

# Kilima: Highlights from ISOC Africa

March 2020



## Activities

### First Ethiopia Internet Development Conference

Internet Society held the first Ethiopian multi-stakeholder Internet Development Conference from March 3 to 5, 2020 in Addis Ababa with a focus on preparing the country for the new era of liberalised telecom sector and start developing the Internet ecosystem for the benefit of citizens and businesses alike. Check out event presentations [here](#) and event photos [here](#).

### Internet Society Ethiopia Chapter Launched

The Internet Society Ethiopia Chapter was launched on 2 March 2020 with the objective of serving Internet stakeholders in the country (academia, the technical community, government, the private sector, and civil society) through raising and addressing critical issues related to the Internet. The Chapter is using a multi-stakeholder approach to ensure the participation of all Internet stakeholders. "Our Chapter is ready to work with people across Ethiopia to ensure an open, secure, trustworthy, and affordable Internet for everyone here. You do not need a technical background to do it. Just be you and willing to add your expertise into the mix." said the founding president Chapter president - Adugna Necho. [Read the blog post](#) and [see more photos](#).

### Initiative to establish the first IXP in Ethiopia

An initiative to establish an IXP was started during the Ethiopia Internet Development Conference. A number of virtual ISPs and data centers have joined this initiative that aim to establish the IXP amidst the liberalisation process in the country. [More details to follow](#).

## Chapters' Response to the Coronavirus pandemic and closure of Schools

We give respect to our Chapters who are finding ways to help communities in these trying times of COVID-19 pandemic.

- **ISOC Burkina Faso Chapter** supports Online learning in Burkina Faso by connecting local teachers and students via Zoom. The pilot initiative will connect only students who preparing national exams with their teachers.
- **ISOC Senegal Chapter** leader, Ahmath Mbacke and other members work to develop [an open source App](#) to track the cases and provide useful information
- **The Tanzania, Chad and Cameroon chapters** are fighting misinformation and disinformation as the Coronavirus pandemic evolves in their respective countries.



## Upcoming Events

### Major African Internet Events Postponed due to COVID -19

- [Africa Internet Summit 2020](#) has been postponed to a date to be announced.
- Innovation Africa Digital Summit 2020 has been postponed to 29th and 30th of September 2020, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- [East African Communications Organization \(EACO\)](#), 27th Annual Assemblies Meetings will be hosted by National Communication Authority (NCA) in Juba, Republic of South Sudan from 29th June 2020 to 3rd July 2020.
- ISOC Benin Chapter closed its chapter office and cancelled all its events.



## In the News

- **Women's Month by ISOC Namibia Chapter:** ISOC Namibia Chapter ran an online campaign on social to shine the light on its female members.
- **"Women and the Internet" Event by ISOC Benin Chapter:** This event brought together active women of the Benin Internet ecosystem to share experiences and encourage others women to embrace the Internet field. It is an event organized by women run by women.
- **Internet 10: Online Discussion between 10 French speaking chapters:** "Internet 10" was an online discussion initiated by ISOC Benin Chapter. It gathered 10 French speaking chapters to discuss [the Internet Society Action Plan](#), shared issues, experiences and best practices. The following chapters participated: Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Madagascar, Mali, Québec, Senegal, Chad, Togo, and Tunisia.

## Opportunities

### Google PhD Fellowships

This fellowship support graduate students as they pursue their PhD, as well as connect them to a Google Research Mentor. The Google PhD Fellowship Program was created to recognize outstanding graduate students doing exceptional and innovative research in areas relevant to computer science and related fields.