

# Framework for Partnerships in IGF



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- Why FOSSFA?
- What has FOSSFA been doing?
- What is FOSSFA doing now?
- What future roles will FOSSFA play in IGF partnership?
- Conclusion

# WHY FOSSFA?

The Free Software and Open Source Foundation for Africa (FOSSFA) has its origin in the ICT Policy and Civil Society Workshop in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia held between 6th and 8th November 2002. The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, convener, was acting on the mandate given to it by the Bamako Bureau established by the African Council of ICT ministers in the continent's preparation towards the World Summit on the Information Society – WSIS.

# WHY FOSSFA?

- Promotes the use of the FOSS model in African development.
- Promotes the integration and adoption of FOSS in national policies
- Coordinates Africa's Free Software efforts
- Uses FOSSFA expertise to add value to FOSS initiatives in the continent
- Acts as Africa's FOSS voice
- Plays an interface role between international and continental FOSS efforts
- Contributes FOSS applications towards the achievement of women empowerment, the Millennium Development Goals and sustainable development in Africa.
- Promotes African FOSS expertise, creativity and industry
- Partners with development organizations who share same goals with FOSSFA

# What has FOSSFA been doing?

- Raising dust – in WSIS
- Contributing text in policy drafts
- Participating in CODIST
- High level FOSS advocacy
- Growing and supporting and showcasing African FOSS expertise
- Creating platforms
- Training for professional groups
- Engaging its members in the IGF processes
- Strengthening FOSS networks
- Building partnerships at all levels with key stakeholders

# What is FOSSFA doing now?



- Policy Advisory
- GOSSREC
- FOSSDev
- Mentorships
- Guido Sohne Fellowship
- Certification
- IGF – Sharm El Sheikh
- Fundraising

# Future roles for FOSSFA in IGF

- Policy – AU, Regional and National levels
- Training – Regional training/resource/competence centers
- Developers – for Africa's software needs
- Business and wealth creation
- Localisation
- Avail expertise to IGF in Africa
- Give louder voices to IGF and AfriNic
- Increase its own community and broaden its structure
- Exporting African expertise globally
- Fundraising

# Conclusion: Partnerships for Internet for Open African Development

- The first role comes to government and decision makers.
- Regional economic organisations – ECA, ECOWAS, COMESA, SADEC, etc
- The technical management, regulation and service providing entities
- Foundations, skill centers, academia, advocacy and monitoring entities
- Content creators – media, bloggers, speakers, photo-takers, artists, translators
- Users – business, wealth creators, critics

# Thank You



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