

# Keep the Internet strong for human rights!

Designed as an open, decentralized network that empowers users at a grassroots level, there is no denying the Internet has transformed our world to become an essential platform for human rights.

**5,8%**

## YEAR 2000

Just **5,8%** of the worlds population had access to the Internet.

**34,3%**

## YEAR 2013

The Internet is accessible to **34,3%** of the worlds population

Since 2000, Internet use per person in developing economies has grown **28% a year**.

**Access to the Internet, however, is only meaningful if it actually empowers people to...**

Have better access to health and education.

Know, defend and exercise their rights.

Freely express their ideas.

Be creative and innovate.

Find new business opportunities.

And much more!

As a matter of fact, the United Nations listed Internet penetration as a key metric in efforts to reduce poverty in their Millennium Development goals!

## So, how exactly can the open Internet benefit:

### ECONOMY

The Internet created **2.6 jobs** for each job that might have been lost to technology development.

In Africa, the contribution of the Internet to GDP could account for as much as **300 billion** if it achieves the same kind of impact and scale as the spread of mobile phones.

### EDUCATION

The technology-related productivity gains in education could reach **\$30 billion** to almost **\$70 billion**.

Access to free and high quality digital content may revolutionise education, specially in places that currently lack sufficient knowledge sources.

### HEALTH

In Africa alone, technology-related benefits in health care - such as remote diagnosis and treatment - could range from **\$84 billion** to **\$188 billion** by 2025.

**All of that is only possible if we keep the Internet open and collaborative!**



An open and free Internet is what enables all of us to seek, receive, and share information and ideas in ways that were not possible before. This is at the heart of how it was conceived and the main reason why it is changing the world.

Let's keep it that way!

The Internet Society is strongly committed to an open, global and decentralized Internet, as a platform for human progress.



Join us and help us keep the Internet strong!

Share this infographic with your friends and followers using hashtag **#INTERNETSTRONG**

### SOURCES

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**The Internet Society**  
<http://www.internetsociety.org/virtuouscircle>

