



Youth Internet Governance Forum Malaysia 2019 (yIGF)

Concept Note

Background

Youth across the globe plays an important role as an agent of change. From taking action on national issues such as Umbrella Movement in Hong Kong, the climate strike initiated by Greta Thunberg in Europe, youth traffic protest in Bangladesh, youth across the globe has proven themselves to be a key stakeholder for development, democracy and good governance.

In Malaysia, the youth between 15 to 35 years old stands as one of the key populations in policymaking. With the amendment of voting age from 21 years old down to 18 years old, there is a potential for up to 7.8 million new voters. The youth would now represent a sizable population that can decide and drive the direction of national policies. According to Malaysia Communication and Multimedia Commission's (MCMC) Internet Users Survey 2018¹, percentage of Internet user in Malaysia now stands at 87.4%. According to the same survey, youth uses at least 6.7 hours of Internet daily.

The two mentioned issues would result in the inevitable conclusion that youth must be engaged in policy making, especially on Internet governance as any policy implemented would undoubtedly affect a significant part of their daily life.

On that note, the Youth-Internet Governance Forum² is designed to engage youth across the world and bring their views and thoughts onto the discourse of Internet Governance. In Malaysia, the Youth Internet Governance Forum Malaysia 2019 (yIGF 2019) scheduled on 15th and 16th November 2019 at University of Malaysia's Law Faculty would mark the first yIGF for the country and offer an unprecedented opportunity for youth to voice out their views and concerns on Internet Governance and an opportunity for the other stakeholders to engage with the youth.

In line with the Tunis Agenda mandate, the yIGF 2019 Malaysia will aim to

1. Establish a platform for youth to discuss public policy issues related to key elements of Internet Governance in order to foster sustainability, robustness, security, stability and development of the Internet;
2. facilitate the exchange of information and best practices for youth related sustainability on the Internet, and in this regard, make full use of the expertise of academic, scientific, and technical communities;

¹ <https://www.mcmc.gov.my/skmmgovmy/media/General/pdf/Internet-Users-Survey-2018.pdf>

² More information on the Internet Governance Forum can be found at:
<https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/>

3. strengthen and enhance the engagement of youth stakeholders in existing and/or future Internet governance mechanisms;
4. identify emerging issues pertaining to youth related Internet governance, and bring them to the attention of relevant bodies and the general public, and when appropriate, make recommendations and lastly;
5. discuss, inter alia, issues relating to critical Internet resources with Malaysian youth actors and facilitate the process of the youth speaking out on solutions to the issues arising from the use and misuse of the Internet.

Who are we

As part of the organizing of the Youth Internet Governance Forum Malaysia 2019, a Steering Committee was established³ to oversee the design and implementation of the yIGF 2019 and activities leading up to the yIGF 2019.

Suara Rakyat Malaysia (SUARAM), a human rights NGO based in Kuala Lumpur will be assisting and facilitating the implementation of the yIGF 2019.

The yIGF 2019 will be funded and sponsored by USAID & Malaysia Reform Initiative.

Planned Activities

Outreach & Capacity Building

As part of coordinating the yIGF, a series of nationwide capacity building programmes will be conducted in partnership with universities, youth groups, youth collectives and other youth stakeholders to reach out and share the yIGF platform as widely as possible and to prepare youth to engage in the policy discussion at the yIGF.

If you are interested to have a capacity building programme organized near you, please get in touch with us at admin@igfy.my.

Youth Discussion on Internet Governance

To strengthen youth awareness on Internet governance in Malaysia, youth communities are also encouraged to organize forums and discussion panel to debate policy issues related to Internet governance.

³ <https://igfy.my/steering-committee/>

Youth Internet Governance Forum Malaysia 2019

Tentative Agenda:

| 15 November 2019 | Agenda |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 9:00am – 9:30am | Registration |
| 9:30am – 10:30am | Opening Note |
| 10:30am – 12:30pm | Breakout session I |
| 12:30pm – 2:00pm | Lunch |
| 2:00pm – 4:00pm | Breakout Session II |
| 4:00pm – 5:00pm | Networking over Coffee |
| 5:00pm – 6:00pm | Closing Note |

| 16 November 2019 | Agenda |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 9:00am – 9:30am | Registration |
| 9:30am – 10:00am | Day 1 Recap |
| 10:30am – 12:30pm | Breakout session III |
| 12:30pm – 2:00pm | Lunch |
| 2:00pm – 4:00pm | Breakout Session IV |
| 4:00pm – 5:00pm | Networking over Tea |
| 5:00pm – 6:00pm | Closing Note |

As mentioned in the introduction, the yIGF 2019 will be held in University of Malaysia's Law Faculty on 15 and 16 November 2019. The yIGF 2019 will have a series of breakout sessions with youth led panels discussing on key issues on Internet governance. Participants are also encouraged to submit topics or panel they would like to have or see at the yIGF.

For participants who are interested in organizing their own panels, they are encouraged to submit a proposal on www.igfy.my/proposalsubmit or get in touch with us at admin@igfy.my.

The event is free for all participants. Full travel scholarships will be offered to participants from outside the Klang Valley area. Interested participants can register at www.igfy.my/participate/. Information on the full travel scholarships can be found on <https://igfy.my/scholarship-for-participants/>. For more information, please contact us at inquiries@igfy.my.

Volunteering with yIGF 2019

If you are interested in volunteering with the Steering Committee for yIGF 2019, please drop us an email at admin@igfy.my or call us at +60 11 6110 0842.