



LIBERIA INTERNET GOVERNANCE FORUM 2025

– MAIN EVENT REPORT

Held: 3–4 September 2025

**Venue: Liberia Learning Center, Paynesville City – Liberia
West Africa -Africa**

Theme: *“Building Digital Trust and Inclusion in Liberia’s Internet Ecosystem.”*

Prepared by: Liberia IGF Secretariat

Convener: *Peterking Quaye, National Coordinator*

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Acknowledgement

On behalf of the entire Liberia Multistakeholder Group (MAG) and Steering Committee we would like to express my deepest appreciation to all our sponsors and partners. A special gratitude to Ministry of Post and Telecommunications (Minister and Staffs), Representative Ellen Attoh-Wreh of District #3 Margibi County, UN IGF Secretariat, Internet Society Foundation and Internet Society, for the support for the event. Liberia Telecommunication Authority-LTA, ISOC Chapter Liberia and other stakeholders and technical arm of government participating in internet governance policy discussions, Orange Liberia and MTN -Liberia, Ministries, Commissions and Agencies of Government. for heeding call to come and provide clarity on progress in effort to ensure a viable internet development ecosystem in Liberia. Special thanks go to the entire Press Union of Liberia to offer a platform to discuss internet and internet governance matters was timely. All the partners who played an important role in spurring ideas and support to make 2025 Liberia IGF a success, your input cannot be ignored.

Furthermore, the Organizing/Steering Committee would also like to acknowledge with much appreciation the crucial role of the staff of WAICTANet, ISOC Chapter Liberia through its representative Madam Sangai Moliwule, supported the 2 events and also MAG Chair Mr. Nolan D. Kaine Head of PMO at the Ministry of Post and Telecommunication for his advice and tirelessly support in coordinating all the activities of the day and the necessary materials to make the celebrations of the day joyous. Special thanks go to the team that documented the events of the day. Last but not least, many thanks go to the national convener of the association. I have to appreciate the guidance given by other players in the industry as well as the panelists especially in the various presentations that improved the understanding of the internet governance and policy issues. Big thanks for all the comments and advices.

The outcomes of the country level IG meetings such as the Liberia IGF 2025 contributes to UN IGF Madam Anja Gengo , Africa Union Commission and Dr. Martain Koyeaba from GC3B UK for his support and great presentation during the event and the Africa Internet Governance Forum (AIGF) at the continental level. Previously and locally to support policy development and national discussion on the state of affair when it comes to internet development issue in Liberia.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Liberia Internet Governance Forum (Liberia IGF) 2025 convened more than **180 participants** across government, civil society, academia, the private sector, Parliament, media, and the international development community. The two-day national forum focused on **digital trust, inclusion, data protection, media freedom, institutional accountability, and cyber resilience**—reflecting Liberia’s evolving digital governance priorities and aligning with the *UN IGF 2025 Global Themes* tied to the WSIS+20 review.

The event featured high-level remarks from:

- **Hon. Ellen Attoh-Wreh**, Member of Parliament, Keynote Speaker
- **UN IGF Secretariat**, represented remotely by **Ms. Anja Gengo**
- Youth Representative from Federation of Liberian Youth
- Paynesville City Corporation Youth Department Head
- Representatives from the Internet Society (Global & Liberia Chapter), IIC, iLab Liberia, and civil society

Discussions explored:

- The Cybersecurity Bill
- Liberia’s Data Protection and FOI ecosystem
- Digital rights and governance
- Women in Tech inclusion
- National cyber capacity building (GFCE)
- Media rights and public interest
- Institutional responsibilities of regulators and policymakers

The forum concluded with adoption of the **Monrovia Commitments 2025**, outlining 10 national action points in cybersecurity, digital rights, accessibility, data protection, and youth inclusion.

INTRODUCTION

The Liberia IGF serves as the country’s primary multi-stakeholder platform for policy dialogue on Internet governance. Since its revitalization in 2020, the Forum has become an essential convening space for advancing national digital transformation priorities, strengthening regulatory capacity, and ensuring inclusive participation in shaping Liberia’s digital future.

The 2025 edition aligned with:

- **UN IGF 2025 Norway (WSIS+20 milestone)**
- **African IGF themes**
- **MRU IGF sub-regional commitments**

The forum’s strong representation from government institutions, Parliament, telecom operators, academia, media, youth, and international partners underscores Liberia’s growing maturity in Internet governance practice.

Forum Organization Secretariat

(Steering & Planning Committee) This committee will ensure the finalize program for the IGF is in line with the selected them from the MAG meeting . Committee members are in the form of multistakeholder from the current stakeholder’s group. (Government , Media , Civil Society , Technical , Business / Private) .

This committee will also draft the program/ agenda and play a mobilization role for the event .

Composition :

1. Peterking Quaye (Head of IGF Secretariat /Chair-committee)
2. D. Nalon Kaine (MAG Chair /Co-Chair -Committee Chair)
3. Sangai Moliwulo (Member)
4. Lansana G. Sando (Member)
5. Daniel Nyakonah (Member)
6. Princess M. Zawu (Member)
6. Shadrack Mentowah (Member)
7. Winnie Sawyah-Jimmy (Member)

Technical / Speakers Management Committee:

Brief overview: Advise on technical issue as it relates to the forum event for 2025. This committee activities or will advise on topics around the theme and workshops or session selection from applicants. They will also advise and suggest speakers based on the theme for those years in line with the three Internet governance institutions - Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) Internet Society (ISOC), International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

Composition:

1. Hon. Mohammed Massalay ,DMTS (Advisor)
- 2.. Ransom Quaye – Advisor /Liberia IGF.
3. D. Nalon Kaine (Chair / MAG Chair)
4. Peterking Quaye (Member)
5. Hon. Jenaba Passawe , Ministry of Posts and Telecommunication , Liberia
6. Edmund Kloh (Member)
7. Princess M. Zawu (Member)
8. Claudio Thompson (Member)
9. Sangai Moliwulo (MAG Member)

Media/Communication & Social Media / Website / Rapporteurs & Remote Setup Committee

Brief overview of committee will be in-charge of Media & Social Media / Website / Rapporteurs & Remote participation setup for the forum . Composition :

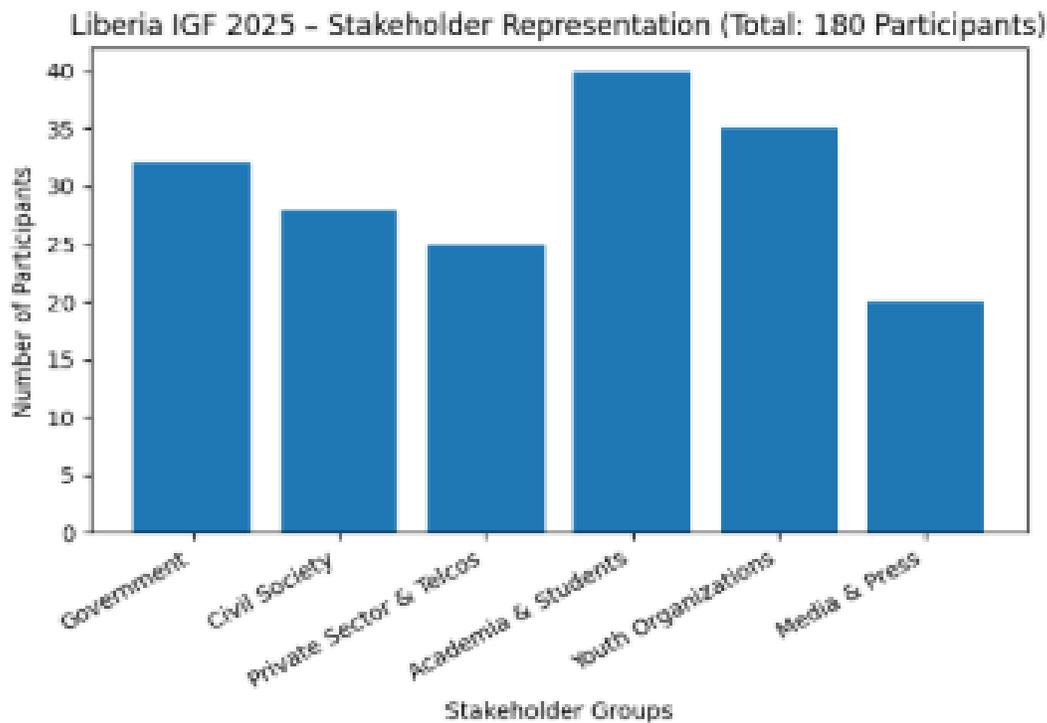
1. Julius Kanuba PUL President / (Chair-committee)
2. Webster Cassell (Co- Chair-committee)
3. Winnie Sawyah-Jimmy (Member)
4. David Yates (Member)
5. David Wiah II (Member)

PARTICIPATION STATISTICS

Category	Count
Total Registered Participants	180
Government Institutions	32
Civil Society Organizations	28
Private Sector & Telcos	25
Academia & Students	40
Youth Organizations	35
Media & Press	20

Gender Breakdown:

- **Male:** 102
- **Female:** 78



Interpretation & Progress

1. **Balanced Multistakeholder Mix (Core IGF Principle)**
The chart demonstrates a strong balance across policy (government), implementation (private sector), accountability (CSOs/media), and capacity (academia/youth)—meeting the proposal’s objective to convene all Internet governance actors on equal footing.
2. **Growth in Youth & Academia Participation**
With 75 participants from Youth Organizations (35) and Academia & Students (40), the event shows a clear increase in future-facing leadership and skills engagement, validating the introduction of the Youth Track and Women in Tech Track.
3. **Policy Support & Decision-Maker Presence**- 32 government participants—alongside regulators—strengthened the policy pipeline, enabling outcomes such as the Monrovia Commitments 2025 and direct engagement on cybersecurity, data protection, and digital financial inclusion.
4. **Private Sector & Telcos at the Table** -25 private-sector participants ensured practical feasibility and market insight—critical for discussions on IIPS, interoperability, CSIRTs, and cyber resilience.
5. **Media as a Multiplier**
20 media participants amplified reach and accountability, supporting the proposal’s goal of public-interest awareness and dissemination.

Impact Against Targets

- Participation target met and exceeded with inclusive sectoral coverage.
- Knowledge products were informed by diverse inputs.
- Policy relevance strengthened through government–private–civil dialogue.

Action Points Informed by the Graphic

1. **Institutionalize Youth & Academia Pathways**
Create standing fellowships/working groups to convert youth and academic insights into policy briefs.
2. **Deepen Private-Sector Co-Creation**
Establish a pre-IGF industry roundtable to feed concrete proposals into plenaries.
3. **Sustain Media Engagement**
Formalize a media partners’ network for year-round digital governance coverage.
4. **Expand Government Coverage**
Target additional line ministries and county authorities in 2026 to broaden implementation reach.

METHODOLOGY

The 2025 Liberia IGF adopted a **multi-stakeholder, hybrid, dialogic format** featuring:

- Keynote addresses
- High-level plenaries
- Expert presentations
- Roundtables
- Regulatory and institutional debates
- Women in Tech and Parliamentarian sub-tracks
- Media and legal-focused interventions
- Special remote international guest sessions

Rapporteurs recorded session outcomes independently to ensure neutrality and accuracy.

DAY 1 REPORT – Wednesday, 3 September 2025

REGISTRATION & OPENING

Participants registered and were welcomed by the **Liberia IGF Secretariat**. Opening statements were delivered by **Peterking Quaye**, National Convenor, highlighting the importance of digital trust and Liberia's alignment with global IGF processes. A brief musical interlude followed.

OPENING PLENARY

Speakers:

- **Hon. Ellen Attoh-Wreh**, Member of Parliament
- **Ousman Kallay**, Executive Director, iLab Liberia
- **Independent Information Commission (IIC) Representative**
- **Internet Society (Liberia & Global Chapters)**
- **Anja Gengo**, UN IGF Secretariat (Remote)

Key Messages

Hon. Ellen Attoh-Wreh emphasized the need for **responsible digital legislation**, women's inclusion, and stronger parliamentary collaboration with civil society on emerging technology issues.

Remote remarks from the UN IGF Secretariat welcomed Liberia's growing leadership in MRU and African IGF processes.

ROUNDTABLE REPORT – Trust & Accountability in Liberia's Digital Ecosystem

Moderator: *Michael Solomon, Broadcast Journalist, Prime FM*

Panelists: **Samuel Kpartor**, Federation of Liberian Youth (FLY) – Youth Representative

- **Christopher Jones**, Liberia Learning Center – Technical Community
- **Cllr. Phil Tarpeh Dixon**, Legal Counsel, Liberia Telecommunications Authority (LTA) – Regulator
- **Ousman Kallay**, Executive Director, iLab Liberia – Innovation Hub

Session Overview-This roundtable examined the foundational elements needed to build **trust, accountability, and transparency** in Liberia's growing digital ecosystem. Moderator **Michael Solomon** opened the session by highlighting public concerns around cybersecurity, misinformation, digital rights, and the lack of accessible and coordinated policy frameworks. The session brought together youth voices, technical experts, regulators, and innovation leaders—offering a complete multi-stakeholder perspective on how Liberia can strengthen trust and accountability online.

Panelist Presentations

Samuel Kpartor – FLY (Youth Representative)

Samuel emphasized that young people remain the most significant drivers—and beneficiaries—of digital transformation in Liberia. He stressed that **trust cannot be built without meaningful youth participation**, especially in designing accountability tools and monitoring mechanisms.

Key Points:

- Youth must be engaged not only as end-users but as **co-creators of digital solutions**.
- Civic technology tools built by young innovators help track government commitments, expose misinformation, and improve community-level transparency.
- Youth-led digital literacy campaigns are essential to building trust across rural and urban communities.

Accountability becomes real when young people help design the tools that measure it.”

Christopher Jones – Liberia Learning Center (Technical Community)-Christopher focused on the **technical foundations** required for trust—highlighting issues around infrastructure reliability, data accuracy, and secure systems design.

Key Points:

- Digital trust depends on systems that are *technically sound, transparent, and resilient*.
- Liberia must strengthen its digital repositories, data management systems, and cybersecurity readiness.
- Technical institutions such as learning centers and innovation labs should help government digitize processes securely.

Quote: *A trusted ecosystem starts with systems that work and data people can believe in.*”

Cllr. Phil Tarpeh Dixon – LTA Legal Counsel (Regulator)

Cllr. Dixon delivered a strong legal and regulatory perspective, addressing the **importance of institutional clarity, legal frameworks, and enforcement authority**.

Key Points:

- Liberia’s digital space requires clear delineation of roles between MoPT, LTA, and upcoming data protection bodies.
- Cybercrime and cybersecurity legislation must be *rights-respecting* and enforceable.
- Consumer protection obligations must extend to digital services, not just telecom voice and data.

Trust is built when citizens know who is responsible, what the law protects, and how violations are addressed.

Ousman Kallay – iLab Liberia /Country Director

Ousman highlighted the role of innovation hubs in driving transparency, technological empowerment, and digital accountability.

Key Points:

- Innovation hubs provide **neutral, community-driven spaces** for digital education, fact-checking, and civic tech development.
- Collaborative models—government + private sector + civil society—can produce scalable accountability tools.
- Liberia needs more investment in ICT research, open data systems, and community-based tech programs.

“Innovation is the engine of digital trust—when communities build together, they trust together.”

Q&A Session

Audience Question 1 — Directed to Cllr. Dixon (LTA) Q: *How can Liberia achieve clearer institutional roles in digital policy enforcement?* **A:** By strengthening legislation to clearly assign mandates and establishing formal inter-agency collaboration frameworks. When institutions coordinate, enforcement becomes predictable and citizens gain trust.”

Audience Question 2 — Directed to Ousman Kallay:

Q: *How can innovation hubs help rural communities participate in digital accountability? By taking technology to the communities—mobile tech clinics, offline training modules, and local-language tools. Innovation must meet people where they are.*

Moderator Summary – Michael Solomon

Moderator Solomon highlighted that trust in the digital ecosystem is not built overnight—it is the result of **clear laws, strong institutions, empowered citizens, and transparent digital systems**. He emphasized that Liberia now has both the momentum and the multi-stakeholder engagement needed to advance meaningful reforms.

Session Outcome – Consensus Points

Panelists agreed that improving trust and accountability requires coordinated action across four pillars:

1. Clear Legal Frameworks

Cybersecurity, data protection, and digital rights laws must be clear, enforceable, and well-understood.

2. Inter-agency Coordination

MoPT, LTA, the IIC, and emerging data protection bodies must collaborate rather than compete.

3. Digital Literacy Expansion

Communities need structured education on digital rights, online safety, and media literacy.

4. Community Participation

Citizens should serve as co-creators of digital accountability systems—including youth, women, and rural communities.

DAY 2 REPORT – Thursday, 4 September 2025

SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATION – Liberia at IGF 2025 Norway

Presenter: *Peterking Quaye*

He highlighted Liberia's:

- Contributions to regional IGFs
- Participation in WSIS+20 processes
- Youth and Women in Tech advancements
- National readiness to align with global digital governance trends

Spotlight: Liberia at IGF 2025 Norway (WSIS+20)

Presenter: Peterking Quaye — National Convener, Liberia IGF

Session: 09:20–10:30 — Global framing of Liberia's contributions & priorities

Good morning. I bring greetings from Monrovia and the Liberia Internet Governance Forum. Today I will briefly set out where Liberia stands in its digital transition, what we have contributed regionally, and the concrete priorities we intend to bring to WSIS+20 and the global IGF conversation.

1) Quick facts & current state

- **Internet users (Jan 2025): 1.84 million** — ~32.4% penetration. This is a steady year-on-year increase but shows two-thirds of Liberians remain offline.
- **Mobile connections are widespread** — multiple sources report mobile subscriptions in the millions, illustrating strong mobile infrastructure potential for digital services and financial inclusion.
- **Policy momentum:** Liberia has advanced work on a **Personal Data Protection** framework (draft legislation) and has been actively debating **cybersecurity/cybercrime** reforms in Parliament—showing clear legislative focus on trust and safety.

(These three slides contextualize Liberia's opportunity: solid mobile reach, rising internet uptake, and active law-making — but persistent access and inclusion gaps.)

2) Liberia's regional & multistakeholder contributions

- **MRU & Sub-regional leadership:** Liberia has deepened Mano River Union cooperation on internet governance, and was selected to host the MRU IGF, strengthening sub-regional policy alignment and operational cooperation. This creates a base for coordinated approaches to cross-border issues like roaming resilience and CERT drills.
- **Youth & Women in Tech mobilization:** Through the Liberia IGF Youth Track and the newly institutionalized Women in Tech track, we have produced groundable outputs — youth charters, civic-tech pilots, and mentorship pipelines — that feed directly into national policy proposals and our IGF communiqués. (Internal Liberia IGF outcomes — publicized in our Monrovia report.)

- **Policy inputs to continental processes:** Liberia's interventions are aligned with AU digital policy ambitions and feed into AfIGF and GFCE dialogues on CSIRT/incident response capacity. These linkages ensure local lessons inform regional standards.

3) What Liberia will present/support at WSIS+20 (concrete asks & talking points)

At WSIS+20 we propose to contribute Liberia's practical, country-level lessons under four linked pillars:

A. Digital Trust & Rights-based cybersecurity

Ask: Promote rights-centered cybersecurity approaches that protect privacy and free expression while enabling effective incident response. We will showcase our experience advancing a cybercrime/cybersecurity legal agenda that aims to be rights-respecting and operationally effective.

B. Data protection & interoperability

Ask: Support technical assistance and regional cooperation for implementing data protection frameworks that are interoperable across ECOWAS/MRU partners and that help small governments operationalize DPA functions (registries, complaints, capacity building).

C. Inclusive access — practical targets

Ask: Advocate for financing and policy tools to halve the digital divide — e.g., national targets to lift internet penetration toward 50% by 2028 through community networks, public Wi-Fi hubs, and targeted subsidies for rural and female users. We will present pilot community-network models and youth-led extension projects from Liberia.

D. Capacity & collective response (CSIRT / GFCE models)

Ask: Call for donor and partner support to operationalise Liberia's national CSIRT/incident response capability, tied to regional mutual assistance (MRU) and GFCE best practices — so that national cyber incidents are managed swiftly and with shared technical support.

4) Concrete, short-term deliverables Liberia will commit to at WSIS+20

1. Share Liberia's **Monrovia Commitments 2025** as a national roadmap aligning with WSIS+20 priorities (cyber, data, inclusion).
2. Request a GFCE technical advisory mission to scope a fully operational **national CSIRT** within 12 months.
3. Propose a MRU cross-border pilot on **roaming resilience and incident notification** to be initiated in 2026.
4. Announce a youth-digital-skills compact (public-private) to expand digital literacy and safe fintech awareness to 10,000 youth in two years. (A target to mobilize partners at WSIS+20.)

5) Risks and mitigation (brief slide)

- **Risk:** Legislation rushed without rights safeguards → **Mitigation:** multi-stakeholder legislative drafting tables, civil society review, alignment with AU norms.
- **Risk:** Uneven access widens inequality → **Mitigation:** targeted rural subsidies, community networks, and school-based connectivity pilots.
- **Risk:** Limited technical capacity for CSIRT → **Mitigation:** request GFCE / AUDA-NEPAD support and regional secondments.

6) Closing

Liberia's digital journey is at an inflection point: growing mobile reach and rising internet users give us leverage, but the real test is whether we can translate laws, capacity, and youth energy into **trustworthy, inclusive** digital services for all citizens. At WSIS+20 Liberia will be a constructive voice — offering sub-regional lessons, concrete pilot proposals, and commitments that others can replicate across fragile and emerging contexts.

"We come to WSIS+20 not only to learn, but to share practical country experiences: how youth, women, and regulators can co-design laws and services that expand access while protecting rights." — Peterking Quaye

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER:

A. Session summary (for the report)

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER — Dr. Martin Koyabe (GFCE Africa Hub, remote)

Dr. Koyabe provided an expert overview of continental cyber capacity building and concrete steps countries can take to strengthen resilience. He framed his remarks around four priorities: national cybersecurity strategy development, establishment and maturation of CSIRTs/CERTs, AU-GFCE continental initiatives (including the Africa Agenda on Cyber Capacity Building), and practical lessons on preparedness and incident response that Liberia can adopt. His presentation stressed the need for people-centred, multistakeholder approaches that combine policy, technical capacity and sustainable funding mechanisms.

B. Expanded session excerpts & key points (for inclusion in the main report)

National Cybersecurity Strategy Development -Dr. Koyabe outlined a pragmatic sequence for national strategy development: (1) risk and baseline assessment; (2) stakeholder mapping and consultation (government, industry, civil society, technical community); (3) priority-setting (critical infrastructure, incident response, capacity building); (4) operational plans with measurable KPIs and budget lines; and (5) routine review and exercises to keep the strategy current. He highlighted the importance of aligning national strategies with continental instruments to leverage shared resources and expertise.

CSIRT / CERT Establishment and Maturation – Dr. Koyabe emphasized that a CSIRT is both a technical capability and a governance asset. Key steps he recommended: define mandate and governance, secure political backing, staff and train a core technical team, set up escalation and communication protocols, establish legal clarity on data sharing and cooperation, and progressively formalize funding and partnerships with telcos, banks, and academia. He noted that early emphasis should be on practical, repeatable services (incident handling, vulnerability disclosure, awareness) rather than attempting a fully-featured national centre in the first phase.

AU–GFCE Continental Initiatives (AA-CCB & GFCE Africa Hub) -Dr. Koyabe described the GFCE–AU collaboration and the Africa Agenda on Cyber Capacity Building (AA-CCB) as a delivery vehicle for harmonized priorities across member states: shared training curricula, regional exercises, peer learning, and coordinated resource mapping. He recommended Liberia tap into GFCE/AU knowledge products and regional hubs for technical support and peer exchanges.

Lessons for Resilience & Preparedness -Practical lessons included running regular incident response exercises (national and cross-border), building public–private early-warning and threat-sharing mechanisms, embedding cyber hygiene and basic IIT (institutional incident triage) in critical ministries, and securing modest, ring-fenced funding for CSIRT operations to ensure continuity. Dr. Koyabe also urged investment in people—training, retention incentives, and secondment programmes with regional partners.

In his remote address, Dr. Martin Koyabe (GFCE Africa Hub) urged Liberia to combine practical technical steps with policy clarity: “Start with a realistic, phased CSIRT plan, test it with exercises, and use regional GFCE–AU partnerships for fast-track capacity support.” He underscored that the Africa Agenda on Cyber Capacity Building provides an actionable blueprint for harmonized training, peer learning, and cross-border preparedness that Liberia can adapt and adopt.

Day 2 – Liberia IGF 2025

ROUNDTABLE – Digital Rights & Accessibility

Roundtable Session Report – Digital Rights & Accessibility

Moderator: Peterking Quaye, National Convener, Liberia IGF

Speakers: Leo E. Tiah – Youth Network for Positive Change (YOUNETPO)

- Cllr. Phil Tarpeh Dixon – Legal Counsel, Liberia Telecommunications Authority (LTA)
- Madam Sangai Moliwulo – Telecom Expert & MAG Member
- Ousman Kallay – Executive Director, iLab Liberia

Session Narrative-The roundtable on *Digital Rights & Accessibility* provided an important platform to discuss how Liberia can expand inclusive digital participation—ensuring that persons with disabilities, linguistic minorities, and underserved communities are not left behind in the digital transition. Moderator Peterking Quaye opened the session by emphasizing that accessibility is not merely a design choice but a *human rights obligation*, aligning with global standards from the UN IGF and African Union digital frameworks.

Speaker Presentations

Leo E. Tiah – Digital Rights & Youth Inclusion -Leo delivered a compelling presentation focusing on the intersection of youth empowerment, digital rights, and equitable access. He highlighted that many young Liberians—especially those with disabilities—lack access to digital tools because platforms and applications are not designed with accessibility principles in mind. He stressed -The need for digital literacy programs tailored to persons with disabilities :

- The importance of youth-led advocacy for equitable access
- The role of civil society in holding government accountable for universal internet rights

“Accessibility is a digital right. If any group is excluded, the digital ecosystem becomes weaker—not stronger.”

Cllr. Phil Tarpeh Dixon – Regulatory Obligations & Accessibility Enforcement

Cllr. Dixon provided a strong regulatory perspective, explaining the legal obligations telecom operators and digital service providers must meet to ensure equal access. He noted that while Liberia’s digital laws are evolving, accessibility requirements must be explicitly embedded into regulatory frameworks, licensing terms, and compliance monitoring. He emphasized three key obligations:

- 1. Consumer protection for all user categories**
- 2. Equal access provisions for persons with disabilities**
- 3. Universal design requirements for digital platforms**

Key Point: Regulatory enforcement must move from voluntary compliance to measurable obligations.

Presentation by Madam Sangai Moliwulo – Universal Design & Gender Accessibility

Madam Moliwulo expanded the discussion by focusing on universal design principles, explaining how digital services must be intentionally built to accommodate a wide range of users—from visually impaired persons to non-literate populations and women in marginalized communities. She noted that accessibility gaps disproportionately affect women and girls, especially in rural areas, where connectivity barriers and language limitations compound digital exclusion. “Universal design is not an add-on—it is the foundation of inclusive communication.”

Presentation by Ousman Kallay – Technology Hubs & Accessibility Innovation -Ousman brought a practical technological perspective, highlighting how innovation hubs can support accessibility by developing localized tools such as:

- Speech-to-text and text-to-speech solutions
- Low-bandwidth applications
- AI-powered accessibility tools
- Community-based digital rights trainings

He emphasized that accessibility requires co-creation with marginalized users, not assumptions made by developers. “Innovation must be built *with* communities, not *for* them.”

Key Issues Raised During Discussion

- **Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities:**
Limited investment in accessible platforms, lack of assistive technologies, and insufficient training for digital service providers.
- **Language Inclusion Challenges:**
English-only digital spaces exclude indigenous-language speakers. Liberia lacks structured digital content in local languages.
- **Universal Design Importance:**
Developers and agencies rarely apply global accessibility standards (WCAG), resulting in exclusion of major user groups.
- **Regulatory Responsibility:**
Telecom and digital service operators must integrate accessibility into their licensing, reporting, and product development obligations.

Audience Q&A Highlights: Q1 “How can Liberia ensure digital platforms comply with accessibility standards?” Answer – Cllr. Phil Dixon - “By embedding accessibility into the regulatory framework—clear standards, compliance audits, and enforcement mechanisms. Operators must understand that accessibility is part of their consumer protection duty.”

Q2 “What can youth and innovation hubs do to reduce language barriers in digital systems?”

Answer – Ousman Kallay, “We must develop tools in local languages. Youth tech communities can lead pilot projects—chatbots, translation tools, voice interfaces—that reflect our linguistic realities.”

Moderator’s Summary & Key Takeaways

Peterking Quaye closed the session with four key takeaways:

1. Accessibility is a national priority, not a niche concern.
2. Regulatory bodies must formally integrate accessibility into digital compliance.
3. Local innovation must drive language inclusion and design tailored to Liberia’s reality.
4. Digital rights frameworks must reflect the lived experience of persons with disabilities and marginalized groups.

He emphasized that the Liberia IGF will include accessibility in the Monrovia Commitments 2025 and follow up through multi-stakeholder working groups.

CLOSING PLENARY

Closing Plenary Report – Adoption of the Monrovia Commitments 2025

The Closing Plenary opened with rapporteurs presenting summaries from all sessions, followed by reflections from panelists, Parliamentarians, regulators, civil society, youth groups, and Women in Tech leaders. Facilitated by the Liberia IGF Secretariat, the plenary leveraged community consensus to refine and formalize key outcomes. The adoption of the **Monrovia Commitments 2025** marks a major milestone in Liberia’s digital transformation journey—signaling maturity, continuity, and national-level readiness to institutionalize internet governance dialogue.

Presentation by: Peterking Quaye, Convener Liberia IGF Secretariat– **Monrovia Commitments 2025**

Participants: All panelists, institutional representatives, delegates, and youth representatives -The 2025 Liberia Internet Governance Forum concluded with the formal adoption of the **Monrovia Commitments 2025**, a set of ten actionable recommendations reflecting two days of high-level dialogues, regulatory discussions, youth-led engagements, Women in Tech voices, media contributions, and technical community insights.

Ten action points were adopted around:

1. Cybersecurity capacity
2. Digital rights
3. Data protection
4. Accessibility
5. Media freedom
6. FOI strengthening
7. CSIRT establishment
8. Women in Tech expansion
9. Youth IGF participation
10. Regional and global IGF alignment

The commitments aim to guide national, institutional, and multi-stakeholder action over the next 12 months, ensuring Liberia strengthens its digital governance ecosystem in alignment with **regional (MRU & AfIGF) and global (UN IGF 2025 Norway)** priorities.

THE MONROVIA COMMITMENTS 2025 – HIGHLIGHTED ACTION POINTS

Below are the ten commitments adopted by the Liberia IGF multi-stakeholder community:

1. Strengthen National Cybersecurity Capacity

Liberia commits to advancing cybersecurity maturity through:

- National Cybersecurity Strategy implementation
- Cyber awareness campaigns
- Institutional capacity building for law enforcement and regulators

Outcome Highlight: Participants agreed that cybersecurity underpins national security and public trust.

2. Advance Digital Rights Protection

A commitment to safeguard citizens’ rights online, including privacy, freedom of expression, and protection from harm.

Outcome Highlight: Civil society, youth, and Parliamentarians pledged to work collaboratively on rights-based digital policy.

3. Improve Data Protection & Privacy Governance

Participants endorsed the need for:

- Stronger enforcement of existing data protection provisions
- Nationwide awareness on personal data handling
- Institutional safeguards in public and private sectors

Outcome Highlight: The IIC and media stakeholders emphasized clarity on institutional mandates.

4. Promote Accessibility & Inclusive Digital Design

Accessibility must be integrated into digital services, platforms, and regulatory frameworks to ensure equitable participation for persons with disabilities and marginalized groups.

Outcome Highlight: Telecom operators and innovators committed to exploring universal design implementation.

5. Uphold Media Freedom & Responsible Digital Journalism

A call to strengthen independent journalism, protect media freedoms, and promote ethical digital reporting.

Outcome Highlight: Media lawyers and CEMESP stressed FOI compliance and cyber safety for journalists.

6. Strengthen Implementation of the Freedom of Information Act

Stakeholders committed to advancing FOI awareness and enforcement as a cornerstone for transparency.

Outcome Highlight: Institutions agreed that FOI and data protection must operate in harmony.

7. Establish and Operationalize Liberia's National CSIRT

A national CSIRT (Computer Security Incident Response Team) is critical to managing threats and coordinating incident response.

Outcome Highlight: The GFCE presentation reinforced Liberia's readiness to move toward full CSIRT activation.

8. Expand Women in Tech Initiatives

Liberia will strengthen programs focusing on:

- Digital skills for women and girls
- Leadership pathways
- Inclusive AI governance

Outcome Highlight: Women leaders emphasized sustainability and visibility for young women in STEM.

9. Institutionalize Youth Participation in IGF Structures

Recognizing the strategic importance of youth voices, Liberia IGF commits to:

- Annual Youth Track expansion
- MAG inclusion
- Youth-led monitoring of commitments

Outcome Highlight: Youth groups endorsed taking lead roles in civic tech and accountability tools.

10. Strengthen Regional & Global IGF Alignment

Liberia will deepen coordination with:

- MRU IGF
- African IGF
- UN IGF

Including structured reporting, shared initiatives, and cross-border digital cooperation.

Outcome Highlight: The Liberia IGF announced its selection to host the **MRU IGF 2025**, reinforcing its regional leadership.

In closing the plenary, the National Convener reaffirmed Peterking Quaye, said “The Monrovia Commitments 2025 provide a concrete roadmap for Liberia's digital transformation. These commitments will guide inter-agency collaboration, inform policy direction, and strengthen Liberia's participation in the global digital governance ecosystem.” He further emphasized that the Liberia IGF Secretariat will submit the commitments to:

- The Ministry of Posts & Telecommunications
- LTA
- Parliament (relevant committees)
- Civil society
- The UN IGF Secretariat
- MRU & AfIGF leadership

as part of the official 2025 reporting process.

CONCLUSION

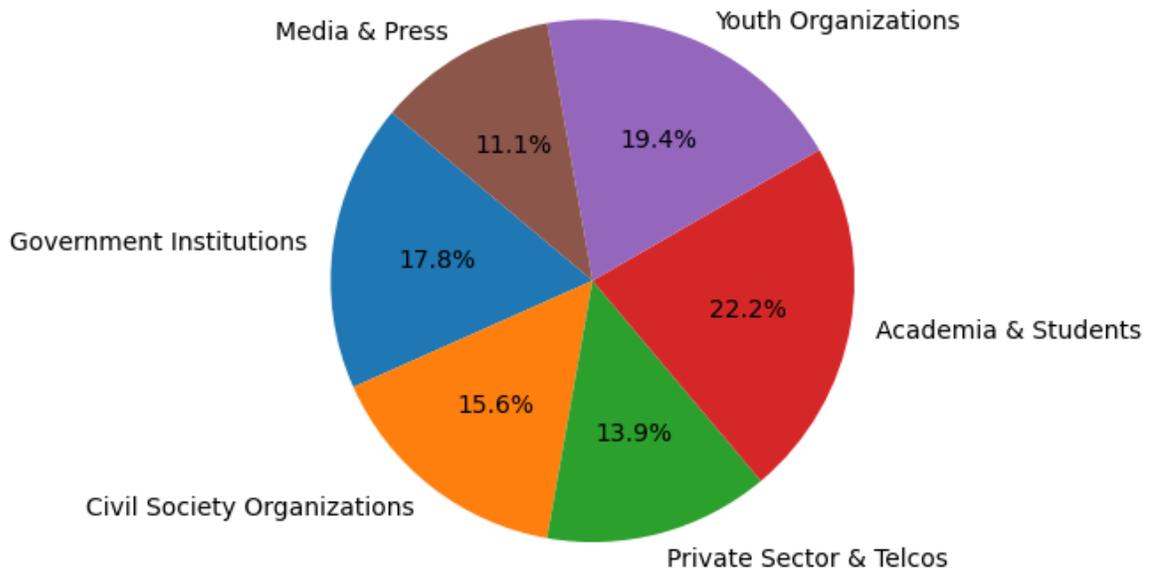
The 2025 Liberia IGF demonstrated a maturing national digital governance environment driven by collaboration, research, and strong multi-stakeholder participation. The event's outcomes contribute meaningfully to regional and global processes, affirming Liberia's voice within the global IGF community.

Practical recommendations for Liberia

1. Commission a rapid national cyber capacity assessment (3 months) to identify priority assets, gaps, and a realistic phasing plan for a National Cybersecurity Strategy (NCS).
2. Establish / formalize a national CSIRT with a clear mandate, initial operating budget, and a 12-month operational plan focused on incident handling, vulnerability disclosure, and public awareness. Start small and scale.
3. Use AU–GFCE resources and the GFCE Africa Hub for technical assistance, training curricula, and regional exercise participation (Liberia should request onboarding support through the GFCE Africa Hub).
4. Implement regular national and MRU cross-border cyber exercises to test operational coordination with neighboring states and ISPs.

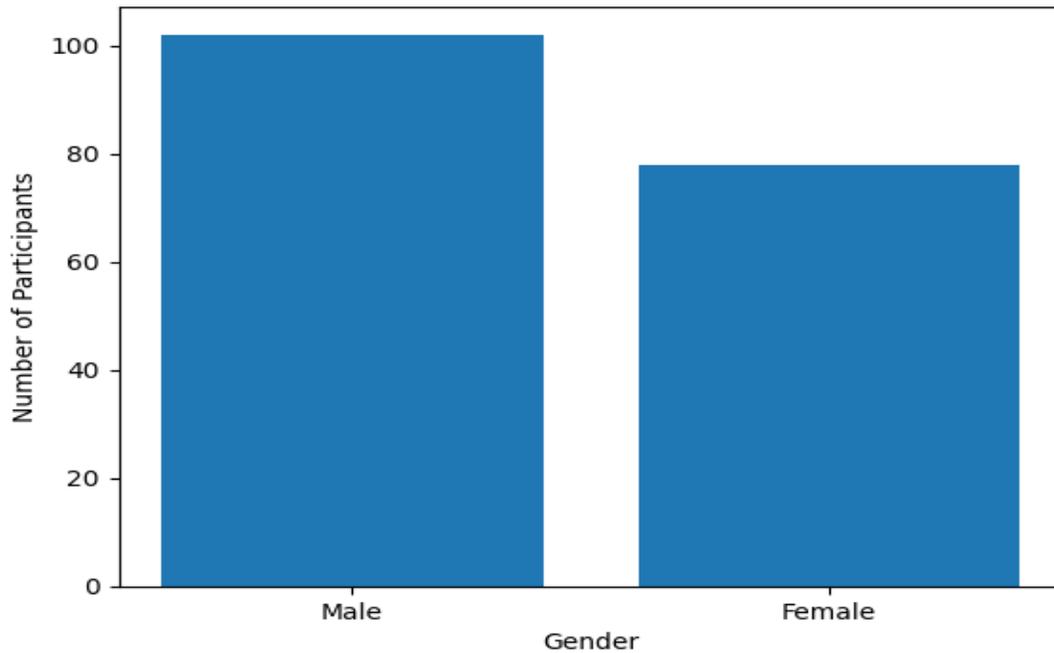
5. Create a sustainable funding line in the relevant ministry/regulator budget and explore donor/partner co-funding for the first three years to ensure continuity.
6. Prioritize multi-stakeholder governance—establish a standing technical advisory group (government, private sector, academia, civil society) to oversee NCS implementation and the CSIRT’s performance metrics.

Liberia IGF 2025 - Participation by Sector



Annexed: (A) – Breakdown of Representation

Liberia IGF 2025 - Gender Breakdown



2025 Liberia IGF Week -Event Photos- Session & Keynote Speakers









Liberia IGF 2025
 Registration Sheet
 3rd - 4th September 2025 | Venue: Liberia Learning Center, Paynesville City, Liberia
 Day # 1



No.	Full Name	Organization / Institution	Position / Title	Contact (Phone / Email)
1	Djassere M. Gbangolo	Paynesville City Corporation	Chairman	07775286109
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4	Avus B. Iseni			0880485150
5	Lafoye H. T. Sanyal			07782570011
6	Elouard K. Williams	Paynesville City Corporation	Mayor	0881604010
7	Harold Doe	PCC	Retired	0777511576
8	J. Martin Durn	PCC		0773815388
9	Deel Saal	PCC		0780253385
10	Samuel D. Brookfield	PCC	Reliab.	0778250536
11	Jeshualine G. Johnson	PCC	GS A road	0772113919
12	Wesley P. Brown	PCC	DuPaul	0774828026
13	Obediak Kargbuh	Raising Awareness	Cook Spain Hill	0886654023
14	Mikson Zangye	PCC	Portico	07724151293
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16	Duressa Janyally	Mark Liberia	Director	0775171965
17	Eric O. Sackley	PCC	E.S.D	02250202282
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19	John T. Chikpa	African Tech Development Initiative	Member	07781713975
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21	Paul G. Goffe	AMB. Joe E. Tiah and Dr. M.	Member	0774075190/0880225149
22	Poppy Parmore			0775998214
23	Phillomena P. Kpa	Orange Liberia	Media Coordinator	0776640554
24	Keneth Kende			07782015551
25	Yaret Grace			0772179995
26	Manning Kwasi			0776622866
27	Mamphelina Kpa	PCC		0776122208
28	Faith S. Smith	PCC		0775621959
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30	Alfred Nyayor	Paynesville Comm. High School	IM	0771508055

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5	Mark J. J. J. J.	Paynesville City Computer Learning Center	Director	07755861
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18	Alice O. Effe			0880485150
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21	William M. Morris	Paynesville City Competition		0770-855539
22	James T. Doe	P.C.C		0775541576
23	Mathew O. Ouedji	P.C.C		0770634779
24	James O. Ouedji	P.C.C		0776995537
25	Joe M. Ouedji	P.C.C		0771301199
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27	Bellin J. Ouedji	P.C.H.S	Student	0880485150
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29	Agnes Ouedji	P.C.H.S	Student	0880485150
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Liberia IGF 2025
Registration Sheet
3rd -4th September 2025 | Venue: Liberia Learning Center , Paynesville City , Liberia
Day # 1

No.	Full Name	Organization / Institution	Position / Title	Contact (Phone / Email)
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20	Kennedy S. Williams Jr	P.C.C	Reporter	081195920
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22	Malida Ode	Avare College	Member	0775924591
23	Isheya Yusuf Kama	P.C.C	Revenue Inspector	077634676
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15	Hawa Fofah	PCHS	Student	0687095116
16	Hawa Kamara	PCHS	Student	071635384
17	Bally M. Torga Jr	PCHS	Student	0718945384
18	Jeanet C. Kopolu	PCHS	Student	073081681
19	Alex V. Kramah Jr	PCHS	Student	0770519457
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28	P. Nyamping Fiovi	P.C. H.S	Student	0775093154
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30	Maria Berhuda			0777195993



Liberia IGF 2025 - main forum registration
 Venue: Liberia Learning Center, Monrovia | Format: Hybrid (In-person + Online)
 Thursday, 4 Sept – Main IGF (Day 2)



Time	Session	Speakers / Participants	Details
REGISTRATION DAY #2			
09:00-09:20		Day #1 Session Recap	
	Spotlight: Liberia at IGF 2025 Normy (WSIS+20 Link)	Peterling Quaye National Convener & Policy Experts	Global framing of Liberia's contributions to regional and UN IGF 2025
09:30-10:30		GROUP PHOTOS SESSION	
10:30-10:45	Special Presentation: "Media Rights, Freedom of Information & Public Interest in the Digital Age"	Ary Al Varnay Rogers - Liberia Media Lawyers Network	Media Rights, Freedom of Information & Public Interest in the Digital Age
10:45-12:00	Special Guest Speaker Tracks "Building Cyber Capacity for a Resilient Digital Liberia: Lessons from Africa's GFCE Hubs"	Dr. Martin Koyabe (GFCE Representative) Global Forum on Cyber Expertise (GFCE)	REMOTE SPEAKER - Dr. Koyabe leads the GFCE-AU collaboration, bringing extensive experience in national cybersecurity strategy development, CERTCSIRT establishment, and legislation across Africa.
12:00-13:00		Lunch & Photography - All participants	
13:00-14:00	Roundtable: Digital Rights & Accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leo E. Tiah (YOUNETPRO) • Cllr. Phil Targah Dixon (ITA Counsel) • Sangai Molloh - Telecom Expert - LTA (Regulator) • Ousman Kallay (Laba Liberia) Moderator: Peterling Quaye, Convener Liberia IGF & Head of Secretariat	Networking lunch and official photographs. Addressing disability inclusion, language diversity, and access rights.
14:00-14:15		Health Break	
15:30-16:15	Closing Plenary: Paynesville Commitments 2025	All Speakers & Stakeholders	Short pause before closing sessions. Adoption of 10 national recommendations for digital trust, inclusion, and resilience.
16:15-16:30	Next Steps	Secretariat	Readmap for reporting, follow-up, and executive continuation.
Friday, 5 Sept - Climax Event			
Time	Session	Speakers / Participants	Details
10:00-11:00	Special Radio Talk Show	Selected Panelists & Youth Leaders	National broadcast summarizing Liberia IGF 2025 outcomes, Monrovia Commitments, and community reflections.



Time	Session	Speakers / Participants	Details
09:00-09:30	Welcome Address & MAG Introduction	REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS Networking Quays	Official opening, welcome addresses.
10:00	Opening Plenary	Short Musical Interlude - Song inspiration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hon. Sekou M. Keonah (Minister, MoPT); Clarence Massquoi (Chairperson, LTA); Hon. Ellen Anah-Wool (Parliamentary Special Remark) Ousman Kallay (IIG Lib) Liberia IIG Representative Internet Society Chapter Liberia Rep. Internet Society -Global (Chapter) Aiga Urento-LIN GLOBAL IGF Secretariat (remote remark) 	and framing of the 2025 theme: -“Building Digital Trust and Inclusion in Liberia’s Internet Ecosystem.”
11:00-11:45	Special Presentation- Digital Trust & Resilience: Data Protection, Media Freedom & Public Interest Cybersecurity in Liberia	Mr. Malcolm Joseph (CEMESO, -Executive Director Center for Media Studies and Peacebuilding Liberia) Health Break & Group Photography <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Samuel Kyrtor (FLY), Program Manager, FLY Christopher Jones, Liberia Learning Center Cliff Phil Dixon, Legal LTA IIG Lib Liberia Executive Director Moderator: Amy, Varney Rogers, Member Liberia Media Lawyer Network	Discussion on national cybersecurity priorities, tied to the pending Cybersecurity Bill and trust in Liberia’s digital ecosystem. Refreshments & official group photo.
11:45-12:15	Roundtable: Building Trust and Accountability in Liberia’s Digital Ecosystem: The Role of Law, Policy and Institutions	Moderator: Amy, Varney Rogers, Member Liberia Media Lawyer Network	Building Trust and Accountability in Liberia’s Digital Ecosystem: The Role of Law, Policy and Institutions
12:30 -1:00	Special Presentation Session: From Access to Assessability: Strengthening FOI and Data Protection in Liberia	IIG Rep Independent Human Right Commission (IIC)	Cybercrime & Data Protection Classes & Harmonization.
13:00-13:30	Roundtable Discussion: Implementation of data protection principles in government, business, and community spaces.	Launch & Networking Photos All participants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jubedah Mulbah 	Lunch service Debatng implementation of data protection principles in government, business, and community spaces.
13:30-13:50	Roundtable Discussion: Implementation of data protection principles in government, business, and community spaces.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IIG Rep IIG Lib Liberia Executive Director Moderator: Madan Sangai Mollwala, MAG Member, Telecom Expert	
13:50-14:00	Daily Wrap & Polling Priorities	Moderators & Communique	Audience-driven poll on Day 2 priorities; synthesis by rapporteurs.

BE PART OF OUR DISCUSSION AT
**2025 ANNUAL
LIBERIA INTERNET
GOVERNANCE FORUM**



THEME 2025

*"Building Digital Trust and
Inclusion in Liberia's Internet
Ecosystem."*

THE LIBERIA IGF WEEK 2025

...Liberia's premier internet policy and technology forum

MON-FRIDAY 
1-5 September 2025

START AT 
10:00 AM - 2:00PM

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