



هيئة تنظيم الاتصالات
Telecommunications Regulatory Authority
Kingdom of Bahrain - مملكة البحرين

“Child Online Protection” TRA Bahrain National Internet Safety Review Study

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2010 Online Safety Study

National Internet Safety Review (NISR 2015) – Kingdom of Bahrain



SONR1 (2010) – The First Study



In 2010 the first Study on Online Safety' was developed to provide

“a comprehensive analysis of internet safety issues amongst adults and children, and sets out recommendations to ensure the safety of young people and adults”



The research aimed to explore adults and young people (aged 7-18) experience and awareness of internet use and other digital media safety.

- **Mass market questionnaire** aimed at identifying what people do online and how they feel about doing it – 800 respondents
- **School questionnaire** asking what children
 - do online
 - risks they face and;
 - level of knowledge on safety issues – (2558 respondents)
- **Focus groups** (150 children)
- **Stakeholder interviews** with Government's, ISPs, NGOs etc.



Study Findings (2010)



Most parents do not participate in online activities with their children



Most children have unsupervised access to the internet



Cyberbullying is a problem identified by young people and teachers

Older children (14 – 18) take the most risks; sharing personal information with strangers and opening email attachments from an unknown sources.



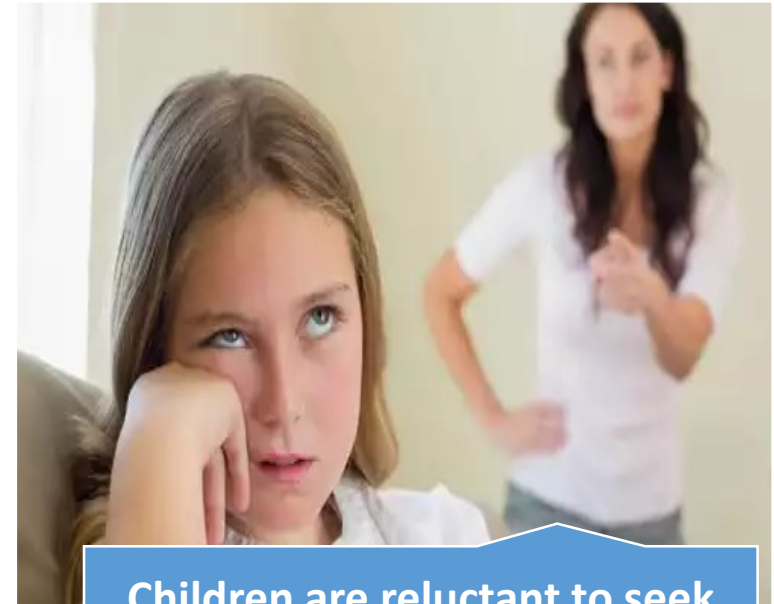
Study Findings (2010)



Teachers feel they lack the skills as many young people are more computer literate than they are

So how do we keep students safe???

There is no formal internet safety training at schools



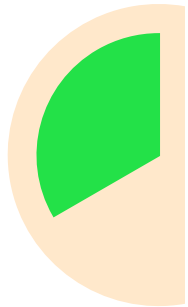
Children are reluctant to seek advice out of fear of being lectured



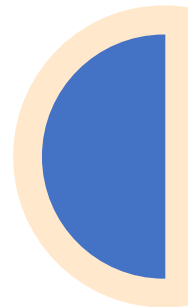
Children's Findings (2010)



66%
Haven't received training on online safety



72%
Published personal information to strangers online



87%
Have been left unsupervised when accessing the internet



43%

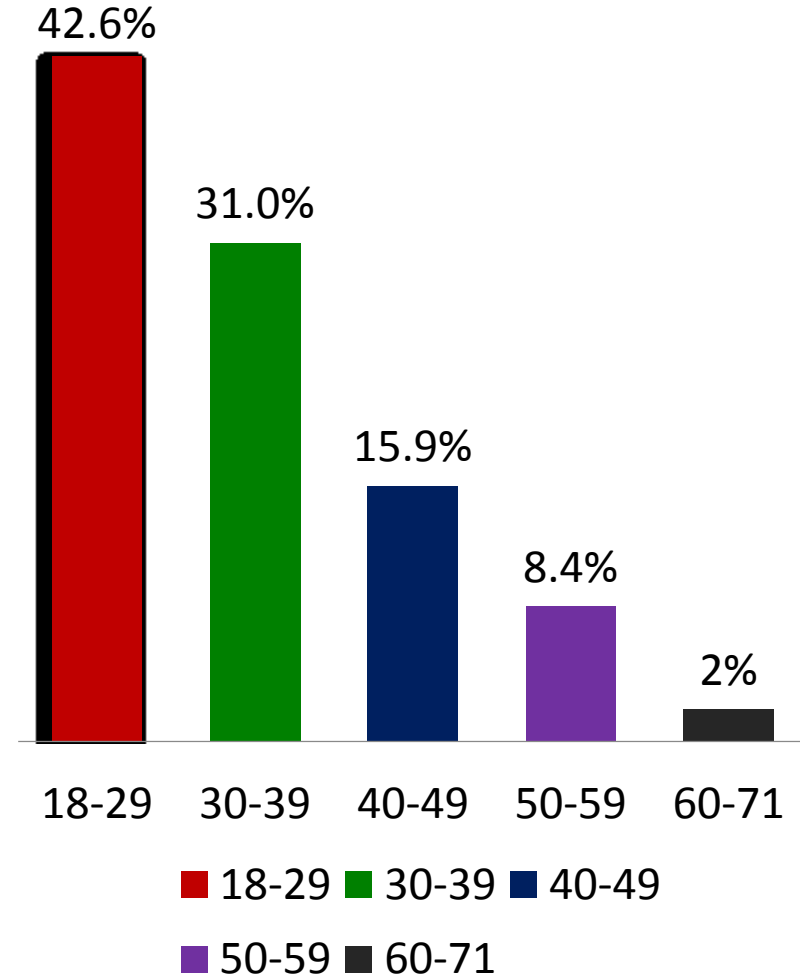
of children surveyed **had met** with an **online contact** who they had not met in person before.





Internet Usage in Bahrain - Adults

1. Generally experienced Internet users
2. Low Internet security awareness
3. High level of trust
4. Frequently exposed to negative online experiences
5. No sources of reliable information for Internet advice



2015 Online Safety Study

National Internet Safety Review (NISR 2015) – Kingdom of Bahrain



The National Internet Safety Review 2015 (NISR 2015)



“NISR (2015) is the second comprehensive analysis of internet safety issues amongst adults and children, it will gauge and compare the results of the (2010) study related to online behavior of young people, caregivers and teachers, taking into consideration the rapid rise in usage of social media platforms and the recent spread of technology among children in the past three years.”





About NISR 2015

Long Term-objectives

- Create Measurement tools
- Conduct & develop annual Surveys to keep track of general level of awareness and use of new technology

Short Term-objectives

- Gather evidence regarding online behaviour & experience (Positive and negative experience).
- Current major issues facing children, caregivers and teachers on online safety.
- Detect Trends concerning online safety
- Key Recommendations & Guidance on how to implement the recommendations



NISR 2015 Research

Focus groups

- **Children (6 - 11 yrs.)**
 - 100 Children from different age groups (completed)
 - Private & Public schools (equal split)
- **Teachers**
 - Conducted with schools to gather information (12 Teachers & School Consultants)

Surveys

- **Adult Survey (19 & Above)**
 - Has a dedicated Parents section & Teachers section
 - On-going 500 out of 800 has been surveyed around Bahrain
- Young People (12-18)
- **Child Survey (12-18 yrs.)**
 - Total of 3,000
 - Private Schools**
 - In-progress (500 of the 1,500 surveyed)
 - Public Schools**
 - 1,500 to be surveyed in November



NISR 2015- Children Focus Groups (6-12 years old)

The key themes identified so far are:

1. Internet use
2. Parental online supervision
3. Awareness and online security

“No, I wouldn’t go to my parents. My mom usually comes to me if she needs help with the Internet” (Child age 11).

“If I don’t know something, I use Google or YouTube. I find videos of how to do stuff myself. It’s great” (Child age 10).

“When I play games, it happened a lot to me that someone asked me for my number. But I didn’t give it” (Child age 12)



NISR 2015 – Teachers Focus Groups

- Teachers are concerned about the amount of time children spend on SNS and online gaming, this is seen as potentially damaging to children's schooling
- Teachers suggested that parents often do not know about their children's online activities and that there is a need to raise awareness amongst parents. Teachers also stated that sometimes it is difficult to engage with parents due to their unawareness about their child's online activities.

● Gauge & Compare
2018-2019

● Measurements
2016-2017

- Develop Measurement tools
- Annual Surveys , will keep track on level of awareness and new technology

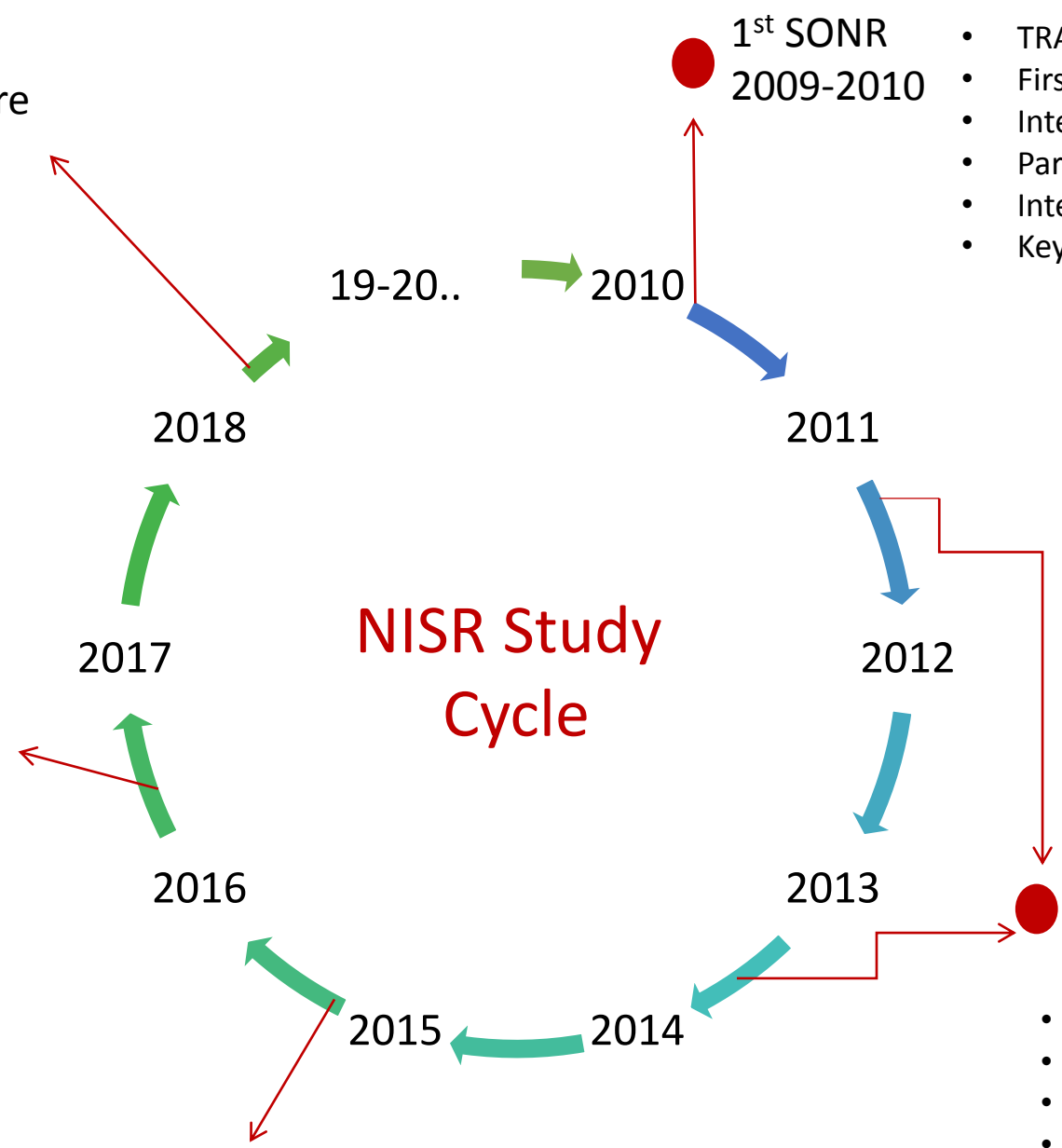
● Gauge & Compare
2015-2016

- Positive and negative experience.
- Current major issues
- Identify Trends
- Key Recommendations

● 1st SONR
2009-2010

- TRA collaborated with MOE
- First survey of young people
- Internet use
- Parents Behaviour
- Internet Safety
- Key Recommendations

NISR Study Cycle



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Thank You

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