



# Safety of Women Journalists in Ethiopia

Interactive Workshop  
May 10, 2024





**#WeekOfSafety**

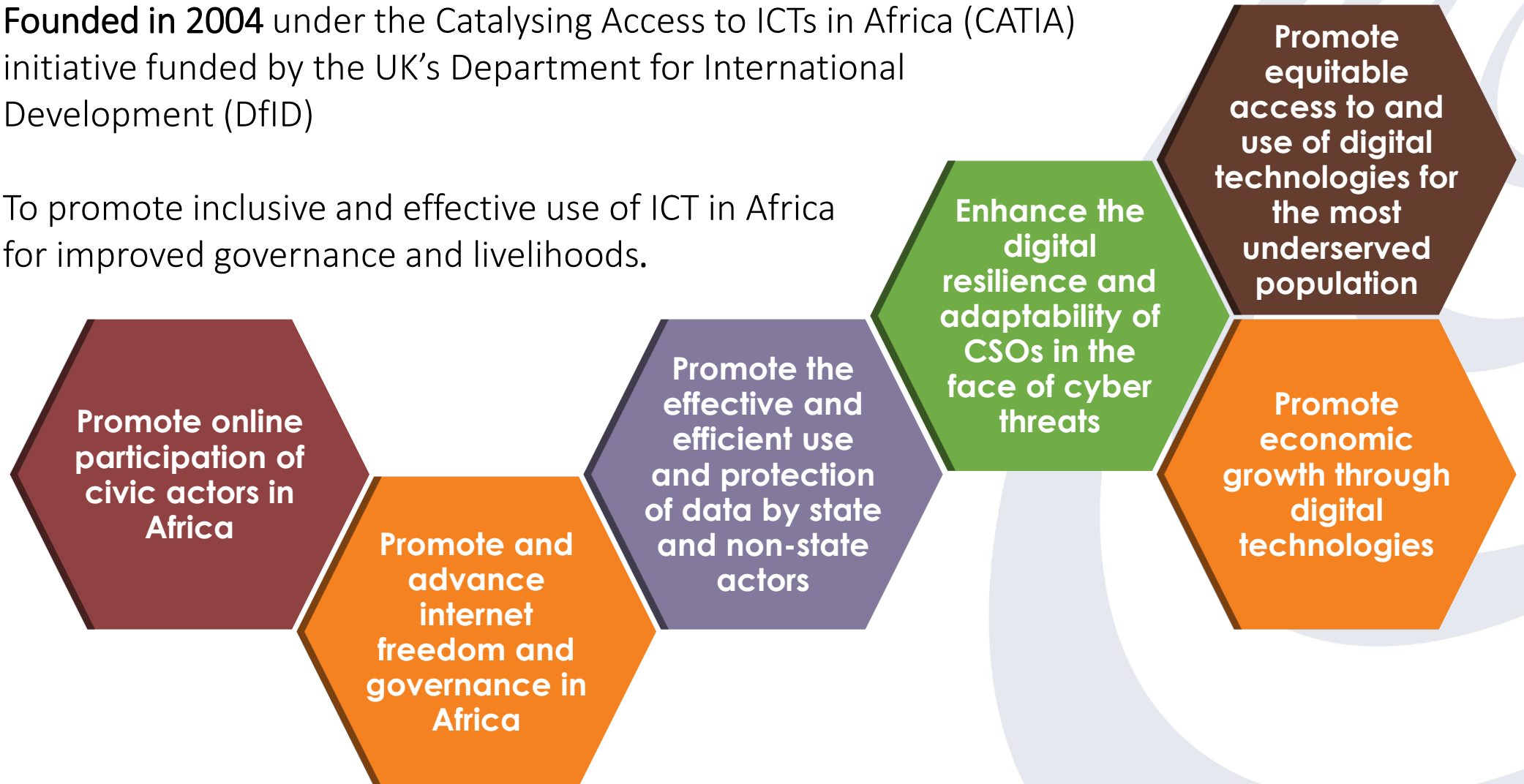
**#InternetFreedomAfrica**

**@cipesaug**

## What is the Collaboration on International ICT Policy for East and Southern Africa (CIPESA) about?

**Founded in 2004** under the Catalysing Access to ICTs in Africa (CATIA) initiative funded by the UK's Department for International Development (DfID)

To promote inclusive and effective use of ICT in Africa for improved governance and livelihoods.



# Strategic Actions





Key words blocked  
2013 2011

Gender  
Mooze Act  
2011

AND  
PORNOGRAPHY  
Act 2014

SOCIAL MEDIA  
Shutdown  
2016

Twitter  
2012

Facebook  
2014

Twitter  
Act 2013

Twitter  
Act 2016

MUSIC





Webinar

# #InspireInclusion:

## African Women in Politics Are Pushing Back Against Tech-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence



Friday 15,  
**March 2024**

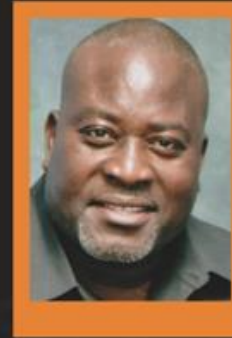
14:00  
15:30



**Hon. Neema Lugangira**  
Member of Parliament  
Representing NGOs  
Tanzania National Assembly



**Hon. Susan Dossi**  
Member of Parliament  
Malawi



**Hon. Modestus Amutse**  
Deputy Minister of ICT  
Namibia



**Adedolapo Adegoroye**  
Tech Policy Analyst  
Tech Hive, Nigeria



**Sylvia Musalagani**  
Head of Safety Policy  
Meta

# The State of Media **Freedom and Safety** of Journalists in Africa

November 2022







## The State of Media **Freedom and Safety** of Journalists in Africa

November 2022

The media in Africa continues to face serious challenges in the execution of its work.

Press freedom and freedom of expression is limited by legislation and actions by some states that continue to hinder the development of a professional and independent media.



## The State of Media **Freedom and Safety** of Journalists in Africa

November 2022

The report examined 8 areas:

- (i) Legal and Regulatory Framework
- (ii) Media Pluralism and Diversity
- (iii) Journalists' Safety and Protection
- (iv) Media Independence
- (v) Internet Access and Affordability
- (vi) Media Regulation
- (vii) Surveillance and Privacy of Online Communication and
- (viii) Independent Content Producers.



## The State of Media **Freedom and Safety** of Journalists in Africa

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Many areas of journalistic practice have been **criminalised**, with the adoption of cybercrime laws that prohibit the publication of false news or news deemed to threaten national security or public health, in countries such as Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria and Tanzania.



## The State of Media **Freedom and Safety** of Journalists in Africa

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The United Nations (UN) Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists (UNPoA) and the Issue of Impunity was developed as a systematic plan to work towards a free and safe environment for journalists and media professionals



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The main modalities of UNPoA are: Prevention, Protection, Prosecution and Partnerships.

However, the report shows, a decade after the promulgation of the UNPoA, the threats to journalists' safety remain stark within the African continent!



## The State of Media **Freedom and Safety** of Journalists in Africa

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This is the first to research and document the state of media freedom and safety of journalists in Africa and to provide specific and evidence-based recommendations to guide policy makers, media development organisations and other media freedom and human rights actors!



## The State of Media **Freedom and Safety** of Journalists in Africa

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- a. Legal and Regulatory Framework
- b. Media Pluralism and Diversity
- c. Journalists' Safety and Protection
- d. Media Independence
- e. Internet Access and Affordability
- f. Media Self-Regulation
- g. Surveillance and Privacy of Online Communication
- h. Online Content Producers



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### World Press Freedom Day 2024

According to an Internews report, 11% of journalists in Kenya, 30% in Uganda, 16% in Tanzania, and 30% in Ethiopia report experiencing harassment and intimidation while reporting in climate.



# Recommendations



## Demand Action

Study the UNESCO Director General's report and country reports on how different governments are working to address the issue of safety of journalists and put pressure on governments to not only submit these reports but ensure the reports are made public and acted upon.

## Take Ownership

Take ownership of UNPoA and utilise their communication skills to enlighten important actors such as the government ministries, parliamentarians and the judiciary, on safety issues and the need to put in place supportive mechanisms and policies.

## Media Managers Should Prioritise Safety

Media managers and owners must prioritise the safety of their journalists by providing them with appropriate safety training, equipment and tools; establishing safety practices and protocols in newsrooms;

## Increase Trust in Media

Media houses should work towards deploying ombudspersons so as to increase public trust in media content and improve the relationship between the public and the media.



**CIPESA**

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