

KAS MEDIA AFRICA –

Future of the Internet in Africa: Laws, Regulations and Trends

1. Why are we focusing on the Internet?

Internet Usage Statistics for Africa

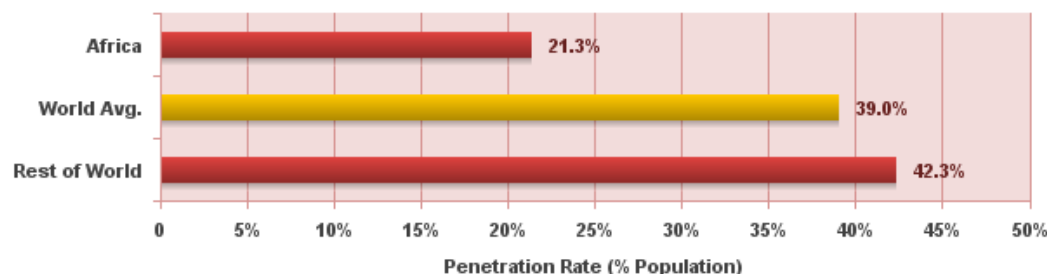
(Africa Internet Usage and Population Stats)

INTERNET USERS AND POPULATION STATISTICS FOR AFRICA						
AFRICA REGION	Population (2014 Est.)	Pop. % of World	Internet Users, 31-Dec-2013	Penetration (% Population)	Internet % Users	Facebook 31-Dec-2012
Total for Africa	1,125,721,038	15.7 %	240,146,482	21.3 %	8.6 %	51,612,460
Rest of World	6,056,137,581	84.3 %	2,562,332,452	42.3 %	91.4 %	924,331,500
WORLD TOTAL	7,181,858,619	100.0 %	2,802,478,934	39.0 %	100.0 %	975,943,960

NOTES: (1) Africa Population are 2014 mid-year estimates. (2) Internet Usage Statistics are for December 31, 2013. (3) The Facebook subscriber data is for December 31, 2012. (4) CLICK on each region or country name for details for each individual location. (5) For methodology, help and definitions please see the [site surfing guide](#). (6) Population estimates are based mainly on figures from the [U.S. Census Bureau](#) and local sources. (7) The Internet usage numbers come mainly from data published by [WWW](#) , [ITU](#) , [the Nielsen Company](#), [Facebook](#), and other trustworthy sources. (8) Data from this table may be cited, giving the due credit and establishing an active link back to [Internet World Stats](#). Copyright © 2014, Miniwatts Marketing Group. All rights reserved worldwide.

Internet Penetration in Africa

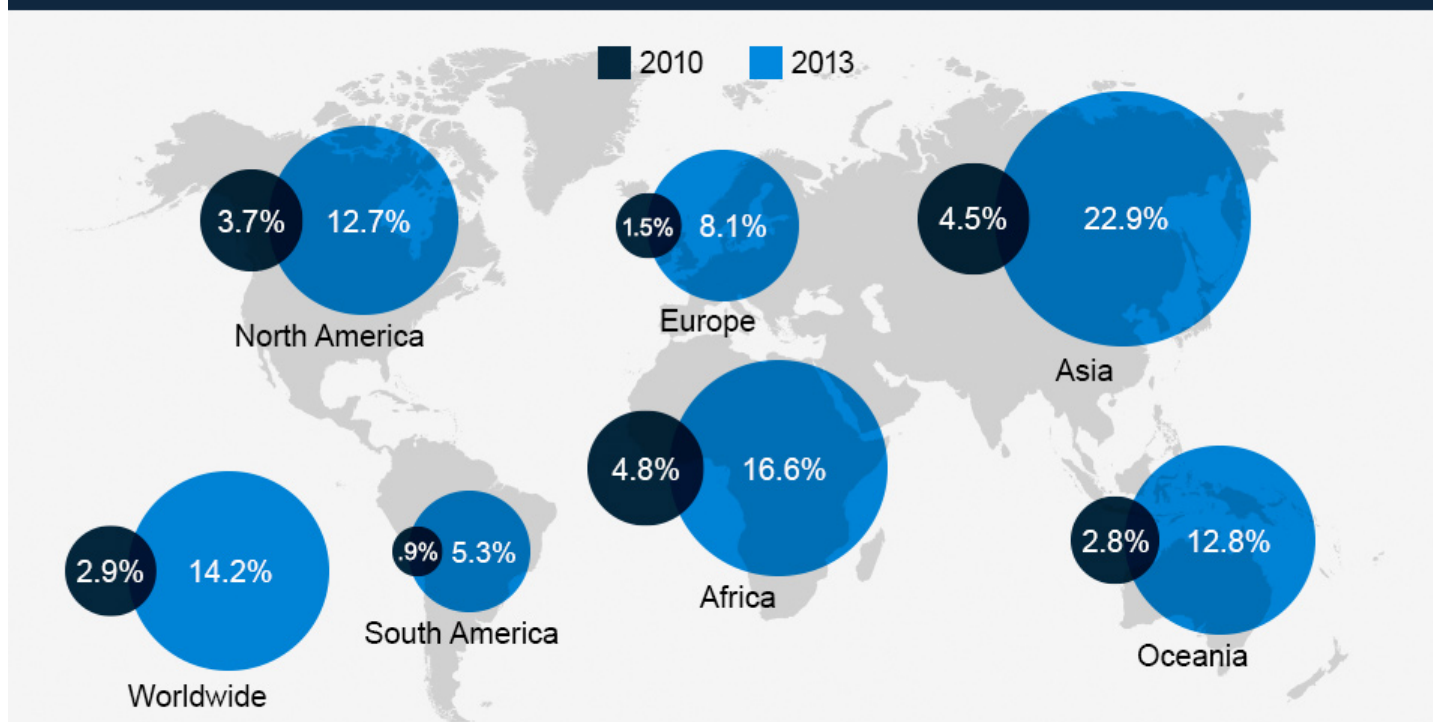
2013 Q4



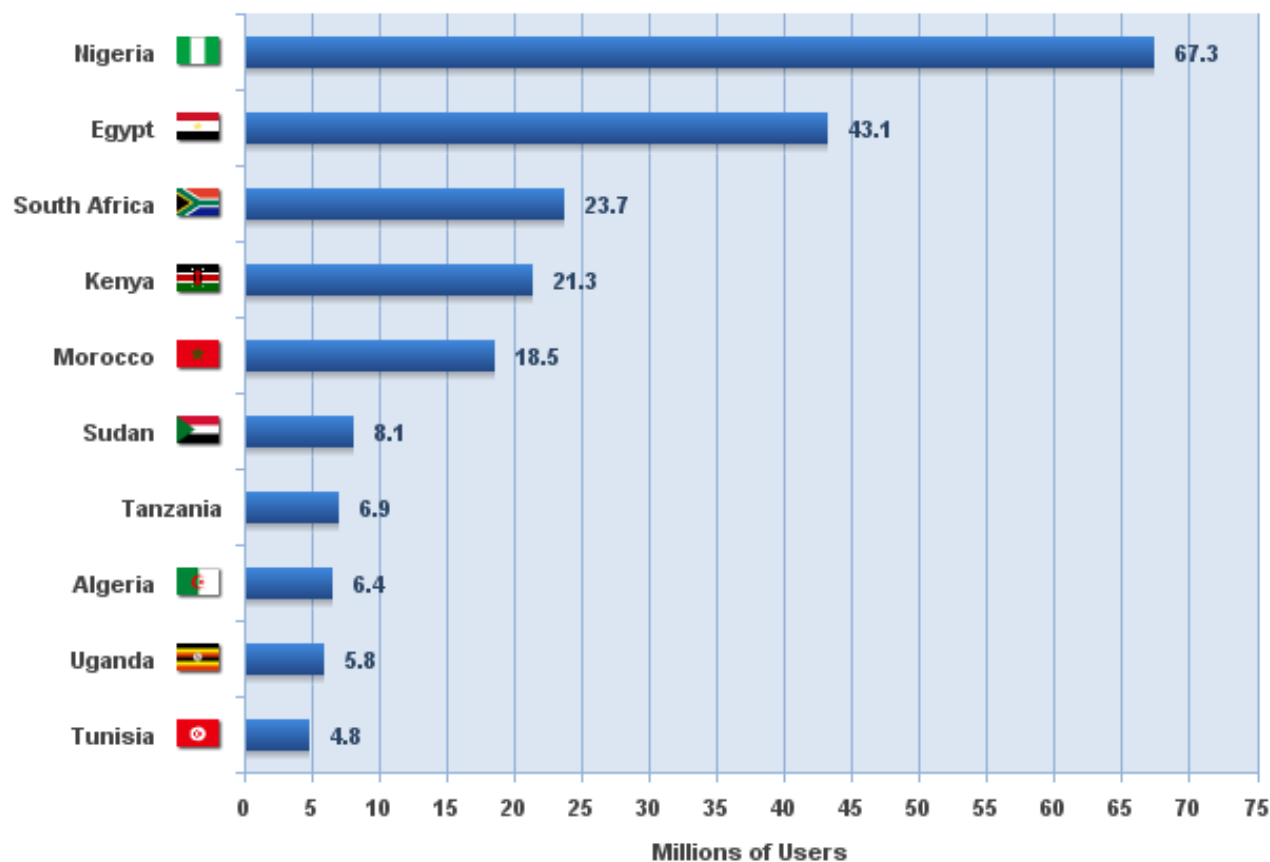
Source: Internet World Stats - www.internetworldstats.com/stats1.htm
 240,146,482 estimated Internet users in Africa for December 31, 2013
 2,802,478,934 Internet users in the World on December 31, 2013
 Copyright © 2014, Miniwatts Marketing Group

Mobile Devices Account for 14% of Global Web Traffic

Percentage of page views from mobile devices



Africa Top 10 Internet Countries 2013 Q4



Source: Internet World Stats - www.internetworldstats.com/stats1.htm
 240,146,482 Internet Users in Africa estimated for December 31, 2013
 Copyright © 2014, Miniwatts Marketing Group

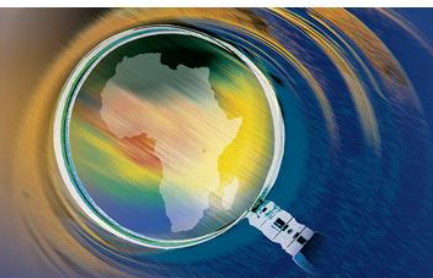
2. What does KAS Media Africa do?

Investigative Journalism

HOME [WELCOME](#) * HOW TO USE CHAPTERS * ABOUT THE TEAM PARTNERS CONTACT



Investigative Journalism Manual



Welcome

Investigative journalists in Africa often operate in environments which seem by default designed to shut them down. Repressive media laws, lack of resources and a widespread culture of secrecy are but a few of the challenges facing journalists questioning the conduct of those in power.

With these Investigative Journalism Manuals, we make the necessary skills and tools available to investigative journalists currently practicing their craft, and to the many that will hopefully follow their trailblazing path. Crucially, its content has been produced by African journalists, and the case studies used reflect the continent's reality.

The IJM is work in progress. While the initial eight chapters mark the foundation of the project, additional specialized sections are in the pipeline. Therefore, we would like to encourage users to give us feedback and suggestions in order to improve the manuals.

It is our hope that African journalists will make use of what the manuals has to offer, and that the results of their work will strengthen existing democratic institutions where they exist, or serve as a catalyst to establish democratic structures where there are none.

Preface [MORE](#)

Introduction [MORE](#)



Portuguese version of IJM



French version of IJM



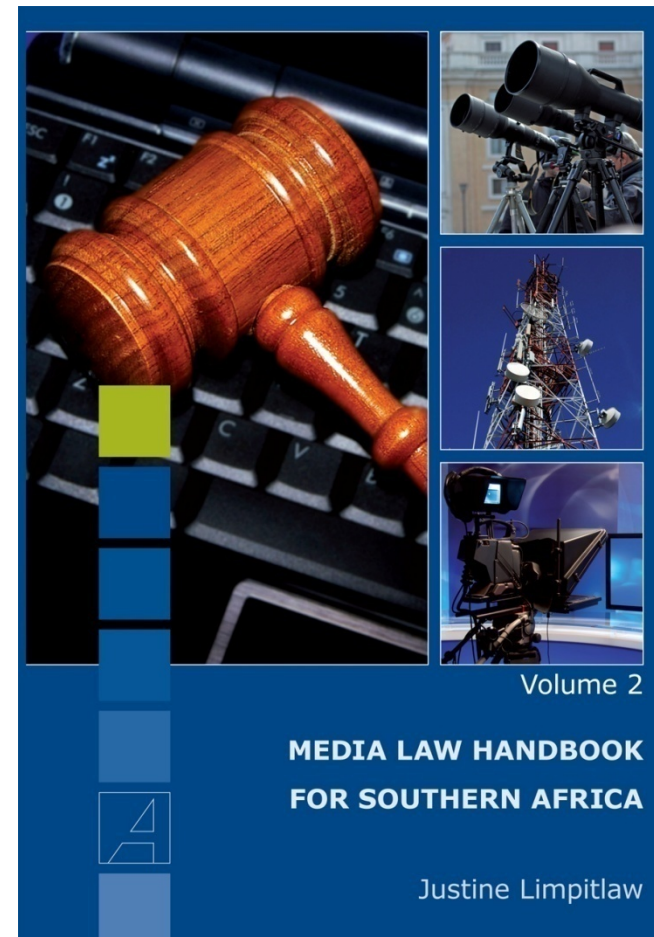
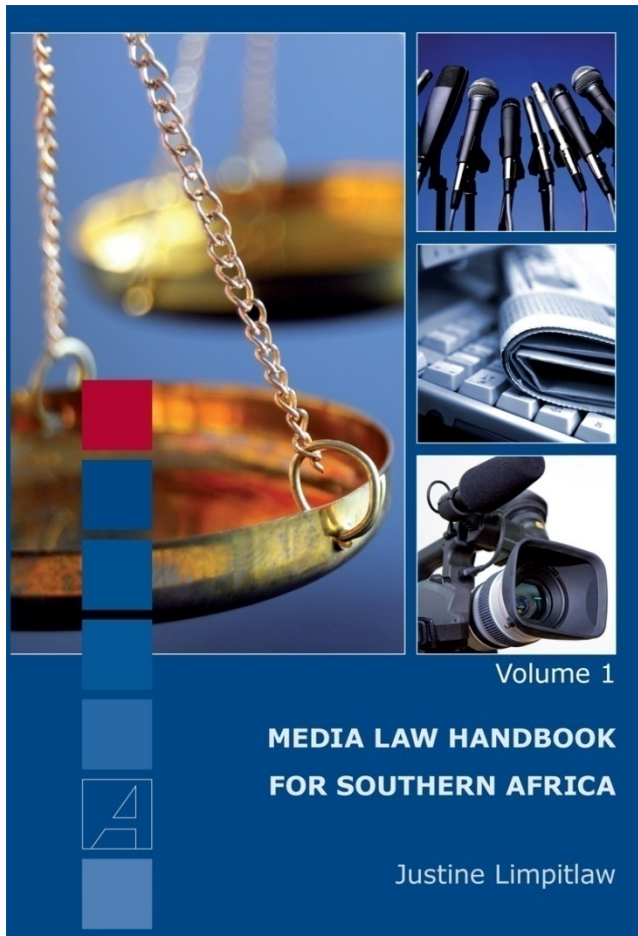
Workshops



Networks



Media Law



E-lection Bridge Africa



E-lection Bridge Academy



Scholarships



3. Laws and Regulations

FREE **PARTLY FREE** **NOT FREE** **COUNTRY NOT ASSESSED IN 2013**

Freedom on the Net 2013 assessed 60 countries around the globe. The project is expected to expand to more countries in the future.

Criteria

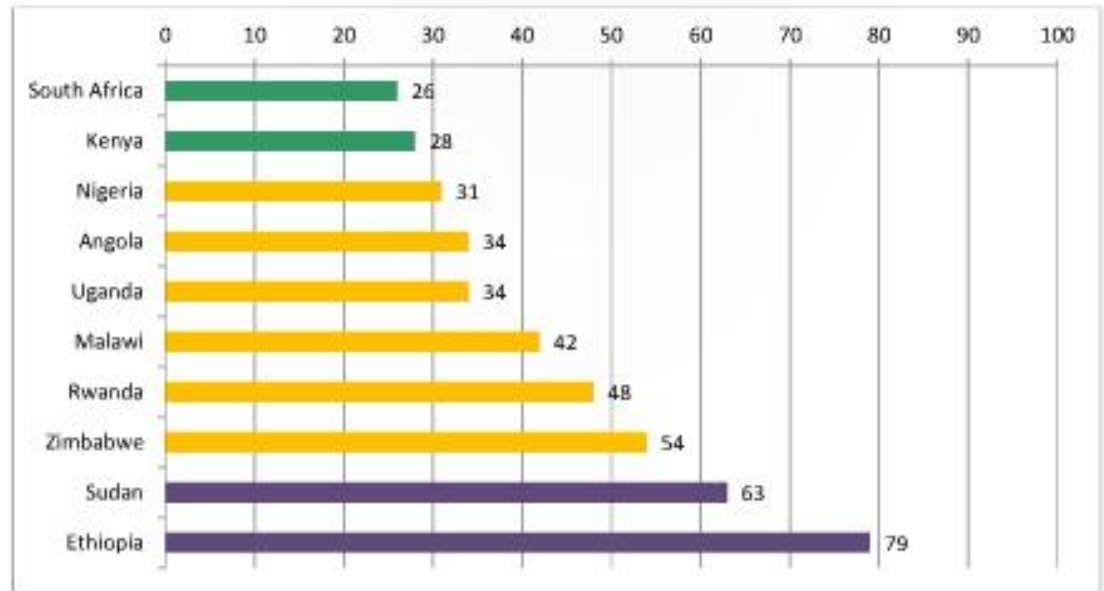
Obstacles to Access:

infrastructural and

economic barriers to access; governmental efforts to block specific applications or technologies; legal, regulatory, and ownership control over internet and mobile phone access providers.

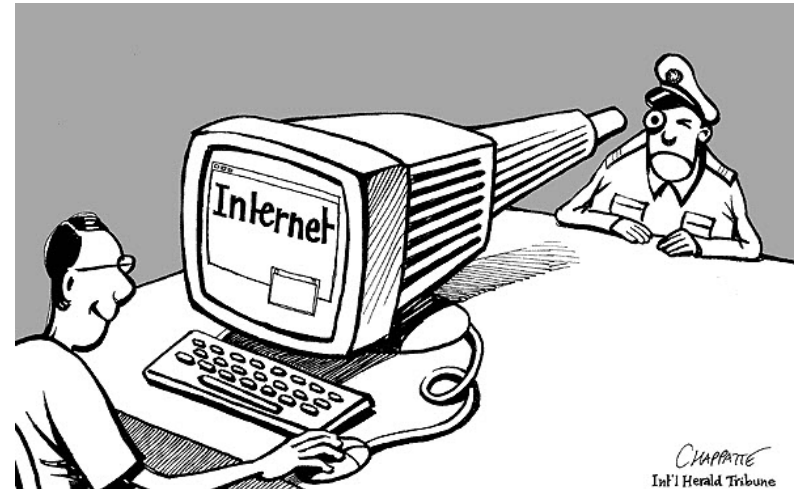
Limits on Content: filtering and blocking of websites; other forms of censorship and self-censorship; manipulation of content; the diversity of online news media; usage of digital media for social and political activism.

Violations of User Rights: legal protections and restrictions on online activity; surveillance; privacy; repercussions for online activity, such as legal prosecution, imprisonment, physical attacks, or other forms of harassment.



Nine most commonly used types of internet control

- Blocking and Filtering
- Cyberattacks against regime critics
- Paid government commentators
- Physical attacks
- Surveillance
- Forced deletion of content
- New laws for political, social or religious speech online
- Holding intermediaries liable
- Throttling or shutting down internet and mobile service



Case Study – Ethiopia (not free)

- Increased technological capacity to filter, block and monitor internet communications, supported by Chinese knowledge
- Filtering focuses primarily on independent media, political blogs and human rights groups
- Telecom Fraud Offences Law from July 2012: Tougher restrictions, extension of anti-terrorism law and criminal code to electronic communications
- Jail sentence against Eskinder Nega and trial against Zone 9 Bloggers
- Artificially high cost for communication

Case Study – Kenya (free)

- Governmental support for ICT sector, one of the fastest growing industries in the country
- Service providers were required to install internet traffic monitoring equipment known as the Network Early Warning System (NEWS) to detect cyber threats, such as online hate speech
- Over 300,000 text messages were reportedly blocked a day during the March 2013 elections for allegedly containing speech
- Internet continues to be an important platform for political debate and mobilization around critical issues
- New and restrictive media law introduced in November 2013, with high fines for false news

Case Study – South Africa (free)

- The Constitutional Court confirmed that prescreening of publications, including those online, is an unjustifiable limitation on freedom of expression
- The Protection of State Information Bill will criminalize reporting on classified state information and intentionally accessing leaked information online if signed into law
- Strong civil society movement against Secrecy Bill forced improvements
- The General Intelligence Laws Amendment Bill, enacted in 2013, authorized state security agencies to intercept “foreign signals intelligence” without a warrant
- Communication cost is affordable, Internet penetration nearly 50%

Political Social Media Activists in Subsaharan Africa

- Baba Jukwa in Zimbabwe started a new wave of online whistleblowers, not all of them very credible
- Arab Spring shows how important Social Media Activists are, especially in times of conflict
- Most Subsaharan countries have very few serious political bloggers, in some cases blogs are hosted by leading online news platforms
- The visibility of those blogs is low – fashion, food and show business dominate the blogosphere
- KAS Media Africa wants to support political bloggers by connecting them and providing training

Conclusion

- Compared to Asia, Africa can still decide what to aim for when it comes to Internet legislation
- A strong civil society is an important factor for the freedom of expression and the free use of the Internet
- Economic opportunities in the ICT sector need to be visible for governments
- With the fast growth of its penetration, the Internet will change the information culture in Africa
- Political social media activists have an important role in shaping Africa's image on a global scale

4. Discussion

- Although cyber crime is a concern, most African governments lean towards the Asian way in handling the internet
- A lack of internet legislation means also a lack of security for Social Media Activists
- Discussion around freedom of expression will be influenced in a negative way by social media activists with low standards of quality
- The Internet offers many new ways for the distribution of information. In order for the population to benefit from this, school education needs to include social media and internet education

THANK YOU SO MUCH!



KAS MEDIA AFRICA