

APRICOT 2025 REPORT

I attended the Advanced BGP Masterclass from February 20th to 22nd, followed by the Soft Skills Workshop on February 23rd, and the APRICOT 2025 Conference from February 24th to 26th in Malaysia. I am truly grateful to *John Rattray*, the fellowship coordinator, for his continuous support throughout the entire journey—from the fellowship announcement to the conclusion of the event.

During the **Advanced BGP Masterclass**, I gained an in-depth understanding of BGP, particularly in relation to RPKI and routing policies. The training covered key concepts such as BGP route selection, best path decision-making, and traffic engineering techniques. I also learned about BGP security mechanisms, including RPKI implementation to prevent route hijacking and invalid advertisements. Additionally, the workshop provided hands-on experience in configuring BGP sessions, applying route filters, and optimizing policies for efficient and secure routing. These insights will help me enhance network reliability and security in my professional role.

I am deeply grateful to *Aftab Siddiqui, Mark Duffell, Phil Mawson, and Tashi Phuntsho* for their guidance and support. A special thanks to *Mark Duffell*, who patiently guided me and thoroughly explained every detail of my questions.

Attending the **Soft Skills Workshop** on February 23rd was an enlightening experience. Throughout the sessions, I gained valuable insights into key topics such as presentation skills, overcoming the fear of public speaking, leadership within the community (including EQ and IQ), and scenario-based incident management through role-playing exercises. Each session provided practical knowledge that will be highly beneficial in my day-to-day work.

Learning how to effectively present information and manage public speaking anxiety will help me enhance my communication skills in a professional setting. Understanding leadership in the community reinforced the importance of collaboration and engagement in problem-solving. Additionally, participating in scenario-based incident management exercises sharpened my decision-making abilities and preparedness for handling unexpected challenges.

I sincerely appreciate the efforts of the workshop facilitators—*William Stockbridge, Terry Sweetser, Aftab Siddiqui, and Robbie Mitchell*—for their valuable guidance and support throughout the session.

The APRICOT 2025 Conference was an incredible opportunity to engage with industry experts, network with professionals, and explore the latest trends in networking and internet technologies. Attending these sessions not only expanded my technical knowledge but also helped me understand the broader impact of networking technologies on the internet ecosystem. Engaging with fellow participants, exchanging ideas, and discussing challenges faced in different regions enriched my learning experience.



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I am truly grateful for the opportunity to participate in APRICOT 2025 and connect with a global community of networking professionals. The knowledge and insights gained during the conference will undoubtedly contribute to my professional growth and enhance my ability to implement the best practices in my field.

Overall, APRICOT 2025 was an inspiring experience that provided me with valuable knowledge and skills to tackle challenges in my role more effectively. It also offered a great opportunity to build meaningful connections within the ICT community.

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