

The role of Governments in Creating an enabling environment for establishing and developing IXPs

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IXP Arab Group Workshop
Tunis, November 11, 2014

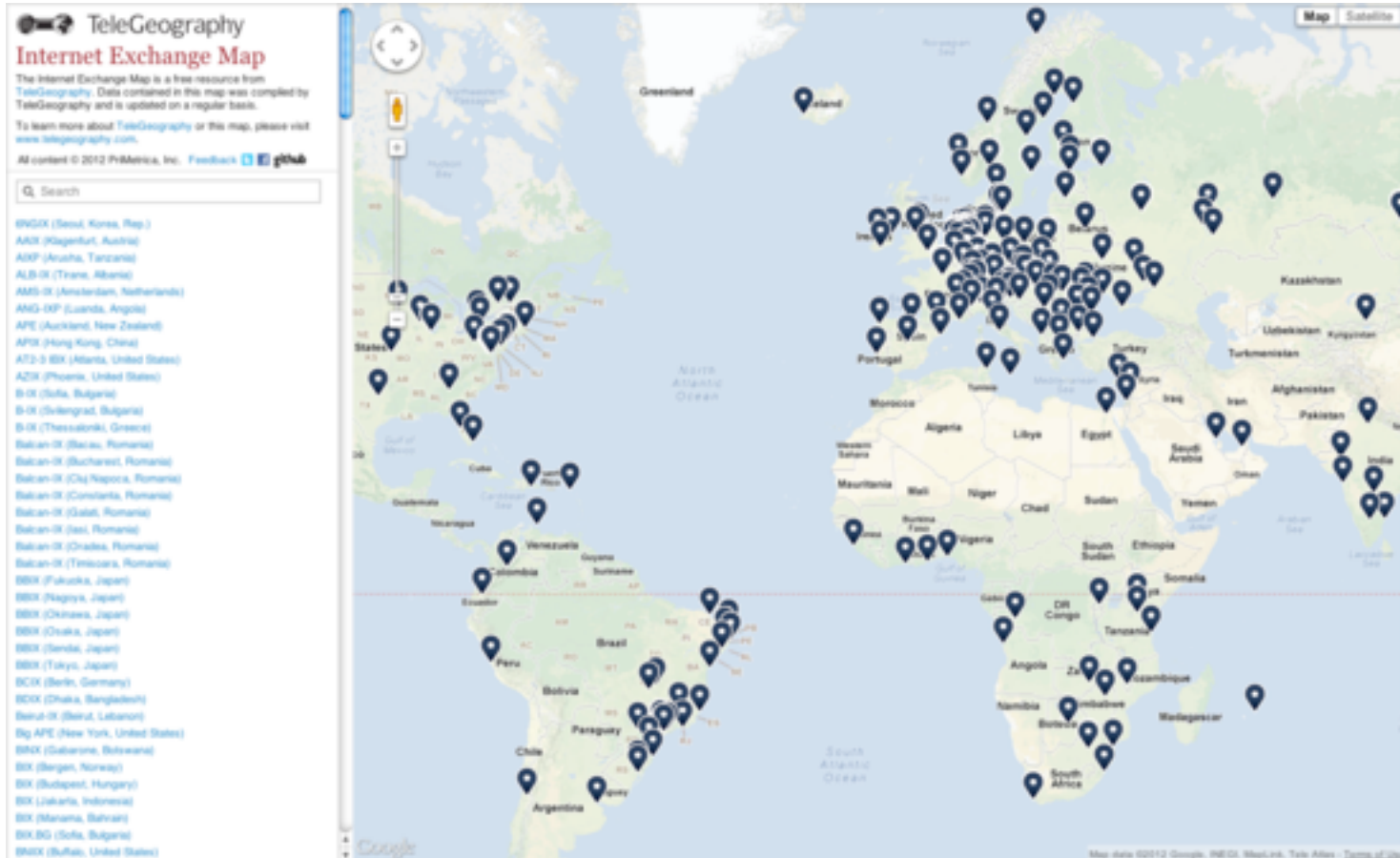
Outline

- What is an Internet Exchange Point (IXP)?
- Main stakeholders of an IXP
- Role of the government

What is an Internet Exchange Point (IXP)?

- An Internet Exchange Point (IXP) is simply a physical location where different IP networks meet to exchange traffic with each other to keep local traffic local
- IXPs are vital part of the Internet ecosystem, essential for facilitating a robust domestic ICT sector
- Benefits of an Internet Exchange Point (IXP)
 - **keeps local Internet traffic within local infrastructure** and to **reduce costs** associated with traffic exchange between networks.
 - **improves the quality of Internet services and drive demand** in by reducing delay and improving end-user experience
 - **Is a convenient hub for attracting hosting key Internet infrastructures** within countries
 - **Is a catalyst** for overall Internet development

IXPs Around the World



Source: TeleGeography World IX Map, <http://www.internetexchangemap.com/>

Main stakeholders of an IXP

- **Internet Service Providers (ISPs)**
- **Mobile Operators**
- **National Research and Education Networks (NREN)**
- **Content Distribution Network**
- **Hosting Solutions Providers**
- **Country Code Top Level Domain (ccTLD) Registry**
- **Data-Center Operators**
- **Telecommunication regulators**
- **Government ministries**

Role of government

- **Supportive role of government**
 - Use its convening power to bring stakeholders together
 - Provide the initial funding to establish the IXP
 - Participating in the board of the IXP
- **Potentially counter-productive role of government**
 - Operating the IXP
 - Regulating the IXP
 - Enacting laws about the IXPs, interconnection of IXPs, etc.