the very notion of curriculum on its head: recording video of the children speaking sentences of a story and using these same video clips as challenges in a video game-like interface in which the "play" of the game is actually the children developing their writing and comprehension skills.

Partnering on the project was Professor Allyson Eamer of the University of Ontario's Institute of Technology. More about how Yodigo works can be found at [www.yodigo.tv](http://www.yodigo.tv). Web Networks also continued its Inuktitut language preservation work with enhancements to its language learning site [www.tusaalanga.ca](http://www.tusaalanga.ca), in conjunction with their Nunavut-based partner Pirurvik. Tusaalanga is also now available as a free download for iPhone and iPad touch at the Apple store.

[www.web.net](http://www.web.net)



*Students recording sentences for the Yodigo lessons.*

Photo by Web Networks

## Colombia, Colnodo

### Preserving language and identity

For the past five years, Colnodo has been leading the “En mi idioma” (In my language) initiative, which aims to increase the participation of local indigenous communities in the information society through the use of ICTs. It also seeks to preserve local languages through a learning platform. Comprised of several learning modules grouped together in one virtual and interactive platform, indigenous languages are continually promoted and valued.

One of the most important contributions by this project is that the lessons are produced by the indigenous communities themselves. This empowers the communities and ensures that their culture has a place in the information society. It also gives youth who do not speak their ancestral language the way their parents do, the opportunity to learn it.

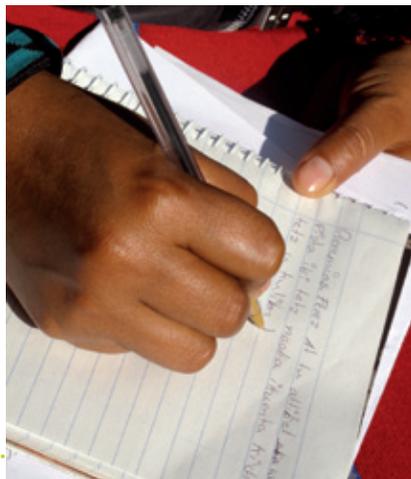
In 2011, Colnodo updated the “En mi idioma” project: it created a version that does not require an internet connection, but instead uses digital devices that work on any computer with a CD player or a USB port. Furthermore, for the first time, new lessons were created for a community from San Basilio de Palenque in Bolivar, which also seeks to preserve its oral tradition and its native language, Bantú, of African origin.

[www.colnodo.apc.org](http://www.colnodo.apc.org)

## Costa Rica, Sulá Batsú

### Our voices, our cultural heritage

During 2011, Cooperativa Sulá Batsú went on with its work to revalue local voices, through its alliance with Hivos and IKM. A methodology of community work involving local actors, disadvantaged communities and donors has been developed and improved. It aims to build teams of community journalists who work to revalue and rescue the knowledge in their own communities.



*Young Ixil writes down notes in a directed interview.*

Photo by Sulá Batsú

One of the most recent processes was conducted with a group of young people from different communities of Nebaj, Guatemala, and was coordinated by Sulá Batsú and Rijatzul Q'ij (Sun Seeds). For two weeks, Sulá Batsú's team shared experiences with indigenous youth in a work process aimed at reviving knowledge on generating sustainable energy, community development and local history. “We ourselves have to tell our own story,” is one of the main premises of the team, which now has access to technological tools to visualise its work and to disseminate it more effectively online.

[www.sulabatsú.com](http://www.sulabatsú.com)

## **Dominican Republic, FUNREDES**

### The need for linguistic diversity indicators

In 2011, FUNREDES concentrated its efforts on pushing ahead the DILINET project in collaboration with the MAAYA network and with the support of UNESCO, Union Latina and Francophonie. DILINET aims to provide the linguistic indicators necessary for public policies in the digital world, both nationally and globally, and to ensure that the linguistic element is also considered in the global economy.

FUNREDES has catapulted this ambitious research project, which aims to create linguistic diversity indicators in the digital world by pushing the limits of current search engines and opening new avenues for language detection in non-textual contexts and user behaviour detection (how internet users deal with languages on their PC or smartphone).

This effort includes the creation of a consortium of fifteen top-level partners which, together under the lead of ERCIM (the European Research Consortium for Informatics and Mathematics) and EXALEAD (a company that provides search and unified information access software), submitted a proposal to the European Union Programme Framework 7 called ICT-2011.4.4 Intelligent Information Management, in November 2011.

[www.funredes.org](http://www.funredes.org)

## **Egypt, ArabDev**

### Enhancing education for youth in Egypt

ArabDev has partnered with two orphanages in Menia, Egypt to extend IT training and free and open source software (FOSS) use to children and youth, especially girls. The training is aimed at enhancing their school education and providing them with IT skills that they can use towards their school education and beyond. Prizes were offered to the most advanced students.

Mathematics and language FOSS were particularly used in an effort to offer alternative ways to enhance the needed school skills. The language barrier was still present, as most of the software is still in English; however, the students enjoyed the art-related software in particular, which was not as much language-based. Overall, the training was a great eye opener. The trainees enjoyed the sessions, making it a success.

While the lack of adequate computer hardware available on a regular basis to children and youth is a hurdle to their continued development, ArabDev will be working with orphanages to find a viable solution that offers training on a more consistent basis.

[www.arabdev.org](http://www.arabdev.org)

## India, Digital Empowerment Foundation

### Wireless for communities (W4C)



*The Chanderi wireless project has enabled projects such as a telehealth centre in Chanderi by bringing connectivity and access to the primary health centre with a similar IT-enabled health facility.*

Photo by Digital Empowerment Foundation

Wireless for Communities (W4C), a joint initiative by the Digital Empowerment Foundation (DEF) and the Internet Society (ISOC), was launched in 2010-2011 to help rural communities get connected to wireless internet.

The programme, which trained ten local youth as wireless technicians and trainers, took place in Chanderi, Madhya Pradesh, Central India. The project aimed to create a model of a wireless community that completed the “last mile” of connectivity in a traditionally cluster-based community context. It brought connectivity to thirteen schools, including one girls’ school, two Madrasas (Islamic education centres) and 40 Panchayats (local councils).

W4C has also enhanced the work of local organisations such as the telehealth programme and the community radio station, Chanderi ki Awaaz. It has increased the capacity of businesses in the area as well, through the establishment of Changeriyaan, an e-commerce platform, and by fostering the development of other local businesses and cybercafés.

The second phase saw more than 500 individual beneficiaries get connected to over 60 local institutions such as agencies, schools, NGOs and local governments. The last phase of the programme in 2012 will include the deployment of wireless mesh network infrastructure and focus on the development and deployment of content and services to women to increase health, education and livelihoods.

[www.defindia.net](http://www.defindia.net)

## Paraguay, Asociación Trinidad

### Domestic workers learn to use new technologies

Fifteen domestic workers from Asunción, Luque and Aregua were trained in ICTs by Asociación Trinidad in a course developed to increase the capacities of paid domestic worker organisations in the country, as part of their Opportunities programme.

The Opportunities programme is a state initiative made possible through the technical support of the UN. Its main goal is to increase the capacity and opportunities of impoverished youth, especially domestic workers, a sector made up of around 200,000 women and girls. The course took place over six Saturdays in August and September in Telecentro Móvil Oguatáva, a centre equipped with computers connected to the internet.

The programme includes basic training on the use of the internet and computers in order to help women workers exchange knowledge, work requests and proposals through the web. This will allow the women’s organisations to increase their ability to create proposals and ensure that their requests are recognised and dealt with by public institutions and civil society organisations working in their sector.

[www.radioviva.com.py/rviva](http://www.radioviva.com.py/rviva)

## Philippines, Foundation for Media Alternatives

### FMA and IdeaCorp implement the Open e-Governance Index

The Foundation for Media Alternatives (FMA) and IdeaCorp, a non-profit organisation in the Philippines that is devoted to research, training and advocacy on the use of ICT for development, with the support of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada, recently implemented the Open e-Governance Index (OeGI) in four Asian countries.



*Dr. Clarissa David, Open e-Governance Index advisory group member, makes a point while Pie Maraya, Philip Recentes and Dr. Emmanuel Lallana review the OeGI results.*

Photo by FMA

The OeGI was developed to further understand democratic e-governance, particularly through deepening the discourse of “open e-governance” and developing a concrete resource for citizen groups, non-governmental organisations and other activists to engage policy makers on the concept.

A Philippine-based group of experts was engaged in developing the concept and methodology for developing the index as of 2011 and partners from Hong Kong, Pakistan, the Philippines and Thailand helped in piloting the implementation of the methodology. A workshop that helped refine the results was undertaken in Manila in November 2011. The outputs from the pilot implementation will be formally released later in 2012.

[www.fma.ph](http://www.fma.ph)

## Republic of Congo, AZUR Développement

### Ending violence against women through ICTs

In 2011, AZUR focused on using ICTs to end violence against women (VAW). In total, from 2009 to 2011, AZUR has worked with 84 women activists and survivors of violence by teaching them how to use ICTs in their anti-VAW efforts. However, AZUR’s work has reached out to many more people, including their own team.

Around 1,200 people were sensitised to the issue of VAW through workshops and the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence campaign. Local NGOs also learned how to use ICTs to end VAW, as well as the AZUR team itself.

According to Sylvie Niombo, AZUR Développement’s executive director, the team learned more about ICTs and how they can be used for social justice. With the help of APC’s Women’s Networking Support Programme, AZUR was also able to develop a large programme on ICTs and VAW, which now provides counselling, prevention services, medical and legal assistance to women survivors of violence and other forms of support in both rural and urban settings.

Cases of rape and conjugal violence are reported through the systems set up by AZUR and the database now has over 300 people. Local women’s organisations who work in the area are also starting to get equipped with laptop computers, cameras and other equipment.

[www.azurdev.org](http://www.azurdev.org)

## Romania, StrawberryNet

Networking for a greener society in Romania



*Rozi Bakó presenting GISWatch 2010 on ICTs and environmental sustainability.*

Photo by StrawberryNet

Are Romanian individuals and organisations aware of the role ICTs can play in building a fair, open and sustainable society? Are institutions and governments ready to face the challenges of a young, wired generation? In 2011, StrawberryNet Foundation focused on promoting the relationship between ICTs and environmental sustainability, primarily through the dissemination of GISWatch 2010 on ICTs and environmental sustainability.

In May, StrawberryNet presented the publication at workshops and events, such as the Third Carpathian Green Meeting, and to over 30 environmental NGOs from Romania and Hungary at the Databank Cafe Conference. During these events, Rozi Bakó, a research consultant at StrawberryNet, took the opportunity to conduct interviews with environmental activists in order to assess their level of awareness. She also highlighted good organisational practices to reduce carbon emissions.

StrawberryNet also offered technical assistance in an online conference organised by Magma Contemporary Medium and the Se-meistos Research Group. The event was such a success that it has set an example for how ICTs can bridge distance, bring together like-minded people and reduce carbon emissions.

Research and community outreach activities focused on disseminating GISWatch 2010 reports and raising awareness on the environmental impact of communication technologies.

[www.sbnet.ro](http://www.sbnet.ro)

## South Africa, Women'sNet

Take Back the Tech!: Fone4Women

As part of its 2011 Take Back the Tech! activities, Women'sNet ran a campaign called Fone4Women during the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence. Collection points were set up at Vodacom shops in four major malls in Johannesburg and the public was asked to come in and drop off unused mobile phones. The campaign aimed to gather donated mobile phones for women and girls who were victims of violence. Technology has become an enabler of acts of violence against women and many women report how their abusive partners take away their phones – very often their only way of communicating and finding help and support – as part of an isolation strategy.

Supported by Oxfam Canada, mobile phone companies and individuals donated 275 devices and 150 starter packs. Women'sNet donated the phones to four local organisations that provide support and shelter to survivors of violence. The campaign forms part of Women'sNet's ongoing focus on the relationship between violence against women and technology.

[www.womensnet.org.za](http://www.womensnet.org.za)

## South Korea, Korean Progressive Network Jinbonet

### Information portal leak puts millions of Koreans at risk

In July 2011, one of the biggest portal sites in South Korea, "Nate", leaked the information of more than 35 million people in the country. The exposed information contained resident registration numbers, unique numbers that are issued only once to each Korean at birth, and sensitive personal information such as date of birth and sex.

Jinbonet has been against the so-called "internet real name system", which requires every user of major internet portal sites to confirm his/her real identity in order to post, on the grounds that the policy not only violates freedom of expression, but it also violates the users' privacy by allowing ISPs to collect the resident registration numbers.

Jinbonet has also filed a lawsuit against the government, requesting that the government reassign resident registration numbers in order to minimise the damage from the information leak. While the government denied the reassignment, it did say it would ensure that resident registration numbers would not be collected by the private sector without express legal authorisation.

[www.jinbo.net](http://www.jinbo.net)



*A press conference was held about the lawsuit claiming that the government should reassign resident registration numbers.*

Photo by Jinbonet

## Spain, Pangea

### Promoting community networks for social development

Pangea is participating in CONFINE, a project funded by the European Commission, which is doing research to improve community networks where internet users can build their own networks. A "community network" is an internet source created when users decide to get connected and create a platform. These networks are free, contrary to the private networks that are managed by internet service providers.

The CONFINE project seeks to convert a group of community networks into an experimental lab made up of 20,000 nodes and 20,000 kilometres of cables. This integrated platform will allow any user to implement, execute, control and experiment with online services, protocols and applications. Many European Community networks are among the project participants, as well as some research centres.

CONFINE will help researchers evaluate the sustainability and applicability of community networks as citizens create and manage their own networks, a key element of digital rights, and develop their communities without influence from commercial and political interests.

[www.pangea.org](http://www.pangea.org)

## Uganda, CIPESA

Using ICTs to report on service delivery in Uganda



*When boreholes went dry and people in Kasese ran out of water, its inhabitants turned to citizen journalism to get the attention of the media and local government, thanks to training provided by CIPESA.*

Photo by eSociety Resource Centre

In 2011, Collaboration on International ICT Policy for East and Southern Africa (CIPESA) provided support to the eSociety Resource Centre in Kasese in the form of desktop computers, a digital camera, funding for internet connectivity, and training of its staff in citizen journalism to promote accountability and participation.

The centre is one of CIPESA's three grassroots partners under the iParticipate Uganda project, seed-funded by the Swedish Programme for ICT in Developing Regions (SPIDER). The project aims to catalyse civic participation and to monitor democracy through the use of ICTs.

The Kasese centre uses the equipment provided by CIPESA to raise awareness about poor service delivery and demand better accountability from public officers. Stories and photos of dry boreholes exposed a government programme for access to safe water in Mpondwe-Lhubiriha sub-county Kasese district. The photos were shared on social media and brought to the attention of district water officials. The officials responded, restoring water supplies to various communities where society staff had identified the problem. CIPESA is training citizen journalists to replicate the Kasese water story across the education, health and service delivery sectors, and in local government accountability.

[www.cipesa.org](http://www.cipesa.org)

## Uganda, WOUNGNET

Improving service delivery through ICTs in Northern Uganda

In 2011, the Women of Uganda Network (WOUNGNET) received support from the Swedish Programme for ICT in Developing Regions (SPIDER) to implement a project in five of its northern districts: Gulu, Amuru, Apac, Kole and Oyam in Northern Uganda. The project is on empowering local communities to demand better services, and aims to build ICT capacity in local communities and give grassroots organisations a way to speak up against corruption and poor service delivery.

Workshops were held for each target district to raise awareness on good governance, accountability, community empowerment and participation. Voluntary Social Accountability Committees (VSAC) were put in place to monitor service delivery in the districts and report issues of bad governance to relevant authorities accordingly. The committees were equipped with cameras, mobile phones and radios to help them capture evidence to back up their reports.

Workshop participants learned new ICT skills and how to collect, package and disseminate information on corruption and poor service delivery. The ICT trainings aimed at building the capacity of local government officials and communities to use ICTs to effectively monitor service delivery, and to equip local government officials with advocacy skills to improve service delivery. The trainings covered a general introduction on ICTs used to collect and disseminate information, use of mobile phones to receive and send messages on poor service delivery, and an introduction to the Ushahidi mapping platform.

[www.woungnet.org](http://www.woungnet.org)

## United Kingdom, GreenNet Rebuilding the UK's Electronic Immigration Network

In the UK, 2011 was the year that government cuts started to bite for civil society workers, with marginalised groups being amongst the worst affected. Refugees and asylum seekers have had almost all of their legal support withdrawn, making our rebuild of the Electronic Immigration Network's (EIN) online system timely.

EIN has a special place in GreenNet's history. Their ActionApps site launch in 2002 marked the beginning of a new expertise in dynamic approaches to content management at GreenNet and became one of our most impressive open data projects. EIN's database had grown to 300,000 case law records by 2011 with a similar increase in the registered users who rely on it for their work – immigration law practitioners, researchers, journalists, judges, academics and policy makers. The research and development that we put into the EIN's case-building "bundle-maker" software, advanced searching tools, membership management systems and secure access had application for dozens of subsequent GreenNet web projects.

Ten years later, the new EIN has come full circle with advances from all those projects, fuelling a rebuilt system in Drupal with powerful new search tools to help strengthen immigration cases, giving migrants a better chance of securing a safe home in the UK.

[www.gn.apc.org](http://www.gn.apc.org)

## United States, May First/People Link Occupy the internet

2011 was an incredible year for revolution and for the internet. The sparks of civil unrest ignited revolution in the Middle East that spread to Wall Street and beyond. Online tools and social networking sites have played and will continue to play a pivotal role in these ongoing struggles.

With headquarters in New York, May First/People Link (MF/PL) saw the potential of the Occupy movement in its earliest stages and did not hesitate to jump into the fray. MF/PL is a progressive, membership-based technology organisation in which members pool their resources to fund an independent and progressive internet infrastructure. Last year we decided to offer free web hosting to Occupations or Occupy-related general assembly efforts to help this nascent movement gain traction. Within weeks of making the offer, more than 70 Occupy groups from Washington State to Florida and points in between became MF/PL members.



*Scene from Zuccotti Park in New York City, where local supporters of the Occupy movement gathered.*

Photo by David Shakhone

While the movement is still in the early stages of development, it has already shifted the terms of the debate, refocusing national attention towards the stark and growing inequalities in our broken social, economic and political systems. The fight continues, but while police continue to crack down on the occupations and attempt to evict activists from their base camps, MF/PL is proud to remain a stable home base for the movement online.

[www.mayfirst.org](http://www.mayfirst.org)

## Venezuela, EsLaRed

Promoting the use of open spectrum in Latin America



*Participants during the Guayaquil workshop on wireless networks.*

Photo by EsLaRed

EsLaRed has been promoting the use of open spectrum at various levels. At the theoretical level, EsLaRed was a country contributor to APC's Open Spectrum for Development project and at the practical level they organised a workshop on wireless networks in Guayaquil, Ecuador in October 2011. The workshop was part of WALC 2011, a yearly training event and meet-up organised by EsLaRed.

During the research process, it became clear that the telecommunications sector in Venezuela, led by the government, is seen primarily as an area where political stability can be guaranteed. For this reason, it promotes significant changes in the sector.

In this context, it is very important that EsLaRed continues its research in the area of open spectrum.

[www.eslared.org.ve](http://www.eslared.org.ve)

# APC MEMBERS IN 2011

IN DECEMBER 2011, APC had 48 members in 36 countries, the majority from the global South.

APC added no new members in 2011. However, a significant collaboration between two members, LaNeta (Mexico) and May First/People Link (US) has begun. When LaNeta, APC member in Mexico since the early 1990s, faced the tough decision of eliminating its ISP services, US-based APC member May First/People Link stepped up to welcome hundreds of organisations and individuals rooted in Mexico's social justice movements to become members of their organisation. MFPL members collectively own their internet resources and vote on the direction of the organisation, so growing membership by 17% had transformative implications for future work. Intense political debates, translation and technical coordination ensued to ensure that LaNeta's community shared the mission and principles of MFPL. LaNeta continues as an organisation working in research, web development and training services.

## AFRICA

### CAMEROON

PROTEGE QV

[www.protegeqv.org](http://www.protegeqv.org)

### CONGO, REPUBLIC OF

AZUR Développement

[www.azurdev.org](http://www.azurdev.org)

### EGYPT

ArabDev

[www.arabdev.org](http://www.arabdev.org)

### KENYA

African Regional Centre for Computing (ARCC)

[www.arcc.or.ke](http://www.arcc.or.ke)

Arid Lands Information Network (ALIN)

[www.alin.or.ke](http://www.alin.or.ke)

Kenya ICT Action Network (KICTANet)

[www.kictanet.or.ke](http://www.kictanet.or.ke)

### NIGERIA

Fantsuam Foundation

[www.fantsuam.org](http://www.fantsuam.org)

### SOUTH AFRICA

Community Education Computer Society (CECS)

[www.cecs.org.za](http://www.cecs.org.za)

Southern African NGO Network (SANGONeT)

[www.sangonet.org.za](http://www.sangonet.org.za)

Ungana-Afrika

[www.ungana-afrika.org](http://www.ungana-afrika.org)

Women'sNet

[www.womensnet.org.za](http://www.womensnet.org.za)

## UGANDA

Collaboration on International ICT Policy for East and Southern Africa (CIPESA)

[www.cipesa.org](http://www.cipesa.org)

Women of Uganda Network (WOUGNET)

[www.wougnet.org](http://www.wougnet.org)

## ASIA-PACIFIC

### AUSTRALIA / INDONESIA

EngageMedia

[www.engagemedia.org](http://www.engagemedia.org)

### BANGLADESH

Bangladesh Friendship Education Society (BFES)

[www.bfes.net](http://www.bfes.net)

Voices for Interactive Choice and Empowerment (VOICE)

[www.voicebd.org](http://www.voicebd.org)

### CAMBODIA

Open Institute

[www.open.org.kh/en](http://www.open.org.kh/en)

### INDIA

Digital Empowerment Foundation (DEF)

[www.defindia.net](http://www.defindia.net)

### JAPAN

Japan Computer Access for Empowerment (JCAFE)

[www.jcafe.net/english](http://www.jcafe.net/english)

Japan Computer Access Network (JCA-NET)

[www.jca.apc.org](http://www.jca.apc.org)

### PHILIPPINES

Foundation for Media Alternatives (FMA)

[www.fma.ph](http://www.fma.ph)

## **SOUTH ASIA**

Bytes for All

[www.bytesforall.org](http://www.bytesforall.org)

## **SOUTH KOREA**

Korean Progressive Network Jinbonet

[www.jinbo.net](http://www.jinbo.net)

## **EUROPE**

### **BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**

OneWorld Platform for Southeast Europe

Foundation (owpsee)

[www.oneworldsee.org](http://www.oneworldsee.org)

### **BULGARIA**

BlueLink Information Network

[www.bluelink.net](http://www.bluelink.net)

### **CROATIA**

ZaMirNET

[www.zamirnet.hr](http://www.zamirnet.hr)

### **HUNGARY**

Green Spider

[www.zpok.hu](http://www.zpok.hu)

### **MACEDONIA**

Metamorphosis Foundation

[www.metamorphosis.org.mk](http://www.metamorphosis.org.mk)

### **ROMANIA**

StrawberryNet

[www.sbnnet.ro](http://www.sbnnet.ro)

### **SPAIN**

Pangea

[www.pangea.org](http://www.pangea.org)

### **UK**

GreenNet

[www.gn.apc.org](http://www.gn.apc.org)

Computer Aid International

[www.computeraid.org](http://www.computeraid.org)

## **LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

### **ARGENTINA**

Nodo Tau

[www.tau.org.ar](http://www.tau.org.ar)

Wamani

[www.wamani.apc.org](http://www.wamani.apc.org)

## **BRAZIL**

Núcleo de Pesquisas, Estudos e Formação

(Nupef)

[www.nupez.org.br](http://www.nupez.org.br)

## **COLOMBIA**

Colnodo

[www.colnodo.apc.org](http://www.colnodo.apc.org)

## **COSTA RICA**

Sulá Batsú

[www.sulabatsu.com](http://www.sulabatsu.com)

## **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

Networks & Development Foundation

(FUNREDES)

[www.funredes.org](http://www.funredes.org)

## **MEXICO**

LaNeta

[www.laneta.apc.org](http://www.laneta.apc.org)

## **PARAGUAY**

Asociación Trinidad Comunicación,

Cultura y Desarrollo

[www.radioviva.com.py](http://www.radioviva.com.py)

## **PERU**

Centro Peruano de Estudios Sociales

(CEPES)

[www.cepes.org.pe](http://www.cepes.org.pe)

## **URUGUAY**

Third World Institute (ITeM)

[www.item.org.uy](http://www.item.org.uy)

## **VENEZUELA**

Fundación Escuela Latinoamericana

de Redes (EsLaRed)

[www.eslared.org.ve](http://www.eslared.org.ve)

## **NORTH AMERICA<sup>40</sup>**

### **CANADA**

Alternatives

[www.alternatives.ca](http://www.alternatives.ca)

Web Networks

[www.web.net](http://www.web.net)

### **USA**

LaborNet

[www.labornet.org](http://www.labornet.org)

May First/People Link

[www.mayfirst.org](http://www.mayfirst.org)

Institute for Global Communications (IGC)

[www.igc.org](http://www.igc.org)

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40 Not including Mexico

# GOVERNANCE AND STAFF DIRECTORY



*APC board of directors for the period 2011-2013. Andrew Garton, Julián Casasbuenas Gallo, Shahzad Ahmad, Anriette Esterhuysen (above); Valentina Pellizzer, Danijela Babic, Liz Probert (below).*

Photo by Lisa Cyr

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNTIL MARCH 2011<sup>41</sup>

Danilo Lujambio, Argentina (chair)  
Valentina Pellizzer, Bosnia and Herzegovina (vice chair)  
Andrew Garton, Australia (secretary)  
Anriette Esterhuysen, South Africa (executive director)  
Alan Alegre, Philippines  
Michel Lambert, Canada  
James Nguo, Kenya

## NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS FROM APRIL 2011

Danijela Babic, Croatia (chair)  
Valentina Pellizzer, Bosnia and Herzegovina (vice chair)  
Andrew Garton, Australia/Indonesia (secretary)  
Julian Casasbuenas, Colombia (treasurer)  
Anriette Esterhuysen, South Africa (executive director)  
Shahzad Ahmad, Pakistan  
Graciela Selaimen, Brazil  
Liz Probert, United Kingdom

<sup>41</sup> The new APC Board of Directors was elected in March 2011

## COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES IN 2011

### AFRICA

**ALIN, Kenya**

James Nguo

**ArabDev, Egypt**

Leila Hassanin

**ARCC, Kenya**

Alfred Orimbo, Steven Yogo

**AZUR Développement, Republic of Congo**

Blanche Olga Zissi, Sylvie Niombo

**CECS, South Africa**

Arnold Pietersen

**CIPESA, Uganda**

Vincent Bagiire, Lillian Nalwoga

**Fantsuam Foundation, Nigeria**

John Dada, Kelechi Micheals

**KICTANet, Kenya**

Alice W. Munyua, Muriuki Mureithi

**PROTEGE QV, Cameroon**

Sylvie Siyam, Avis Momeni

**SANGONeT, South Africa**

David Barnard

**Ungana-Afrika, South Africa**

Rudi von Staden, Tshepo Thlaku

**Women'sNet, South Africa**

Lebogang Marishane, Lerato Legoabe

**WOUGNET, Uganda**

Milton Aineruhanga,  
Goretti Zavuga Amuriat

### ASIA-PACIFIC

**BFES, Bangladesh**

Reza Salim, Rashiduzzaman Ahmed  
(until March), Shamima Aktar  
(from March)

**Bytes for All, South Asia**

Partha Pratim Sarker, Frederick Noronha

**Digital Empowerment Foundation, India**

Osama Manzar, Shaifali Chikermane

**EngageMedia, Australia/Indonesia**

Andrew Garton (until November),  
Alexandra Crosby (from November),  
Andrew Lowenthal

**FMA, Philippines**

Alan Alegre

**JCAFE, Japan**

Onoda Mitoye, Okabe Kazuaki

**JCA-NET, Japan**

Fujino Satoshi, Hamada Tadahisa

**Jinbonet, South Korea**

Byoung-il Oh, Ji-Sung Kim

**Open Institute, Cambodia**

Chim Manavy, Kong Sidaroth

**VOICE, Bangladesh**

Ahmed Swapan Mahmud,  
Farjana Akter

# GOVERNANCE AND STAFF DIRECTORY

## EUROPE

### **BlueLink, Bulgaria**

Vera Staevska, Vladimir Ivanov

### **Computer Aid International, UK**

Tony Roberts, Anja Ffrench

### **GreenNet, UK**

Michael Moritz, Liz Probert

### **Green Spider, Hungary**

Peter Dunajcsik, Robert Fidirich

### **Metamorphosis, Macedonia**

Bardhyl Jashari, Irina Shumadieva

### **owpsee, Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Valentina Pellizzer, Predrag Vostini

### **Pangea, Spain**

Leandro Navarro, Lorena Merino

### **StrawberryNet, Romania**

Mihaly Bako, Rozalia Bakó

### **ZaMirNET, Croatia**

Danijela Babic, Nebojsa Gavrilo

## LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

### **Asociación Trinidad Comunicación, Cultura y Desarrollo, Paraguay**

Arturo Bregaglio, Mirian Candia Sánchez

### **CEPES, Peru**

Maicu Alvarado, Roberto Bustamante

### **Colnodo, Colombia**

Julián Casasbuenas, Ariel Barbosa

### **EsLaRed, Venezuela**

Edmundo Vitale, Lourdes Pietrosevoli

### **FUNREDES, Dominican Republic**

Daniel Pimienta

### **ITeM, Uruguay**

Pablo Accuosto

### **LaNeta, Mexico**

Olinca Marino, Erika Smith

### **Nodo Tau, Argentina**

Danilo Lujambio, Eduardo Rodríguez

### **Nupez, Brazil**

Carlos Afonso, Graciela Selaimen

### **Sulá Batsú, Costa Rica**

Kemly Camacho, Adriana Sánchez

### **Wamani, Argentina**

Carlos Alvarez, Rodolfo Rapetti

## NORTH AMERICA<sup>42</sup>

### **Alternatives, Canada**

Michael Lambert, Mélanie Hughes

### **IGC, USA**

Mark Graham, Mitra Ardron

### **LaborNet, USA**

Steve Zeltzer, Erika Zweig

### **May First/People Link, USA**

Alfredo Lopez, Hilary Goldstein

### **Web Networks, Canada**

Oliver Zielke

<sup>42</sup> Not including Mexico

## STAFF TEAM

Everyone in the APC family recognises the work and contributions of staff who have left in 2011. We would like to especially thank Mylene Soto, Karen Higgs, Analía Lavin, Kathryn Brimacombe, Angela Marianne Kuga Thas, Jean Munro and Chad Lubelsky.

### STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT

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**Executive director**

Anriette Esterhuysen,  
South Africa

**ED office administrator**

Eunice Mwesigwa, South Africa

**Executive assistant and resource  
mobilisation coordinator**

Emilar Vushe, South Africa

### FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES

---

**Finance manager**

Karen Banks, United Kingdom  
(from October)

**Senior finance officer**

Fatima Bhyat, South Africa

**Accountant**

Maya Sooka, South Africa  
(from October, previously  
Finance manager)

**Finance associate**

Misty McWilliam,  
United States of America

**Events and logistics coordinator**

Mylene Soto, Philippines /  
Switzerland (until October)

# GOVERNANCE AND STAFF DIRECTORY

## COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA

### **Communications manager**

Karen Higgs, Uruguay (until 2012)

### **Specialist editor**

Analía Lavin, Uruguay (until October)

### **Communications associate**

Lisa Cyr, Canada

### **Technical and systems coordinator**

Sarah Tomas, Philippines

### **Communications associate**

Kathryn Brimacombe, Canada  
(until May)<sup>43</sup>

### **Communications intern**

Maria Agustina Fazio, Uruguay<sup>44</sup>

### **Specialist editor**

Flavia Fascendini, Brazil/Argentina  
(from October)

## *APC Women's Networking Support Programme (APC WNSP)*

### **WNSP manager**

Chat Garcia Ramilo, Philippines

### **APC-Africa-Women coordinator**

Jennifer Radloff, South Africa

### **WNSP regional coordinator (PARM)**

Dafne Plou, Argentina

### **GEM services coordinator**

Angela Marianne Kuga Thas,  
Malaysia (until 2012)

### **Women's rights advocacy coordinator**

Jac sm Kee, Malaysia

### **MDG3 project coordinator**

Janine Moolman, South Africa

### **GenderIT.org coordinator**

Katerina Fialova, Czech Republic

### **Communications coordinator**

Erika Smith, Mexico

### **APC consultancy services coordinator**

Jean Munro, Canada (until July)

### **GenderIT.org website editor**

Flavia Fascendini, Brazil/Argentina

<sup>43</sup> Consultants, volunteers and/or temporary staff who worked with APC during 2011

<sup>44</sup> Consultants, volunteers and/or temporary staff who worked with APC during 2011

## *Communications and Information Policy Programme (CIPP)*

### **CIPP manager**

Valeria Betancourt, Ecuador

### **Communications advisor**

Analía Lavin, Uruguay (until October)

### **ICT policy networking and advocacy coordinator**

Chad Lubelsky, Canada (until June)

### **Internet rights communications associate**

Grady Johnson, Canada (from July)<sup>45</sup>

### **Internet rights are human rights coordinator**

Joy Liddicoat, New Zealand (from April)

### **Research coordinator**

Pablo Accuosto, Uruguay

### **Communications volunteer**

Avri Doria, United States (from July)<sup>46</sup>

## *Strategic Technologies & Network Development (ST&ND)*

### **ST&ND manager**

Karen Banks, United Kingdom  
(until October)

### **Member collaboration and knowledge-sharing coordinator**

Karel Novotný, Czech Republic/Uruguay

### **ICTs and environmental sustainability project coordinator**

Alan Finlay, South Africa (from March)

### **Internet rights and democracy programme officer**

Henrik Alstrom, Sweden/South Africa<sup>47</sup>

### **Intern**

Shawna Finnegan, Canada  
(from October)<sup>48</sup>

### **IISD volunteer**

Ryan Clement, Canada  
(from February until July)<sup>49</sup>

<sup>45</sup> Consultants, volunteers and/or temporary staff who worked with APC during 2011

<sup>46</sup> Consultants, volunteers and/or temporary staff who worked with APC during 2011

<sup>47</sup> Funded by Sida's Bilateral Associate Expert Programme

<sup>48</sup> Funded by International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

<sup>49</sup> Consultants, volunteers and/or temporary staff who worked with APC during 2011

## PUBLICATIONS

All publications are available for download without cost on [www.APC.org](http://www.APC.org)

APC/Universidad Autónoma de Occidente (April 2011) *Panorama de la banda ancha en la región andina* Colombia: Various (Spanish)

APC (July 2011) *EROTICS: Sex, rights and the internet (An exploratory research study)* Johannesburg: Various (English, also executive summary in English, Spanish and Portuguese and first chapter in Spanish, French and Portuguese)

APC (August 2011) *APC Annual Report 2010* Johannesburg: APC

APC/Hivos (December 2011) *Global Information Society Watch 2011* Johannesburg: Various (English)

## STATEMENTS

APC (January 2011) *Egypt: Regimes cannot overcome the power of people communicating in solidarity* Johannesburg: APC (English, Spanish and French)

APC (January 2011) *Contribution to the UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development: Five-year review of progress on WSIS outcomes* Johannesburg: APC (English)

APC (January 2011) *Highlights from APC's contribution to implementation of WSIS goals* Johannesburg: APC (English)

APC (February 2011) *Why should we care about internet rights? Because internet rights are human rights, says APC* Johannesburg: APC (English)

APC (March 2011) *APC on IGF improvements* Johannesburg: APC (English)

APC (March 2011) *WikiLeaks: Human rights of whistleblowers under attack, says APC* Johannesburg: APC (English, Spanish and French)

APC (May 2011) *Internet rights are human rights, claims APC before the Human Rights Council* Johannesburg: APC (English, Spanish and French)

APC (May 2011) *Human Rights Council: APC's comment on human rights with regard to the internet and transnational corporations* Johannesburg: APC (English)

APC (May 2011) *Human Rights Council: Oral statement by APC* Geneva: APC (English)

APC (June 2011) *Human Rights Council: Oral statement by APC on violence against women* Geneva: APC (English)

APC (July 2011) *APC expresses concern over OECD Communique on principles for internet policy-making* Johannesburg: APC (English)

APC (September 2011) *APC's closing statement to the Sixth Internet Governance Forum Kenya*: APC (English)

APC (September 2011) *APC Priorities for the Sixth Internet Governance Forum Kenya*: APC

APC (September 2011) *APC Statement of Support for an Expert Panel on Freedom of Expression and the Internet at the UN Kenya*: APC

APC (November 2011) *IGF workshop 155 report: Human rights - a unifying approach for development, freedom, access and diversity?* Johannesburg: APC

APC (December 2011) *APC Reflections on the Sixth Internet Governance Forum, Nairobi, Kenya September 27-30, 2011 and Recommendations for IGF 2012* Johannesburg: APC

## BRIEFS

APC (January 2011) *Open spectrum for development: Policy brief* Johannesburg: Evan Light (English)

APC (May 2011) *Cyberstalking: How to stay safe and protect yourself online* Montevideo: APC (English, Spanish and French)

## RESEARCH

APC (January 2011) *Open spectrum for development: Reports from five countries* Johannesburg: Various (English and Spanish)

APC (March 2011) *Digital broadcast migration in West Africa: Getting the most out of the transition* Johannesburg: Russell Southwood (English and French)

APC (May 2011) *A human rights approach to the mobile internet* Johannesburg: Lisa Horner (English)

APC (May 2011) *User-generated content and social networking in the Arab spring and beyond* Johannesburg: Alex Comminos (English)

APC (May 2011) *Policy and regulatory issues in the mobile internet* Johannesburg: Russell Southwood (English)

APC (May 2011) *ICTs and environmental sustainability: Reports from five countries* Johannesburg: Various (English)

APC (June 2011) *Digital broadcast migration in West Africa: Workshop reports from three countries* Johannesburg: Various (English)

## PUBLICATIONS

APC (June 2011) *Digital Broadcast Migration in West Africa: An overview and strategies to accelerate the transition* Johannesburg: Russell Southwood (English and French)

APC (June 2011) *Digital broadcast migration in West Africa: Regional Reports* Johannesburg: Nnamdi Nwokike (English)

APC (August 2011) *Evaluation of Global Information Society Watch 2007-2010* Johannesburg: Debbie Budlender (English)

APC (August 2011) *ICTs and environmental sustainability: Mapping national policy contexts in India, Bangladesh, Egypt, Costa Rica and Mexico* Johannesburg: APC (English)

APC/SANGONeT (August 2011) *Southern African Internet Governance Forum Issue Papers* Johannesburg: Alex Comminos (English)

APC (September 2011) *Greening IT: Baseline studies and comparative report* Johannesburg: APC (English)

APC (September 2011) *Spectrum for development* Johannesburg: Steve Song (English and Spanish)

APC (September 2011) *Multi-stakeholder participation on internet governance: An analysis from a developing country, civil society perspective* Johannesburg: Marília Maciel and Carlos Affonso Pereira de Souza (English)

APC (September 2011) *Civil society involvement in ICANN: Strengthening future civil society influence in ICANN policymaking* Johannesburg: Robin Gross (English)

APC (September 2011) *Freedom of expression, freedom of association and democracy: New issues and threats* Johannesburg: Joy Liddicoat (English)

APC (November 2011) *Spectrum use in Latin America: Summary report of the case studies of Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela* Rio de Janeiro: Carlos Afonso (English and Spanish)

APC (November 2011) *Voices from digital spaces: Technology-related violence against women* Johannesburg: Katerina Fialova and Flavia Fascendini (English, also executive summary in English, Spanish and French)

## CAPACITY-BUILDING MATERIALS

APC (February 2011) *Gender Analysis for ICT Localisation Initiatives* Johannesburg: APC (English)

APC (February 2011) *Gender Evaluation for Telecentres* Johannesburg: APC (English and Spanish)

APC (February 2011) *Gender Evaluation for Rural ICT for Development* Johannesburg: APC (English)

APC/Comunica (March 2011) *Impact 2.0 iGuide: New mechanisms for linking research and policy* Montevideo: APC (English and Spanish)

APC (June 2011) *Closer Than Ever: A guide for social change organisations who want to start working online* Johannesburg: APC (English and Spanish)

APC/VNC (June 2011) *How to design an online campaign: A toolkit* Johannesburg: APC (English)

APC (July 2011) *Online Conferencing Tools for Development Practitioners* Johannesburg: APC (English)

APC (September 2011) *Online conferencing tools for development practitioners: Finding your path to the right conferencing solution* Johannesburg: APC (English)

APC (December 2011) *Critically absent: Women's rights in internet governance* Johannesburg: Various (English)

APC (December 2011) *Exploratory survey on environmentally sustainable ICT use in the ICT for development sector* Johannesburg: APC (English)

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Betancourt, V. (April 2011) *Ciberactivismo: ¿Utopía o posibilidad de resistencia y transformación en la era de la sociedad desinformada de la información?* (Spanish)

Sabanes Plou, D. (September 2011) *Newsletter ELAC2015, Edition 16 Por una sociedad de la información con equidad de género, TIC y género* Santiago de Chile: CEPAL (Spanish)

# FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS IN 2011

APC would like to thank the following donor agencies and organisations for their support of APC's work in 2011:

## **Africa Technology and Transparency**

Strengthening Civil Society Capacity to Combat Gender Based Violence in DRC and Congo

## **Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DGIS) MDG3 Fund Grant**

Strengthening Women's Strategic Use of Information and Communication Technologies to Combat Violence Against Women and Girls

## **The Ford Foundation**

Sexuality and the Internet - An Exploratory Research Project

Strengthening Civil Society Networking and Advocacy on Internet Public Policy in Global Arenas

## **Google Inc.**

Programme support for APC work in Latin America, (administered by the Tides Foundation)

## **Humanist Institute for Cooperation with Developing Countries (Hivos)**

Core support: Strategic Action Plan 2009-2012  
Global Information Society Watch

## **International Development Research Centre (IDRC)**

Gender Evaluation Methodology (GEM) II:  
Building Gender Evaluation Practice within the ICT for Development Community

Implementation of a Business Development Strategy for the Gender Evaluation Methodology

Building research and communications capacity for an open, fair and sustainable networked society:  
The APC Action Research Network 2010-11

## **International Development Research Centre (IDRC) Regional Office for Eastern and Southern Africa (ESARO)**

Innovative Application of ICTs in Addressing Water-related Impacts of Climate Change'

IDRC regional office Latin America and Caribbean (LACRO)

APC partnership with Fundacion Comunica on Impact 2.0: Linking research, advocacy and policy through web 2.0 practices and tools at national levels in Uruguay, Peru and Ecuador.

## **Open Society Institute: Media Program**

10-90 Digital Broadcast Migration in West Africa

## **Open Society Institute: Information Program**

Television White Spaces Workshop, South Africa 2011

Open Spectrum for Development: Research in Kenya, Nigeria and Morocco

## **The Open Society Institute of West Africa (OSIWA)**

West Africa Internet Governance Forum (WAIGF) project multi-stakeholder platform for issues relating to the development and governance of the internet in West Africa

## **Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)**

Global Information Society Watch

Internet Rights are Human Rights

Placement of trainee staff through Bilateral Associate Expert Training Programme

## **CONSULTANCY SERVICES PROVIDED BY APC:**

### **The American Assembly, Columbia University**

Translation into Spanish of 'Media Piracy in Emerging Economies'

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Development of an implementation plan for Global Libraries South Africa

### **The Wireless Access Providers' Association (WAPA)**

Television White Spaces Workshop, South Africa 2011

Women Living Under Muslim Laws (WLUML)

Violence is not our Culture (VNC)

CREA

## ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2011

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2011		
	2011 (USD)	2010 (USD)
<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>1,453,548</b>	<b>2,157,312</b>
Non-current assets	872	1,398
Equipment	872	1,398
<b>Current assets</b>	<b>1,452,676</b>	<b>2,155,914</b>
Accounts receivable	121,837	92,389
Accrued income - grants	195,969	356,501
Cash and cash equivalents	1,134,870	1,707,024
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>1,453,548</b>	<b>2,157,312</b>
<b>RESERVES AND LIABILITIES</b>	<b>1,453,548</b>	<b>2,157,312</b>
<b>Reserves and sustainability funds</b>	<b>808,689</b>	<b>653,417</b>
Sustainability funds	646,787	576,306
Retained income	161,902	77,111
<b>Current liabilities</b>	<b>644,859</b>	<b>1,503,895</b>
Accounts payable	40,177	58,843
Deferred income from grants	604,682	1,445,052
<b>TOTAL RESERVES AND LIABILITIES</b>	<b>1,453,548</b>	<b>2,157,312</b>

INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2011		
	2011 (USD)	2010 (USD)
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2,806,498</b>	<b>2,699,546</b>
<b>Grant and contract income</b>	<b>2,565,335</b>	<b>2,538,423</b>
<b>Earned income</b>	<b>241,163</b>	<b>161,123</b>
Consulting revenue	209,971	134,514
Interest	997	2,558
Membership fees	23,400	23,386
Sales and sundry	6,795	665
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>2,651,226</b>	<b>2,705,513</b>
Auditors' remuneration	14,147	10,375
Meetings (staff, board and council)	4,265	19,576
Operational expenses	65,880	87,687
Personnel costs	456,214	425,982
Programme and project expenses	2,066,891	2,091,312
Telephone and fax	2,121	2,746
Translation and annual report	25,980	11,848
Travel, accommodation and per diems	2,887	38,433
Website (hosting and technical)	12,841	17,554
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>155,272</b>	<b>(5,967)</b>

Note: Detailed information is available in the audited financial statements for 2011.

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The APC team all over the world

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Association pour le progrès des communications

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