

lacigf Preparatory meeting for the Internet Governance Forum

Sección Preparación Antes Desastres Naturales ***Problemáticas y desafíos (LacIGF sesión 7)***

Fecha: 1 Agosto 2018
Lugar: Buenos Aires, Argentina
Horario: 13.00-14.30

Presentador: Rafael (Lito) Ibarra, SVNET
Relator: Shernon Osepa, ISOC

Introduction

Lito, gave an introduction why “This Natural Disasters Session” matters:

- Cada vez utilizamos más las tecnologías y, sobre todo, la conectividad vía Internet
- Promovemos que más personas se conecten
- Nuestra dependencia de la conectividad ubicua crece y se vuelve crucial
- Existe un nivel de fragilidad ante los desastres naturales.

Fenómenos y sucesos naturales

- Cambio climático
- Efecto invernadero
- Océanos
- Fenómenos atmosféricos
- Terremotos
- Inundaciones
- Tormentas
- Derrumbes
- Incendios
- Tsunamis
- Erupciones volcánicas

While Governments, Operators and ISPs are trying to connect more people to the Internet, the challenge of Natural Disasters make it quite difficult for this objective to be met always. That is why it is quite important to mitigate the effects of natural disasters as much as possible.

The following six (6) questions were discussed during the session

1. *¿Qué medidas de mitigación se pueden tomar?*

Here the experiences in a few countries were used as the point of departure.

- *Mexico*
 - Mexico, after the experiences they went through, developed a natural disasters' contingency plan that focuses mostly on the critical infrastructure, configuration, and measures that people should adhere to, to avoid traffic congestion during natural disasters;
 - The regulator FTC serves as the focal point disseminating all the relevant information regarding the proper use of telecoms to the community during disasters.
- *Argentina*
 - Argentina, has the SINERGIR structure that coordinates all assistance regarding natural disasters. They broadcast messages from all the stakeholders such as Government, fixed, mobile and ISPs.

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- *Guatemala*
 - Guatemala, is very sensitive to especially volcanos, and has experienced 33 volcanoes during the last year.
 - Monitoring stations platforms have been developed utilizing modern technologies to monitor seismic developments.
 - These systems will also monitor where the people are;
 - This country has also focused a lot on raising awareness regarding natural disasters and measures that should be taken during disasters, communications plans included.
- *Haiti*
 - Haiti, spearheaded by the Government and Regulator has been focusing on alternative emergency communications systems that don't rely solely on the Internet;
 - Critical infrastructures such as power and water supply too have the necessary attention;
 - Installation of CB radios too are explored.

2. *¿Quiénes deben interesarse por la prevención de daños? / ¿Cuál es el papel de cada parte interesada (sociedad civil, gobierno, empresa privada, academia, comunidad técnica)?*

- All stakeholders such as the:
 - Government:
 - As they can develop relevant policies regarding natural disasters mitigation.
 - Operators/ISPs:
 - As they are the ones through which Internet services are provided.
 - National disasters agencies:
 - Given their roles in coordinating national disasters.
 - Academia:
 - As they can help think and develop suitable emergency equipment.
 - Civil society:
 - To raise awareness regarding how to protect themselves.
 - Private sector:
 - As they can help invest in suitable solutions.
 - Technical community:
 - As they can help think on suitable solutions.

3. *¿Cuáles componentes del sistema de conectividad deben ser protegidos?*

- Servidores que resuelven los nombres de dominio
- Puntos de intercambio de tráfico
- Centros de datos
- Proveedores de conectividad locales e internacionales
- Cables, fibras, enlaces, enrutadores, switches, etc.

4. *¿De dónde deben provenir los recursos para desarrollar medidas de prevención o mitigación?*

- Financial resources
 - Donors or other financial institutions
- Human resources
 - Technician/engineers enhancing telecoms/internet infrastructures

5. *¿Es un trabajo a nivel nacional o internacional?*

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- The biggest impact could be noticed nationally, that is why the focus should be laid nationally.
- The international part is also important especially to learn how others have been doing things (best practices).

6. ¿Debe incluirse este tema en Gobernanza de Internet?

- So far within the IGF global there is not much focus on “Natural Disasters”;
 - The group is of the opinion that this topic should be included in the IGF agenda, the main reason is:
 - Natural disasters could be a direct threat to the Internet access deployment agenda;
 - Especially in development nations this topic is very important.