

# Overcoming challenges in APAC outreach and participation in the new Internet era



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# Speakers

**Ms. Ankhi Das**, Facebook, Public Policy Director, India

**Mr. Goh Lih Shiun**, Google, Country Lead/Policy Analyst, Singapore

**Dr. Hong Xue**, Institute for Internet Policy & Law at Beijing Normal University, Professor & Director, China

**Mr. Rajnesh Singh**, ISOC Asia-Pacific Bureau, Regional Director, Singapore

**Ms. Joyce Chen**, ICANN, GSE Strategy & Development Snr Manager, Singapore

# Setting the context

- Participation in Internet governance discussion have been largely weighted toward North America and Europe
- Yet, of 3.3 billion Internet users, half from APAC. The next billion?
- Challenges in outreach to APAC: Diversity in language culture, geography, rich/poor divide
- Lack of awareness, interest, or imperative/resource to participate? Things are changing.

# Setting the context

- Unique challenges faced **by** APAC community in terms of engagement and participation in Internet governance
- Areas of discussion:
  - Tools such as social media; cloud-based services
  - Online meeting/discussion platforms
  - Discussion/meeting formats such as webinars, mailing lists, etc
  - Geography and culture - Timezone and language
  - Capacity and education

# This is what's happening

1	Introduction of session and panelists & Context setting: Kelvin and Adam	15 mins
2	Initial Comments by panelists/discussants: Hong Xue/BNU, Ankhi/FB	10 mins
3	Breakout: 3 panelists to lead 3 group discussions and gather input: Raj/ISOC, Lih Shiun/Google, Joyce/ICANN	30 mins
4	Presentation by 3 panelists Raj/ISOC, Lih Shiun/Google, Joyce/ICANN	15 mins
5	Comments/Discussions from discussant/panelists or audience & Closing	20 mins

## **Sub-theme A: Challenges in accessing Systems/Platforms**

Goh Lih Shiun, Google

## **Sub-theme B: Challenges arising from Culture/Language**

Rajnish Singh, ISOC

## **Sub-theme C: Addressing Capacity/Community-led initiative**

Joyce Chen, ICANN

# Some questions

- What are some of the roadblocks to APAC participation in global fora/meetings through the use of such tools, and how are we overcoming them?
- Are current (international) platforms/meeting formats/meeting structures/communication tools suitable for outreach to APAC audience, and participation from APAC audience? What works and what doesn't?
- What are the challenges that APAC community face due to the timezone, culture and language differences/diversity?
- How are some of these challenges overcome by your organization/community?
- What can global/international organizations take away from (the challenges and solutions raised in) this session, in terms of designing platforms and formats, to ensure that participation is truly inclusive?