

# AFI AVIATION WEEK – 8<sup>th</sup> EDITION

## AFI Aviation Symposium



## Agenda Item 5: AUC-IED CYBERSECURITY IN AFRICA

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Nairobi, Kenya: August 2023

**WE ARE NO LONGER SECURING COMPUTERS.**

**WE ARE SECURING SOCIETY.**

Mikko Hyppönen

# Africa's \$180B Internet economy future

## Growing urban, mobile population

1.3B  
people in 2019

2.5B  
people in 2050



Digital connectivity

40%

of population in 2019

10% increase leads to 2.5% increase in GDP per capita



Urbanization

45%

of population will be in cities by 2025

## Expanding tech ecosystem



Tech talent

700K

developers in 2019



E-commerce and fintech are key sections driving the digital economy

## Infrastructure investments

Drives increased access to more affordable higher-speed Internet

Source: e-Economy Africa 2020.

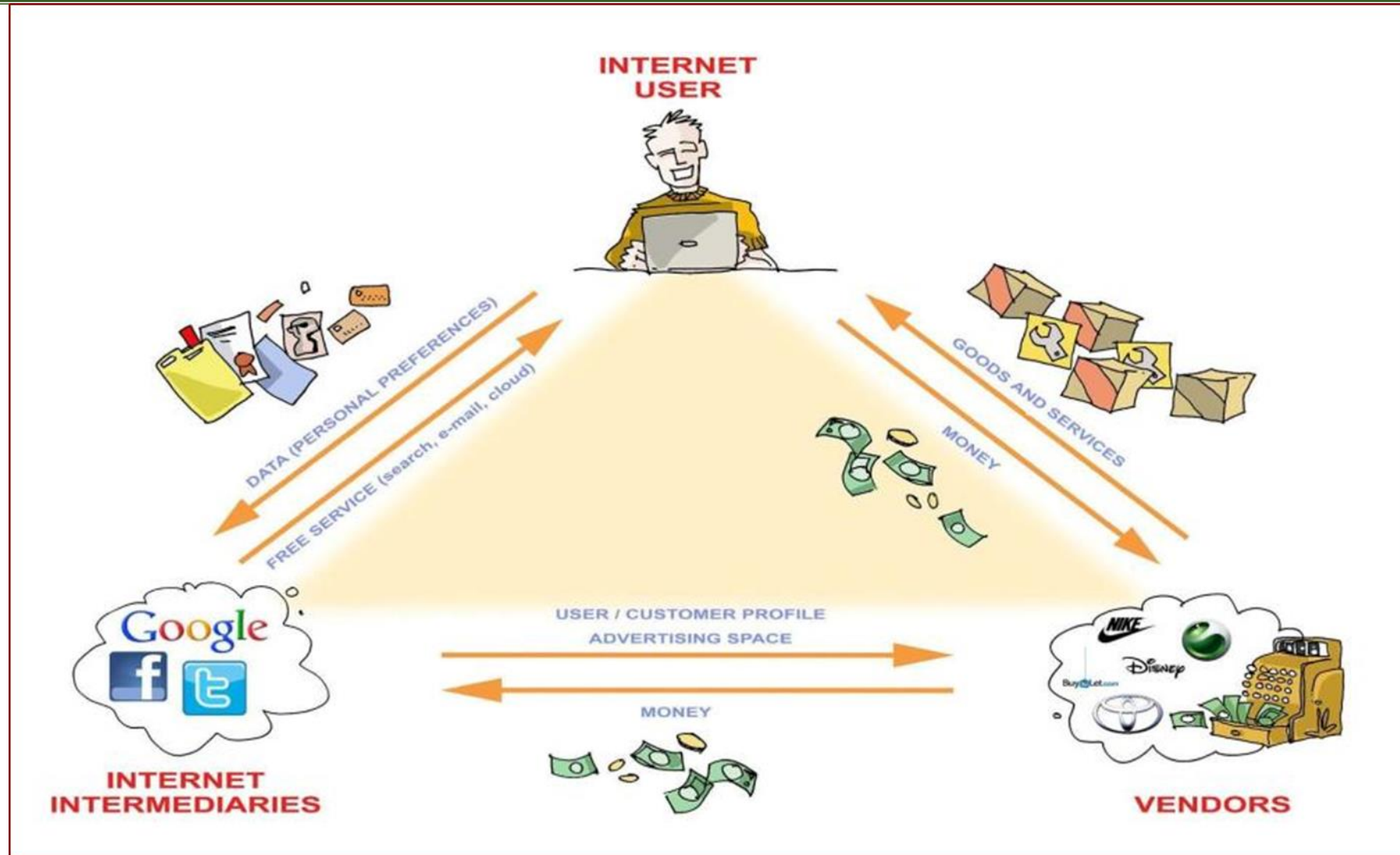
## Pro-innovator regulation

Including startup acts and regional harmonization, such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)

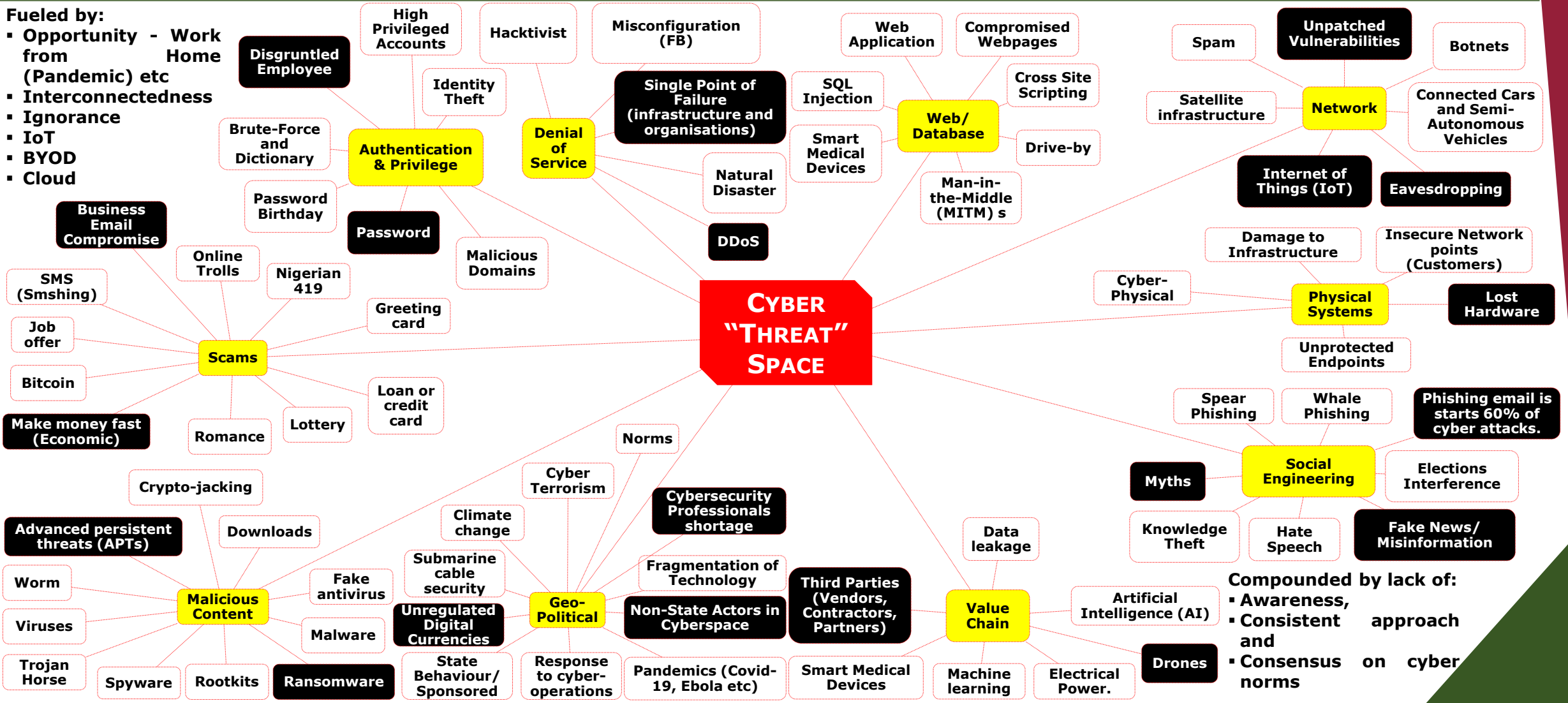
Google | IFC

**Projections by 2050: \$712 billion, 8.5% of Africa's GDP. 2.5 billion people**

Source: [https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/publications\\_ext\\_content/ifc\\_external\\_publication\\_site/publications\\_listing\\_page/google-e-economy](https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/publications_ext_content/ifc_external_publication_site/publications_listing_page/google-e-economy)



- Fueled by:**
- Opportunity - Work from Home (Pandemic) etc
  - Interconnectedness
  - Ignorance
  - IoT
  - BYOD
  - Cloud



**Compounded by lack of:**

- Awareness,
- Consistent approach and
- Consensus on cyber norms

**Mis-perception that Cybersecurity is not an African problem to solve**



In January 2018, the 32<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Session of the Executive Council endorsed the decision of the Specialized Technical Committee on ICTs, EX.CL/Dec.987(XXXII) to create an **Africa Cyber Security Collaboration and Coordination Committee** to advise the AUC and policy makers on the Cyber strategies.

That committee is called the **African Union Cyber Security Expert Group (AUCSEG)**

Provides **guidance and recommendations** on Cyber policies and strategies to AUC with the aim to adopt, monitor, prevent, mitigate and address current and emerging cyber threats and data misuse.

Generally **advise** the AUC in matters related to Cyber security, Cybercrime, Cyber-legislations, online privacy and data protection as well as digital policy related issues.

The Group **facilitates coordination and information sharing** among African countries & regions and different stakeholders, help identify cyber security areas where resources are needed, and advise African Union policymakers on national, regional and continental strategies and initiatives that should be prioritized.



Inaugurated on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December, 2019 at the AUC Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



The AUCSEG is made up of Ten (10) members drawn from the five African regions (northern, southern, central, eastern and western) who serve in a voluntary, independent, personal, and individual capacity.



A dynamic multi-stakeholder group which includes experts from relevant Africa-wide, regional and national level organizations, institutions, academia, the technical community, civil society, and law enforcement agencies & legal institutions.



The AUCSEG composition represents an appropriate regional and gender balance and comprises individuals representing different areas of expertise and experience within the cyber security and ICT sector.

**Members of the AUCSEG:**

- 1 **Abdul-Hakeem Dirisu Ajijola (Policy) – Chair**
- 2 **Nnenna Ifeanyi-Ajufo (Cyber legislation) – Vice-Chair**
- 3 **Janvier Ngoulaye (Academia) - Member**
- 4 **Kaleem Ahmed Usmani (CERT) - Member**
- 5 **Michael Ilishebo (Law enforcement) - Member**
- 6 **John Ubena (Cyber legislation) - Member**
- 7 **Houda Chihi (Academia) - Member**
- 8 **Sherif Hashem (Academia/ Policy) - Member**
- 9 **Jean-Robert Hountomey (Africa CERT) -Member**
- 10 **Vacant.**



**The Head of the Information Society division of the AUC serves as a permanent member and a secretariat of the group.**

**Role and Function of the AUCSEG**

- Strategies for collecting synthesizing, and disseminating information on cyber security for member states;
- Guidance on Cyber security programs such as:
  1. Establishing systems and mitigating programmes e.g. CERTs/CIRTs or CSIRTs to counter cyber threats;
  2. Evaluating the impact of cyber security interventions and programmes;
  3. **Assisting AUC to develop cyber security strategies and legislations for Member States;**
  4. Assisting with the planning of content and structure of the AUC yearly cyber security conference/Forum on Cybercrime;
  5. Operationalising the cyber security month in all Member States;
  6. **Enhancing the capacity of justice system and law enforcement to effectively address cyber security issues;**
  7. Ensuring the dissemination of good practices to address existing and emerging cyber threats.
- Promoting the availability and integrity of ICT data;
- Recommending models for cyber security capacity building that can be adapted to Member State’s needs;
- Providing guidance and advice on the online privacy and personal data protection issues raised by Member States;**
- Providing advice and support for cyber security sensitization programs on the Continent;
- Identifying cyber security research gaps in Africa and suggesting viable research areas in the field.

## BROAD INTERVENTIONS

**Cyber Legislation:** expediting the ratification of African (Malabo) Convention on Cybersecurity and Personal Data Protection 2014.

**Cyber strategy:** assisting member states on the development/ updating national strategy, draft a continental strategy

**Cyber Infrastructure:** Support the development of national/ regional/ continental CERTs/ CSIRTs

**Capacity and skill development:** Support the development of targeted programs for policy makers and other stakeholders

**Education and Awareness:** Create awareness on issues of Cyber Security, Personal Data Protection and Privacy.

**Implementation of UN Norms and Confidence Building Measures in Cyberspace (CBMs)**

## PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

AUC efforts have been enhanced through **partnerships** and collaboration to implement mandated activities.

Focus on collaboration modalities, roles and responsibilities and work in ways to achieve synergy, complementarity and cooperation.

Identify common areas of collaboration with Commonwealth Cyber Fellowship based on AU priorities on cyber security in the African Region.

## KEY OUTCOMES

### Malabo Convention:

- Through diverse efforts the Convention entered into force on 08 June 2023 after Mauritania deposited the 15<sup>th</sup> instrument of ratification.
- Signature: 20
- **Ratification: 15**
- Deposit : 15
- **Can ratify with reservations**
- Submission of recommendations for the **anticipatory review** of the Malabo Convention

### The development of:

- Continental cybersecurity strategy for Africa – **Principles being articulated**. African Cybersecurity landscape Assessment made
- Child online safety and empowerment policy – **draft policy will be submitted to STC on CCICT-5 in Oct 2023**

**Coordination and involvement in the annual African Cybersecurity Forum**

**Diverse outreach efforts to AU member states to develop capacity on cybercrime and cyber resilience**

**Involvement in the AU-GFCE Africa Cyber Experts (ACE) Community project**



