Network Operator Groups Within the RIPE Community
Who Are We?

- **RIPE NCC**
  - Regional Internet Registry for Europe, Middle East and parts of Central Asia
  - Secretariat for the RIPE Community

- **RIPE Community**
  - **Réseaux IP Européens (RIPE)**, French for "European IP Networks") is a forum open to all parties interested in the wide area of IP networks
Who Am I?

- Alastair Strachan
- Community Development Officer
  - Community Projects Fund
  - NOG Coordinator
  - Events and Outreach
What We Do for NOGs

• Sponsorship
• Speakers
• Open House events
• Meetups at RIPE Meetings
• NOG focus group - RIPE NCC staff
Surveys

• Two surveys created in collaboration with NOG organisers
• NOG participants
• NOG organisers
• Open for eight weeks
• Over 400 responses
NOGs Within Our Region

- 32 NOGs
- Largest - PLNOG, UKNOF
- Smallest - Meetup events NETMcr, NETLdn
- The oldest NOG started in 2000 - SwiNOG
- The newest NOG was founded last month - NOG.HR
Organisational Information

• Number of events
  - Most NOGs host one-day events, one to three times a year
  - NETMcr, NETLdn host 12 meet-up events a year
  - NLNOG host three different events throughout the year

• How many attendees?
  - Most events see between 50 and 200 attendees
  - DENOG and FRNOG see over 200 attendees
  - PLNOG host a two-day event that has seen over 800 attendees
Organisational Information

- Legal entities (some NOGs are set up by one person, some are legal entities)

Is your NOG set up as a legal organisation?

17 out of 17 people answered this question

- Yes: 8 resp. 47.1%
- No: 9 resp. 52.9%
Who Makes Up NOG Communities?

What type of organisation do you work for?

- Telecom..: 31%
- IT Services..: 18%
- Data Center..: 12%
- Internet Exchange..: 6%
- Academi..: 6%
- Hosting Company: 5%
- Software Vendor: 3%
- Non Profit..: 3%
- Governm..Banking../..: 3%
- Hardware Vendor: 3%
- DNS/ccT..: 2%
- NREN: 2%
- Media/E..Enterpri..: 1%
- Industrial (Constru..): 1%
Communication Methods

• Main communication channels
• Newer technologies - Telegram etc.
• Will we ever shift away from mailing lists?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Communication Method</th>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mailing Lists</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Media</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>94.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website updates</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>76.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Contact</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>52.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>41.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRC</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>35.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telegram</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whatsapp</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Activity on NOG Communication Channels

- Over 30% of participants are not active on communication channels

Are you active on the NOG mailing list or any of its other communications channels?

420 out of 420 people answered this question

- Yes: 291 responses (69.3%)
- No: 129 responses (30.7%)
Regional Differences

- Nordic countries are very active on communication channels
- Central and Eastern Europe less so
NOG Participation
What Could NOGs Do to Encourage More Participation?

- Why do people attend NOGs?
- What content do they want to see?
- What prevents people attending?
- Remote participation
Why Do People Attend NOG Events?

• Most important reasons to attend:
  - Social networking - 32%
  - Presentation/content - 29%
  - Learn - 19%
  - Share experiences - 12%
  - Social events - 4%
  - Present - 2%
Regional Breakdown

- **Western Europe**
  - Social networking, presentations/content and learning purposes over 87%

- **Central and Eastern Europe**
  - Social networking, presentations/content and learning purposes over 82%

- **Nordics**
  - Social networking, presentations/content and learning purposes over 85%

- **Iran**
  - Presentations/content, sharing experiences and social networking over 72%
Why Don’t People Attend NOG Events?

• Reasons that prevent in-person attendance:
  - Time
  - Travel costs
  - Location
  - Often held mid-week
Attending Remotely

• Remote or in-person participation?

- In Person: 278 resp., 66.5%
- Remotely: 140 resp., 33.5%
Regional Differences

- 95% of members in Nordic countries attend in person
- Iran and Western Europe see more remote participants
## What Content Do People Want?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Networking</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Routing</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automation</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Source Software</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DNS</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cloud</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measurements</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulation/Legal affairs/competency</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IoT</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green tech/sustainability</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-IP services, Vendor specific</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non technical</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: The percentages represent the popularity of each content category among the surveyed audience.*
What Content Do People Want?

How complex or difficult should technical content be at NOG events?

415 out of 418 people answered this question

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Response Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>62.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>36.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beginner</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What Can NOGs Do to Encourage Participation at Events?

- Location of events
- Cost
- Better communication of upcoming events
- Frequency
- More opportunities to network
- Better remote participation options
NOGs vs COVID-19

• The great cancellation!
• Virtual events
• Post-pandemic planning
What’s Next for NOGs

- Ever changing landscape
- Attracting young blood?
- Hybrid meetings?
- Meetups?
Questions
astracha@ripe.net