Internet governance and ecosystem

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#EIDC2020
ABOUT APC

APC, established in 1990, is an international network dedicated to empowering and supporting groups and individuals working for peace, human rights, development and protection of the environment, through the strategic use of information and communication technologies (ICTs), including the internet. APC has 66 organisational and 35 individual members and operates in 70 countries around the world.

Deep history in Africa – including in Ethiopia - 1st email service provider with UNECA – PadisNet.
About the Internet Governance Forum


• A platform for debate and learning among different stakeholders from all over the world to, as equals, collaborate, share information, problems and good practices.

• The IGF may not have decision-making mandates but informs and inspires those who do. It organised in a “bottom-up” manner and facilitates a common understanding of how to maximize Internet policy and opportunities and address risks and challenges.
ABOUT AfriSIG

Launched in 2013, making 2019 the 7th School – around 300 participants to date

Convened by APC, the AUC and Research ICT Africa

More than 300 fellows, all connected through the AfriSIG alumni network

From 300 to 800 applicants per year

Peer learning and sharing underpins the AfriSIG methodology

Monitoring and evaluation – tracer study

Supported by ISOC in many ways
Definitions of the internet
Definitions and scope of IG
Key concepts associated with IG
Some examples to get us all thinking about internet development and governance in Ethiopia

What I will try to cover...
A network of autonomous networks of computing devices, which share the same core protocols enabling them to interoperate regardless of the endpoint applications and devices.

**What is the internet?**
... but is that all?

users ... more every year... currently about half of the world’s population

content

transactions

experience

relationships

behaviour

impact is social, cultural, economic and political
The overlapping IG jigsaw
The handling of technical coordination required for, and policy issues related to, the interoperability and smooth functioning of the different components of internet infrastructure and the exchange of information/contents over the Internet.
Narrow approach: institutions

Internet Engineering Task Force: architecture and hundreds of protocols including: TCP, IP, UDP

W3C: World Wide Web Consortium - application-layer standards for the Web

ITU: Spectrum & digital migration

IEEE: Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers - Ethernet LAN & Wi-Fi standards
Narrow definition issues

Internet logical resources, globally unique identifiers:

IP addresses
Domain name system
Autonomous system numbers
IPV4 numbers running out and IPV6 adoption
But technical definitions have ceased to be sufficient...

“A global resource which should be managed in the public interest.”
NETmundial statement, Sao Paulo, April 2014
“Internet governance is the development and application by governments, private sector and civil society in their respective roles, of shared principles, norms, rules, decision-making procedures, and programmes that shape the evolution and use of the Internet.”

WGIG report and Tunis Agenda, 2005
Broad approach institutions

National telecoms regulators
UN agencies: ITU, WIPO, HRC
Ministries of information and communication, finance, foreign affairs, security, science and technology, education
Civil society organisations/movements (e.g. women’s movement)
Regional intergovernmental bodies such as African Union and African Commission on Human and People’s Rights, ECOWAS, COMESA
Courts: national and regional e.g. African Court of Human and People’s Rights, regional courts
Broad definition issues

Data transfers, trade
Competition policy
Security and stability of infrastructure
Freedom expression and association
Privacy – data protection
Liability of intermediaries
Surveillance
Misinformation and abuse
Shutdowns
... and more
Human rights apply online as they do offline (HRC resolution 2012)

Domains such as .africa, .amazon, .book or .xxx

EU General Data Protection Regulation

Data-breaches

African Declaration on Internet Rights and Freedoms
Current IG priorities and debates

Cyber crime and cyber security
Data protection
Content control
Surveillance by businesses and governments
Competition, innovation – mega monopolies
Harmful use – elections, hate speech, “fake news”
Role of government – national and intergovernmental
More regulation e.g. GDPR and intellectual property
Institutional arrangements and roles of stakeholders
Given the open and distributed nature of internet architecture, its governance involves coordination and cooperation.
Discussion

What do we mean by multistakeholder?
Multilateral?
Consultation?
Collaboration?
Oversight?
Cross-border?
Roles and responsibilities?

What is good internet governance?
Some examples

MPESA vs banking for all

International domain names (IDNs)

Electronic waste

Affordable access

What is good internet governance?