

# Internet Governance Multi-Stakeholder Principle in Asia

4th CPRSouth, Sri Lanka  
December 7th 2009

Y.J. Park  
Senior Research Fellow, Economics of Infrastructures

# Internet Governance

- Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)
  - Domain Names (.LK /.COM) and IP Addresses (IPv4/6)
  - Internet Policy Making Body (128 staff)
  - Established in California by USG in 1998
- UN World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)
  - Initiated by ITU (Int'l Telecommunication Union) in 1998
  - 2003 Summit: Working Group on Internet Governance
  - 2005 Summit: UN Internet Governance Forum
- UN IGF (2006 – 2010) Beyond 2010? (Around 3-7 staff)

# Multi-Stakeholder Principle

- **Governments**
- **Private Sector**
- **Civil Society**
- **Internet Technical Community**
  - IETF (Internet Engineering Task Force)
  - ISOC (Internet Society)
  - RIR (Regional Internet Registries; APNIC , LACTLD etc)
  - ccTLD Association (APTLD, LACTLD, CENTR, AFTLD)

# Multi-Stakeholder Framework

- UN WSIS: **UN Style** Multi-Stakeholder
  - High-Level negotiation
  - Decisions made by ?
- ICANN: **Club-Style** Multi-Stakeholder Model
  - Global Internet **Public Policy-Making** Body
  - Decisions made by ?
- UN IGF: **Conference-Style** Multi-Stakeholder
  - Knowledge Dissemination
  - Public Policy Decision?

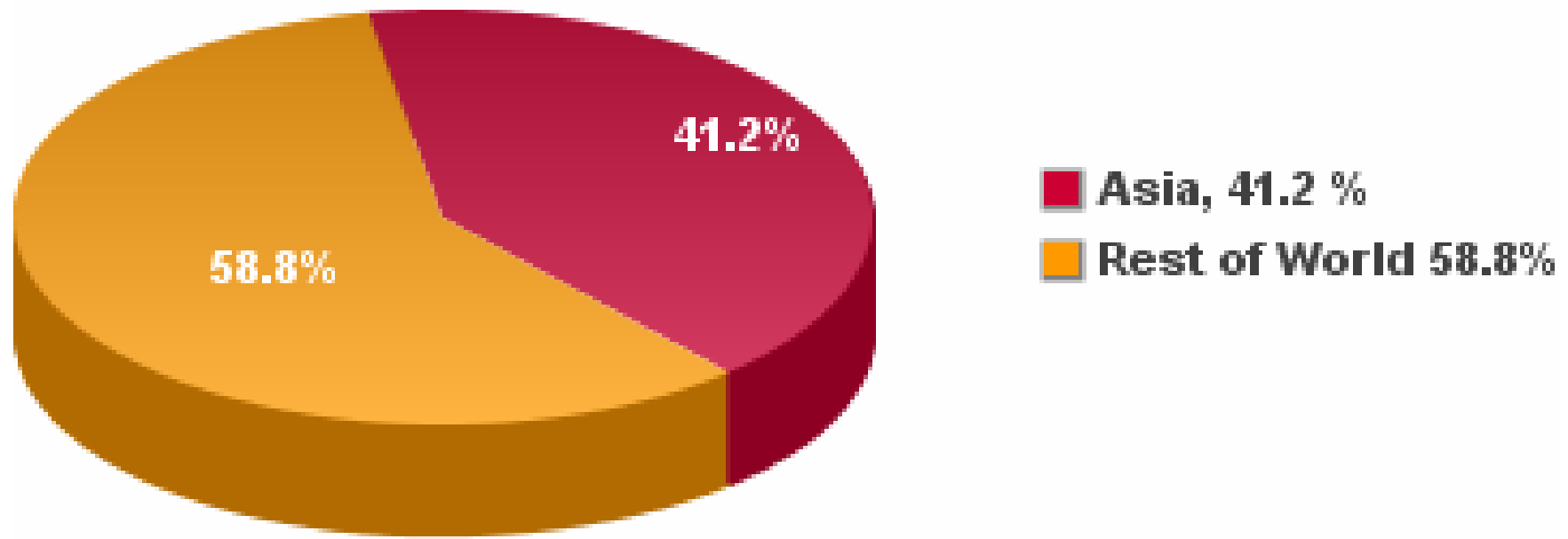
# Multi-Stakeholder Principle in Asia

- Governments
- Civil Society
- Industry
- Internet Technical Community
- **Assumption** of Multi-Stakeholder Principle?
- **Barrier** of Multi-Stakeholder Principle in Asia?

# Silent Asia ..... Invisible Asia

- Disconnected Asia
  - ICANN/UN WSIS/IGF
- Regional Representation at ICANN
  - North America (Canada and USA and several islands)
  - Latin America (Mexico and Central/South America)
  - Europe
  - Africa
  - Asia Pacific (73 economies)
- Who Represents Asia?

# Asia Internet Users Asia vs. World



Source: Internet World Stats - [www.internetworldstats.com](http://www.internetworldstats.com)  
1,596,270,108 estimated World Internet users in 2009 Q1  
657,170,816 estimated Internet users in Asia  
Copyright © 2009, Miniwatts Marketing Group

# What is Asia (Pacific)?

- 35 countries: Afghanistan, Armenia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China, Georgia, HK, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, N. Korea, S. Korea, Kyrgyz, Laos, Macao, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Timor-Leste, Uzbekistan, Vietnam
  - 41.2 % Internet Users
  - 56.3 % world population
- ICANN: 73 country code top level domains
- ITU: 49 countries

# Gaining Powers of Global IG Dialogue

- ICANN/USG
  - MoU → JPA → Affirmation of Commitments (AoC)
- Pan European Institutions
  - EU (.EU) *through ICANN*
  - Council of Europe (CoE) *through IGF*
- Transnational Civil Society
  - *WSIS → IGF*
- Internet Technical Community *through ICANN*

# Losing Powers of Global IG Dialogue

- State Actors except USG
  - Re-assert their control over ccTLDs?
  - Re-assert their control over IP addresses?
- ITU (?) : Telco Power
  - No coordination power for ccTLDs
  - No coordination power for IP addresses

# Policy Suggestions

- Overcoming Different Political Culture
  - Dominating Political Culture at IG?
- Governments' Strategic Partnership with other stakeholders
  - Governments and Civil Society
- Creating Asian Internet Governance Forum
  - Asia IGF?
- Connecting IG Debate to ASEAN+3 and APT/ITU
- Creating language-based networks on the Internet
  - Arabic, Chinese, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Singhali, Urdu, Tamil, Pharsi, Russian, etc...

# Comments?

Y.J.Park@TUDelft.NL