Agenda & Program:

National Summit of Community Networks in Kenya
Theme: "Role of Community Networks in developing Kenya's Digital Economy"

The Internet Society Kenya Chapter is convening the inaugural National Summit of Community Networks in Kenya to promote a sustainable, safe, and open community-centered connectivity for all Kenyans. The Summit will be co-hosted by AHERI Community Network, which operates community networks within Kisumu, Siaya and Homabay counties of Kenya. AHERI Community Network is also one of the pioneer Community Networks in the country. The summit is being convened under the auspices of the Association of Community Networks in Kenya which brings together Community Networks from different parts of the country.

The summit will include community network operators, policymakers, regulators, donors, and other stakeholders to share experiences, learn from one another, and discuss ways to support and promote community networks in Kenya. The chapter hopes the summit will result in more cooperation and backing for community networks, which can be crucial in closing the digital divide and fostering access to ICTs in underserved areas. Partnerships between community network operators, civil society organizations, and governmental organizations can help achieve this by encouraging knowledge sharing and capacity building. In Kenya, financial assistance and incentives can be offered to encourage the growth and expansion of community networks. Community networks are decentralized, community-owned, and community-operated communication infrastructures that provide accessible, dependable, and locally relevant connections. Insights into community networks, their benefits, and legal and policy frameworks are needed to support their growth and sustainability. Stakeholder collaboration is needed to promote and support the growth of community networks.

Objectives:
The objectives of the summit will be:

- Increase awareness of community networks in Kenya by sharing experiences and practices on deployment, management, and sustainability in Kenya.
- Promote collaboration and partnerships between network operators, decision-makers, regulators, and other stakeholders to foster and strengthen community networks in Kenya.
- Engage with policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders to advocate for policies and regulations that support community networks in Kenya.

Outcomes:

- Increased awareness and understanding of community networks among policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders in Kenya.
- Enhanced collaboration and partnerships among community network operators, policymakers, regulators, and other stakeholders.
- Agreed collective roadmap for promoting Kenyan community networks.
- Increased investment in community networks by private sector players and donors.
- Strengthened community networks in underserved areas of Kenya.

Participants:

The summit will bring together community network operators, policymakers, regulators, funders, civil society organizations, academia, and the private sector from Kenya, Africa and the world. It will be a hybrid event with both physical and virtual participation.

PROGRAM				
DAY 1 **Wednesday - 14/02/2024**				
TIME (EAT)	**SESSION**	**THEME**	**SPEAKERS**	**MODERATOR/MC**
8:30 am	**Arrival of Guests**			
9:00 am – 9:15 am	**Welcome Address**	**Setting the tone for the Summit**	**Hawi Rapudo** Secretary General - Internet Society, Kenya Chapter	**Barrack Otieno** Chairman - Association of Community Networks in Kenya
9:15 am – 10:00 am	**Opening Remarks**	**Role of Community Networks in developing Kenya's Digital Economy**	**Robert Odera** Director - Community Initiatives Support Services **Eng. Alphonce Odhiambo** President - Internet Society, Kenya Chapter **Esther Mwiyeria Kioni** Senior Director, Training and e-Learning - Internet Society Africa Regional Bureau **County Commissioner Siaya County/** **County Government representatives**	
10:00 am – 10:30 am		HEALTH BREAK		
10:30 am – 12:30 pm	**Paper Presentation and Panel Discussion**	**Policy and Regulatory Frameworks for Community Networks**	**June Okal** Senior Manager, Stakeholder Engagement, Africa ICANN **Dr. John Tarus** Vice President - Internet Society Kenya Chapter **Josephine Miliza** Africa Policy Coordinator - Association for Progressive Communications (APC) **Mwendwa Kivuva** Trustee - Kenya ICT Action Network (KICTANet)	**Risper Arose** Secretary - Association of Community Networks in Kenya

			Charles Juma Digital Access Programme Manager and Adviser UKAID	
12:30 pm – 1:00 pm	**Paper Presentation**		**Nicodemus Nyakundi** ICT Accessibility and Equality Fellow KICTANet	
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm		**LUNCH BREAK**		
2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	**Showcase**	**Successful Community Network Projects in Kenya**	**COMMUNITY NETWORKS** **Twahir Hussein Kassim** Dunia Moja Community Network **Risper Arose** Tanda Community Network **MaryAnne Njuguna** Lanet Umoja Community Network **Victoria Oduor** AHERINET **Hawi Rapudo** Kijiji Yeetu **Blaise Amani** Global Innovation Valley (GIV) Community Network **Alphonce Odhiambo** Nyatike Community Network **Paul Kilongi** Athi Community Network **Mwendwa Kivuva** Angaza Community Network **James Nguo** Arid Lands Information Network (ALIN) **Abwao Donatus** Siaya Community Library **Irene Misoi** Sere Community Network	**Tabitha Wangeci** Internet Society Kenya Chapter

DAY 2 Thursday - 15/02/2024				
TIME (EAT)	**SESSION**	**THEME**	**SPEAKERS**	**MODERATOR/MC**
8:30 am	**Arrival of Guests**			
9:00 am - 10:00 am	**Paper Presentation and Panel Discussion**	**Collaboration and Partnerships**	**Mike Odhiambo** Director - Shared Services ICT Authority of Kenya **Dr. Kennedy Ronoh** Internet Society Kenya Chapter **Mohamed Haji** Director - Frequency Spectrum Management, Communications Authority of Kenya **Risper Arose** Strategy and Partnership Lead - Tanda Community Network **Steve Song** Founder - Village Telco/ Board Rhizomatica	**Barrack Otieno** Chairman - Association of Community Networks in Kenya
10:00 am -10:30 am	**HEALTH BREAK**			
10:30 am – 12:30 pm	**Workshop**	**Strengthening Technical Capacities of Community Network Operators** **Theory and Demonstrations** **Conducting Techno Feasibility Studies** **Choosing the right Equipment** **Establishing Point to point links** **Establishing Point to**	**Facilitator:** **Eng. Alphonce Odhiambo** President - Internet Society, Kenya Chapter **Benson Kusina** Technical Program Manager - Project Taara - Google **Johan Crause** Senior Vice President Sales Global - Liquid Intelligent Technologies/Telrad Networks **Hanafi Kaka** Regional Marketing Lead - East and Central Africa, Optace Networks	**Hawi Rapudo** Secretary General - Internet Society Kenya Chapter

TIME (EAT)	SESSION	THEME	SPEAKERS	MODERATOR/MC
		Multipoint links **Deployment of Community Networks** **Backhaul**	**Jacob Streijffert,** Logistics Director - Help.NGO	
12:30 pm - 1:00 pm	**Launch of Infospot at Akala Market**		**Internet Society, Kenya Chapter** **Association of Community Networks in Kenya** **Community Initiatives Support Services (CISS)**	**Barrack Otieno** Chairman - Association of Community Networks in Kenya
	**1:00 pm – 2:00 pm**		LUNCH BREAK	
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm	**Training**	**Understanding the Domain Name System**	**Simon Mayoye** Technical Engagement Specialist ICANN	**Hawi Rapudo** - Secretary General Internet Society Kenya Chapter
2:00 pm – 4:30 pm	**Networking Session** **Optional Visit to Kijiji Yeetu Centre, Ugunja**	**Community Networks Engagement and Investment**	**Google Taara** **Liquid Intelligent Technologies** **Help.NGO** **Optace Networks** **Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science & Technology (e-Learning Center)** **Hawi Rapudo** Secretary General Internet Society Kenya Chapter	

DAY 3
Friday - 16/02/2024

TIME (EAT)	SESSION	THEME	SPEAKERS	MODERATOR/MC
8:30 am	**Arrival of Guests**			

9:15 am – 10:00 am	**Keynote Address**	**Importance of Community Networks for Connectivity in Underserved Areas** **Emphasizing the significance of community networks**	**Prof Chacha Nyaigotti Chacha** Chairman – AHERI Advisory **Michael Odhiambo** Director - Shared Services ICT Authority **Mohamed Haji** Director - Frequency Spectrum Management Communications Authority **Anne Nyokabi Nganga** Office of Data Protection (ODPC) **Eng. John Kipchumba Tanui, MBS** - Principal Secretary, State Department for Information Communications Technology (ICT) and Digital Economy	**Robert Owino Odera** Director - Community Initiatives Support Services
10:00 am -10:30 am		**HEALTH BREAK**		
10:30 am – 11:30 am	**Paper Presentation and Panel Discussion**	**Socio-economic Impact of Community Networks in Underserved Areas**	**Robert Owino** Director - Community Initiatives Support Services (CISS) **Hawi Rapudo** Secretary General - Internet Society, Kenya Chapter and Community Network Projects **Constantine Obuya** Executive Director - African Centre For Women, Information and Communications Technology (ACWICT) **Risper Arose** Strategy and Partnership Lead, Tanda Community Network **James Nguo** Executive Director - Arid Lands Information Network (ALIN)	**Prof John Ogone** Board of Directors member - Africa Higher Education Research Institute (AHERI)
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**Workshop**	**Building partnerships and collaboration**	**Association of Community Networks in Kenya**	**Irene Misoi** Sere Community

Time				
				Network
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	**Planning Workshop**	**Association of Community Networks in Kenya Strategic Planning workshop (Closed)**	**Association of Community Networks in Kenya**	**Eng. Mulongo** VISCAR Industrial Capacity
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm		**LUNCH BREAK**		
2:00 pm – 2:45 pm	**Presentation and Discussion**	**Emerging Issues**	**Association of Community Networks in Kenya**	**Robert Owino Odera** Director- Community Initiatives Support Services **Eng. Mulongo** VISCAR Industrial Capacity
2:45 pm – 4.00 pm	**Closing Ceremony**	**Summary and Way Forward**	**Robert Owino** Director - Community Initiatives Support Services (CISS) **Alphonce Odhiambo** President - Internet Society, Kenya Chapter	**Hawi Rapudo** Secretary General - Internet Society Kenya Chapter

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