### 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

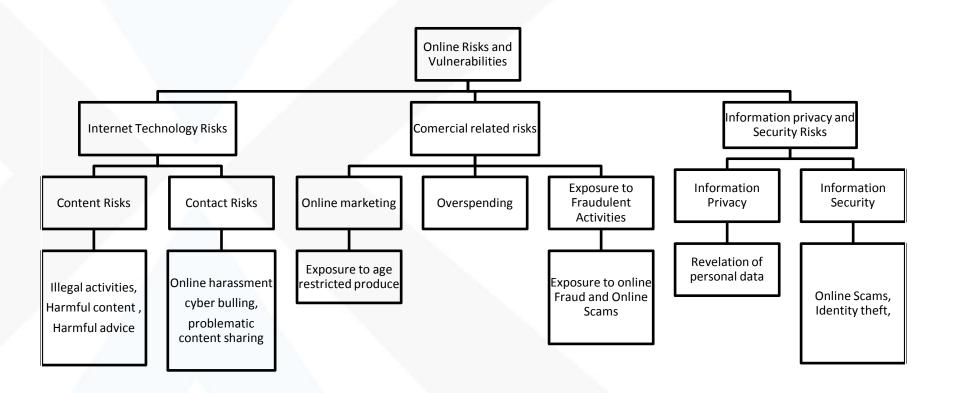


- Background
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## Background

- 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;

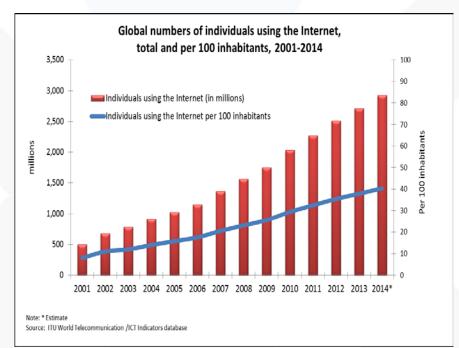


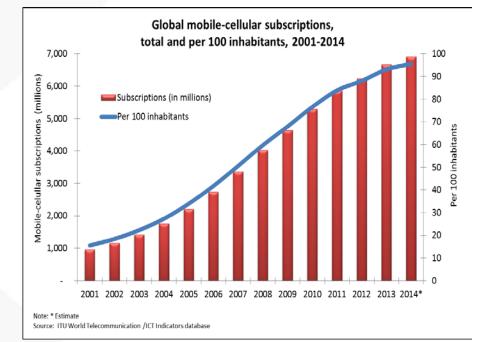


### Legislation on Child Protection in Kenya

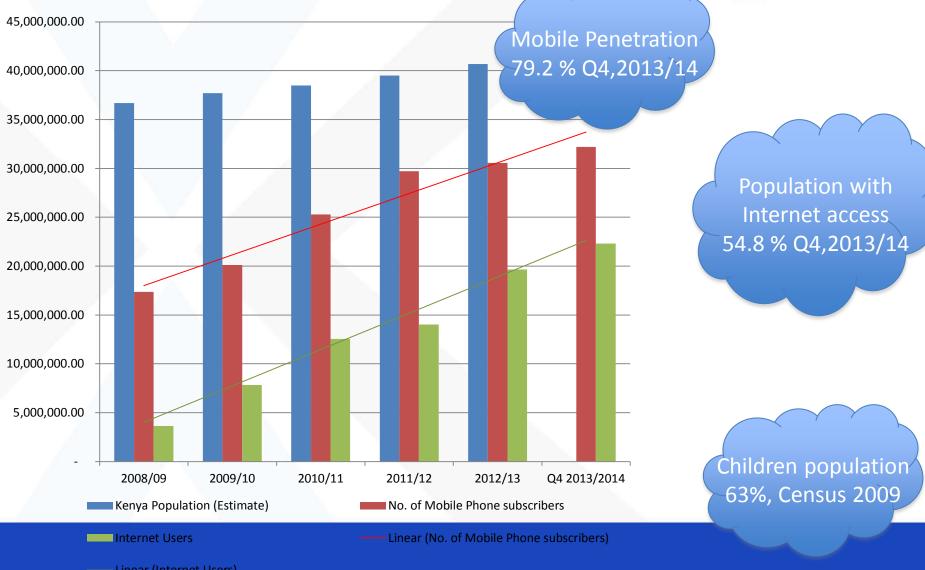
- The Constitution of Kenya, 2010
- The Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) policy;
- The National Children Policy;
- The Children's Act;
- The United Nations Convection on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC);
- The African Charter on Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC);
- Adoption Regulations;
- Charitable 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? 8<sup>th</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> 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 (7<sup>th</sup> 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

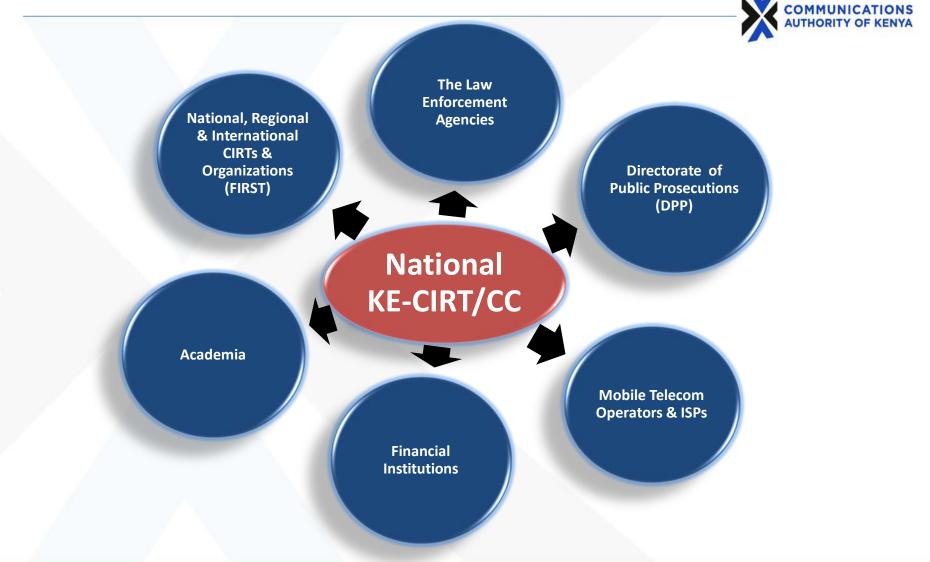
The Kenya Computer Incident Response Team - COMMUNICATIONS Coordination Centre (National KE-CIRT/CC)

- 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: <a href="http://www.ca.go.ke">http://www.ca.go.ke</a> (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!

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