

Internet Inclusion: Advancing Solutions
Working Group Outcome Document
24 April 2018

Working Group Name: Energy & Connectivity

Working Group Chair(s): Nilmini Rubin (Tetra Tech) & Troy Elutain (FHI360)

Individual Participants (including name and affiliation):

- Jochai Ben-Avie (Mozilla)
- Bai Blyden (IEEE Smart Village)
- Troy Elutain (FHI360)
- Braphus Kaalund (State Department)
- Zena Kebede (Microsoft)
- Thomas Koutsky (USAID)
- Garland McCoy (Technology Education Institute)
- Nilmini Rubin (Tetra Tech)

Achievements to date including launches, agreements, and commitments:

- Internet and Energy Panel at Internet Governance Forum in Geneva December 2017
- Internet and Energy Panel at Internet Governance Forum – USA in 2017
- World Economic Forum Internet for All Energy Discussion April 2017

Key Discussion Points:

We discussed follow up from our previous working group meeting where we identified the need to address the following:

- Analysis of Connectivity project issues and what drives success?
- What policies work best in developing countries?
- Listing of Organizations in this space
- Research...what is going on in this area

Recognizing that the Telecom Infra Project is leading efforts to do the landscaping we identified above, we discussed our members joining the next TIP call. TIP is looking at interoperability of power and connectivity systems to ensure long-term viability.

We discussed ways to leverage ITU global leadership, with Dig Once initiative and EPRI (Electric Power Research Institute) Electricity Technology Roadmap Initiative as anchor knowledge bases.

Outcome of Discussion including Key Messaging points:

- We agreed that we need make it easy for policy makers and businesses to do internet and energy projects together and dropped our focus on landscaping.

Notable Projects and Upcoming Events:

- African Energy Forum (June 2018)
- Gogla
- IGF-USA
- UN General Assembly (September 2018)
- World Bank-IMF Meetings in Indonesia (October 2018)

Next Steps:

- We will develop five pieces to help policy makers and business people better incorporate internet and energy. People responsible for first drafts are noted.
 - Recommendations on connectivity and energy for companies and policy makers. (Bai & Garland)
 - Examples of internet and energy projects that have worked. (Zenaneh)
 - List of target people/organizations that we want to target with our advocacy. (Troy)
 - List of 5 things we want targets to agree to. (Nilmini)
 - Compelling argument for the development banks on why to include ICT in infrastructure (Nilmini)
- Are there licensing and regulatory barriers for off-grid companies to do both energy and internet? Does it jeopardize the concession from the governments? (Nilmini)
- The pieces are due on May 15 to the group.
- Zenaneh will look into setting up Microsoft teams for the group.
- Our next Call...May 29 - 4pm EDT