

## Mauricio Oviedo – CRIX (Costa Rica Internet Exchange)

Participating in the Euro-IX 29th Forum as a fellow was a very productive experience. Being part of the fellowship program allowed me to learn more in detail about the organization, share what we are doing in Costa Rica and our region, and learn from the experience of other IXPs. One of the key points I brought back from the meeting is the importance of automating as much as possible the different processes within the IXP. Being able to hear from first hand how other IXPs did it and the benefits that were obtained gave me a big motivation to start the automation process at CRIX as soon as possible, as well as to promote within my region the importance to do so. I was impressed not only with the high quality of the presentations but also with the variety of topics of the meeting. By learning from how the Euro-IX forums are structured, at LAC-IX we can continue to improve our programs, adding more value to our members, and including discussions that could have every time a higher impact in the different groups, administrative, technical, marketing. Another important point is that on-site participation opens the doors for having a lot of networking with Euro-IX members. Having the chance to speak and share experiences with the participants adds great value to the meeting, especially because getting to know a different Internet Ecosystem as Europe, the challenges and lessons learned by more mature IXPs, and getting new ideas of what else can an IX do could easily accelerate the growth of newer IXPs. I was also very interested in learning more in detail how to manage accurate traffic statistics, and how to use the IX-F platform to have a single repository of data for our Region. Since the fellowship program includes the opportunity to continue being part of Euro-IX for one year, I would like to take the most of it by getting more engaged within the community and participate in other opportunities that may arise. Something that I consider that could be very useful for future fellows is to have an informative session with Euro-IX staff to get to know better the organization, the ongoing projects, benefits of being a member and specially how can they further participate. This could be a requirement for the program and at the same time an easy way for the fellows to have a bigger picture of Euro-IX. Finally, it is very important to keep looking for ways of getting both Euro-IX and LAC-IX to continue working together and to strength the communication channels to ensure the exchange of

experience that can make a difference in our countries.

Thanks to the fellowship program I got back to Costa Rica with both good new friends and a lot of homework that hopefully will help with improvement of our IX and also collaborate further in our region.

**For more information on CRIX click [here](#)**