



Community in Action

2025



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How the Internet Society Community Mobilized in 2025



Dear Community,

For over thirty years, you have advocated for an open, trustworthy, safe, and accessible Internet for everyone. Working locally, regionally, and globally your work helps ensure the Internet remains a force for good. Increasingly, that work is getting harder, which makes the notable accomplishments of 2025 all the more impressive.

Throughout 2025, you mobilized to defend against harmful government legislation and threats to undermine end-to-end encryption—a crucial component of a trustworthy Internet that helps keep our communications and information secure.

You built, expanded, and operated community networks to help close the digital divide by bringing the unconnected online. You supported the development of new Internet exchange points (IXPs) to improve Internet resilience and bring down connectivity prices for everyday Internet users. And, to ensure the Internet remains globally available, you contributed to technical and infrastructure policy development around the world.

When governments mandated Internet shutdowns you rallied to keep it on, and you, the community, campaigned for a more accessible and inclusive online experience for marginalized communities.

Recognizing that everyone deserves a safe Internet, you collaborated with us to co-create our new [Safer Internet Initiative](#)—the first time we've worked with our community to build an Internet Society program.

And, after taking Internet Society training courses, you are passing on your knowledge and building capacity throughout cities, towns, and villages to ensure that everyone can get online safely.

In the final weeks of 2025, our yearlong effort to save the multistakeholder model of Internet governance paid off. Governments came together at the United Nations and gave the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) a lasting mandate and reaffirmed the multistakeholder framework that has served the global Internet community for twenty years.

Thank you for everything you do to support the Internet we want.

This 2025 overview offers a small glimpse into just some of the ways you helped to promote and defend an Internet for everyone.


Sally Wentworth

President and CEO, Internet Society



For a more complete overview of the impact our community has, take a look at our monthly [community snapshots](#).

By the Numbers in 2025

Community



156K+

Individual Members




124

Chapters

 **Internet Society**
Canada Ontario
Chapter

 **Internet Society**
Mongolia Chapter

 **Internet Society**
North Macedonia
Chapter

 **Internet Society**
US Hawaii Chapter

4

New Chapters
Chartered



5

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

In 2025, the community voted on the five special interest group topics it believes are the most important Internet issues to focus on over the next two years. These were the winning proposals:

- Affordable Internet Access
- Artificial Intelligence
- Community Networks and Community Infrastructures
- Cybersecurity
- Internet for Education



79

Organization Members

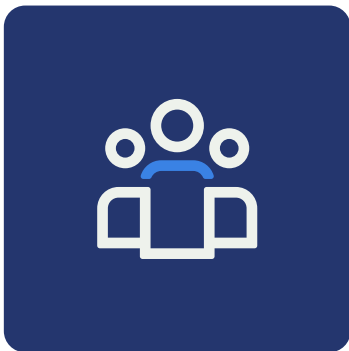


6

New Organization Members Joined

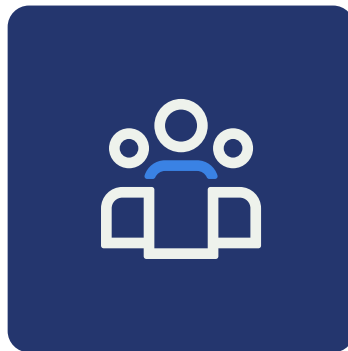
Welcome to:

- West Indian Ocean Cable Company Ltd (WIOCC)
- Fastmail
- .au Domain Administration Ltd (.auDA)
- HGC Global Communications Limited (HGC)
- Cyberpedia Internet Governance
- Angola Cables



491

Alumni



142

Fellows



3

Standing Groups



Congratulations

Cameroon, Canada Quebec, Niger, and Italy Chapters all celebrated their 25th anniversaries in 2025.

Thank you for so many years of support and hard work!



Funding

In 2025, a total of

US **\$2,004,881**

was awarded to chapters by the Internet Society Foundation through various programs.



Understand more about [community funding opportunities](#).



BEYOND THE NET GRANT

US\$945,592

awarded to **69** chapters, through **107** grants.



CHAPTER ADMIN FUNDING

US\$338,092

awarded to **91** chapters.



IGF EVENTS

US\$183,780

awarded to **22** chapters through **33** grants.



OTHER FUNDING PROGRAMS

US\$537,417

including Global Encryption Day Grants, Sustainable Technical Communities funding, Sustainable Peering Infrastructure funding, and Research Grants.

Activities



894

Chapter activities and initiatives completed around the world.



95

Chapters participated in Internet Society-led advocacy activities.



34

Organization members participated in Internet Society-led advocacy activities.



20

Chapters were matched with Internet Society staff for support through the pilot PartnerUp initiative.



3,680+

learners trained by chapters through Internet Society training programs or supported by Foundation grants.



18

Chapters took part in train the trainer programs.



62

Chapters took part in capacity building sessions held by Non-Profit Builder.

Events

5

Community Days

14

ISOC@ Events

32

Peering Events

1

Community Mobilization Workshop



West Africa Peering Forum, Dakar, Senegal.
© Internet Society



Community Mobilization Workshop, Dublin, Ireland.
© Internet Society



ISOC@ event at AfIGF, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
© Internet Society

Community Champions

• INTERNET SOCIETY CHAPTERS

In 2025, we launched our Community Champions initiative. Our champions are chapters and SIGs that have excelled in amplifying our collective impact through their active participation in mobilization and outreach activities led by the Internet Society. Each one demonstrated outstanding dedication, collaboration, and a commitment to advancing our shared mission.



Advocacy

In 2025, the Internet Society held two community advocacy workshops, with over 48 members participating.

These in-person regional community advocacy workshops empower members to mobilize their communities to fight for the Internet they want through advocacy, knowledge share, and hands-on skills training.

Over the year, the Internet Society published or updated **9** policy briefs, two of which went through the [policy development process](#). **24** members participated in the consultations. Organization members **Mozilla** and **Cibervoluntarios** provided valuable feedback during the community consultation on the [Age Restrictions and Online Safety Policy Brief](#).







Find out more about our [policy briefs](#).



Community workshop in Sanitago, Chile.
© Internet Society

2025 Advocacy Highlights

- Over **30** Internet Society chapters joined us in signing a [joint letter](#) on the UK Government's use of the Investigatory Powers Act to attack end-to-end encryption, calling on the UK Home Office to rescind its demand that Apple create a backdoor into its end-to-end encrypted services.
- 26 chapters** and organization members **Mozilla** and **Surfshark** signed an [open letter](#) pushing back on the Swedish government's proposed legislation (Ju2024/02286), which threatens online security and privacy by mandating access to user communications, even end-to-end encrypted ones.
- Organization members **ARIN**, **.auDA**, **CIRA**, **Cloudflare**, **DE-CIX**, **DENIC**, **DotAsia**, **InternetNZ**, **RIPE NCC**, and **Verisign** actively participated in Internet Society's [WSIS+20](#) planning sessions.

-  **Australia Chapter** submitted feedback to the Australia Senate Committee's Internet Search Engine Services Online Safety Code policy proposal consultation.
-  **Norway Chapter** submitted formal responses to the Norwegian Parliament regarding proposals on the [disclosure of IP data](#) and [age limits for social media](#).
-  **Poland Chapter** educated policymakers about the dangers of the proposed EU [Chat Control](#) legislation at a [parliamentary conference](#), working to preserve end-to-end encryption.
-  **Portugal Chapter** presented technical arguments against the proposed EU [Chat Control](#) legislation at a hearing of the European Affairs Parliament Commission.
-  **Spain Catalonia Chapter** published a [statement](#) expressing concern over the judicial order mandating the blocking of IP addresses brought about by LaLiga in an effort to stop pirated football match broadcasts. The chapter argued that such measures are disproportionate, harm many innocent users, and threaten network neutrality and open Internet principles.
-  **US Washington D.C. Chapter** and Internet Society, alongside the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Center for Democracy and Technology (CDT) and Freedom House, sent an [open letter](#) to the United States Trade Representative (USTR) asking the US administration to revert its digital trade policy back to protecting the Internet.

Alumni Corner

Our [Alumni Network](#) is made up of graduates of Internet Society leadership, policy, technical, and learning programs. In 2025, Alumni:

- Launched its very own podcast—[Internet Changemakers](#).
- Organized the Alumni Legal Forum to discuss Internet law topics to support the Internet Society's [Amicus](#) work.
- Developed community resources to help chapters mobilize and raise awareness about the importance of the multistakeholder model to support the Internet Society's work on [Internet governance](#).



Internet Changemakers podcast in progress.
© Internet Society

Defending Against Internet Shutdowns and Blocking

As governments continue to deliberately [shutdown](#) or block the Internet during elections, school exams, civil unrest, and conflict, our community leads education and advocacy campaigns to help everyone understand the damage even short disruptions can have on a country's economy and society.

Togo Chapter

In 2025, **Togo Chapter** took bold, proactive advocacy action to defend the Internet against shutdowns during unrest in the country. The chapter ran a short campaign calling on the government of Togo to keep the Internet on during a planned civil rights march. The march took place, and there were no reported Internet disruptions or shutdowns—a big win for the people of Togo, and for the chapter.

Gabon Chapter

Gabon Chapter published a [statement](#) congratulating the Gabon government for

keeping the Internet on during the 2025 presidential election. The Internet was shut down in Gabon during the last presidential election in 2023, and since then, the chapter has been advocating to keep the Internet on during elections.

Nepal Chapter

Nepal Chapter played a key role in leading local [advocacy](#) and defending an open Internet during unrest in Nepal following a social media ban.

South Sudan Chapter

South Sudan Chapter, understanding the devastating social and economic impact that a government ordered ban on social media was having, [sprang into action](#). Within hours of the order being published, the chapter issued a statement urging the government to lift the ban, drawing attention to the significant challenges to communications, human rights, and the free flow of communication that it had caused.



South Sudan Chapter celebrates its advocacy success. © Internet Society South Sudan Chapter

Connecting the Unconnected

Not everyone has equal access to the opportunities the Internet brings. Community-centered connectivity solutions, such as community networks, help groups build and operate an Internet connection themselves on their own terms. It's Internet by the people, for the people. Our community is the driving force behind community networks, helping to bridge connectivity gaps, whether it's in hard-to-reach rural areas or in neighborhoods that are underserved by traditional Internet Service Providers (ISPs).

In 2025, **71** chapters supported community centered connectivity.

Sustainable and Equitable Access: Atti Akakpé, Togo

Togo Chapter worked with community leaders, local authorities, and technical partners to deploy a community network in Atti Akakpé, a rural community located roughly 70 miles north of Lomé. The initiative aims to bring reliable and sustainable connectivity to residents who, until now, had limited or no access to digital services.

The project places strong emphasis on local ownership. Community members have been trained to manage the network, maintain the equipment, operate the ticketing system, and ensure day-to-day continuity of service. This approach strengthens digital autonomy, builds local skills, and anchors the project in a long-term vision of sustainability.



Launch of the Atti Akakpé community network.
© Internet Society Togo Chapter

The economic model is based on affordable access: low-cost tickets provide 24-hour unlimited connection, with revenues reinvested in maintenance. The network is operated in partnership with Togo's first Internet service provider, the company that connected the country to the global Internet 28 years ago, underscoring a commitment to national expertise and locally driven development.

The network has already transformed daily life. Households now benefit from easier access to information, online learning platforms, and

telemedicine services through a partnership with DokitaEyes. Local farmers can access agricultural data, while artisans and small entrepreneurs are exploring new economic opportunities opened by digital access.

“This project shows that communities can take charge of their own digital development when they are given the tools and the skills to do so,” said Emmanuel Elogo Agbenonwossi, president of the Togo Chapter. “Ensuring equitable access for all is essential so that every citizen can benefit from the opportunities the Internet offers.”

Co-designed with residents and technical partners, the Atti Akakpé network is intended to serve as a model for community empowerment and sustainable, locally rooted development.



Launch of the Atti Akakpé community network.
© Internet Society Togo Chapter

Policy Development for Equitable Access

Building an Internet for all requires diverse approaches that respond to a wide range of needs. In many cases, this means adjusting policy and regulatory frameworks. The **Togo Chapter** engaged with the national regulator, ARCEP, from the start of the project so that the Atti Akakpé experience could serve as a proof of concept to support a future licensing framework for community networks in the country.



Supported by an Internet Society Foundation grant.



Haiti Chapter received the 2025 WSIS Prizes Champion Award at the WSIS+20 Forum in Geneva for deploying sustainable community networks that have brought connectivity to over **9,000** people in remote areas across Haiti.

“The goal to connect everyone is to improve their lives,” said Obed Sindy, board member and former president of the Internet Society Haiti Chapter. “Everyone deserves to have access to the Internet.”



Haiti Chapter installs networking equipment to connect communities across the island. © Internet Society Haiti Chapter

Getting Underserved Communities Online in Manitoba, Canada

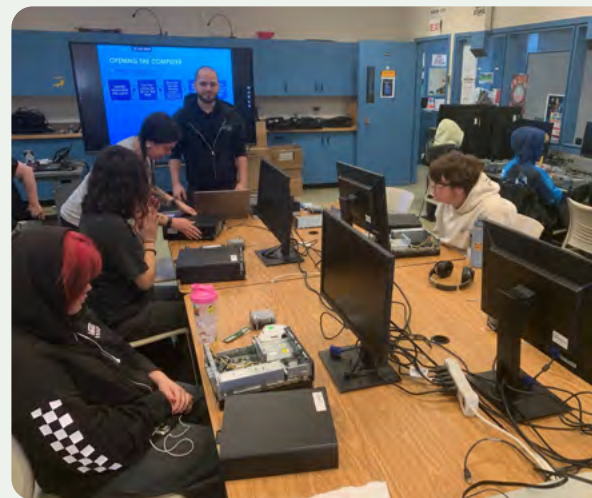
In 2025, **Canada Manitoba Chapter** continued its work to expand free Internet access across Winnipeg’s North End, one of the city’s most underserved areas. Together with [North End Connect](#), an Indigenous-led, non-profit community service organization, the chapter supports affordable Internet connectivity, access to technology, and digital literacy training tailored to the unique needs of the community.

Over the year, antennas that transmit wireless signals to nearby homes and businesses were installed on top of buildings. Refurbished computers were distributed across the neighborhood, giving residents access to previously out-of-reach services and information, helping school children keep up with their lessons, and enabling jobseekers to compete for new opportunities. But equipment and hardware are only a small part of the project.

“Empowering the local community to build and maintain a network on their own terms is key to its success,” says Joel Templeman, executive director of the Canada Manitoba Chapter. “In addition to free community digital literacy training, we work with the local high school to train the next generation in basic computer hardware and networking fundamentals. This enables students to troubleshoot and help others in the community get online, as well as ensuring that they can support the operation of the network in the future. It also opens up a whole new career path in IT for them too.” The Canada Manitoba Chapter hopes to connect over **1,000** households in the coming years.



Installing antennas in Winnipeg’s North End.
© Internet Society Canada Manitoba Chapter.



Training the local community to troubleshoot.
© Internet Society Canada Manitoba Chapter



Supported by an Internet Society Foundation grant.



Learn more about [community-centered connectivity](#) and why our community works tirelessly to develop connectivity solutions that work.

Capacity Building in India

Capacity building and empowerment are key to helping communities understand how they can get reliable and sustainable Internet access that works for them. The **India Bengaluru** and **India Chennai Chapters** mobilized the local community, bringing together over **350** people to participate in Internet Society-led [training](#) bootcamps on Community Centered Connectivity (CCC) and Fundamentals of Designing and Deploying Computer Networks (DDCN). These practical, hands-on training initiatives are designed to build essential networking skills among students, early-career professionals, and working professionals.



Training bootcamp participants.
© Internet Society India Bengaluru Chapter

Access Solutions—Offline Digital Education

Zambia Chapter launched its [Digital Education Hub](#), a free and open-source platform that provides offline access to Zambian primary and secondary education materials. This initiative bridges the education gap while connectivity challenges across the country are addressed, offering a 'living library' for those schools equipped with computer labs but without Internet access. Teachers can edit and upload new content, set quizzes, and use digital learning aids to support their students, giving them access to the same educational resources as those in schools that have connectivity.



Setting up the digital education hub at Chazanga Primary School.
© Internet Society Zambia Chapter



Supported by an Internet Society Foundation grant.

Find out how the **Panama Chapter** used [community networks](#) to bring local indigenous communities online.



Emberá community leader. © Internet Society

Affordable and Reliable Access

2.2 billion people are still offline.

These people are unable to fully participate in the education, commerce, communication, and innovation that so many of us take for granted. Behind the scenes, our community works to build, develop, and expand Internet infrastructure and liaise with governments and regulators to ensure that policies protect an open, resilient, and reliable Internet.

Making the Internet More Affordable in South Sudan

South Sudan Chapter worked to ensure that the Internet is more reliable and affordable for end users across the country. One of our newest chapters, it took action after realizing that the [Internet Society Pulse Country Report](#) showed that there was no IXP in South Sudan. Furthermore, the country's low overall Internet resilience score of **31%** indicates that it has low capacity to withstand unexpected faults or challenges to normal operation. So, in collaboration with Internet Society, the chapter mobilized to organize a [Peering Roadshow](#) to inform local governments and regulators about the vital role IXPs play in bolstering a country's Internet resilience.

The roadshow provided an opportunity for stakeholders to share dialogue and helped the chapter gain a leading role in establishing and running the [SS-IXP](#) initiative, which was started by the National Communication Authority (NCA).

"Our hard work has paid off," said Joseph Abuni Gama, South Sudan Chapter president. "By using concrete data and sharing best practices and information, we supported the case for establishing the country's first ever IXP. IXPs create shorter routes for Internet traffic, offering a more reliable and affordable alternative to sending local Internet traffic abroad. This results in significant savings for ISPs and means that access can be offered to end users at a lower price point."



The South Sudan Peering Roadshow attendees. © Internet Society South Sudan Chapter



Keeping Traffic Local in Israel

Israel Chapter has successfully launched the new Israeli Internet Exchange ([IL-IX](#)), a major step forward for the country's Internet infrastructure. By keeping local traffic local, Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) create faster, more efficient networks for entire countries and regions, contributing to Internet resilience and reliability. For nearly three decades, the chapter operated a layer 3, ISP-only Internet Exchange (IIX). IL-IX, the new 400 gigabit/sec advanced exchange, is a layer 2 exchange open

to a wider range of organizations for peering, including global cloud providers, content delivery networks (CDNs), and commercial enterprises. "By enabling more entities to connect directly and exchange traffic locally, the new IXP significantly enhances Israeli network performance," said Yoram Hacoen, CEO of the Israel Chapter. "An expanded IXP bolsters Internet resilience and reduces the overall cost of Internet access for the end user as ISPs' costs for traffic exchange are reduced."

Chapters at the Forefront of IXP Expansion

Niger Chapter announced the launch of Niger's first Internet exchange point (IXP), a milestone achievement for the country's digital landscape. This initiative, developed in close partnership with the National Agency for the Information Society (ANSI), marks a significant step towards a more resilient and efficient Internet infrastructure for Niger. The chapter has worked tirelessly over the past two years, organizing training sessions and sharing information to prepare local stakeholders for the launch.

Guinea Chapter collaborated with Internet Society and the local IXP to successfully deliver a five-day technical training workshop to strengthen the IXP and foster the peering ecosystem in Guinea. The workshop provided over **30** engineers from local Internet service providers and network operators with the knowledge and skills to securely connect to their local IXP and exchange Internet traffic, helping to improve Internet resilience in their region.



Niger Chapter IXP training session in progress.
© Internet Society Niger Chapter



Participants at the Guinea Chapter's IXP workshop.
© Internet Society Guinea Chapter

Find out more about why our community works to [improve Internet resilience](#), and what might happen if it didn't.

Bringing the Peering Community Together in Zimbabwe and Senegal

Zimbabwe Chapter organized the country's first-ever Peering Forum to support the growth of the country's Internet peering and interconnection ecosystem. **Senegal Chapter** partnered with the two local IXPs to organize the Senegal Peering and Interconnection Forum 2025, with local network managers connecting with local and international counterparts to discuss best practices and share technical info. Peering is a fundamental part of how the Internet works, enabling networks to exchange traffic directly, reducing reliance on intermediaries. This improves performance, lowers costs, and increases network [resilience](#).



Senegal Peering and Interconnection Forum 2025.
© Internet Society Senegal Chapter



Senegal Peering and Interconnection Forum 2025.
© Internet Society Senegal Chapter



In 2025, the Internet Society hosted **32 peering events** to promote traffic localization and supported **15 peering fellows**. Peering roadshows bring together the technical community to exchange peering best practices, connect with other local experts, and improve technical skills. Thank you to the following chapters for their support with these events: **Chile, Ecuador, India-Delhi, Panama, Philippines, and Pacific Islands**.



India Peering Roadshow, New Delhi. © Internet Society

Online Trust and Safety

Helping newly connected users develop trust and safety skills is crucial for building a safer, more trustworthy, and inclusive Internet. When they first get connected, new Internet users enter a complex digital environment. Our community provides guidance, knowledge share, and hands-on training to help newly connected users and vulnerable groups navigate the online world safely.

In 2025, **51** chapters supported online trust and safety related activities.

Inclusive Cybersecurity in Hong Kong

The **Hong Kong Chapter** recently hosted its inaugural CyberSafe For All program, a pioneering initiative designed to address local cybersecurity challenges. It provided practical tips and first-hand knowledge to empower the community—particularly people with disabilities—against cybersecurity threats and scams arising from the rapid development of AI technology.

“We designed the program to ensure that people without technical backgrounds could easily understand what’s at stake, presenting information in different, fun, and engaging ways,” said Ping Wong, secretary-general of the Hong Kong Chapter. “The initiative aims to ensure equitable access to cybersecurity education, fostering inclusion and empowerment, and enabling everyone to better protect themselves against digital threats. Our commitment is to ensure that no one is left behind, in line with our focus on digital inclusion and accessibility.”

In total, nearly **500** participants joined the event, either by attending the conference in person or remotely, or visiting the cybersecurity education and AI demonstration stations, which highlighted how AI can be misused for fraud. All these activities reinforced the importance of awareness and prevention while equipping participants with practical cybersafe knowledge and tips.



Hong Kong Chapter's CyberSafe for All event.
© Internet Society Hong Kong Chapter



Supported by an Internet Society Foundation grant.

Championing Online Safety in Rwanda

Rwanda is at the cutting edge of Africa’s digital transformation and the **Rwanda Chapter** has been championing Internet safety for many years. But many people lack the skills to navigate the online world safely.

In 2025, the chapter partnered with the Internet Society to test its new training content for online safety and trust issues. Over **20** women entrepreneurs and newly connected people were mobilized to take part in a pilot training session.

The chapter also launched a two-day bilingual Digital Parenting and Online Safety training workshop to support parents and caregivers. Delivered in both English and Kinyarwanda, over **260** parents, teachers, young people, and local leaders, the session focused on real-world issues: how to recognize online scams, using secure messaging apps that offer end-to-end encryption, how to manage privacy settings, and how to use digital platforms responsibly.

“The Internet can be a dangerous and intimidating place for someone who is

navigating it for the first time,” says Emmanuel Mfitumukiza, chairperson, Rwanda Chapter. “It takes time to learn which tools to use to communicate securely with friends and families as well as to understand that there are bad actors out there that want to steal personal information. By supporting their online journeys with knowledge and skills we can help ensure that people can make informed choices about tools, spot phishing attempts, identify fake websites, so they can protect themselves online and have a safe Internet experience as they discover everything the Internet has to offer.”

The chapter also reached more than **1,740** people through a safer Internet awareness campaign designed to promote a safer and better Internet for children.



Digital Parenting and Online Safety training workshop.
© Internet Society Rwanda Chapter



Supported by an Internet Society Foundation grant.



Online safety classes for seniors taking place in Mexico.
© Internet Society Mexico Chapter



For older adults, navigating the Internet can feel overwhelming. Find out how the **Mexico Chapter** [helped the local community](#) build knowledge, skills, and confidence to stay safe online.

Reducing Barriers to Digital Inclusion

Our community is deeply committed to making the Internet accessible for all. The [Accessibility Standing Group](#) promotes digital rights and advocates for the digital inclusion of persons with disabilities.

In 2025, it partnered with the **Benin Chapter**, organizing a session on digital accessibility for people with disabilities. Additionally, it organized a workshop on Accessibility Principles in Argentina and on Accessible Digital Ecosystems: Inclusive Internet Governance for Persons with Disabilities in Kenya.

The **Bosnia and Herzegovina Chapter**, supported by an Internet Society Foundation grant, [organized Internet safety training for blind students](#), and the **Zimbabwe Chapter** facilitated basic information technology skills training for almost **600** disabled individuals in the Binga community. These are just some of the ways our community worked to reduce barriers to digital inclusion over the year.



Internet safety training course for visually impaired students. © Internet Society Bosnia and Herzegovina Chapter



IT skills training for disabled individuals. © Internet Society Zimbabwe Chapter

The Global Online Safety Benchmark Published

In 2025, the Online Safety Special Interest Group (SIG) released [the Global Online Safety Benchmark](#), a groundbreaking assessment tool that evaluates national efforts to protect children and promote online safety. The benchmark provides valuable insights into policy gaps, best practices, and actionable strategies to strengthen digital safety frameworks globally.

It serves as a resource to guide governments, organizations, and communities in building safer, more inclusive digital spaces for all users, especially children. Together with the **Ghana Chapter**, the SIG also co-hosted a regional safety event in Accra, with over **250** people attending in person and remotely.



Online safety event, Ghana. © Internet Society Online Safety SIG



Over the year, the Internet Society held three Online Trust and Safety workshops around the world. Thanks to the **Brazil**, **El Salvador**, and **Rwanda** Chapters for their support.

Internet Governance



The Internet's success is rooted in how it was built and how it is governed through multistakeholder processes. However, around the world, proposed policies and regulations are putting the open and trustworthy nature of the Internet at risk.

To ensure the next generation of Internet leaders can participate effectively in Internet governance processes, several chapters held local Internet Governance Forums (IGFs) and Schools of Internet Governance in 2025.



Ghana IGF. © Internet Society Ghana Chapter.



Tanzania IGF. © Internet Society Tanzania Chapter



Rwanda IGF. © Internet Society Rwanda Chapter



Togo School of Internet Governance. © Internet Society Togo Chapter

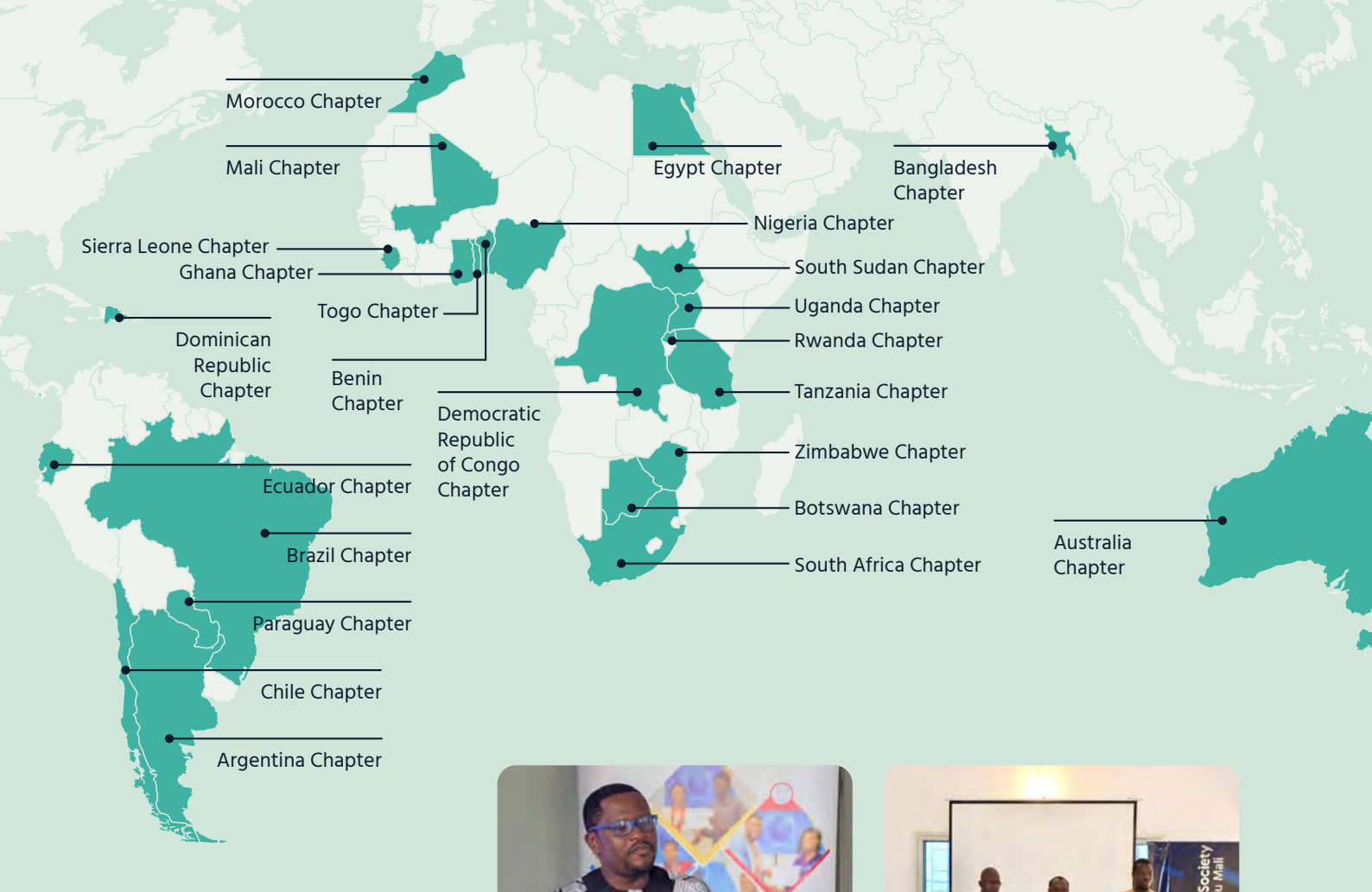


India School of Internet Governance ([InSIG](#)) celebrated its 10th anniversary. InSIG is the collaborative initiative of the seven chapters in India: **Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Mumbai, and Trivandrum Chapters**. InSIG featured sessions and workshops, as well as a special video message from Internet pioneer [Vint Cerf](#) during the opening ceremony.

22 chapters received grants from the Internet Society Foundation to support their Internet governance events.



Costa Rica IGF. © Internet Society Costa Rica Chapter



Benin School of Internet Governance.
© Internet Society
Benin Chapter



Mali School of Internet Governance.
© Internet Society
Mali Chapter



Paraguay School of Internet Governance.
© Internet Society
Paraguay Chapter

Equipping Youth with Internet Governance Skills

The Internet Society's [Youth Standing Group](#) (SG) supports and promotes the involvement of young people from around the world in mainstream discussions about Internet. In 2025, the Youth SG was an important partner in planning, coordinating, and executing the Latin America and Caribbean Youth IGF, which took place in November at the National University of Córdoba in Córdoba, Argentina. Over **100** young people attended in person, with more than **200** joining online.

“It is so important to ensure that the next generation of Internet governance leaders gather to discuss the most pressing Internet issues of today and tomorrow,” explains João Falcao Moreno, chair of the Youth Standing Group. “Youth IGFs provide an accessible entry point into the complex world of multistakeholder dialogue, helping young people build expertise, networks, and leadership skills. This kind of experience helps ease the transition into regional and global Internet governance platforms and equips participants with the skills needed to contribute meaningfully and represent their communities effectively.”

The event included sessions on new technologies, regulation, the ethical use of artificial intelligence, human rights, digital policies, digital trust, privacy, cybersecurity, inclusion, the digital divide, activism, and digital resilience.



LAC Youth IGF. © Internet Society

Technical Community – IETF Policymaker Program



We work closely with [technical communities](#) worldwide to help us achieve our vision of an Internet for everyone. When policymakers understand how the Internet works, they can develop better policies to support it.

Our [IETF Policymaker Program](#) trains policymakers on how the Internet work and the sandards development process, and provides insight into how technical community expertise can help them address the digital policy challenges facing their countries.

44 participants, from **28** countries participated in the IETF Policymaker Program in 2025, and **30** Australian government policymakers participated in our pilot in-country program.

Shaping the Future of Internet Governance in Brazil



In 2025, the Internet Society **Brazil Chapter** played a key role in shaping Internet governance in the country through policy advocacy, multistakeholder engagement, and evidence-based knowledge sharing. Its work focused on strengthening digital rights, platform governance, encryption, and regulatory frameworks that support an open and trustworthy Internet.

The cornerstone of the chapter's governance work happened through the Working Group on Intermediary Liability. This group brought together **25** active members to analyze digital platform regulation and contribute technical input to national policy debates, producing reports that helped inform discussions on liability, freedom of expression, and accountability in the Brazilian digital ecosystem.

The chapter also published a policy brief on the constitutionality of Article 19 of the Brazilian Internet Civil Framework (Marco Civil), reaffirming the importance of Internet intermediary protections for freedom of expression and legal certainty online. It also issued public statements and technical contributions on key judicial and legislative processes, including Extraordinary Appeal No. 1,037,396, Bill 4939/2020, and Bill 2628/2022, with a strong emphasis on encryption, children's rights, and the protection of fundamental digital rights.

Another key contribution was to CGI.br's (Brazilian Internet Steering Committee) public consultation on Principles for Social Media Regulation, advocating for regulatory approaches grounded in human rights,

transparency, and multistakeholder governance. It also participated in a thematic chamber of the National Digital Inclusion Plan (PNID), reinforcing the link between governance, inclusion, and meaningful connectivity. Finally, it also developed, through partnerships, a successful educational project focused on teaching encryption and digital safety to children and teens of public schools in small cities.

"Many of our chapter activities in 2025 focused on strengthening the understanding of how infrastructure, regulation, and rights intersect in Internet governance in Brazil and beyond," said Flávio Wagner, president of the Brazil Chapter. "Through sustained advocacy, multistakeholder dialogue, and technical analysis, the chapter demonstrated a comprehensive and impactful approach to Internet governance in 2025. We are proud to see that our work has strengthened public debate, informed policymaking, and reinforced Brazil's commitment to a secure, open, and rights-respecting Internet."

Throughout the year, the chapter also organized webinars and seminars on core Internet governance topics, including data centers, radio frequency spectrum, meaningful connectivity, judicial blocking of applications, and encryption jurisprudence in the Brazilian Supreme Court.



Supported by an Internet Society Foundation grant.



Brazil Chapter and Internet Society staff.
© Internet Society Brazil Chapter

Open and Trustworthy Internet

Global Encryption Day—Worldwide Mobilization for a Secure Internet



Every year, our community comes together on Global Encryption Day to make sure that everyone understands how encryption safeguards billions of people’s personal security and protects the national security of countries around the world.

In 2025, **25 chapters** received grants to support Global Encryption Day activities. Through the [Global Encryption Coalition](#), organization members **Mozilla**, **Meta**, and **Nic.br** also played a leading role in the spreading the message: don’t break encryption.



Encryption Awareness Training Day, South Sudan Chapter.
© Internet Society South Sudan Chapter



Global Encryption Day during the El Salvador IGF. © Internet Society El Salvador Chapter



Chapters Play a Key Role in Success of GEC



Over the last five years, Internet Society chapters have played a critical role in helping to ensure the success of the Global Encryption Coalition (GEC), and in defending encryption around the world. **93** of the **124 chapters** are also GEC members, helping to identify threats to encryption in their countries, lead local advocacy, and build support for strong encryption. Read more about how chapters are [leading the fight](#) for strong encryption.



Enhancing Internet Infrastructure in Venezuela

Venezuela Chapter focused on strengthening the technical community's skills to support the expansion of local connectivity solutions. Through initiatives such as "Hands-on IPv6 for Venezuelan ISPs—Second Edition" and "Beyond the Click: Fiber Optics as the Highway of Modern Telecommunications", the chapter empowered professionals, students, and network operators with the knowledge needed to enhance Internet infrastructure across the country.



Securing the DNS Across Africa

Our chapters work together to share expertise, information, and best practices to support each other and help close knowledge gaps.

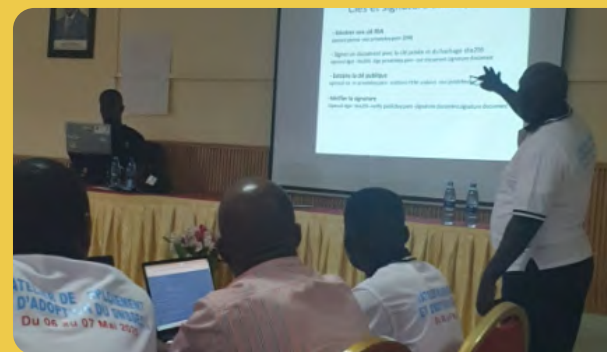
Sudan Chapter designed and led a Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) training course for the **Lebanon Chapter**. The admins of [Lebanon ccTLD](#), which is operated by the Lebanon Chapter, and several ISPs participated.

The chapter also partnered with the Sudan Network Operators' Group (SDNOG) to deliver an online technical workshop to the **Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Niger, Nigeria**, and **Zambia** Chapters, offering hands-on training on deploying DNSSEC.

"The Sudan Chapter has extensive experience running the Sudan ccTLD," explains Mohammed Al Hafiz, head of Cyber Security Team, Sudan Chapter. "It was our pleasure to pass on knowledge, tips and lessons learned to our fellow chapters: part of our common mission is to help strengthen DNSSEC technical expertise in Africa to encourage more ccTLDs across the continent to become DNSSEC compliant. It is vitally important for African nations to deploy DNSSEC to help protect users from common online threats like fake websites, fraud, and traffic interception. These things can have a detrimental impact on communities where trust in digital services is still being built, and where newly connected users are still learning how to protect themselves online."

Securing the .bi TLD

Burundi Chapter used Internet Society Pulse data insights to take informed action to help secure the Domain Name System (DNS). After realizing from the [country report](#) that DNSSEC was not deployed in Burundi, the chapter sprang into action, launching an awareness campaign. It contacted the .bi registry and ICANN to organize a DNSSEC training workshop. Months after the awareness campaign and the training workshop, DNSSEC is now fully deployed and active on .bi ccTLD.



Burundi Chapter's DNSSEC Workshop.
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Thank you!

Thank you to all our members, chapters, special interest groups, standing groups, organization members, supporters and donors for your dedication, collaboration and support.

[Read more about our work and overall impact in the 2025 Annual Report.](#)

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The Internet Society is a U.S. 501(c)(3) charity (EIN 54-1650477) with a multi-year top 4-star ranking from Charity Navigator. Alongside our Foundation, we work with decision-makers, advocates, donors, and our community to connect the remaining 2.2 billion people who are offline, and to ensure that the Internet is trustworthy and safe for all.

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