

KENYA YOUTH INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM (IGF)

RAPPORTEUR REPORT 2023

THEME: The internet we want- Empowering all Kenyan Youth



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3rd Edition Kenya Youth IGF



VENUE: MERCURE HOTEL UPPER HILL-
NAIROBI

DATE: 21st JUNE 2023

Attendance: 86 physical attendees
and 30 online attendees

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Acknowledgements



KENYA YOUTH IGF

Young people are key stakeholders in the IGF ecosystem as they are the majority in Kenya, Africa and the world over. The IGF secretariat has since recognized the importance of meaningful youth participation at the IGF processes and promotes the strengthening of Youth IGF Initiatives.

Youth Initiatives of the IGF are created with a goal of encouraging and involving young people in a substantive discussion on Internet governance. These forms, as well as the national, sub-regional and regional IGFs (NRIs), are expected to follow the main IGF principles of being open, inclusive, non-commercial with multi-stakeholder participation during the whole preparatory phase and the event itself, all in line with a bottom-up decision-making process. Kenya Youth IGF is a youth-led structure to develop the capacity for coordinating, mobilizing and advocating for meaningful inclusion and engagement of young people in the Kenya IGF in partnership with industry stakeholders to address key Internet issues.

PARTNERS



KENYA YOUTH IGF

Message from convenor

OPENING REMARKS



Keith Andere- African youth commission

Welcome to the 3rd youth IGF Kenya. This has been an amazing journey. One of the accomplishments being recognized by the United Nations. The IGF is divided into National regional Initiatives. We have country IGFs i.e. Kenya IGF then we have the East African IGF, we also have African IGF and lastly we have the global IGF which the latter will be in Kyoto- Japan. All the chapters have great opportunities for the youth such as: calls for sessions on Africa and East Africa IGF the youth we encourage the youth to apply participate in ICT ecosystems.

There has been a lot of emphasis on youth and Internet governance, and the turnout(100 physical 50 online) was critical indication that the youth are engaged in this space. This demonstrates a huge growth in the Internet governance forum in Kenya, particularly among the youth sector. Nonetheless, because youth is a transient state, individuals should take use of it while they can. This means being engaged heavily in this forums and maximizing on the resources they acquire. This furthers the vision of the youth to make an impact and to be heard in the ICT ecosystem.

Participating fully in the theme proposed THE INTERNET WE WANT- EMPOWERING ALL KENYAN YOUTH



Grace Githaiga- CEO Convenor KICTA Net

MESSAGE FROM OUR PARTNERS

KICTANET

- Among the Youth IGF stakeholders is the Kenya ICT Action Network (KICTANet). Their primary function is the formation of ICT Policies and regulation through research. KICTANet was founded by the former cabinet secretary of ICT. In light of this we urge the government to be involved in this space and also encompassing the future with conversations such as Artificial intelligence and how we put these policies into laws. Currently KICTANet is working on the conversation on AI with META and the youth are encouraged to participate in whatever capacity since these policies will be their future. How can the youth be involved?
- There are Various of ways in which the youth can be active in this ecosystem.
- Firstly, we have the Kenya School of internet governance (KeSIG). Which ensures that they youth have a capacity to actually participate in theses Forums through intensive training and testing their learning skills through various assessments. The second place is the Youth IGF especially being part of the Multistakeholder Advisory groups(MAG) which ensures youth a seat at the table where the decisions are being made. This is also a preparation of the global IGF -Kyoto.

- In conclusion we are proud to be among the pioneers of IGF and Youth IGF this being our 16th year and the global IGF being 17th year meaning we are keeping the pace with global standards and the involvement of internet and governance. The youth who are here are the future and continuity of the Kenya IGF.

META

- The youth are serving ambassadors to the stakeholders of the region. This makes allows them to hold META accountable for their actions in the internet space. Moreover, Meta has also made the youth a apart of their community by giving opportunities to the youth to directly work with them.
- Who is META? And Why the name META? In a recent livestream event, Zuckerberg announced that Facebook has changed its corporate name to "Meta." The metaverse is being heavily promoted as a business tool for remote working (as it will eliminate the need for long commutes or physical offices), as well as a leisure venue. You will even have a unique virtual home that acts as a kind of central hub, known as "Horizon," which you can decorate with both real-world and fictional objects.
- The importance of this event is to create the internet we want as the youth since this is our future and we have interacted with this space more. Events such as this help the youth voice out their opinions and thoughts and through this various platform such as META improve hence the reason for META being in an enabler of such opportunities

THE GOVERNMENT

It was an honor to be invited to this Ideal platform for discussing policies issues policies regarding ICT governance. The policies include robustness, security, sustainability and development. The event serves as an interactive session to discuss the ideas and different scopes facing the internet governance ecosystem. Thank you for the invitation and the turnout is a testament of the youth being engaged in internet and governance. Tech is evolving for instance there are new conversations coming up such as AI and content creation which are emerging topics for the youth and which they need to be engaged in

.Our role as the government in this has been seen by the development of the data protection act which regulates processing of personal data and protecting the rights of data subjects.



**Senator Allan
Chesang,
Chairperson, ICT
Committee, Senate**

MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERS

The act of 2019 are subsequent regulations that restrict further processing of data to third parties. It ensures data processors and data controllers are protected and are regulated.

Moreover, to show the governments steps in creating an impact in this space. It has focused on digital inclusion by: Making sure women, youth, disabled and people from minority groups get access to the internet. There has also been an increase in modern mobile applications such as UBER eats, Bolt and Jumia creating employment. In addition to this the government has initiatives on digital literacy. This includes putting up Wi-Fi hot-spots and also integrating ICT in schools. Nonetheless the advantages of internet also come with a downfall. Therefore, concepts such as cybersecurity come up and thus the government is looking for more solutions to deal with this

Proud with the achievements the Kenyan government has done in this space with programs such as Jitume which have been successful.

SESSION ONE:

Linda- Moderator

**YOUTH IGF MAG Lawyer | |
Human (Digital) Rights|Legal
Tech| Policy & Diplomac**



Dr. Bright Gameli- Panelist

**Cybersecurity lead at Mara. CEO
of AfricaHackthon and Lecture at
Starthmore and Moringa**



Fraiser.Kilonzo- Panelist

**Cybersecurity and Information
Security expert.Part of the Hackthon
and a Mentor at Textors**



CYBERSECURITY

Biggest cyber-security capacity building challenges faced by Kenyan youth is getting resources and spaces where you can learn about cyber security. Most spaces and resources in this sector are expensive. Although the statement is true the youth cannot entirely blame this on the expensive resource since one can still find these resources in the internet for free. Most of the time the youth are lazy thus none of them have do research or go online to actually look for this materials. The youth need to have a yearning and curious mind to be able to actually gain this knowledge. Information is everywhere in the contemporary world and we cannot blame anyone if not ourselves.

Capacity building also comes in ways in which education is done this includes giving out the skills. The first gap in our education system is that the faculties in university use the same curriculum throughout years and years. Therefore, the things taught to the students are obsolete with little or no practicality in the real world The second gap is that the faculty do not go out of their way to research new things about the topic at hand. This leaves them with to teach theories hence the gap that is seen between graduates and the workplace. There is also a gap in the workplace where they ask for 5 years' experience when this student is just out of school. This becomes a hindrance to the youth and companies should look into it

CYBERSECURITY

Thirdly is how we are assessed or tested. Doing exam for cybersecurity on a time limit with questions on theories also limit the students' abilities because they then focus on the exams instead of the work they are doing. Institutions can upscale by actually teaching practical skills and students going out of them to look for materials in YouTube and also having new Artificial intelligence we can even learn more.

There many opportunities in Cyber security and not only the technical bit of it. Cybersecurity is way beyond hacking learning the right things as part of capacity building. The youth need to be assertive and have the zeal to research. . Look for opportunities such as cyber shujaa and Africa Hackathon and UNSECO Cyber Czar,African hub, Hack boss and many more platforms to actually build your capacity in cybersecurity both for free and some require a little payment.

In conclusion in order to fight the hacking in companies. The company first needs to be aware that their is something called hacking and their security systems are not safe. I.e safaricom pays people to hack them so they can improve this is one way of addressing hacking and the youth can tap into that.Moreover its not about the creditians but about you being able to do the job.

SESSION TWO:



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:

Moderator:

Ochieng A Ogango Advocate of the High Court of Kenya| IGF Global Youth Ambassador 2022. Youth IGF MAG 2023

Panelist Diana Rose Ouma is a dedicated program coordinator at the Horn of Africa Youth Network, where she spearheads the Africa Regional Program. This initiative aims to empower girls and young women,

Sarah Muiruri is a Counseling psychologist and the director of Misty Roses Africa-counseling hub & rehab. Sarah is skilled in confidential listening, empathy and has ability to work with wide range of people. She is an experienced counsellor

SOCIAL MEDIA AND MENTAL HEALTH.

Majority of the people living in today's world especially the youth have 80% of the following applications (apps) in their phones: TikTok, Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter, Twitch, YouTube, LinkedIn and WhatsApp. All these apps have affected how people live their lives either positively and negatively. Some of the positive impacts of social media being people able to express themselves in different ways with art, Music and dance, which have enabled youths to earn a living or just have fun. This adds a positive impact on their health and especially mental health. Mental health does not necessarily mean mental illness it means that you are in a capacity to live your life not hindered in anyway including how one approaches life. Nonetheless there is still some negative under tone that has comes up by using these apps. Such as: Time wasting due to regular usage, bad sleeping patterns (no wonder some people are just moody) and cyberbullying whether intentionally or unintentionally- There are people who just post not knowing how it will affect other people. This negatively affects affects the youth mental health. However, the perks and the perils of social media is determined by the user and how they are

SOCIAL MEDIA AND MENTAL HEALTH.

going to use it.

Thus to promote mental awareness with social media. One needs to answer some few questions; How many hours you spend in your social media? When you immerse ourselves in social media influencers do you get affected by the lives? Do you participate in or cyber bullying or do you promote it? It's easier to post negative comments than to say it face to face.

To protect the youth, communities need to be involved in order to support each other. Things such as group therapy or therapy in general are very helpful during this cases such as cyberbullying. We need to create a safe internet. This starts at individual levels such as not making things that are harmful to certain people trend. Moreover, we need to make sure we have consent of other people before posting a picture of anyone and also verifying the photos taken. The next step is to ensure the apps we use are safe. This burden lies in the hands of the companies. They need to ensure they have policies to protect their users from cyber bullies and ensure a safe internet. Meta and Google are examples of such companies with these policies.

Social media can be used to promote businesses, earn money and be very informative its upto us to shape this platforms to what we want.

MY STORY- ALLAN CHESANG

My interest in ICT was some time back in 2012. I had insomnia thus decided to keep myself awake by familiarizing myself with the internet. I had passion for it and didn't have money to go out so I just stayed in.

I didn't want employment by so when I visited my cousin and was a marketing management in a sisal farm and he was looking for customers online. Moreover, I did not want to be employed. Therefore, I took a keen interest in this due to the commission. I researched on the market of sisal and marketed sisal even in my school. However, this was not profitable. Therefore, I made a website where I could sell this sisal online. People making money out of application such as tinder, Jumia and many more. For online marketing I earn a lot of money. We just need the knowledge. I opened Argo international limited and had a good website with no office and I became bigger in terms of online market and earned my money that way.

However, I am still in the ICT space as I am creating a game for the Kenyans and am 78% and I hope will go well.

Internet is the future

I will support the ICT world especially Kenya school of internet governance.

CALL FOR ACTION



SOCIAL MEDIA AND MENTAL HEALTH

- Avoid stigma on therapy
- Individuals should step up to address you're mental health issues



CAPACITY BUILDING ON CYBER SECURITY

- More advertisement for platforms that enable cybersecurity capacity building. Free and accessible for everyone



GOVERNMENT

- Create local policies for ICT
- Ratification of the Malabo convention and data protection
- Introduction of the ICT in schools and capacity building for teachers

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THE YOUTH IGF MAG 2023

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KENYA IGF MAG 2023

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Ndinda and the team.

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PICTORIALS







**"The internet we want
Empowering all Kenyan
youth"**

The end.