Kenya country experience: A Safer Cyber Space for Children

Africa Child Online Protection (ACOP) Summit 15th-16th December, 2014, Kampala, Uganda

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Content

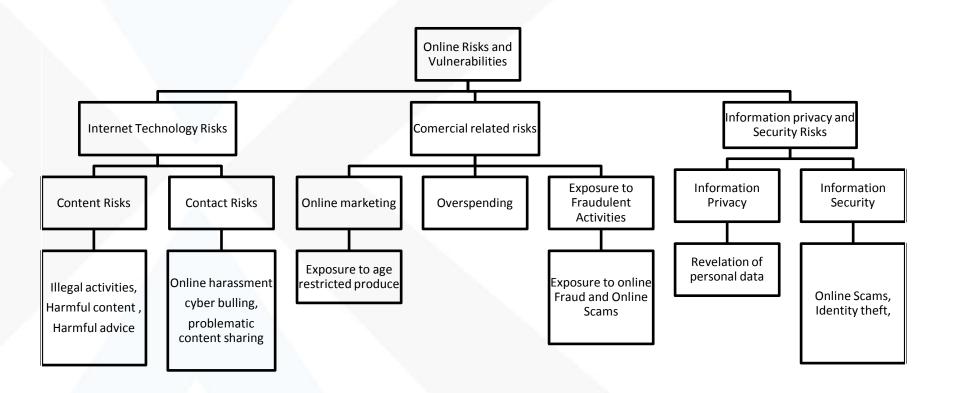


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Background

- Internet has been described as the ultimate game changer
- Children & youth have been described as "digital natives"
- Growth in the use of the internet and an increasing number of children are now using the Internet
- Mobile phones and the Internet are now major channels for education, creativity, entertainment and self-expression for children
- Technology has removed social barriers posing challenges for the traditional structure of Child Protection
- Development and roll out of mobile technologies presents benefits but also challenges to Child Online Protection

Online risks and Vulnerabilities COMMUNICATIONS Map



Goals in CoP



- Promotion of awareness on the importance of child safety in the online world;
- To enhance the experience of children around the world and enable future generations to grow up safely using the Internet and new technologies.
- To develop practical tools that will assist Governments, industry, educators, parents/guardians to ensure a safe and secure online experience for children;

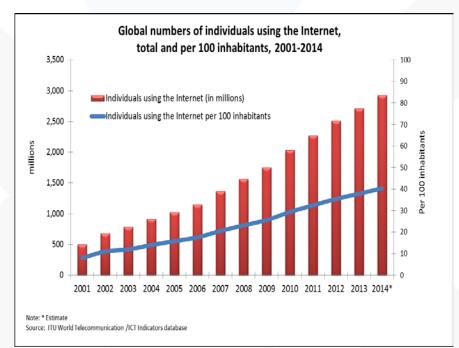


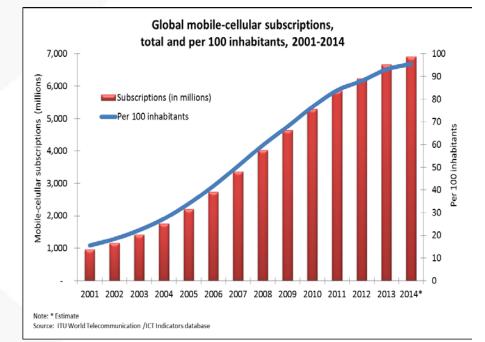


Legislation on Child Protection in Kenya

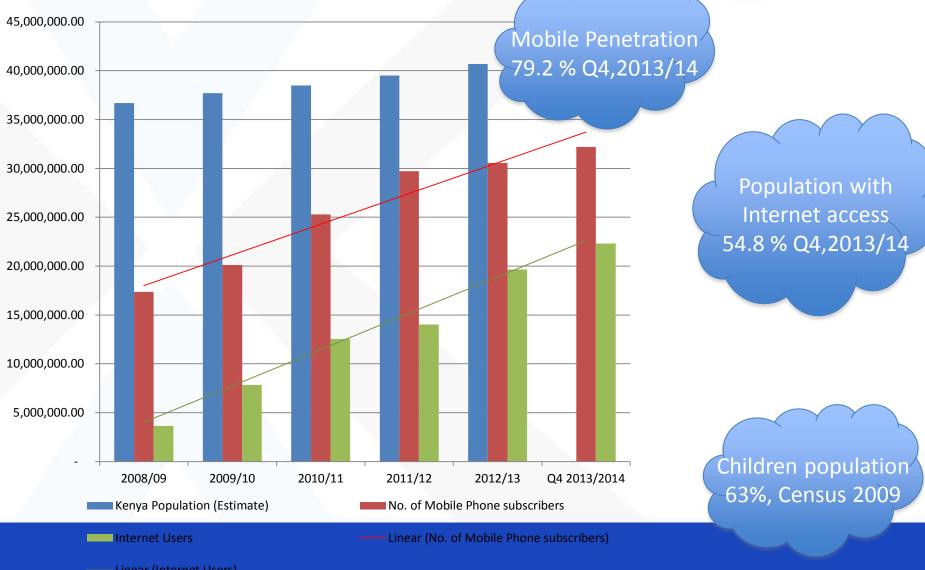
- The Constitution of Kenya, 2010
- The Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) policy;
- The National Children Policy;
- The Children's Act;
- The United Nations Convection on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC);
- The African Charter on Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC);
- Adoption Regulations;
- Charitable Children Institution Regulations;
- The Sexual Offences Act,2006
- The Kenya information and Communications Act, 1998
- The Kenya Information and Communications (Consumer Protection Regulations, 2010
- General education policies and child participation guidelines

Global Numbers of People using COMMUNICATIONS the Internet





Kenya Country Data



MMUNICATIONS

— Linear (Internet Users)



Aligning National Legislation

- Gaining traction
 - Legal provisions on protection scattered in various pieces of legislation
 - Lack of National Child Online Protection
 Framework
 - Territorial and jurisdictional boundaries.
 - *Undertake legal audit to assess readiness to handle COP

Initiatives on COP in Kenya



Research

- Beyond Borders: An Exploratory Study on Child Online Safety in Kenya', Cradle and Plan International, 2010
- A (Private) Public Space: Examining the Use and Impact of Digital and Social Media Among Adolescents in Kenya, UNICEF, 2013
- Authority to Commission country research in 2015/2016 in partnership with organizations,

Workshops/Forums

- Protecting Children In Cyberspace: Whose Responsibility Is It? 8th 9th June 2011
- Consumer Forum at CA's 1st ICT Week, 27th June 2014: Presentations and discussions with Industry and stakeholders on Child Online Protection

Awareness

- Safer Internet Day (7th March 2014): Authority supported Watoto Watch in celebration
- Publications: Wide distribution of brochures "Children and the use of the Internet" and "Children and the use of Mobile Phones"
- Awareness Campaign: Scheduled to launch in February 2015 in collaboration with stakeholders

Initiatives on COP in Kenya



- Reporting Mechanisms
 - Childline Kenya
 - Manages the national Child Help Line (CHL) 116, a 24-hr national emergency helpline for children in difficult circumstances or those who need counseling;
 - Provides public education programs on child rights and child protection through community awareness, media events, school & community outreach sessions & parenting education;
 - Conducts research, advocacy and development in COP area;
 - Email service for reporting abuse, seeking counseling or making inquiries: <u>116@childlinekenya.co.ke</u>

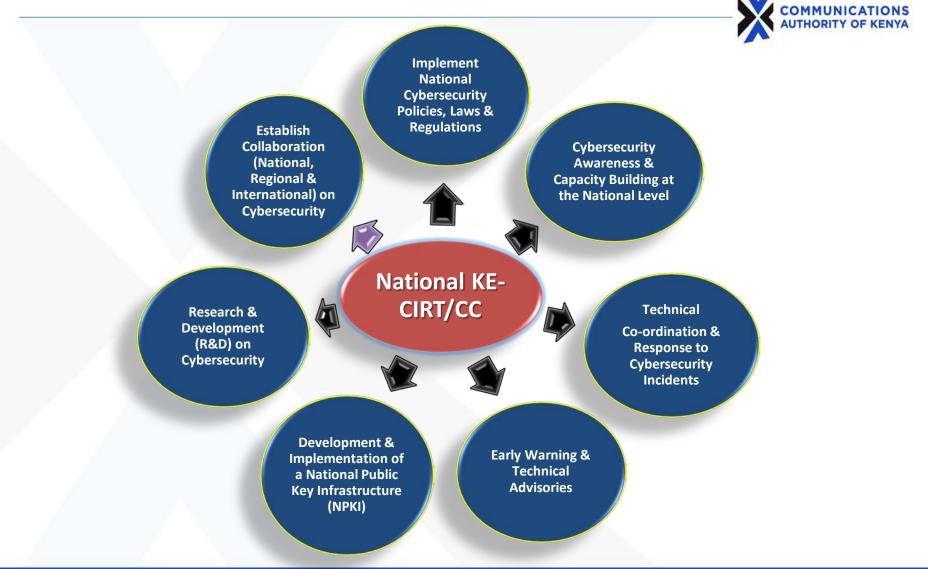
- Communications Authority of Kenya (CA)

- Consumer Affairs Division through the Chukua Hatua initiative <u>chukuahatua@ca.go.ke;</u>
- The Kenya Computer Incident Response Team Coordination Centre (National KE-CIRT/CC
 - Forms part of the National Cybersecurity Framework and is a function of CA
 - incidents@ke-cirt.go.ke, www.ke-cirt.go.ke, www.ca.go.ke

The Kenya Computer Incident Response Team - COMMUNICATIONS Coordination Centre (National KE-CIRT/CC)

- A technical means of Cybercrime management that was launched by the Government in June 2014
- Has speeded up resolution of cybercrime
- Consulting with the ITU to upgrade the operations of the National KE-CIRT/CC, especially in the proactive management of cybercrime.

Functions of the National KE-CIRT/CC



The National KE-CIRT/CC Collaboration





•CA Website: http://www.ca.go.ke (Information Security)

- •National KE-CIRT/CC Website: <u>http://www.ke-cirt.go.ke</u>
- •Email: <u>incidents@ke-cirt.go.ke</u>
- •Telephone, write or visit CA Offices.

CONCLUSION

- Need to develop a legislative framework that embraces CoP comprehensively through a practical multilateral, multi-stakeholder approach (Policy, Law, Technical, Education, Awareness)
- Capacity building Develop mechanism to equip relevant stakeholders with appropriate information
- Public awareness Develop local public awareness information and content targeted at various target audiences

CONCLUSION

- Broader cooperation Development of framework of engagement between local and international organizations and law enforcement agencies
- Technical measures Foster the development of technical tools and services in the market that minimize the risk of expose of children
- Research to better understand the online habits of children and youth and facilitate identification and development of mechanisms to reduce their exposure to risks and vulnerabilities online.

Thank You!

www.ca.go.ke info@ca.go.ke

