Policy and Regulation for Community Networks

While much has been written about affordable technologies that communities have been able to use to design and build their own communication infrastructure, less is known about the policy and regulatory frameworks that have a significant impact on how easy it is to establish a community network, what kind of scale is possible and how sustainable it is likely to be.

Given that network operators use similar technologies around, you would be forgiven for thinking that policy and regulation governing telecommunications networks, and by extension community networks, are generally the same across countries. There are indeed many similarities but when it comes to community networks, there are critical differences in policy and regulation that can have a profound effect on the the viability of community networks.

This wiki is intended to help clarify those issues on a country by country basis with the intent of helping emergent community networks navigate the often confusing landscape of rules and regulations governing community networks. It is also hoped that the wiki will be useful for community networks to advocate for more enabling regulation, drawing on examples from other countries to inform their work.

Finally, recognising that policy and regulation is always changing and that capturing these changes across many countries is a mammoth task, we have chosen a wiki in the hope that you will join this effort to document and compare policy and regulation around the world. Note that the site is multi-lingual and if you would like to document information in another language, we encourage you to do so. You can change languages by clicking on the little flag icon above.

Recent Changes to policy.communitynetworks.group

[Policy & Regulatory Workshops](#)	2024/10/17 16:34	Steve Song	[Table]	🏴
[Towards an Enabling Regulatory Environment for Sustainable Community Connectivity](#)	2024/10/17 16:33	Steve Song	added description for CITEL workshop	🏴
[Regulating for Inclusion](#)	2024/10/17 16:29	Steve Song	created Costa Rica workshop	🏴
[Workshop on Regulation for Digital Inclusion in Colombia](#)	2024/10/17 16:24	Steve Song	created Bogota workshop	🏴
[South Africa](#)	2024/10/17 12:35	Steve Song	created South Africa backhaul page	🏴
[Backhaul Profiles](#)	2024/10/17 12:34	Steve Song	entered basic country links for Backhaul Profiles	🏴

Regulatory Profiles	2024/10/17 12:23	Steve Song		
submenu	2024/10/17 12:22	Steve Song	Added new category on Backhaul Profiles	
CRASA Workshop on Evaluation of Impact of Universal Access and Service Projects	2024/10/17 12:14	Steve Song	[Table]	
regional		Steve Song	↷ Page name changed from public-consultation:regional to public-consultation:policy_and_regulatory_workshops	
Public Consultations and Workshops	2024/10/16 11:42	Steve Song	Major reformat of consultations page to tabular	
ITU/APC/CITAD Workshop on Technology Options, Policy and Regulatory Support for Digital Inclusion in Nigeria	2024/10/15 14:24	Steve Song	uploaded Day 2 and Day 3 sessions	
CRASA Forum on Community Networks and Digital Inclusion	2024/10/15 11:58	Steve Song	Added Sessions 4 and 5	

Association for Progressive Communication (APC) and Digital Inclusion

This wiki is supported through APC's work on Digital Inclusion. APC works for rural, remote and marginalised communities to have the opportunities, capacities and resources to achieve and shape meaningful community-centred connectivity that contributes to the strengthening of local well-being, economies and cultures. We also promote collective action to shape digital norms, policies, standards and processes that are democratic and rights-respecting.

Related Resources

Routing for Communities	Community Networks Learning Repository	Financing mechanisms for locally owned internet infrastructure

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https://policy.communitynetworks.group/ - **Policy and Regulation for Community Networks**

Permanent link:
https://policy.communitynetworks.group/start?rev=1720196337

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