

# Proposed Program: **WHODIS**

## **Wholistic Human-Oriented Discussions on Identity Systems**

**IETF 117 - IAB Open**

# Motivation

Credential and identity ecosystems for authenticating humans are vast and complicated

Credential: Technology that binds an identity to a user

Identity: information about a given user (account, email address, etc)

Some technologies are well understood and (often) used well

Passwords, public key authentication via WebAuthn, Passkeys, etc

Others, not so much

Federated credential management for authentication, IP addresses for identity, FIDO and attestation, etc

# Proposed Goals

Survey technology landscape and develop clear mental model for the IETF

Explore how and why these technologies are used (and misused)

Identify gaps that exist in practice that might be filled by IETF work

# Possible Outputs

Collection of important use cases targeted by credential and identity technologies today

Recommended practices and anti-patterns to avoid regarding use of credential and identity technologies

Facilitate workshops and cross-SDO collaborations for high bandwidth discussions

Identity opportunities for new work in the IETF to help address open problems

# Scope Considerations

Should we focus on credential systems and identities, or just one?

Does the scope of an identity pertain only to humans, or should it be expanded?

**Questions?**  
**Comments?**

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