

Report of the Tanzania Internet Governance Forum 2023



**College of Informatics and Virtual Education (CIVE),
University of Dodoma**

31st August, 2023

Executive Summary

The Tanzania Internet Governance Forum (TzIGF) 2023, held under the theme “An empowering Internet that Tanzanians want,” marked another significant milestone in the evolution of Internet governance in Tanzania. The TzIGF, which initially began as the National Internet Governance Forum (NIGF) in 2008, has come a long way in fostering multi-stakeholder dialogues on public policy issues related to internet development. The 2023 edition took place both physically and online at the College of Informatics and Virtual Education, University of Dodoma on 31st August 2023.



A section of TzIGF participants in a group photo

The journey of the TzIGF from its inception in 2008 to its current multi-stakeholder platform status, including its name change to the Tanzania Internet Governance Forum, was briefly recounted. Notably, the event’s secretariat comprises multi-stakeholder representations from the government, academia, civil society, the technical community, and the private sector, currently hosted by the Internet Society Tanzania Chapter, along its collaborative partners ISOC Foundation, UNIGF and Organization for Digital Africa .

The TzIGF 2023 reaffirmed its commitment to fostering dialogue on crucial public policy issues related to the development of the Internet in Tanzania. With a rich history of bringing together stakeholders with diverse perspectives, the TzIGF remains a beacon of collaboration and innovation in the Tanzanian internet landscape. This report provides an overview of the event, including the topics discussed, recommendations for future improvement, and the consensus that emerged from this dynamic gathering.

Tanzania Internet Governance Forum 2023 participation

TzIGF 2023 was a hybrid event and it drew 100 online and onsite participants. The following table shows participants by stakeholder and gender

Participants – TZIGF 2023

No	Stakeholders	Total	Gender	
			Male	Female
1	Private Sector	17	10	7
2	Government	12	7	5
3	Civil Society	26	14	12
4	Technical Community	19	10	9
5	Academia	16	9	7
6	Intergovernmental Organization	4	3	1
7	Media	6	3	3
Total		100	56	44

Welcoming remarks

The Tanzania Internet Governance Forum 2023 opened its doors to a diverse array of stakeholders with a warm welcome from ISOC Tanzania Chapter President and the National Coordinator of Tanzania IGF, Mr. Nazar Nicholas who introduced the keynote speaker and dignitaries present at the event, thanking them for availing themselves for the Forum. He then requested all participants both online and onsite to introduce themselves.



Nazar Nicholas

He highlighted the significance of the Forum which focused on Internet and digital governance and emphasized its relevance in the context of today's rapidly evolving digital terrain and the impact it has on individuals and societies worldwide.

- 1.1 **Theme Emphasis:** He highlighted the theme of the Forum: **“An empowering Internet that Tanzanians want.”**
- 1.2 **Goals and Objectives:** He discussed the goals and objectives of IGF 2023, emphasizing on the need for collaborative discussions and solutions to address current Internet digital governance challenges in Tanzania and the world.
- 1.3 **Inclusivity:** He stressed on the importance of inclusivity in Internet governance, ensuring that no one is left behind. He mentioned efforts that have engaged diverse voices, including youth, people with disabilities (PwDs) and marginalized communities.
- 1.4 **Global Collaboration:** He highlighted the significance of Internet Governance Forum and its multi stakeholder approach as a platform for global collaboration.



A section of TzIGF participants following the proceedings

1.5 **Agenda Overview:** He gave a brief overview of the Forum's agenda, including key sessions, workshops, and discussions that would take effect.

1.6 **Call to Action:** Encouraged participants to actively engage in the discussions, share their expertise, and work together to develop meaningful outcomes that would contribute to a better Internet governance framework.

1.7 **Networking and Collaboration:** He emphasized on the value of networking and collaboration and fostering partnerships that can lead to positive changes in Internet and digital governance.

They Keynote Speech

Hon. Judge Dr. Eliamani Laltaika's Keynote address marked the commencement of a day filled with engaging discussions and insightful presentations.

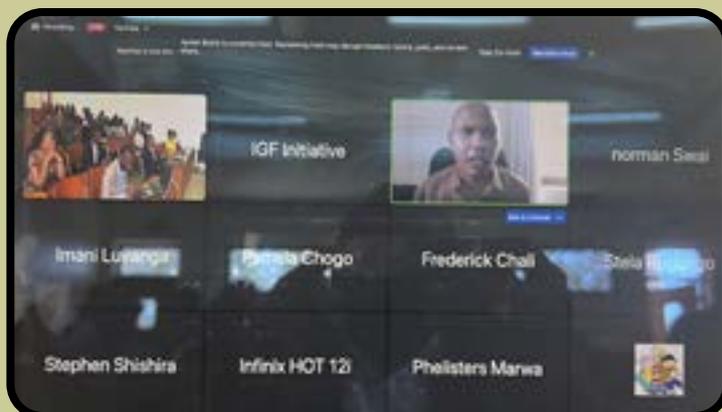


He underscored the significance of the TzIGF as a vital platform for shaping the trajectory of the Internet and digital governance in Tanzania. He emphasized the multi-stakeholderism and collaborative nature of this forum, which brings together representatives from various sectors, including government, civil society, the private sector, the technical community, and academia. This multi-stakeholder approach, he emphasized, is instrumental in ensuring that the internet serves the diverse needs and aspirations of Tanzanians.

He also highlighted the importance of keeping pace with the rapidly evolving digital world. As technology continues to transform our society, the TzIGF plays a pivotal role in addressing emerging challenges and harnessing the opportunities presented by the digital age. Moreover, he commended the forum's ability to adapt to changing circumstances, as evidenced by its successful transition to a hybrid format since 2019.

His keynote set the tone for a day of collaboration, knowledge sharing, and forward-looking discussions. The Tanzania Internet Governance Forum 2023, he emphasized, serves as a hope for Tanzania's digital future where the internet empowers all Tanzanians, irrespective of their backgrounds or circumstances. It is within this spirit of inclusivity and shared responsibility that the forum proceeded to explore the critical topics and recommendations discussed by a lineup of esteemed speakers and participants, each contributing to the vision of an empowering internet for Tanzania.

The TzIGF 2023 featured a diverse array of speakers who delved into critical internet governance topics. Each presentation brought a unique perspective on issues shaping the digital



spaces in Tanzania and beyond. From discussions on the digital gender gap to the transformative potential of emerging technologies like artificial intelligence and blockchain, these topics offered a comprehensive view of the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead in the ever-evolving realm of Internet governance.

The diverse array of speakers and subjects underscores the multi-stakeholder approach of the forum, fostering a rich exchange of ideas and a collective vision for an empowering internet that meets the needs of all Tanzanians.

Topics from various Speakers

1.0 The Digital Gender Gap: How Women Consider the Internet in Tanzania



Imani Henrick stressing a point to participants

Imani Henrick Luvanga, Radio Station Manager at Kings FM, delivered an insightful presentation at the Tanzania Internet Governance Forum 2023 on a topic of utmost importance – the digital gender gap in Tanzania and how women perceive and interact with the Internet. Her contribution shed light on the challenges and opportunities that women in Tanzania encounter in the digital realm and explored strategies to bridge this divide. The following are the key insights from Imani:

1.1 The Gender Digital Divide:

Imani underscored the existence of a significant gender digital divide in Tanzania. This divide encompasses disparities in internet access, digital literacy, and the meaningful use of digital technologies between men and women. It is crucial to acknowledge these disparities to address the root causes effectively.

1.2 Barriers to Women's Internet Access:

The presenter delved into the various barriers that hinder women's access to the internet in Tanzania. These include socio-cultural norms, economic constraints, lack of digital skills, and limited access to devices and infrastructure. Understanding these obstacles is the first step towards addressing them.

1.3 Empowering Women in the Digital Space:

She emphasized the importance of empowering women with digital skills and knowledge. She highlighted the role of education, training programs, and mentorship in equipping girls and women with the tools they need to navigate the digital world effectively.

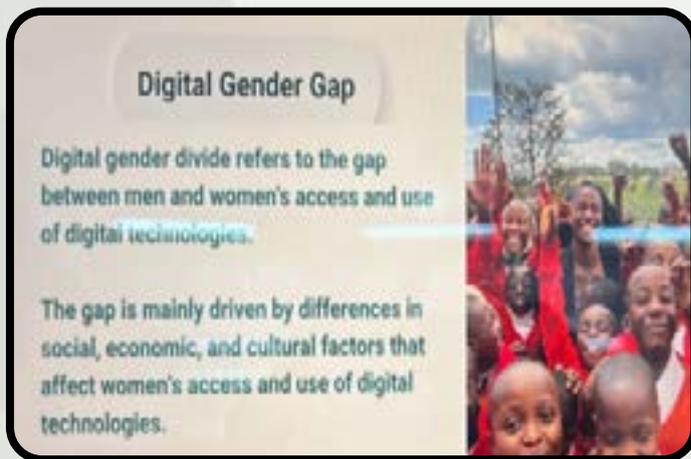
1.4 Creating Safe Digital Spaces:

Safety and security in the digital environment are key. The presenter discussed the need to create safe digital spaces for women, free from harassment, bullying and online violence. Building trust in online platforms is essential to encourage more women to engage in online activities.

1.5 Promoting Women's Digital Entrepreneurship:

Imani also touched on the potential for women's economic empowerment through digital entrepreneurship. Encouraging women to leverage the Internet for business and economic opportunities can lead to greater financial independence and societal benefits.





1.6 Policy and Advocacy:

The presenter highlighted the role of policy advocacy in addressing the digital gender gap. She emphasized the need for policies and regulations that promote gender equality in access to and utilization of digital technologies.

Imani's presentation served as a call to action, urging all stakeholders in Tanzania to recognize the digital gender gap as a critical issue that requires immediate attention. Her insights provided a road map for bridging

this gap, emphasizing the importance of education, empowerment, and the creation of safe digital spaces for women. It was a poignant reminder that inclusivity in the digital age is not just an aspiration but a necessity, and addressing the digital gender divide is an integral part of achieving this goal.

2.0 Understanding the Giant called AI (Artificial Intelligence)

Pamela Chogo, a respected Lecturer at the Institute of Accountancy Arusha, delivered an enlightening presentation. Her talk, titled "Understanding the Giant called AI (Artificial Intelligence)," provided attendees with a comprehensive overview of one of the most transformative technologies of our era. The following are the key insights from the speaker:



Pamela Chogo

2.1 AI Demystified:

Pamela Chogo's presentation demystified the complex field of Artificial Intelligence (AI) for the audience. She explained that AI refers to the development of computer systems capable of performing tasks that typically require human intelligence, such as problem-solving, pattern recognition, and decision-making.

2.2. AI's Expanding Applications:

The presenter highlighted the pervasive influence of AI in various sectors, including healthcare, finance, transportation, and more. She emphasized that AI is not limited to a single industry but has the potential to revolutionize multiple domains.

2.3. Ethical Considerations:

She raised crucial ethical considerations related to AI, such as bias in AI algorithms and decision-making processes. She stressed the importance of ensuring that AI systems are fair, and transparent, and do not perpetuate existing societal inequalities.

2.4. AI in Tanzania:

The presenter discussed the relevance of AI in the Tanzanian context. While acknowledging that AI adoption in Tanzania is in its nascent stages, she encouraged stakeholders to explore the potential applications of AI in sectors like agriculture, healthcare, and education.

2.5. *The Need for AI Education:*

She underscored the importance of educating the Tanzanian workforce about AI. She called for the development of AI literacy programs and training initiatives to equip individuals with the skills needed to thrive in an AI-driven world.

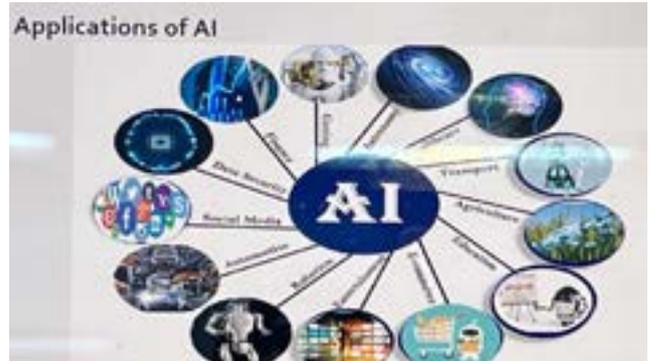
2.6. *AI Policy and Regulation:*

The presentation touched upon the need for AI policies and regulations in Tanzania. As AI becomes more integrated into society, appropriate governance frameworks are essential to address issues related to privacy, security, and accountability.

2.7. *Collaboration and Innovation:*

The presenter encouraged collaboration between academia, government, and the private sector to foster innovation in AI. She emphasized that the development of AI solutions tailored to Tanzania's specific needs and challenges should be a priority.

Pamela's presentation left attendees with a deeper understanding of AI's significance and its potential impact on Tanzania's development. It served as a call to action, urging stakeholders to proactively engage with AI, ensure its ethical deployment, and harness its transformative potential to address societal challenges and drive economic growth. In an increasingly AI-driven world, this presentation underlined the importance of staying informed and prepared for the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead.



3.0. **Blockchain Technology Integration in Tanzanian Agricultural Supply Chains: Exploring Implications and Opportunities:**

Dr. Fredrick Chali, a Lecturer at the University of Dodoma, discussed the potential of blockchain technology in enhancing transparency and efficiency in the agricultural sector. The following are the key insights provided by the speaker:

3.1 *Blockchain for Agricultural Supply Chains:*

Dr. Fredrick Chali began by introducing the concept of blockchain technology as a distributed ledger that offers transparency, security, and immutability. He then highlighted its relevance and potential applications in agricultural supply chains.

3.2. *Traceability and Transparency:*

One of the primary benefits of integrating blockchain technology in agricultural supply chains is the ability to trace the journey of agricultural products from the farm to the table. This enhances transparency and accountability, allowing consumers to make informed choices about the origin and quality of the products they purchase and consume.



Dr. Fredrick Chali

3.3. Reducing Fraud and Counterfeiting:

Blockchain can help mitigate issues related to fraud and counterfeit products in the agricultural sector. The immutability of blockchain records ensures that once information is recorded, it cannot be altered, reducing the risk of fraudulent transactions.

3.4. Efficiency and Cost Reduction:

Dr. Chali highlighted how blockchain can streamline supply chain processes, reduce paperwork, and minimize manual record-keeping. This increases efficiency and results in cost savings for both producers and consumers.

3.5. Smart Contracts:

The presenter discussed the concept of smart contracts, self-executing agreements with the terms of the contract directly written into code. Smart contracts can automate various processes within agricultural supply chains, such as payments and quality control.

3.6. Challenges and Adoption:

He acknowledged that while the potential benefits of blockchain in agriculture are significant, there are challenges to adoption, including the need for infrastructure, education, and regulatory frameworks.

3.7. Pilots and Initiatives:

The presenter shared examples of blockchain initiatives and pilot projects in Tanzanian agriculture. These real-world use cases demonstrated the practicality and feasibility of blockchain integration in the sector.

3.3.8. Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing:

The presenter emphasized on the importance of collaboration between academia, government agencies, industry players, and farmers to drive the successful implementation of blockchain technology in agricultural supply chains. He encouraged knowledge sharing and capacity building to ensure that all stakeholders can leverage this technology effectively.

Dr. Chali's presentation highlighted the transformative potential of blockchain technology in Tanzanian agriculture. By enhancing transparency, reducing fraud, and improving supply chain efficiency, blockchain can contribute to the growth and sustainability of the agricultural sector, ultimately benefiting farmers and consumers alike. His insights provided a road map for exploring blockchain applications in other critical industries and underscored the importance of technology innovation in Tanzania's economic development.



Dr. Chali taking participants through his presentation

4.0 Digital Accessibility: Inclusion for People with Disabilities (PwDs)

Dr. Cosmas Mnyanyi, an expert in the field of Digital Inclusion and a Lecturer at The Open University, Tanzania, delivered a thought-provoking presentation. His presentation shed light on the importance of making digital platforms and services accessible to Persons With Disabilities (PWDs), ensuring that they can fully participate in the digital age. He pointed out the following:



Dr. Cosmas Mnyanyi

4.1. Understanding Digital Accessibility:

He began by defining digital accessibility as the practice of designing and developing digital content, applications, and services that can be used effectively by Persons with Disabilities (PWD). This encompasses various disabilities, including visual, auditory, motor, and cognitive impairments.

4.2. Challenges Faced by People with Disabilities:

The presenter discussed the challenges and barriers that people with disabilities encounter when navigating digital platforms. These challenges can range from inaccessible websites and mobile apps to content that is not compatible with screen readers or assistive technologies.

4.3. Legal and Ethical Imperatives:

He emphasized that digital accessibility is not just a matter of convenience but a legal and ethical imperative. Several international and national laws and regulations mandate digital accessibility to ensure equal access to information and services for all citizens.

4.4. Universal Design Principles:

The presenter highlighted the importance of universal design principles, which involve creating digital content and interfaces that are usable by everyone, regardless of their abilities. Universal design benefits not only people with disabilities but also the broader population.

4.5. Assistive Technologies:

He discussed the role of Assistive Technologies (AT) such as screen readers, voice recognition software, and alternative input devices in enabling people with disabilities to interact with digital content. He reiterated the need for digital content to be compatible with these technologies.



4.6. Testing and Compliance:

The presenter encouraged organizations and developers to conduct accessibility testing and adhere to established accessibility standards, such as the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG). Compliance with these standards ensures that digital content is inclusive.

4.7. Training and Awareness:

Dr. Mnyanyi underscored the importance of training and raising awareness among content creators, designers, and developers about the principles of digital accessibility. Education and awareness-building are essential steps toward fostering a culture of inclusion.

4.8. Partnerships and Collaboration:

Collaboration between government agencies, advocacy groups, and the private sector is crucial in advancing digital accessibility. Partnerships can lead to the development of policies, guidelines, and initiatives that promote inclusion.

4.9. User-Centered Approach:

The presenter emphasized the significance of a user-centred approach to digital accessibility. Involving individuals with disabilities in the design and testing phases ensures that their needs and preferences are considered.

Dr. Mnyanyi's presentation served as a powerful reminder that digital accessibility is not a luxury but a fundamental right. Making digital platforms and content accessible is not only a legal obligation but also a moral imperative that reflects the values of inclusion and equity. His insights encouraged stakeholders in Tanzania to prioritize digital accessibility and work collectively to create a more inclusive digital Tanzania that benefits all members of the society.



Dr. Cosmas explaining a point to IGF participants

5.0 Artificial Intelligence at Meta (Facebook)

Desmond Mushi, the Public Policy Manager for East & Horn of Africa at Meta, formerly known as Facebook, delivered an insightful presentation. He provided attendees with a glimpse into how one of the world's leading tech companies is harnessing artificial intelligence (AI) to shape the digital landscape. He discussed the following:



Desmond Mushi

5.1. Introduction to Meta:

He began by introducing Meta, and highlighted its commitment to developing and utilizing cutting-edge technologies, including AI, to enhance the user experience and drive innovation.

5.2. AI-Powered Features:

The presenter discussed various AI-powered features and initiatives at Meta that have a profound impact on the user experience. These include content recommendations, language translation, facial recognition, and personalized advertising.



5.3. Content Moderation:

He addressed the issue of content moderation on Meta's platforms. He explained how AI plays a pivotal role in identifying and mitigating harmful content, such as hate speech, misinformation, and graphic images, to create a safer online environment.

5.4. AI Ethics and Oversight:

The presentation touched on the ethical considerations surrounding AI development and deployment at Meta. He emphasized the importance of responsible AI practices and the company's commitment to working with external organizations for oversight and accountability.



with digital content more effectively.

A section of IGF participants keenly following the presentation

5.5. Community Standards:

He discussed Meta's Community Standards and how AI algorithms are used to enforce these standards. He also highlighted the challenges and complexities of content moderation on a global scale.

5.6. Accessibility and Inclusivity:

He underscored Meta's dedication to making its platforms more accessible and inclusive. AI-driven accessibility features, such as automatic alt-text generation for images, help individuals with disabilities engage

5.7. AI Research and Development:

The presenter provided insights into Meta's ongoing AI research and development efforts, emphasizing the company's dedication to advancing the state of AI and its applications across various domains.

5.8. Privacy and Data Protection:

The presentation acknowledged the importance of user privacy and data protection in the context of AI. He discussed Meta's commitment to safeguarding user data and ensuring that AI applications comply with privacy regulations.

5.9 AI's Role in the Future:

He concluded by discussing the potential future role of AI at Meta. He highlighted how AI will continue to shape the company's products and services, making them more personalized, efficient, and user-friendly.

Mr. Mushi's presentation provided a valuable perspective on how Meta, a global tech leader, is leveraging artificial intelligence to enhance its platforms, improve user experiences, and address complex challenges such as content moderation and accessibility. It highlighted the intricate relationship between AI, ethics, and user-centric design, underscoring the company's commitment to responsible AI development and deployment. This presentation offered attendees a glimpse into the future of AI-powered technologies in the digital landscape and their potential to drive innovation and positive change.

6.0 The 18th UN-led Internet Governance Forum in Japan

Anja Gengo, representing the United Nations IGF Secretariat based in Geneva, delivered an informative presentation regarding the 18th United Nations-led Internet Governance Forum (IGF) to be held between 8th and 12th October 2023 in Kyoto, in Japan. Her presentation provided attendees with insights into this global event and its significance in shaping the future of Internet governance. She discussed the following:



Anja Gengo, NRI's Focal Point

6.1. Introduction to the UN-led IGF:

She started her presentation by introducing the United Nations-led Internet Governance Forum. She explained that the IGF is a multi-stakeholder platform that facilitates discussions on various aspects of internet governance, including policy, technical, economic, and societal issues.

6.2. The 18th IGF in Japan:

She discussed the 18th edition of the UN-led IGF, to be hosted in Japan. She highlighted the importance of hosting the IGF in different countries to encourage diverse perspectives and global inclusivity in shaping Internet governance policies.

6.3. Themes and Focus Areas:

She provided an overview of the themes and focus areas of the 18th IGF, which typically include topics such as digital inclusion, cybersecurity, data governance, and emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain.

6.4. Multi-Stakeholder Participation:

Her presentation emphasized on the multi-stakeholder nature of the IGF, where participants include government representatives, civil society, the private sector, technical experts, and academia. She stated that this inclusive approach fosters balanced and collaborative discussions.

6.5. Policy Recommendations:

She discussed how the IGF serves as a platform for stakeholders to share their experiences and insights, leading to the development of policy recommendations and best practices that can be adopted by governments and organizations worldwide.

6.6. *Global Internet Governance Challenges:*

The presenter highlighted some of the pressing challenges facing global Internet governance, including issues related to privacy, cybersecurity, the digital divide, and the impact of emerging technologies on society.

6.7. *Continuity and Sustainability:*

She discussed the need for the IGF to continue its work in promoting an open, inclusive, and secure Internet while addressing new challenges and opportunities that arise in the ever-evolving digital landscape.

Anja Gengo's presentation served as a bridge between the global and national levels of internet governance. It highlighted the importance of international collaboration and information sharing in addressing the complex issues surrounding the Internet. The 18th UN-led IGF in Japan represented a crucial forum for stakeholders from all over the world to come together, exchange ideas, and work towards solutions that benefit the global digital community. Attendees at the Tanzania Internet Governance Forum gained valuable insights into the broader global discussions on Internet governance and their relevance to the Tanzanian context.

7.0 **Cybersecurity Skills Gap among Social Network Users: Analysis of its Potential Implications on Business & People's Livelihood**



Dr. Adam Mtaho

Dr. Adam B. Mtaho, the Acting Head of the ICT Unit at Arusha Technical College, delivered an insightful presentation that delved into the critical issue of cybersecurity skills among social network users and explored the wide-ranging implications for both businesses and individuals. He discussed the following.

7.1. *Understanding the Cybersecurity Skills Gap:*

He began by defining the cybersecurity skills gap as the disparity between the growing demand for cybersecurity expertise and the limited availability of qualified professionals. He highlighted the urgency of addressing this gap in the context of social network users.

7.2. *The Pervasiveness of Social Networks:*

He emphasized on the widespread use of social networks in Tanzania and in the globe. Social media platforms have become integral to both personal and business communication, making cybersecurity within these networks of paramount importance.



7.3. Cyber Threats and Vulnerabilities:

He discussed the various cyber threats and vulnerabilities that social network users face. These include phishing attacks, identity theft, ransomware, and the spread of misinformation. He stressed that individuals and businesses alike are susceptible to these threats.

7.4. The Role of User Education:

The presentation highlighted the critical role of user education in mitigating cybersecurity risks. Dr. Adam B. Mtaho emphasized the need for individuals to be informed about best practices for securing their online presence, including using strong passwords, recognizing phishing attempts, and safeguarding personal information.



A section of the participants following the presentation

7.5. Business Implications:

He explored the potential implications of the cybersecurity skills gap on businesses. Inadequate cybersecurity awareness and skills among employees can lead to data breaches, financial losses, damage to reputation, and legal consequences for organizations.

7.6. Economic and Livelihood Impact:

He discussed how the cybersecurity skills gap can have broader economic and livelihood implications. Cyberattacks on businesses can disrupt operations, affect job security, and impact the overall economy. Individuals may also suffer financial losses and damage to their digital reputation.

7.7. The Need for Collaboration:

The presentation underscored the importance of collaboration between government, educational institutions, businesses, and civil society organizations to address the cybersecurity skills gap. Collective efforts are required to promote cybersecurity awareness and education.

7.8. Capacity Building:

Dr. Adam B. Mtaho emphasized the need for capacity-building programs that equip individuals with the knowledge and skills to protect themselves and their organizations from cyber threats. Training and education initiatives should be accessible and relevant to social network users.

7.9. Policy and Regulation:

The presenter discussed the role of policies and regulations in promoting cybersecurity. Effective regulations can incentivize businesses to invest in cybersecurity measures and protect the interests of consumers.

Dr. Mtaho's presentation shed light on a pressing issue in the digital age: the cybersecurity skills gap among social network users. His insights emphasized the critical need for cybersecurity education and awareness to protect both individuals and businesses from the ever-evolving landscape of cyber threats. The implications of this skills gap extend beyond cybersecurity, affecting economic stability and people's livelihoods. It serves as a call to action for stakeholders to collaborate, invest in capacity building, and develop effective policies to bridge this gap and safeguard the digital ecosystem.

8.0 Human Rights in a Digital World

Alembe Joseph, a member of the Youth IGF Tanzania secretariat, delved into the intersection of human rights and the rapidly evolving digital landscape, shedding light on the challenges and opportunities in safeguarding these rights in an increasingly interconnected world. He discussed the following:



Alembe Joseph

8.1. *The Digital Transformation:*

He commenced his presentation by acknowledging the profound impact of the digital transformation on every aspect of modern life. From communication and commerce to education and healthcare, digital technologies have become integral to human existence.

8.2. *Digital Human Rights:*

He emphasized that fundamental human rights, such as freedom of expression, privacy, and access to information, must be upheld in the digital realm. These rights are not just applicable offline but are equally vital in the online world.

8.3. *Challenges to Digital Rights:*

He discussed the challenges that individuals and communities face when attempting to exercise their digital rights. These challenges encompass issues like online censorship, surveillance, cyberbullying, and the spread of hate speech and misinformation.

8.4. *The Right to Privacy:*

The presentation highlighted the importance of the right to privacy in the digital age. The presenter discussed the risks associated with data breaches, surveillance, and the collection of personal information by both private companies and government entities.

8.5. *Freedom of Expression:*

He underscored the significance of freedom of expression in the digital world. He acknowledged that while the internet provides a platform for diverse voices, it also presents challenges related to online harassment and the suppression of dissenting viewpoints.



A section of the participants following the discussions

youth with digital skills and ensure that their rights are protected online.

8.8. *Multi-stakeholder Collaboration:*

The presenter stressed the importance of multi-stakeholder collaboration in addressing digital rights issues. Governments, civil society, the private sector, and the technical community all play a role in upholding and advancing human rights in the digital realm.

8.6. *Access to Information:*

He discussed the role of the digital world in facilitating access to information. He emphasized that equitable access to the Internet is essential for individuals to enjoy their right to seek, receive, and impart information.

8.7. *Youth and Digital Rights:*

Given his role as a member of Youth IGF Tanzania secretariat, Alembe emphasized the unique challenges and opportunities faced by young people in the digital world. He highlighted the need to empower

8.9: Education and Advocacy:

He concluded by emphasizing the role of education and advocacy in promoting digital rights. Raising awareness about digital rights and advocating for policies that protect these rights are essential steps in safeguarding human dignity in the digital age.

Alembe's presentation served as a vital reminder of the inseparable link between human rights and the digital realm. It highlighted the need for concerted efforts to protect these rights in the face of evolving technological challenges. His insights resonated with stakeholders at the forum, calling for a continued commitment to upholding fundamental human rights in an increasingly interconnected and digitized world.

4.0 Recommendations

The Tanzania Internet Governance Forum 2023 generated valuable insights and discussions that have culminated in several recommendations aimed at improving and enhancing future iterations of the forum:

i) Broaden Stakeholder Engagement

To make the TzIGF more robust, there should be an increased participation from marginalized and underrepresented groups, as their collective perspectives are crucial in shaping an internet that is inclusive for all Tanzanians.

ii) International Collaborations

The forum should seek to establish stronger collaborations and partnerships with international organizations and experts in the field of Internet governance. Leveraging global best practices and insights can help Tanzania stay at the forefront of digital developments.

iii) Address the Digital Gender Gap

Given the significance of the digital gender gap in Tanzania, the forum should dedicate more attention and resources to initiatives aimed at bridging this divide. Specialized programs and policies should be developed to empower women and girls in the digital space.

iv) Explore Emerging Technologies

The TzIGF should continue to explore the potential applications of emerging technologies such as blockchain and artificial intelligence (AI) in various sectors of Tanzania's economy. This includes facilitating research, development, and pilot projects to harness the benefits of these technologies.

v) Enhance Digital Accessibility

Ensuring that digital platforms are accessible to all, including individuals with disabilities, is imperative. The forum should encourage the development of guidelines and standards for digital accessibility and advocate for their implementation across the country.

vi) Regular Updates and Feedback

To maintain relevance and timeliness, the TzIGF should consider more frequent updates and feedback mechanisms throughout the year. This will help ensure that the forum remains responsive to emerging issues and stakeholder concerns.

vii) Capacity Building

Invest in capacity-building programs for stakeholders, including government officials, to ensure they are well-equipped to address impending challenges in Internet governance effectively.

viii) Sustainability

Explore options for the long-term sustainability of the TzIGF, including securing stable funding sources to support its activities and initiatives.

ix) Engagement of the Tanzania Judiciary

The Tanzania Judiciary plays an important role of interpreting the laws and the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania. This role makes the Judiciary a key ally in the governance and development of Internet and digital civic space in Tanzania. Up and until now, the Judiciary has essentially been locked out of dialogue regarding Internet and digital governance. This case is not particular for Tanzania but in many global jurisdictions, the situation remains the same.

It is critical for the Judiciaries to be engaged in these conversation for the purpose of making the judicial officers informed of the ever-evolving digital landscape(s). TzIGF should establish an initiative or activity that will from 2024 onwards engage the Judiciary in the public policy dialogues regarding Internet and digital civic spaces, governance and evolution. Judicial officers to be included such as magistrates, judges, registrars, clerks, state attorneys, prosecutors and lawyers/advocates.

These recommendations reflect the collective wisdom and vision of the participants in the Tanzania Internet Governance Forum 2023. Implementing these suggestions will not only enhance the Forum itself but also contribute to the ongoing development of an internet that truly serves the needs and aspirations of Tanzanians across all segments of society.



Bird's eye view of TzIGF in session

5.0 Conclusion

The Tanzania Internet Governance Forum 2023, held under the theme “An empowering Internet that Tanzanians want,” has reaffirmed its pivotal role in shaping the future of the Internet in Tanzania. As the event concluded, it left behind a trail of valuable insights, shared knowledge, and a renewed commitment to fostering an inclusive and innovative digital landscape for all Tanzanians.

The forum’s journey, which began in 2008 as the National Internet Governance Forum (NIGF) and evolved into the Tanzania Internet Governance Forum (TzIGF), reflects the dynamism and adaptability required in the ever-evolving realm of Internet governance. The transition to a multi-stakeholder platform has allowed the TzIGF to bring together diverse perspectives and harness collective wisdom in addressing the complex challenges and opportunities presented by the digital age.

Throughout the course of the event, participants engaged in thoughtful discussions, exploring topics ranging from digital gender equality to the integration of emerging technologies like blockchain and artificial intelligence into Tanzanian industries. Esteemed speakers shared their expertise, contributing to a richer understanding of the Internet’s impact on Tanzanian society.

The recommendations put forth by participants underscore the forum’s commitment to continuous improvement and its aspiration to remain a relevant and influential platform for Internet governance in Tanzania. These recommendations emphasize the importance of inclusivity, collaboration, and forward-looking strategies.

As we conclude this report, we recognize that the journey of Internet governance in Tanzania is an ongoing one. The TzIGF will continue to play a vital role in facilitating dialogues, driving policy initiatives, and fostering collaborations to ensure that the Internet remains a powerful tool for education, innovation, economic growth, and social inclusion in Tanzania.

The Tanzania Internet Governance Forum 2023 has left a lasting impact on the collective vision of an empowering internet that Tanzanians want. It is with this vision in mind that we look forward to future iterations of the forum, each building upon the successes and lessons learned from the past, and collectively steering the course towards a digital future that benefits all Tanzanians.

Report prepared by:



Tanzania Internet Governance Forum Secretariat

Event hosted by:

