



# Beyond the Net Impact Report 2017



# Beyond the Net Impact Report 2017



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Our potential lies not only in our diversity, but in the power of our community to act as one in service of our mission. Together, our stories of an Internet with people at its heart, offer a unifying message for all the world.



Andrew Sullivan  
President and CEO  
Internet Society

## The Internet Changes Lives

The Internet Society is guided by the belief that for an Internet to exist for the good of all people, it must be shaped by diversity, inclusion, and equality. It is only by working together, with our valued community partners around the world, that we can achieve an Internet that is open, globally connected, and people centric.

We believe the voices of people around the world are key to the Internet's future.

Supporting community-led projects since 2007, the Internet Society communities have been making a positive impact at the local level for years. Firstly, through our Community Grants funding programme until 2015, followed by our "Beyond the Net Funding Programme".

Our Chapters – our diverse global community – bring members and local organisations together to run projects and activities dedicated to the use of technology for positive change. They work tirelessly to develop projects at a local level, and their passion, perseverance and commitment are inspiring. Proof that changing the world for good by using the Internet is indeed possible.

We are pleased to share the outcome of these amazing projects that have worked hard to improve their communities' capacity on issues such as Access, Education, Gender and Disability inclusion, Policy and Trust. In 2017, we were able to reach thousands of people through community-driven projects designed to train valuable digital skills, we developed initiatives that will enable continued trust in the Internet, and we continue to build infrastructure in rural and underserved areas, connecting Indigenous communities, because an Internet that works for everyone is impossible unless all voices are heard.

In 2017, we took on a new challenge. We launched the "Chapterthon", a global marathon of Chapters working together to reach a common goal: **The Improvement of Education via the Internet**. Through this initiative, we've taught hundreds of young girls and boys how to code, and brought much-needed discussions about cybersecurity and online safety to numerous schools. The Chapterthon has not only provided a unique opportunity to reinforce community bonds, but has also won the 2018 World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) "International and Regional Cooperation" Award presented by the International Telecommunication Union – of which we can all be proud.

As we look at the work previously carried out, it is of course important to continue looking ahead. We are at a pivotal moment in the Internet's development and we all have a role to play in shaping our digital future.

To meet the challenges we face and to move boldly into the future, we have begun coordinating our efforts into four sustained and comprehensive campaigns that will consolidate our work and vision for the future through positive action. The Internet Society has been pursuing our goals of individual empowerment and collaborative innovation for 25 years now, and we believe our community, our organisation, and our program uniquely positions us to advance these goals in the coming years.

We hope, like us, you are inspired by the amazing work of our community, and apply for a Beyond the Net grant to help us continue to shape the future of the Internet.

  
Raúl Echeberria  
Vice President, Global Engagement  
Internet Society



# Beyond the Net Funding Programme



At the Internet Society, we believe that the Internet has the power to change lives. That is why we have the **Beyond the Net Funding Programme**, to give everyone the chance to make a positive difference and to join us in our mission to provide an open and secure Internet for all.

We support bright ideas, planned and brought to life by our Chapters' members, working in partnership with local organisations to empower people around the world.

Since we first started funding Internet community projects back in 2005, we have supported **over 500** small, medium and large-scale projects, covering everything from teaching technical skills to young people to helping local engineers deploy leading technology.

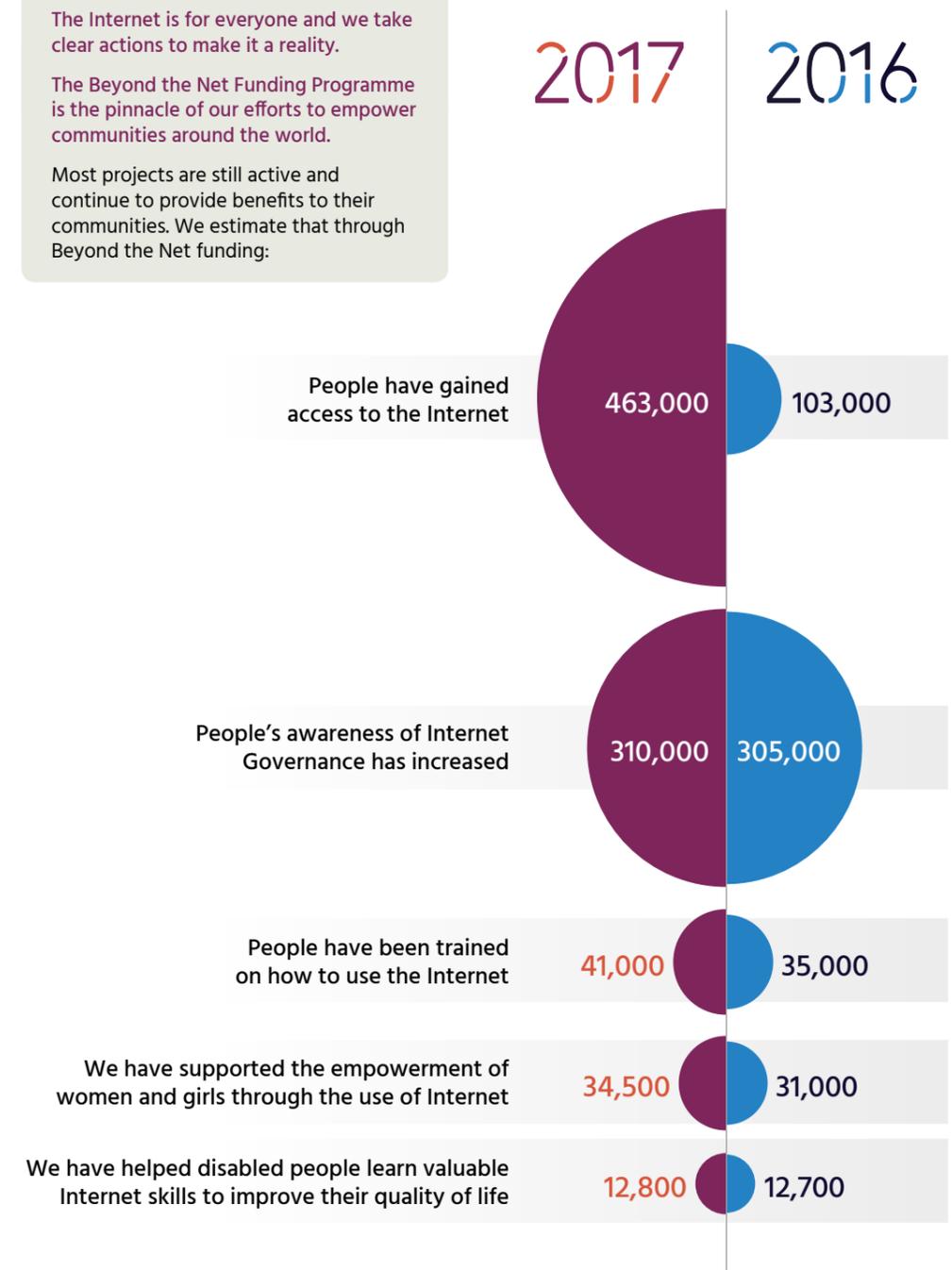
# Our Programme by the Numbers

Throughout the years, we have always strived to work with our Chapters in order to reach the people who needed our support.

The Internet is for everyone and we take clear actions to make it a reality.

The Beyond the Net Funding Programme is the pinnacle of our efforts to empower communities around the world.

Most projects are still active and continue to provide benefits to their communities. We estimate that through Beyond the Net funding:





If you want to become involved and help shape the Future of the Internet, join us.

Beyond the Net Funding Programme provides:

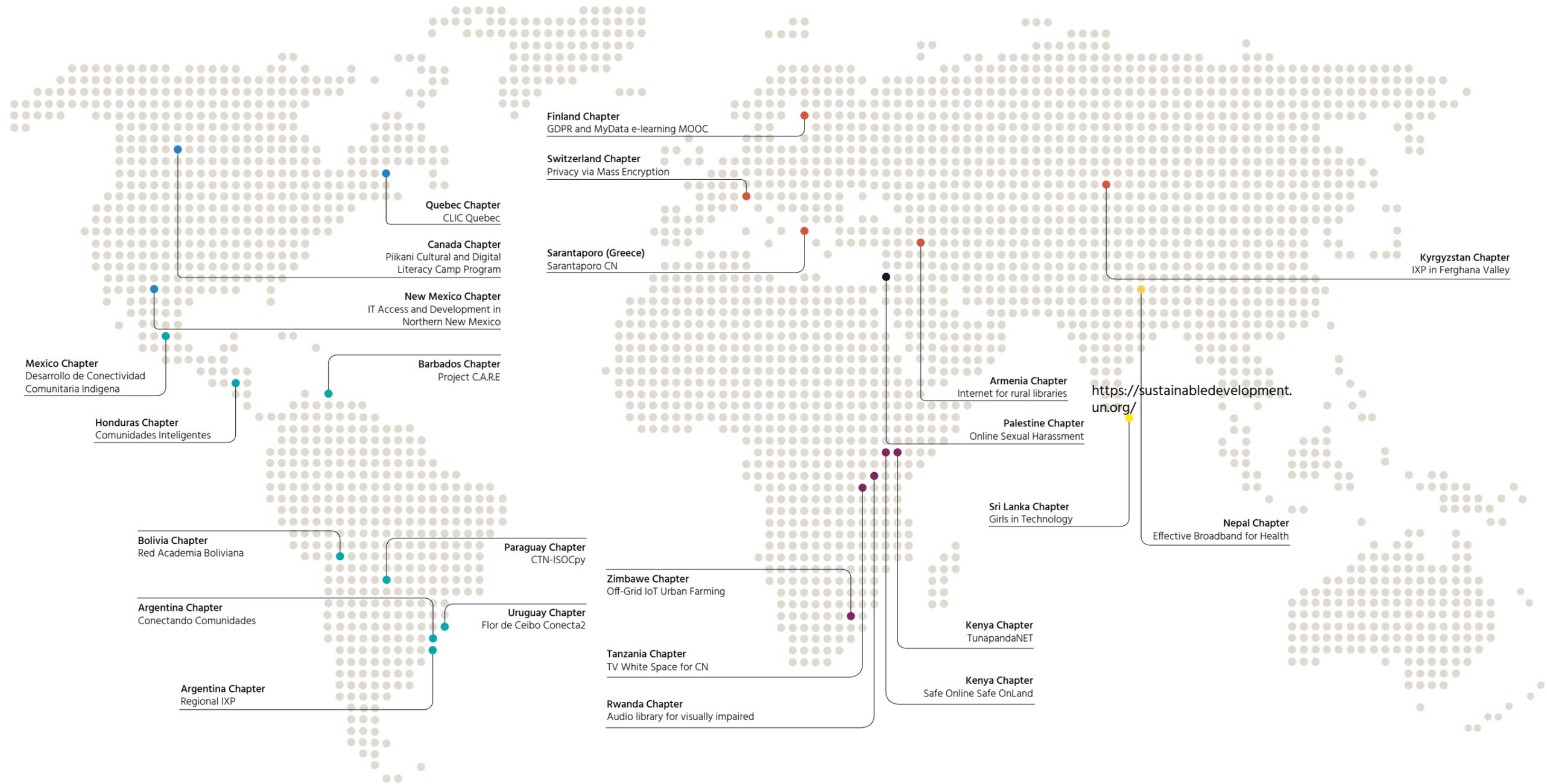
**Medium and Large projects funding** for initiatives that harness the power of the Internet to change lives. They work in partnership with local organisations to empower people in their communities.

**Small projects funding** to improve awareness on Internet topics of interest for the local community, and to strengthen and grow Chapter membership.

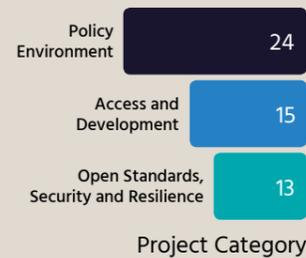
[internetsociety.org/beyond-the-net](https://internetsociety.org/beyond-the-net)

# Funding 2017

In 2017, the Beyond the Net Programme provided **\$ 814,131 in funding** for **52 small projects** and Chapter events, and **24 large-scale community projects** around the world.



<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/>



52



24

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At the beginning, most of the Lenca people didn't know the Internet, but now they strongly believe that it is the right tool to empower their community.

Eduardo Tome  
Project Manager

## Latin America: How the Lenca are Restoring the Past to Build Their Future



The Internet has the potential to enable Indigenous communities to continue living on remote traditional lands without diminishing their access to essential services and information.

This is the story of the Lenca people of Azacualpa, an Indigenous community of Yamaranguila in Intibucá, Honduras. In 2017, they began their relationship with technology by creating Radio Azacualpa, a radio station entirely operated by local women, with the support of Cultural Survival's Community Media Grants Project. The radio tagline "La voz de las Mujeres" – the voice of women – says it all, giving a voice to women in remote communities where education is limited and women are most affected by low literacy.

In 2018, they took a large step forward and began "Comunidades Inteligentes", a project led by Red De Desarrollo Sostenible (RDS) in partnership with the Internet Society Honduras Chapter.

The project posed the greatest challenge the Honduras Chapter has ever faced: establishing a Community Network to connect 300 families and decrease the existing digital gap compared to the nearest city, La Esperanza, by at least 70%.

Although their Indigenous language is extinct and their culture has changed in other ways over the centuries, the Lenca people no longer want their knowledge to reside only in the minds of elders.

The Internet gives them the opportunity to create spaces where Indigenous art, language, culture, and traditions can be learned and shared. This project allows the Lenca people to digitize their oral culture as well as identify complementary knowledge from global resources to build a better future.



# Latin America & Caribbean

**8 projects** supported in Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay and Uruguay, and **9** of the **UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)\*** addressed.



**Argentina Chapter**

**Conectando Comunidades, Internet te Incluye**  
(Connecting Communities, Internet Includes You)

- Access to a digital library for people with visual impairment
- Access and Development
- 1, 2, 4, 5, 10
- 4 Reading Access Points in Patagonia, Cuyo region and Buenos Aires / 90 people trained / installation of the first Peruvian Access Point next year / 10 authors and approximately 60 new books have been added to the library

**Argentina Chapter**

**Regional IXP**

- Develop Internet access in remote areas by installing two Internet exchange points (IXPs)
- Open Standards, Security and Resilience
- 1, 3, 4, 8, 9, 11
- 2 IXPs installed / 350,000 people reached / 1 video produced

**Barbados Chapter**

**Project C.A.R.E**  
Combating (online) Abuse through Research and Education

- Inform through an awareness campaign about the effects of cyber harassment against women in Barbados
- Sustainable Development Goals Support
- 4, 5, 10
- 650 people surveyed revealed 65% were victims of online abuse / Awareness campaign conducted / 3-day workshop attended by 20 law enforcement officials / 4 videos produced

**Bolivia Chapter**

**Red Academica Boliviana**

- Consolidate the institutional framework of the "Bolivian Integration Academic Network" and connect to RedCLARA, a network dedicated exclusively to research and academic communities
- Sustainable Development Goals Support
- 4, 9
- 500,000 students expected to be connected to RedCLARA Education Network / 59 Universities involved / 6 workshops with over 100 participants

**Honduras Chapter**

**Comunidades Inteligentes (Smart Communities)**

- Implement connectivity in the Indigenous community of Azacualpa-Yamaranguila in Honduras for educational and economic development
- Access and Development
- 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10
- Over 1,200 people connected / A telecentre with 5 computers / 70 smartphones

**Mexico Chapter**

**Modelo de Desarrollo de Conectividad Comunitaria Indigena**  
(Development Model of Indigenous Community Connectivity)

- Generate a development model of Indigenous community connectivity and implementation of an IntraNET network in those communities
- Access and Development
- 1, 3, 4, 8, 9, 11
- 150 people in 4 communities trained to create local content / Reached more than 2,000 people with live stream videos and local productions / 700 people connected for the first time

(\*) UN's Sustainable Development Goals, learn more [sustainabledevelopment.un.org](http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org)



 Paraguay Chapter

 CTN-ISOCpy

 Provide the Colegio Técnico Nacional with Internet access and a high-tech electronics lab to ensure a quality environment for the development of innovative solutions based on robotics, automation, e-learning systems, and the Internet of Things

 Access and Development

 4, 9

 Over 250 students trained / 20 computers installed / 10 Arduino Kits / Student projects presented to the Minister of Education at the annual Technical Expo



 Uruguay Chapter

 Flor de Ceibo Conecta 2 (Ceibo Flower Connect 2)

 Enable children and adolescents to develop digital skills and be the builders of their own education

 Sustainable Development Goals Support

 1, 4, 8

 More than 600 students trained / 15 children with hearing disabilities attending experimental classes



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It's amazing how life has changed in Tanzania thanks to the Internet. In terms of learning and access to education, the Internet has taken students to another level.

Jabhera Matogoro  
Project Manager and Coordinator of Microsoft Innovation Center at the University of Dodoma

## Africa: Piloting “White Space” to Connect the Underserved of Rural Tanzania



As economies develop in Tanzania, rural residents have ever growing needs for communication and broadband access. Despite this, mobile operators are reluctant to invest in remote areas due to elevated infrastructure costs and the high percentage of people that cannot afford the payment of services.

The Internet Society Tanzania Chapter, in partnership with The University of Dodoma, has addressed the needs of remote areas where conventional deployments are not available, by developing a TV White Space pilot project as a Community Network solution.

A population of approximately 2,287 people is expected to be served by this project and three Educational Institutions, attended by over 1,200 students, are involved. The network is owned and operated by community-based secondary schools located in the Dodoma Region.

White Space Internet has not been widely adopted so far, but has the potential to transform the way we use wireless Internet. Being a free form of broadband, it is a good alternative to provide underserved communities with Internet access that is similar to that of a 4G mobile. White Space power stations can be charged with solar panels and broadband can travel up to 10 kilometers through vegetation, buildings and other obstacles.

The experience gained from this pilot will fulfill similar needs in other rural areas as well as paving the way for communities elsewhere in the country.



# Africa

5 projects supported in Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Zimbabwe, and 6 of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) addressed.

**Kenya Chapter**

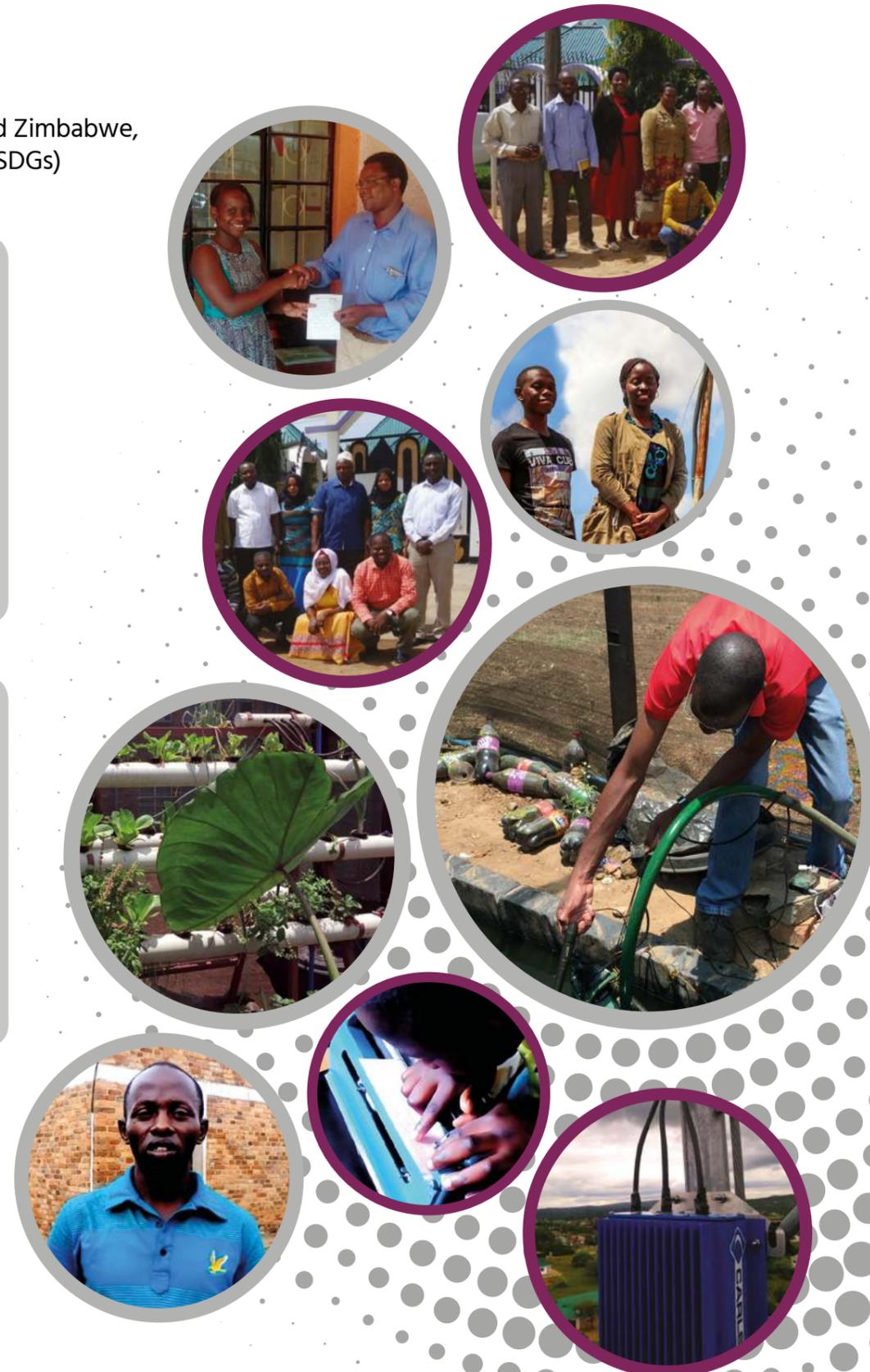
**TunapandaNET**

- Using connectivity to transform learning as well as socio-economic empowerment of youth and women
- Sustainable Development Goals Support
- 4, 5, 9, 10
- 4 nodes connected / 1,800 students / Upgrading to 10 additional nodes / 4 new IT centers serving more than 1,000 students / More than 70 computers installed / 120 students trained plus 10 with hearing impairment

**Kenya Chapter**

**Safe Online Safe OnLand: Promoting Safety Nets on the Internet for Children**

- Creating awareness on Internet safety to guide parents and teachers in ensuring that children are safe online
- Access and Development
- 1, 4
- More than 1,000 students reached / 2 workshops with 50 participants and 10 journalists / 100 booklets distributed / A survey targeted 300 children



**Rwanda Chapter**

**Internet for Education**  
Online audio library for visually impaired

- Establishing an online audio library containing education material for visually impaired people
- Sustainable Development Goals Support
- 1, 4, 10
- More than 1,000 students reached / 2 workshops with 50 participants and 10 journalists / 100 booklets distributed / A survey targeted 300 children

**Tanzania Chapter**

**Piloting the use of TV White Space for Community Networks in Rural Tanzania**

- Building a pilot using TV White Space equipment as a community network solution to bridge the identified access gap between rural and urban areas
- Access and Development
- 1, 4, 5, 9
- 123 members trained on community network / 4 schools connected and 20 girls trained on Internet use / 4 presentations and several workshops delivered to national schools and institutions

**Zimbabwe Chapter**

**Off-Grid IoT Urban Farming**

- Upscaling the Mini-Aquaponics project to benefit the Mbare community in a self-sustaining manner
- Sustainable Development Goals Support
- 1, 4, 8
- 2,000 litre tanks connected and 150 tilapia fishes added / Aquaponics, and solar electronic security systems installed / 15 consultants / 20 students trained / 40 beneficiaries from a disadvantaged community

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In order to evolve the Internet in the right direction and empower more-and-more people, we need citizens to understand their digital rights. The constituents need to know their rights to elect people who respect those rights.

**Raoul Plommer**  
Digital Rights Activist, MOOC and Project Coordinator

## Europe: The Dawn of New Digital Rights for Finnish Citizens



New Digital Rights MOOC (Massive Open Online Course), in partnership with The Internet Society Finland Chapter and Open Knowledge Finland, is helping Finnish citizens to be more aware of their digital rights through the understanding of GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) and MyData frameworks.

The project model educates people through a MOOC-platform and a series of workshops. Six training modules on digital rights have been created in both English and Finnish to train people and organisations.

MyData is the largest part of the project activity for Open Knowledge Finland at the moment, and has consequently led to the organisation of a conference on the Nordic model of personal data management.

Digital rights can be complicated, but the team highlights the essentials in a language everyone can understand. The workshops address questions such as:

- How can I stop irrelevant telemarketing?
- Why and how do companies use my Loyalty Card data?
- How can I find information on how organisations use my data?
- What benefits could I receive if I was able to receive my data?
- What would a society look like where I would be able to transfer My Data as needed?

A project page on the Open Knowledge Finland website and a video has been created. Beyond the Net funding has helped to increase project visibility and obtain a € 15,000 support grant from the Finnish Government.



# Europe

**5 projects** supported in Armenia, Finland, Greece, Kyrgyzstan and Switzerland, and **10 of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** addressed.

**Armenia Chapter**

**Computers, Services and Wi-Fi Internet for Rural Libraries**

- Install 50 computers and provide maintenance and training services to rural libraries.
- Access and Development
- 1, 2, 4, 5, 10
- 16 Wi-Fi routers installed / 120 computers equipped with library management programs / 200 hours spent on software installations / 70 librarians trained / A remote desktop tool developed for library issues

**Finland Chapter**

**The Dawn of New Digital Rights: GDPR and MyData e-learning MOOC for Citizens**

- Development of e-learning courses on personal data usage and digital rights under the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) laws
- Policy Environment
- 4
- 9 workshops / 6 training modules created on Digital Rights in English and Finnish languages

**Greece (no Chapter presence)**

**Sarantaporo.gr Community Network**  
Moving towards long term sustainability

- Enhancing the quality of service to increase the added social value and achieve long-term sustainability of the rural Sarantaporo.gr Wireless Community Network
- Sustainable Development Goals Support
- 4, 8, 9
- 115 nodes connecting over 4,800 users monthly / Traffic reaches 160 Mb per day / 50 people trained / 3 workshops with over 50 participants

**Kyrgyzstan Chapter**

**IXP in Ferghana Valley**

- Establishing an Internet exchange point (IXP) to empower the regional Internet and promote the growth of the digital economy
- Access and Development
- 1, 3, 4, 8, 9, 11
- Internet tariff plans expected to be lowered up to 3 times / 11 stakeholders identified / 1 IXP installed

**Switzerland Chapter**

**Privacy via Mass Encryption**

- Provision of a practical solution to implement privacy-enhancing standards at the basic level of Internet protocols
- Open Standards, Security and Resilience
- 16
- 10 drafts expected / 6 workshops / 3 IETF meetings / Several banks expressed interest in the solution





Students applied new digital skills to the preservation of the ancestral knowledge shared by the Elders at an outdoor camp, called “ii na kaa sii na ku pi tsi nii kii” in Blackfoot.

Rob McMahon  
Professor at the University of Alberta and Project Manager

## North America: The Piikani Cultural and Digital Literacy Camp Program



The Piikani Nation in Southern Alberta were concerned by the danger of losing their Blackfoot culture and traditions and sought out an innovative way to share it with younger generations. Elders and school officials in Piikani focused on how they could use technology to engage youth as well as preserving their own wealth of knowledge and history.

As a result, the Piikani First Nation, University of Alberta, First Nations Technical Service Advisory Group, and the Piikani Board of Education, created a youth-based project, the **Piikani Cultural and Digital Literacy Camp Program**. This is a Program that effectively combines digital technology with cultural and language studies for grade 9 students.

The partners took the decision to host a summer camp that would educate students on their culture, as well as gain digital skills, such as video production, editing, and data stewardship. Thanks to the Beyond the Net funding and the Insight Grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the team was able to hire a documentary producer to teach in-depth technical information, as well as a young student to interview Blackfoot digital innovators and media producers and share their stories and experiences.

The program leaders hope that this initiative will serve as a model for other Indigenous Nations to ensure their knowledge is preserved, protected, and shared.



# North America

**3 projects** supported in Canada, New Mexico and Quebec, and **8 of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** addressed.

## Canada Chapter

### Exploring Digital Literacy through the Piikani Cultural and Digital Literacy Camp Program

Support of the Piikani Cultural and Digital Literacy Camp Program, a community-based Indigenous digital literacy initiative in southern Alberta

Access and Development

4, 9, 10

12 students trained / 8 training modules / 3 workshops / The project was promoted at the RightsCon in Toronto / A video presented at the Internet Society Indigenous Connectivity Summit in Edmonton-Inuvik



## New Mexico Chapter

### IT Access and Development in Northern New Mexico: Cultivating Connectivity in the Land of Enchantment

Strengthening connectivity and IT engagement for rural villages in northern New Mexico

Access and Development

1, 3, 4, 8, 9, 11

More than 900 participants / 85 facilitators / 40 teachers trained / 59 organisations involved



## Quebec Chapter

### CLIC Quebec: Promoting Quebec's Local Content and Cultural Industries Online

Promotion of the online presence of Quebec's local content in the digital environment

Access and Development

8, 9, 16

Reached out to 120 key players in 40 cultural associations and organisations / Organized 10 seminars and workshops / Received a grant from Ministry of International Relations (Québec) / Partnership with the International Organisation of Franchophonie (OIF) / Indirect contribution for the measures adopted by the Québec Ministry of Communications on the visibility and online disseminations of French cultural content





Girls in Technology is a great opportunity to advocate gender gap in the technology sector and influence policy about gender equality education.

**Nirajan Meegammana**  
Project Leader and Director of the Shilpa Sayura Foundation

## Asia: Teaching Sri Lankan Girls How to Code



Sri Lanka is fast becoming a hub for technology and innovation, offering a wide range of careers in technology fields. Nevertheless, girls pursuing careers in technology still remain a limited number. Girls represent 50.28% of the school population, but only 20% are actually studying ICT. The root cause of this problem is the scarcity of opportunities for girls and teachers within the Internet sector.

**Girls in Technology** is a community-based initiative to help increase schoolgirls' participation in emerging Internet technology careers. The pilot project, lead by the **Internet Society Sri Lanka Chapter** has provided grade 9 girls with coding lessons and extracurricular activities to help them select ICT subjects in grade 10.

The project was developed in partnership with the Shilpa Sayura Foundation and the Computer Society of Sri Lanka, additionally involving many stakeholders. **800 teenage girls, 80 ICT teachers and 40 university students** in 40 different communities are expected to be trained in coding by using IoT Microbit kits and electronics.

The innovative aspect of the program is the creation of an extracurricular Coding Club to improve creative thinking through the Internet and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. This initiative will contribute to gender equality in STEM education and assist and encourage young women to reach for their goals.



# Asia Pacific

2 projects supported in Nepal and Sri Lanka, and 4 of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) addressed.

**Nepal Chapter**

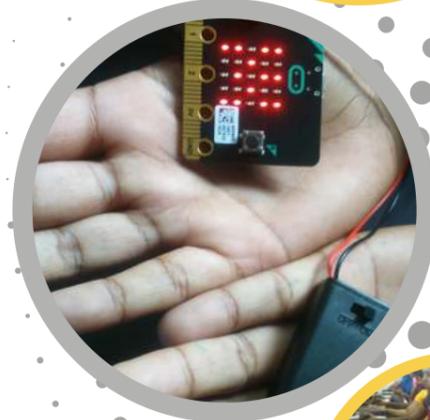
**Effective Broadband for Health**

- Establish wireless broadband services and provide tele-medicine solutions to the Dailekh District
- Access and Development
- 3
- 2 portable health kits provided and tested over 50 patients / Building Permit Record Management System (BPRMS) implemented in 13 Ward Offices and 1,000 buildings recorded

**Sri Lanka Chapter**

**Girls in Technology Initiative: Pilot Project**

- Development of a multi-stakeholder platform to increase school girls participation in emerging Internet technology careers
- Sustainable Development Goals Support
- 4, 5, 10
- 1 workshop and 2 boot camps trained 50 university girls in IoT providing Microbit kits / 120 school girls trained in coding and IoT



# Middle East

1 project supported in Palestine, and 2 of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) addressed.

**Palestine Chapter**

**Online Sexual Harassment-and-Blackmail Awareness for Palestinian Schoolgirls (ISHA-PS)**

- A campaign to raise awareness on the dangers of electronic blackmail and cyber harassment for schoolgirls
- Sustainable Development Goals Support
- 4, 5
- Over 3,000 schoolgirls reached in 50 Palestinian schools / 7 students trained to teach



We aim to prevent girls to be trapped in extortion. It is a great opportunity to create a lasting partnership with public institution in order to continue running the program in schools for the upcoming years.

Ahmad Alsadeh  
Professor at Birzeit University and Project Manager

## Middle East: Digital Self-Defense for Palestinian Schoolgirls



Cyberbullying prevention in schools is crucial in defending students from this new face of violence. Studies have shown that nearly 43% of children are victims of cyberbullying and girls are twice as likely to be targeted. A link between cyber harassment victimization and non-completion of school has been demonstrated and can result in increased risk of poor education and substance abuse in adulthood. In some cases, these victims of blackmail have committed suicide since they do not have the means to pay a ransom and are fearful of consequential honor-based conflicts.

The Internet Society Palestine Chapter is trying to reach schoolgirls aged 15-16 to raise awareness of the dangers of electronic blackmail and cyber harassment, and reduce the risks faced online by building the capacity to deal with such cases. During Phase 1, the project has already reached more than 2,250 schoolgirls in 25 Palestinian schools.

The project has run in Palestinian schools for 12 months and covered two academic semesters. Training has been conducted by female university student volunteers. The Palestine Chapter will continue the coordination with the Palestinian Ministry of Education to enable the team to work in public schools for the second phase of the project, which will reach 25 additional Palestinian schools and more than 2,000 schoolgirls.



# Chapterthon “Digital Schools!” WSIS Prize Winner 2018



Chapterthon “Digital Schools!” has been chosen as the winner of the WSIS Prize 2018 for the “International and Regional Cooperation” category.

WSIS Prizes is a unique international contest developed to showcase the projects that are leveraging the power of ICTs to achieve the United Nations SDGs: 17 global goals, dedicated to building a better world by the year 2030.

30 Internet Society Chapters from all regions, have worked hard to extend the benefits of the use of the Internet in education to their communities. Connecting schools to the Internet, teaching coding to girls, training teachers and parents, raising awareness on the best and safest use of the Internet, developing an on-line platform for a school and helping to create educational content; these are just a few examples of the innovative and inspiring work our Chapters have carried out.

This award is a strong affirmation of the valuable results that our Chapters have achieved and further proof that the Internet is a critical enabler for both sustainable and future development.





# Thank you

We would like to thank all of the Internet Society Chapter members and volunteers involved in the many Community Grant and Beyond the Net Funding Programme projects across the regions.

You are at the heart of our mission and it is through your hard work, motivation and dedication that we are even closer to realizing our fundamental goal of working for an open, globally-connected, trustworthy, and secure Internet for everyone.

An Internet that promises social development, economic prosperity and new technologies that can amplify the best of humanity.

We would also like offer our heartfelt thanks to the Selection Committees who have selected the projects among the hundreds of applications received this year.

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Internet Society / Nepal Chapter  
Internet Society / New Mexico Chapter  
Internet Society / Palestine Chapter  
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Founded by Internet pioneers, the Internet Society (ISOC) is a non-profit organisation dedicated to ensuring the open development, evolution, and use of the Internet.

Working through a global community of Chapters and members, the Internet Society collaborates with a broad range of groups to promote the technologies that keep the Internet safe and secure, and advocates for policies that enable universal access.

The Internet Society is also the organisational home of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF).

Learn more [internetsociety.org](https://internetsociety.org)