



**WORLD WIDE WEB
FOUNDATION**

WOMEN'S RIGHTS ONLINE

REPORT CARD



KENYA

**Measuring Progress,
Driving Action**

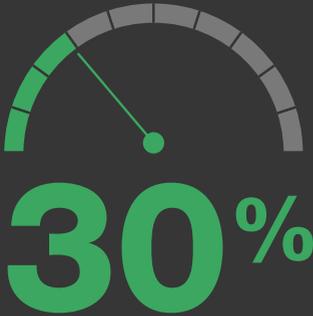


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OVERALL SCORE:



INTERNET ACCESS & WOMEN'S
EMPOWERMENT



SCORE: 2

In Nairobi's slums, only 20% of women are connected to the Internet, versus 57% of men. Only 25% of female Internet users reported having searched the Web for important information related to their rights.

AFFORDABILITY



SCORE: 5

1GB of prepaid data costs more than 6% of average monthly income in Kenya. Women in our study said that prices are "unrealistic" and prevent them getting online. New initiatives to roll out free Wi-Fi in libraries and major towns are welcome progress.

DIGITAL SKILLS & EDUCATION



SCORE: 2

There is a national plan on ICT in education, as well as a strategy to identify and create "e-ready" schools in each county. However, the emphasis is on secondary and tertiary schools. There is no data available on the number of schools connected to the Internet.



SCORE: **8**

55% of women in Kenya have access to mobile financial services, contributing to a high score in this area. The National Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Policy specifically highlights the use of ICTs for information dissemination.



SCORE: **3**

More than one in five Kenyan women we surveyed reported having experienced online harassment. The national legal framework safeguarding security online is broad, and does not pay special attention to women and girls.

CLOSING THE GENDER GAP: A 5 POINT ACTION PLAN

- 1 IMPROVE INTERNET INFRASTRUCTURE.** The Government should prioritise the construction and modernisation of Internet infrastructure to ensure 100% network coverage.
- 2 INCREASE ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY.** Work with mobile operators and Internet Service Providers to lower tariffs. Free public Wi-Fi initiatives should be scaled and offered in all public places including schools.
- 3 PRIORITISE DIGITAL EDUCATION IN ALL SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES.** Expand digital skills training programmes beyond secondary and tertiary schools to include primary level. The government should provide free or subsidised digital skills and empowerment training in all schools and communities.
- 4 DEVELOP RELEVANT ONLINE CONTENT FOR CITIZEN PARTICIPATION.** Government websites should be updated regularly with appropriate information, including about women's rights. All citizens should be able to access government services and data and engage with leaders online.
- 5 END ONLINE GENDER BASED VIOLENCE.** Online violence against women is a key concern considering that Kenya is envisioned to be completely digital by 2030. Government must ensure women and girls are able to take legal actions against perpetrators. Civil society should continue to engage government on expanding the legal framework on violence against women.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

5 GENDER
EQUALITY



The United Nations recently made gender-equitable access to information and communications technologies (ICTs) central to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which set the global development agenda until 2030.

Why? ICTs are powerful. They can help to deliver improved healthcare, quality education for all, financial inclusion, more accountable government, and much more. In adopting the SDGs, all countries have pledged to prioritise universal Internet access, and to use ICTs to empower women.

But much hard work lies ahead if we are to translate this vision into reality. A formidable gender gap in Internet access, digital skills and online rights exists - our [Women's Rights Online research](#) shows that in

many communities, women are 50% less likely than men to be online and 30-50% less likely to use the Internet for economic and political empowerment. Women face many barriers - including high costs, lack of know-how, and a scarcity of relevant and empowering content - as well as social and legal obstacles to speaking freely and privately online.

The Web Foundation and partners have prepared these gender audits to help countries assess what they need to do to overcome the gender digital divide. International Association of Women in Radio and Television has taken the lead, in consultation with other national stakeholders, on identifying concrete steps that government can take in the next year to address the challenges and gaps identified. We hope that this report card and action plan will spark debate and galvanise policy change.

A NOTE ON METHODOLOGY:

We based our scores on 14 simple indicators for which reliable empirical evidence exists, and grading was done in the second quarter of 2016. See the accompanying overview for a description of the indicators and sources used. A full methodology is available on our website.



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