Capacity building is very much needed for the Noncommercial Stakeholders group at this period at ICANN. We were hit hard by COVID-19 and the pool of our volunteers shrank. To remedy this and become more active NCSG seeking funds from PIR for the following activities:

1. Support a mentor-buddy program through travel support for ICANN (specify
2. Support a capacity building workshop prior to ICANN for one day for NCSG to have time to strategize and build more relations with other stakeholder groups

Mentor-Buddy program:

Many NCSG volunteers would like to learn and be active. NCSG will pair a mentor who is working on specific issues for example sub-pro or any other relevant issue. The buddy will be tasked to focus on a specific issue that the mentor and NCSG assigns, hold the pen for writing public comments and update periodically the NCSG about these issues. The mentor should meet regularly with the buddy to have a good understanding of the progress. The buddy will receive travel support for the following ICANN meeting and is required to be active and help NCSG to have a strong presence on the issues identified.

Workshop:

The strategy workshop before ICANN allows NCSG members to discuss the most pertinent issues, discuss their viewpoints and assign teams. The workshop also serves an outreach purpose. A segment of the workshop will invite civil society that are not members to have a better understanding of what NCSG does. The workshop also invites other groups and ICANN board members that focus on relevant issues. The funding request is to provide a hotel for one night for 5 members and support two members airfare as well as support for logistical issues.

When: one day before the main ICANN meeting