



Internet Society: Q2 2026 Review

Board of Trustees Meeting
Yogesh Khanna, Executive Vice President and Managing Director

July 2026

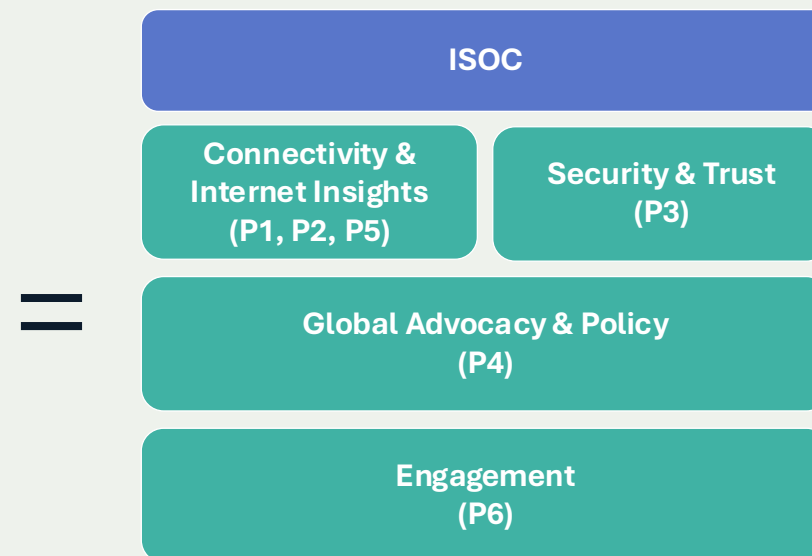
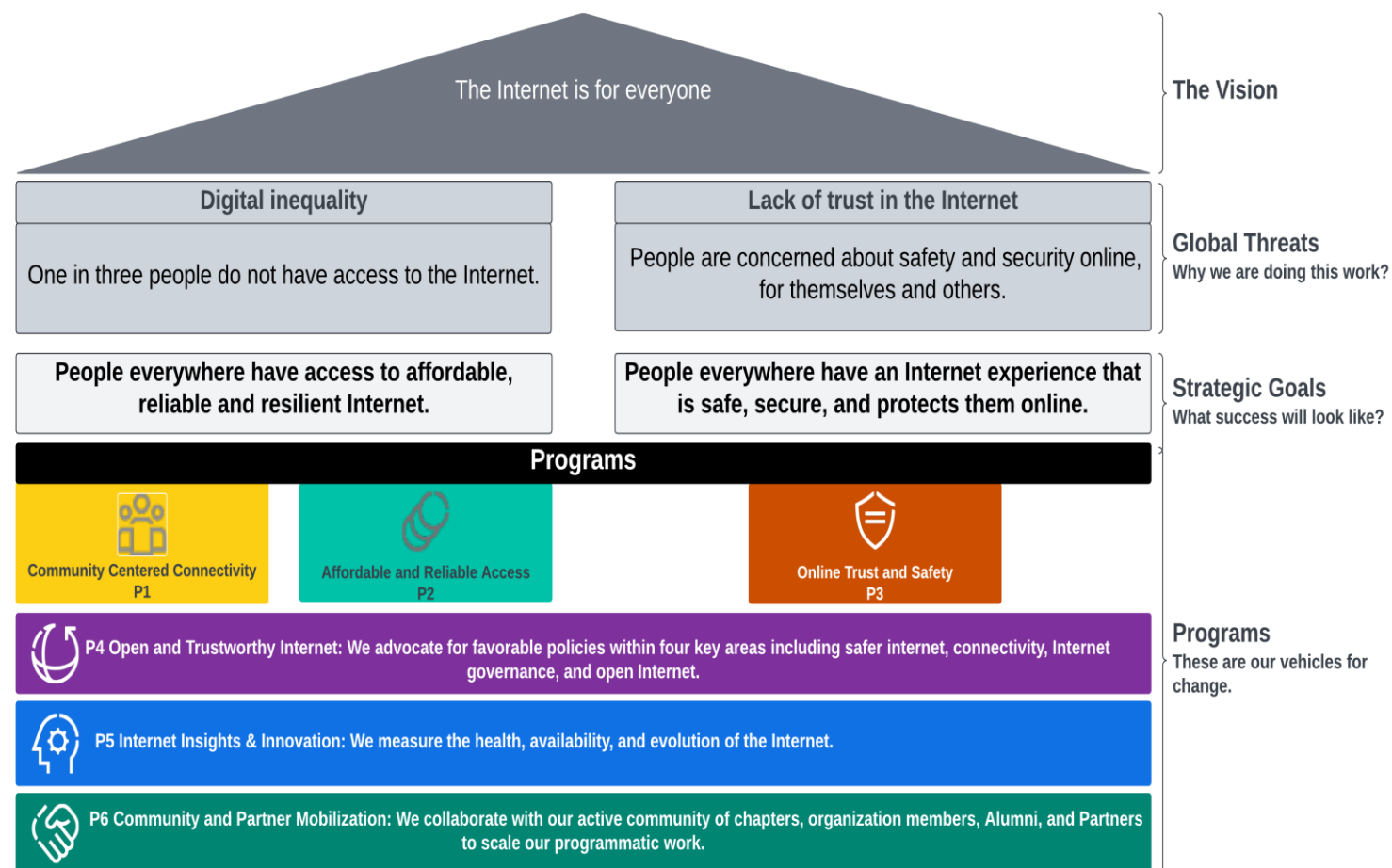


Agenda

- Internet Society Program Structure
- 2026 Action Plan Performance Summary
- Connectivity and Internet Insights
- Security and Trust
- Advocacy and Global Policy
- Engagement
- TSS Priorities and Progress
- Risks, Lessons Learned, and Looking Ahead



Internet Society Program Structure



2026 Action Plan: Q2 Performance Summary

→ **Bottom Line Up Front (BLUF):** Programs are healthy and remain on track.

88%

of success measures are progressing as planned, with several early wins achieved.



Budget and schedule variances are manageable and being addressed through the mid-year forecast.



The main watch area is lower-than-expected community and organization member engagement in some programs, which teams are actively working to improve in Q3 and Q4.



Connectivity and Internet Insights

Advancing Affordable, Reliable, and Resilient Internet

CCC Women-led Social Enterprise in Pakistan

What we did

- Piloted a CCC project through a women-led social enterprise focused on the gender digital divide in Pakistan.
- Our advocacy efforts in Pakistan led to the introduction of a licensing framework for non-profits to deploy community-centered connectivity initiatives.
- Several of the 209 women trained through this project have begun using the Internet for business and other meaningful purposes.



Video: Jhuggiwala (Pakistan) Community-Centered Connectivity



Security and Trust - Advancing a Safe and Secure Internet

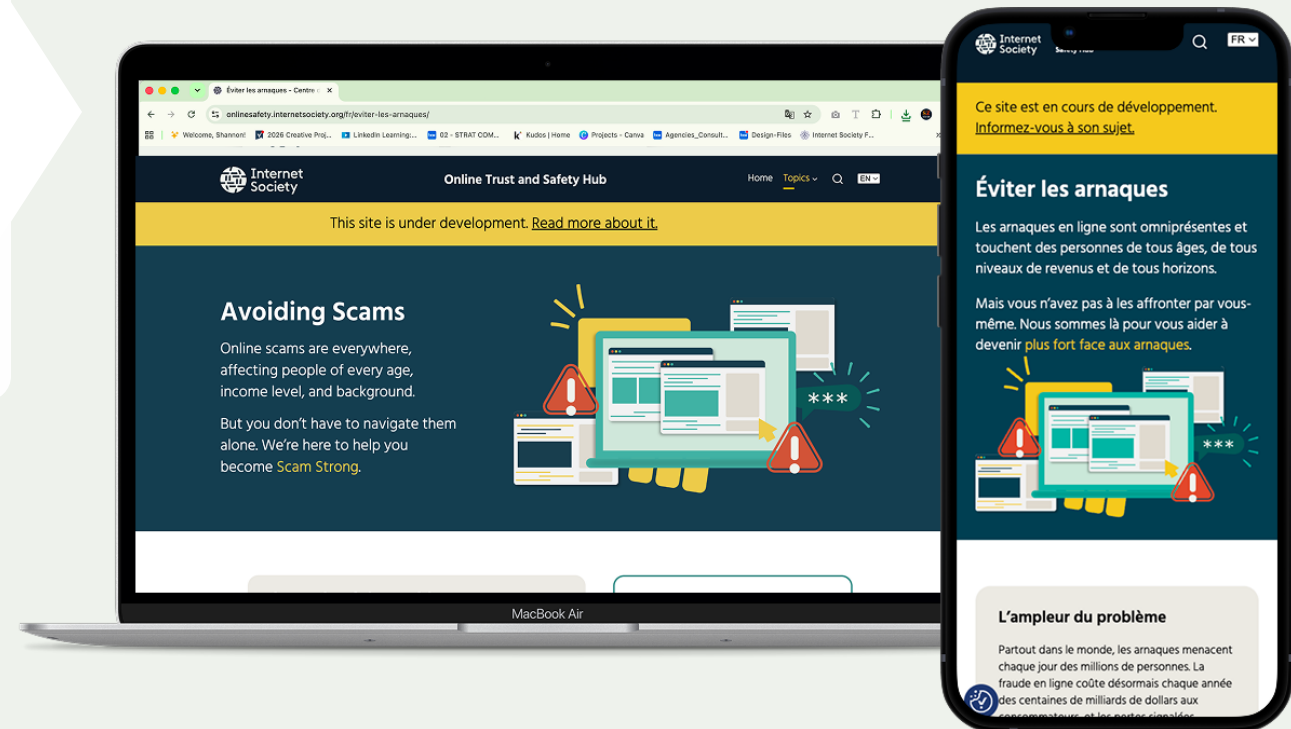
OTS Hub Pre-Launch

What we did

- Launched alpha version of the **Online Trust & Safety (OTS) Hub** featuring a multilingual, user-centered design tailored to the needs of a diverse global community
- Developed anti-scam training content, governance framework, and feedback channel
- Piloted Scam Strong curriculum through four SCILLS grantee workshops

Watch: Video demo of the Online Trust and Safety Hub

 onlinesafety.internetsociety.org



Advocacy and Global Policy

Shaping favorable Internet Policy and Regulatory Spaces

Elevating Advocacy

What we did (and are doing)

- Established an Advocacy Portfolio and hired Raegan MacDonald as the **Head of Advocacy** (effective 29 June 2026)
- Refine and prioritize our advocacy agenda
- Proactively engage ELT members to implement advocacy-by-design
- Build ministerial-level relationships across the Globe to get closer to key decision-makers



Internet Governance 13 May 2026

How RightsCon Is an Unexpected Stress Test for the Multistakeholder Model of Internet Governance

By Sally Wentworth
President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

The cancellation of RightsCon 2026 is a stark reminder that when opportunities for civic engagement are neutralized, so are stakeholders' voices. In this case, civil society was denied the ability to meet in person in Lusaka last week to share ideas and opportunities for how to address some of the most urgent digital challenges of our time.

Personally, I was excited to connect with advocates from Zambia and broader Sub-Saharan Africa, home to some of the most dedicated and interesting digital rights work happening today. Ultimately, they are the ones who will pay the biggest price for the cancellation. For many, RightsCon was a lifeline, offering a way to connect with expertise, access critical funding opportunities, and build partnerships with others working to make sure people everywhere are protected online. Beyond the opportunities lost, the time and money they spent preparing for the event cannot be recovered.

Engagement

Powering Our Mission Through our Community

Chapter DNA Revisions

What we did

- Updating the Chapter Charter Agreement and performance framework (last revised in 2018)
- Shifting focus from administrative compliance to impact, resilience, and institutional maturity
- Grounded in a 2026 Chapter Vision shaped by staff and community input



Argentina Chapter



Nepal Chapter



Mali Chapter



Taiwan Taipei Chapter



Technology Solutions and Services (TSS)

Priorities and Progress

What we did

- Stabilized AMS and improved community-facing tools, including launch of the redesigned chapter leader email tool
- Defined ERP simplification approach aligned to Source-to-Pay to reduce system overlap
- Strengthened security through updated policy and ongoing improvements to incident response and endpoint controls
- Advanced data governance and reporting modernization, including transition to Power BI
- Defined future-state TSS operating model and began simplifying workflows

Why it matters

- Improves reliability and experience for community and staff
- Reduces system complexity, cost, and risk
- Strengthens cybersecurity posture and organizational resilience
- Enables better decision-making through trusted data and reporting
- Creates a more effective and scalable delivery model



Risks to the 2026 Action Plan

Current events impacting our programmatic delivery

Global event disruption impacting program delivery

Risk: Ebola and unrest in the Middle East may disrupt upcoming events (e.g., Community Advocacy Workshop, AfPIF), including potential relocations or cancellations

Travel hesitancy may reduce participation and increase costs

Mitigation: Monitoring conditions closely; booking refundable travel; adjusting plans as needed; preparing to relocate events if required

Deteriorating funding environment for civil society partners

Risk: Rapid decline in funding, worsened by U.S. withdrawal from key international organizations, creating financial instability for partners and community members

Coincides with rising cyber threats, increasing vulnerability across the sector

Mitigation: Deploying the Common Good Cyber Fund (CGCF) to pool donor resources and sustain critical organizations; leveraging advocacy-by-design to maintain impact beyond grants



Lessons Learned and Looking Ahead

- Our integrated ISOC + Foundation narrative, demonstrated in the 2025 Annual Report, is driving significantly higher community engagement and will serve as the blueprint for 2026 outreach
- RightsCon cancellation highlighted geopolitical risk to events; strong partnerships enabled rapid pivots (e.g., Mozfest), reinforcing the need for built-in flexibility and contingency planning
- Shifts in global event participation (e.g., ITU WTPF postponement, MENA workshop cancellation, evolving PP-26 hosting) signal increasing volatility in convenings that requires adaptive engagement strategies
- U.S. visa policy changes reduced NDSS Fellowship participation by 25%, underscoring growing systemic risk in U.S.-based events and the need for more globally distributed access models
- Building our forecasting capability is critical to improving predictability, enabling better decision-making and responsible stewardship of donor funds.

Overall, the organization remains in a healthy position, with strong progress against our strategic priorities and a continued commitment to learning, adapting, and improving our impact.



Thank you!

