The 2019 North African School on Internet Governance (NASIG-2019) hosted Mauritania


The School saw 35 participants from 7 North African countries (Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia and Sudan) engaged in learning, dialogue and exchange on issues pertaining to Internet Governance and digital policy, both from a local, regional to global perspective. Nearly 50 percentage of the participants in the School were women. NASIG-2019 also saw significant participation from youth from across the region, many of whom are leaders in youth communities in their respective countries.

The School took place at Mauricenter Hotel in Nouakchott and featured a practicum that gave participants hands-on experience of multi-stakeholder negotiations, through role play. In his opening remarks, Mr. Cheikh Bedda, Director of Infrastructure & Energy Department noted that “As Africans, we need to articulate our own Philosophy, Ethics, Policy, Strategies and accountability frameworks for Cyberspace and Cybersecurity”

NASIG builds a multidisciplinary cadre of expertise in Internet governance and digital policy through participation of current and emerging leaders drawn from government, business, academia and civil society. The Mauritanian Secretary General of the Ministry of Higher Education, Scientific Research and ICT underscored in her opening remarks that “Indeed, information and communication technologies (ICT) are today a tributary to the entire economy and society as a whole and provide important means to implement the goals of sustainable development (SDG) and poverty reduction”

NASIG is launched at the initiative of the North Africa IGF community, as part of the The Policy and Regulation Initiative for Digital Africa (PRIDA) Project, with the aim of enriching and supporting
greater engagement in North Africa Internet Governance Forum (NAIGF), and promoting the engagement of the region in both the African Internet Governance Forum (AfIGF) and the global IGF.

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