

ICT SUMMIT 2026 • ONGWEDIVA

One Digital Agenda

From Policy to Platform

Ms. Anna Amomo-David

ICT Professional

Namibian Internet Governance &

Namibia Chapter Internet Society

Who we are

Two local platforms, one national digital agenda

- 1 Namibia's digital crossroads
- 2 ISOC Namibia & NamIGF
- 3 From policy to platform: the connecting idea
- 4 Past work that moved the needle
- 5 Disrupting the conversation, invoking action
- 6 Why it matters and how to join in

Namibia's Digital Crossroads

Namibia is connected on paper — the hard conversations are about who is left out, and who decides the rules

78%

National internet
connectivity

13%

Rural coverage
the access gap

5 + 3

ISPs & telecom
operators nationally

Open policy questions the sector keeps circling back to:

Broadband policy

Data protection

SIM card registration

Digital/AI rights

Platform regulation

These are not abstract policy debates they decide whether digital growth reaches everyone, or just the already-connected.

Internet Society Namibia Chapter

'17

Namibia's 32nd ISOC chapter to launch in Africa

The Internet Society Namibia Chapter promotes and supports the Internet as open, accessible infrastructure that enriches people's lives the civil-society home for Internet advocacy in Namibia.

Core objectives

- Promote free & secure Internet access for all
- Advocate for local-language content online
- Coordinate digital-literacy & safety training
- Advise government on broadband, data & SIM policy

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What it does

Convene

Annual national IGF bringing together every stakeholder group

Set the agenda

Surfaces the year's most pressing governance issues early

Feed global IGF

Keeps Namibia's voice aligned with global Internet-governance norms

Anchor institution

Evolved from a working group into a national governance anchor

Platform Two

Namibia Internet Governance Forum

'17

Launched as a national, multistakeholder convening body

NamIGF connects technical, policy and societal voices — government, business, academia and civil society — on Internet governance, one national conversation at a time.

From Policy to Platform

A policy only becomes real when a platform carries it into practice



That bridge — policy into lived practice — is the “One Digital Agenda.”

Past Work — Internet Society Namibia

A decade of building the Chapter's reach, one programme at a time

2017

Founding & chartering

32nd African ISOC chapter; launch tied to Namibia Internet Day

2019

Youth & skills pipeline

Africa Youth trainee cohort; Africa Coding Week delivered locally

2021

Cyber/ Digital Committee

Chapter leadership appointed by the Ministry of ICT to the national committee and other stakeholder including Parliament and Minister Of Gender and Education

2023–25

Global representation

Chapter leadership serves on ISOC's global Chapters Advisory Council

Past Work — NamIGF

From a working group to a national anchor institution for Internet governance

2017	Launch	Established as a multistakeholder national IGF platform
2021	4th NamIGF — “Internet United”	Hybrid forum on access, safety and critical infrastructure protection
Dec 2024	Institutional transition	Formal governance restructuring strengthens NamIGF's standing
2025	Co-host, FIFAfrica25	Co-hosted Africa's leading digital-rights forum with Namibia's MICT

Disrupting the Conversation

These platforms put hard questions on the table before comfortable ones



Digital rights & inclusion



AI & platform regulation



Surveillance & internet shutdowns



Rural access & the digital divide



Data protection & SIM policy



Cybersecurity of critical infrastructure

Being the venue where these issues surface first is itself the disruption.

Invoking Action

Conversation is the starting point — these are the actions it has produced

1

Government advisory

Chapter leadership sits on the Ministry of ICT's Cyber Security Committee and advises Parliament's ICT committees

2

Youth & skills

Youth training put digital skills directly into communities

3

Global voice, local lens

A seat on ISOC's global Chapters Advisory Council brings Namibia's issues to the world stage

4

Rights-based convening

Co-hosting FIFAfrica25 anchored continental digital-rights debate on Namibian soil

Why It Matters

Digital pathways only reduce unemployment and poverty if someone keeps the pathway open

Inclusive growth

Multistakeholder platforms make sure digital-economy gains reach rural and under-served Namibians, not only urban centres

Jobs from connectivity

Skills programmes and infrastructure advocacy turn access into employable digital capability

Accountable governance

A standing forum for critical conversations keeps policy honest and responsive over time

One Agenda. Everyone's Platform.

ISOC Namibia and NamIGF only work because people show up to the table



Join

Become a member of the ISOC Namibia Chapter



Participate

Bring your voice to the next NamIGF



Partner

Co-design training, policy input or events