Measurement Lab Sponsorship

Improve the Internet by Supporting Open Internet Measurement

What is Measurement Lab?

Measurement Lab (M-Lab) is a fiscally sponsored project of Code for Science & Society founded in 2009 by a group of researchers who identified a need for an open and transparent resource to study general Internet performance and Internet neutrality over time. M-Lab continues to make this aggregate data available to the public, technical innovators, scientific researchers, broadband policymakers, and access advocates to support a better Internet for all.

M-Lab operates and maintains a number of essential components in support of measuring Internet performance:
- Testing platform (includes over 525 servers in more than 60 metro areas)
- Measurement services (NDT, DASH, WeHe, etc.)
- Pipeline for aggregating and processing measurement data
- Data access tools, reporting, and visualizations (BigQuery)
- Community support and technical documentation
- As of 2022, the curation and access to data generated by M-Lab community partners

Measurement Lab is run by a small team with contributions from a large, global network of collaborators with a wide range of backgrounds and disciplines. We welcome collaboration with individuals and organizations to help expand and improve the testing platform, to promote use of the measurement data, and to work toward agreement on standard methodologies of Internet measurement that include transparent and user-contributed data.

Who benefits from M-Lab?

- **Computer scientists** can propose measurements to be hosted as services.
- **Internet researchers** can use the data to study the Internet.
- **Broadband policymakers, industry, and public-interest advocates** use the aggregate data to evaluate Internet access by their constituents.
- **Organizations with their own datasets** can use M-Lab to publish their data openly.
- **Internet users** run individual tests and contribute to research as citizen scientists.

How can I support M-Lab?

Support for the M-Lab project is critical to the sustainability of our mission.

- **Make a recurring donation** to support the work of our small team. Donating directly is the most straightforward way to support the project and enables:
  - Outreach to make sure people know that the data is there for them to use.
  - Support for data users and integrators of M-Lab tools
  - Software and hardware development e.g. data analysis and collection tools and documentation to make it as easy as possible to use the data
  - Infrastructure management to keep our platform and pipeline running smoothly
  - Community coordination to help maintain a healthy Internet measurement ecosystem and ensure we use current best practices of Internet measurement
- **Donate infrastructure** by hosting a site or donating hardware
- **Dedicate staff resources** to write open source code for the project. Individual contributions are also welcome
- **Contributors** at any level are invited to join the M-Lab consortium and help inform the project's strategy through our open governance processes.
- **Organizations** with an interest in ensuring open Internet performance data continues to exist long-term, please inquire about becoming a core contributor.

What financial level should I consider supporting?

M-Lab is available to working with donors to find the right sponsorship agreement that fits the needs and goals of their organization

- Corporations: If you use M-Lab measurements as a core asset of your business we request considering $120,000 annual to support the team and services
- Governments: For ongoing significant services we request $60,000
- NGOs: Relative to where you operate and the scale of your service, we ask NGOs with the means to consider $20,000 in annual support

Who currently supports M-Lab?

Our contributors and supporters over the years include Google, Knight Foundation, Media Democracy Fund, Mozilla, New America's Open Technology Institute, Open Technology Fund, and Princeton's PlanetLab Consortium. As a core contributor, Google currently supports the project with a small team of software engineers to write open source code for the M-Lab platform and pipeline, and contribute Internet performance research and infrastructure support.

Interested? Want more information?

We'd love to hear from you! Please contact hello@measurementlab.net.