

Kilima: Highlights from ISOC Africa

May 2019



Activities

Improving Technical Security and Promoting IXPs

IXP Peering Roadshow and Technical Training

The Africa Regional Bureau (ARB) in partnership with Facebook organized a 1 day Peering Roadshow and 4 days hands-on technical workshop from 20-24 May 2019 in Bujumbura, Burundi. The Peering Roadshow event received over 30 representatives from local stakeholders and was officiated by the Minister of Youth, Posts and Information Technologies in Burundi. The Technical workshop trained 17 engineers 2 of whom were women. During this event, the ARB collaborated with Facebook to shoot a video of the event, and interview Internet Society and Facebook staff, which will showcase the impact of the IXP development project.

Meeting with Af-IX Secretariat

ARB staff met with the new African IXP Association (Af-IX) secretariat team from the Rwanda Internet Community and Technology Alliance (RICTA) for a face-to-face discussion in Kigali, Rwanda. The two teams had an opportunity to take an in depth review of the operational aspects of AfPIF and IXP activities, which the Af-IX secretariat will be taking over from the Internet Society from the year 2020.

AfPIF-2019 Fellowship Call for Applications

The AfPIF fellowship call for application ran from 08-29 May 2019. The fellowship program is designed to offer opportunities to qualified applicants to attend the [AfPIF-2019](#) event scheduled for 20-22 August 2019 in Balaclava, Mauritius.

Connecting the world

Transform Africa Summit 2019

The ARB team participated at the Transform Africa 2019 event in Kigali, Rwanda. The objective was to engage with policy makers and create awareness on Community Networks as an alternative approach to connecting the unconnected. Bilateral meetings were held with the delegation of Ghana, African Telecommunication Union (ATU) new Secretary General and the Sierra Leone Minister of Information and Communication.

Shaping the Internet's Future

The World Press Freedom Day

Organized by UNESCO in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 1-3 May 2019, the three day meeting took place under the theme "*Journalism and elections in times of disinformation*". The various social media platforms were at the center of the discussions both as enablers as well as

threats for both free media and democracy. On the occasion, ARB Director, Dawit Bekele met with Moez Chakchouki, Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information of UNESCO and other UNESCO team to discuss on potential cooperation in the area of freedom of expression, education about the Internet and organizing common events in Africa.

Digital Rights Workshop

Organized by Access Now and Article 19, the workshop on digital rights took place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 20-21 May 2019. The Internet Society supported the event as a partner in the facilitation of the sessions. This is the first ever workshop on digital rights in Ethiopia that assembled renowned human rights and freedom of expression specialists and activists.

PRIDA Training the Trainers

The African Union Commission (AUC) organized a training of trainers program on Internet Governance under the PRIDA project funded by the European Commission. The training took place from 27- 31 May 2019 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The ARB supported the program through providing a trainer from its team.

Online Technical Capacity Building

Concluded the first cohorts for the Introduction to Network Operations Course in English and French with 150 trainees (English) and 90 (French) trainees successfully completing the courses which were moderated by experts from across Africa consisting of 12 moderators of whom 4 were women.

Building and strengthening our Community: Chapter's Update

ISOC Madagascar Chapter: Partnered with World Summits Awards (WSA) Madagascar and NIC-MG to organize 2 Hackathon sessions on "*Digital Innovation*" from 23-29 May 2019.

The Chapter also organized on 16 May 2019, a webinar on "*How to contribute to the IETF*". The main objective of the webinar was to build and strengthen a local IETF community.

ISOC Zimbabwe Chapter: Organized a local evening discussion on Community Networks (CNs). The main objective of the event was to build awareness on CNs and update the chapter's membership and local community on ongoing CNs projects and initiatives in Zimbabwe and around Africa.

ISOC ARB: Successfully organized the Q2 Community Engagement Calls (English and French) with African chapters and members. The main objective of these calls was to allow ISOC ARB staff to share Q2 updates with the African Community and discuss what African Chapters and members can do to support ISOC's work to ensure encryption is available for everyone.



Upcoming Events

June 10- 11: Innovation Africa Digital Summit, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

June 11-14 (date TBC): ISOC@RightsCon 2019, Tunis, Tunisia

June 8-21: African Internet Summit (AIS), Kampala, Uganda

June 19 (TBC): ISOC@AIS2019, Kampala, Uganda

June 19-20: [2019 Hackathon@AIS](#), Kampala, Uganda

June 17 -21: [Meetings of the ATU WRC-19 Preparatory Working Groups](#), Gaborone, Botswana

June 24-25: [2nd Multistakeholder workshop on the development of the National IoT Security Framework](#), Dakar, Senegal

June 24-27 (date TBC): ISOC@ICANN65, Marrakech, Morocco

July 8-12: IXP Workshop, Conakry, Guinea

July 29- August 2: IXP Workshop, Ndjamena, Chad



In the News

[Growing an Internet Exchange Point in Burkina Faso](#)

[Somalia cancels national exams after vast social media leaks, students protest](#)