Internet Society Chapters

Focus: Africa

First stakeholders meeting – Formation of an Internet Society Kenya Chapter
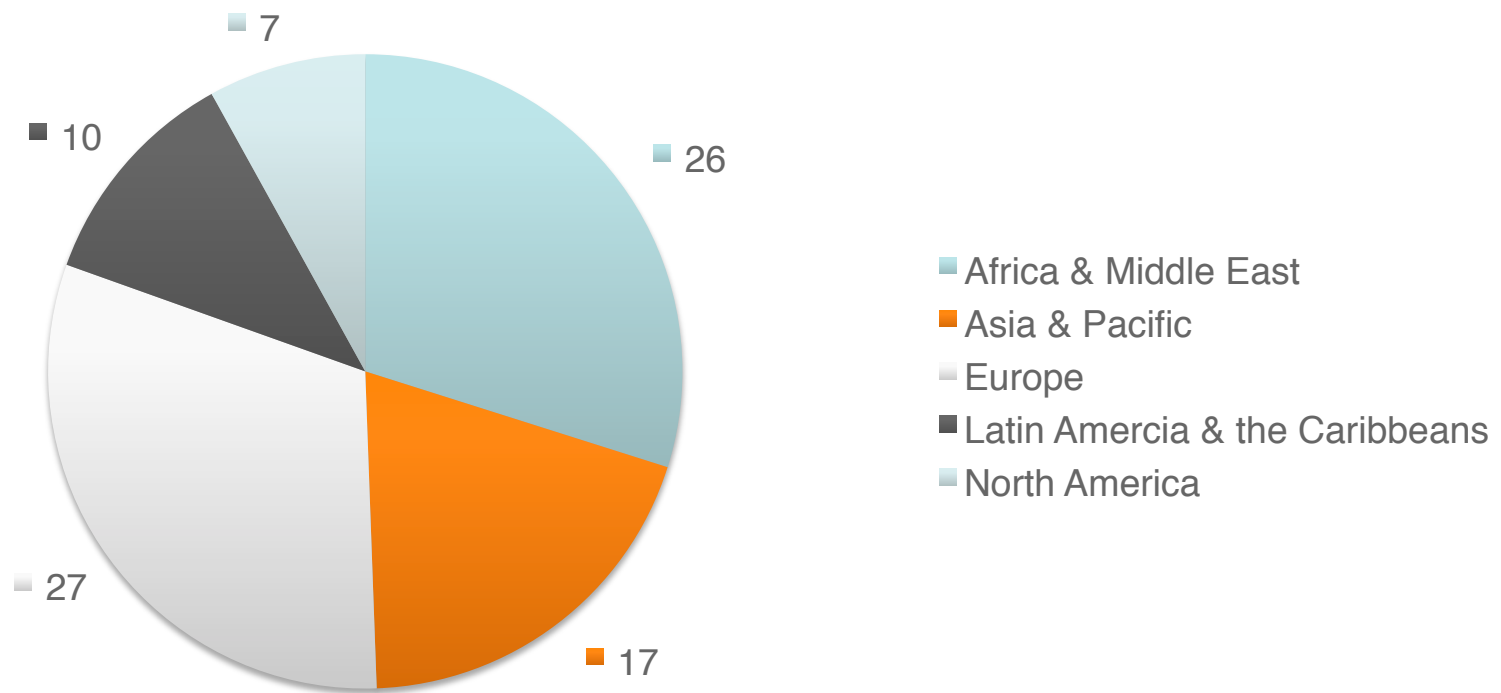
Christine Saegesser Baethge, Manager, Chapter Development – Africa, Internet Society

19 August 2011

the Internet is for
everyone

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Where are the Internet Society Chapters?

- Africa & Middle East
- Asia & Pacific
- Europe
- Latin Amercia & the Caribbeans
- North America

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Situation in August 2011 – only active Chapters have been counted

Why does the Internet Society need Chapters?

- Chapters support & advance the Internet Society mission

- Extend reach and influence of the Internet Society

- Serve interests of the local community

- Act as a forum for 'networking'

- Provide input on global issues to the Internet Society

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Working as a Partnership

Chapters

- Legitimate, active and visible in the local community
- In partnership with local stakeholders
- Provide input on local as well as global issues
- Active membership and pool of volunteers

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Provides Chapters with various support tools to:

- Organize local and regional events & participate in international meetings
- Carry out projects & training
- Manage members

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What do Chapters do?

- **Washington DC Chapter:** events on Net Neutrality
- **Ghana Chapter:** series of 'Social Evenings' – the first was on "Social Networking Benefits and Challenges"
- **DRC Chapter:** presentation of the Internet Society's Next Generation Leadership programme in various universities
- **Chad Chapter:** project "School Net"
- **India Kolkata Chapter:** two day "Hands-On IPv6" workshop
- **Mexico Chapter:** participation in local Internet policy activities, namely the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA)
- **Senegal Chapter:** Series of "Dîners débats" launched around specific Internet themes
- **Philippines Chapter:** organization of the 2011 Philippine IPv6 Conference and Training

And much more....

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Internet Society Chapters in Africa

- Benin Chapter
- Burundi Chapter
- Cameroon Chapter
- Congo Chapter
- Cote d'Ivoire Chapter
- Democratic Republic of Congo Chapter
- Chad Chapter
- Ghana Chapter
- Liberia Chapter
- Mali Chapter

- Mauritania Chapter
- Morocco Chapter
- Niger Chapter
- Nigeria Chapter
- Rwanda Chapter
- Senegal Chapter
- South Africa Chapter
- Sierra Leone Chapter
- Somalia Chapter
- Togo Chapter
- Tunisia Chapter

Situation in August 2011

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African Internet Society Chapters in Rejuvenation

- Egypt Chapter
- Gambia Chapter
- Mauritius Chapter
- Uganda Chapter

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What does the Internet Society expect from Chapters?

Minimum "performance standards" from both sides:

- Chapters must:
    - Establish with 25 members
    - 3% Membership growth (average over 3 years)
    - Have an Internet presence
    - Conduct one mission related event per year
    - Share ISOC policy positions in advance with ISOC
    - Have transparent leadership succession processes

- ISOC Global must:
    - Provide leadership development, training, support etc.

- Draft Affiliation Document: http://tinyurl.com/3ypc5yf
- Draft Chapter Guide: http://tinyurl.com/4f6okbc

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Member Programmes and Funding

- **Membership Event Funding**
  - To help Chapter recruit new members via event(s)
  - USD$ 2,000 available once per year
  - Info http://www.isoc.org/isoc/chapters/funding/
- **Community Grants**
  - To help Chapters conduct mission related projects
  - USD$ 10,000 but Chapters must raise 25%
  - Info http://www.isoc.org/isoc/chapters/projects/
- **INETs & Chapter workshops**
  - To strengthen Chapters, build regional capacity
  - ISOC funds event but Chapters assist
  - Info http://www.isoc.org/isoc/conferences/inet/
- **Member opportunities**
  - ISOC Fellowships to IGF, IETF
  - Next Generation Leaders (see Toolkit)

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Successful Chapters

- Sustaining an active Chapter is hard work!
- What is the '**niche**' in your country?
- **Inform, Educate, Influence** and/or **Implement**
- Neutral meeting place for all stakeholders to discuss important issues
- Some lessons learnt
  - Recruit your successors now
  - Involve the volunteers (Volunteer toolkit)
  - Have a large and diverse leadership team
  - Make it a goal to grow the number of members

A successful Chapter needs <u>lots</u> of help from volunteers

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Support & Help Available

- Internet Society staff
  - Dawit Bekele, Regional Bureau Director for Africa
  - Christine Saegesser Baethge, Manager for Chapter Development - Africa
  - Chapter Support for programmes, Chapter formation and rejuvenation, etc: chapter-support@isoc.org

- Your "peers"
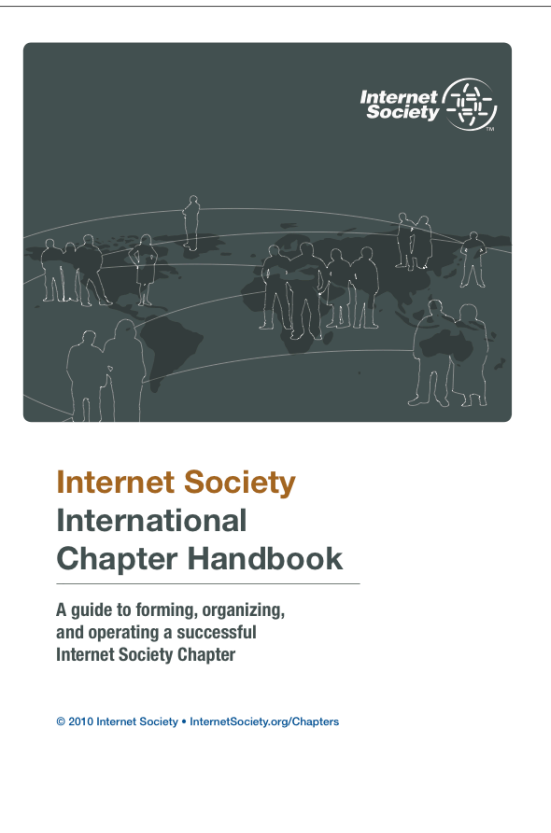 - Talking to other Chapters
  - Chapter workshops and INETs

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Support & Help Available

More information on the formation of new Chapters:

- http://www.isoc.org/isoc/chapters/application/

Particularly:

- Chapter Handbook:
  available at http://www.isoc.org/isoc/chapters/guidelines/

- Chapter Application form:
  http://www.isoc.org/isoc/chapters/application/appli.shtml

- Sample template for Chapter bylaws:
  http://www.isoc.org/isoc/chapters/guidelines/bylaws.shtml

Internet Society
International
Chapter Handbook

A guide to forming, organizing, and operating a successful Internet Society Chapter

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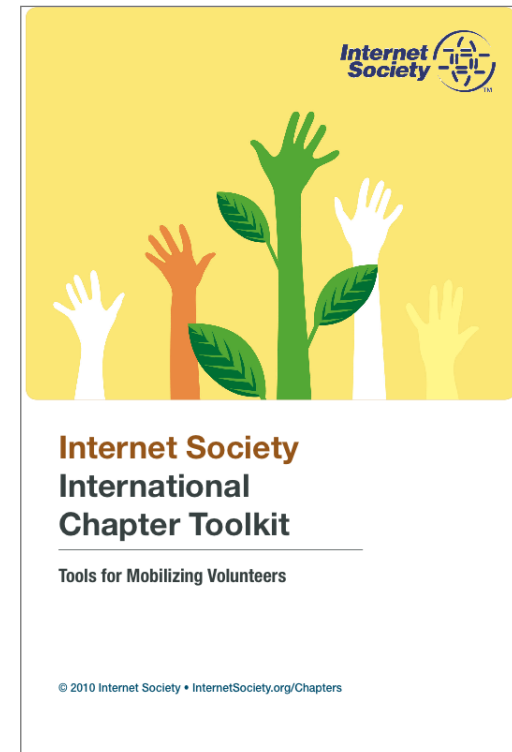**Internet Society**

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Support & Help Available

Resources highlighting Chapter successes

Chapter Toolkits
- …for 'Mobilising Volunteers'
- …for 'Unravelling the Net Neutrality/Open Internetworking debate'
- …for 'Educating and Influencing Policymakers'
- …for 'Leveraging the Next Generation Leaders Programme'
- In development: "IPv6 Tools for Chapters"

All these documents are available at:
http://isoc.org/isoc/chapters/guidelines

Internet Society
International
Chapter Toolkit

Tools for Mobilizing Volunteers

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Over to you….

Thank you!

Comments/Questions?

Contact E-mail: chapter-support@isoc.org

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