Summit on Community Networks in Africa

Venue: University of Dodoma, Tanzania
Date: 28th October – 2nd November, 2019
As Internet access continues to grow in Africa, with over **450 million** people now connected to the Internet, more than **60 percent** of the population still remains offline. Community Networks provide a sustainable solution to address the connectivity gaps that exist in underserved urban, remote, and rural areas around the world. In Africa, where these gaps are more prevalent, it has been identified that there are **37** Community Networks initiatives in **12** African countries, of which **25** are considered active.

The cost to deploy Community Networks can be low. Often, the technology required to build and maintain the network is as simple as a (inexpensive, locally available) wireless router. The networks can range from WiFi-only to mesh networks and mobile networks that provide voice and SMS services. While they usually serve communities under **3,000** people, some serve more than **50,000** users.

“One of the earliest priorities of the Internet Society was to increase the reach of the Internet. That priority continues today because the Internet is for everyone. Every last person on the planet is part of “everyone”, and we won’t rest until each person has the option of choosing to be connected”.
The Internet Society, in partnership with the Association for Progressive Communications (APC), and hosted by the University of Dodoma, will hold the fourth Africa Community Networks Summit in Dodoma, Tanzania from 28th October to 2nd November, 2019.

The Summit aims to promote the creation and growth of Community Networks, increase collaboration between Community Network operators in the region, and provide an opportunity for them to engage with other stakeholders including content producers, regulators and policymakers.

Last year, participants from 13 countries in Africa (Kenya, Uganda, South Africa, DRC, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi, Namibia, Cameroon, Tanzania, Sudan, Egypt and Ethiopia) attended the summit, in addition to attendees representing Community Networks in Spain, Germany, Argentina, India and the United States. This year, we expect a similar attendance.

The conference sessions will cover topics ranging from how Community Networks can close the connectivity gap in Africa to strategies to support local access. Discussions will also include how local networks can be used to improve delivery of basic services and inspire creation of locally relevant content and services, as well as how to create policies and regulations that enable Community Networks in Africa.
This year’s summit on Community Networks, will give you the experience of the peri-urban, academic institution and the site visits to the real rural Community Network in Kondoa, Central Tanzania. The University of Dodoma is located in the outskirts of Dodoma about 10 km from the city centre. Dodoma city with a population estimated at 410,000 people sits at the central part of Tanzania about 455 km West of Dar es Salaam.

The University of Dodoma in collaboration with Internet Society Tanzania Chapter, designed a Community Network that brought together various stakeholders working in Kondoa to build, operate and support a telecommunication network infrastructure that meets the needs of the local residents.

Kondoa Community Network (KCN) becomes the first community network to pilot the use of Television White Space (TVWS) in a rural area to address the digital divide and gender gap in Tanzania. So far Kondoa Community Network delivers a high-speed Internet connection to education institutions and community members in Kondoa.
# SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BENEFIT</th>
<th>Platinum $10,000 (2 available)</th>
<th>Gold $7,000 (4 available)</th>
<th>Silver $4,500 (7 available)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PROMOTION</strong></td>
<td>Logo</td>
<td>Logo</td>
<td>Logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inclusion on all event related communications</td>
<td>Logo</td>
<td>Logo</td>
<td>Logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inclusion on event signage</td>
<td>Logo</td>
<td>Logo</td>
<td>Logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inclusion on event website, with link to company website</td>
<td>Logo</td>
<td>Logo</td>
<td>Logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inclusion on all event materials (including program)</td>
<td>Logo</td>
<td>Logo</td>
<td>Logo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thank you and recognition of company at Summit</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photos of event on ISOC website including Sponsor branding</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PRESS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sponsorship quoted in press release</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retweeting of suitable posts on social media</td>
<td>Four</td>
<td>Three</td>
<td>Two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Write a blog post, which will be uploaded onto event website</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AT THE EVENT</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Hour Tutorial Session related to Community Networks (subject to Programme Committee approval)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table at the event</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Display free-standing pop up banners</td>
<td>Two</td>
<td>One</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opportunity to provide branded gifts for the Fellows’ and guests’ bags (approx. 70).</td>
<td>Fellows’ and guests’</td>
<td>Fellows’ and guests’</td>
<td>Fellows’ and guests’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

GALA DINNER Sponsorship Opportunity

Sponsorship Value: $5,000

- 5-minute opening remarks and welcome at Gala Dinner.
- Provide branded gifts for the tables.
- Two free-standing 1m x 2m pop up banners at the Gala Dinner venue.
- Photos of Gala Dinner on Internet Society website including sponsor branding.
- Corporate logo on Internet Society websites, with a link to company’s website.
- Opportunity to write guest blog about Gala Dinner, to be uploaded to event website.
- Listed as the sponsors of the gala dinner on the event website.
**LANYARD**  |  Sponsorship Value: $1,000

- Exclusive sponsor logo on all Fellows and guests lanyards
- Inclusion on all event related communications
- Inclusion on event signage and materials
- Inclusion on event website, with link to company website
- Thank you and recognition of company at Summit
- Photos of event on Internet Society website including Sponsor branding.

*(Lanyards produced at cost to sponsor)*

**TOTE BAG**  |  Sponsorship Value: $1,000

*(Tote bag produced at cost to sponsor)*

- Exclusive sponsor logo on every tote bag, for Fellows and Guests to take home
- Inclusion on all event related communications
- Inclusion on event signage and materials
- Inclusion on event website, with link to company website
- Thank you and recognition of company at Summit
- Photos of event on Internet Society website including Sponsor branding.

**PENS AND NOTEBOOKS**

Sponsorship Value: $1,000

- Exclusive sponsor of pens and notebooks given to all Fellows and guests
- Inclusion on all event related communications
- Inclusion on event signage and materials
- Inclusion on event website, with link to company website
- Thank you and recognition of company at Summit
- Photos of event on Internet Society website including Sponsor branding.

*(Branded pens and notebooks produced at cost to sponsor).*
The Africa CN Summit Fellowship Programme provides an opportunity to qualified applicants to attend the 4th CN Summit on Community Networks event in Dodoma, Tanzania, in person with the aim to:

- Promote the establishment of Community Networks in Africa.
- Share experiences on ways to improve running and administering of a new, or existing Community Network.

- Create public awareness and evangelism of Community Networks at the national and regional level.
- Advance and influence national/regional policies and regulations on Community Networks.
- Provide a face-to-face networking opportunity for Community Networks and experts.
- Promote gender balance in the Community Networks development.
- Fellowship Award Package.
SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

THE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME Sponsor

Sponsorship Value: $5,000

- Opportunity to ‘host’ a Fellows breakfast with opening remarks to officially welcome the Fellows onto the Programme.
- Retweeting of up to four suitable posts on social media.
- Thank you and recognition of company at Summit.
- Logo recognition on Internet Society website with a link to company’s website.
- Opportunity to provide branded gifts for the Fellows (approx. 20).
- Two free-standing 1m x 2m pop up banners at Conference venue.
- Photos of event on Internet Society website including Sponsor branding.
- Fellows to write a Blog post about their experience at the Community Network Summit and how the opportunity to take part in the Fellows Programme has made a difference to them and their Community. To be featured on Internet Society website and shared through social media.
The increased awareness about the potential of the Community Network model has triggered a growing interest to replicate this initiative across the entire region. However, there is not enough resources to provide everyone with the support and guidance they would require to start the process of creating their own community network. In this sense, the Community Network Summit provides a unique opportunity to centralize that support and expose the attendees to potential synergies that can only lead to more innovation and collaboration.

The Summit presents unique opportunities for extending the movement of Community Networks as an alternative solution for connecting the unconnected to other communities that are willing to establish their own network.

*These networks not only provide affordable access in areas where operators don’t find it commercially viable to provide similar services, but, by being built and operated by people from within the community, they bring many other benefits to the areas where they operate. They are key to enabling the unconnected connect themselves in Africa.*

– *Carlos-Rey Moreno,* Community Access Project Coordinator, APC.
These networks not only provide affordable access in areas where operators don’t find it commercially viable to provide similar services, but, by being built and operated by people from within the community, they bring many other benefits to the areas where they operate. They are key to enabling the unconnected connect themselves in Africa.

– Carlos-Rey Moreno,
Community Access Project Coordinator, APC.

To discuss sponsorship opportunities please contact:

Sally Harvey
Director, Membership and Partnership Development
Internet Society

harvey@isoc.org
+44 7825 093 130