



CALL FOR PROPOSAL

For consultant(s) to provide research guidance and undertake authorship and data collection roles in the *Internet & Jurisdiction in the African Union Regional Status Report project on Framing, Mapping and Addressing Cross-border Digital Jurisdictional Challenges across the African Continent*

THE ORGANIZATION

The Internet & Jurisdiction Policy Network (I&JPN) is the leading multistakeholder organization addressing the tension between the cross-border internet and national jurisdictions. Its Paris-based Secretariat facilitates a global policy process engaging over 400 key entities from governments, the world's largest internet companies, technical operators, civil society groups, academia, and international organizations from over 70 countries. Stakeholders currently work in three Programs (Data & Jurisdiction, Content & Jurisdiction, and Domains & Jurisdiction) to jointly develop policy standards and operational solutions to pressing legal challenges at the intersection of the global digital economy, human rights, and security. The organization is also the home of the world's first Internet & Jurisdiction Global Status Report and pioneering regional community intelligence efforts.

The regular Global Conferences of the Internet & Jurisdiction Policy Network are institutionally supported by the Council of Europe, European Commission, ICANN, OECD, United Nations ECLAC, and UNESCO. Partner countries include France (2016), Canada (2018), and Germany (2019). The work of the organization has been presented to and recognized by key international processes, including the UN Internet Governance Forum, G7, G20, or the Paris Peace Forum, and covered in top media outlets such as The Economist, Washington Post, Financial Times, Politico or Fortune. The organization is financially supported by a uniquely diverse coalition of over 20 governments, companies, and organizations.

BACKGROUND & OBJECTIVES

The Internet & Jurisdiction Policy Network is partnering with the German Development Agency (GIZ) to undertake a pioneering project in collaboration with the African Union Commission addressing cross-border legal challenges on the internet. The *Internet & Jurisdiction in the African Union Regional Status Report project on Framing, Mapping and Addressing Cross-border Digital Jurisdictional Challenges across the African Continent (I&JPN AUC Project)* proposes to complement existing regional mechanisms for stakeholders from the African continent to share knowledge, consult each other, interact with stakeholders around the world, and develop a shared understanding of and capacity on cross-border legal challenges on the internet.

Through the utilization of regional mechanisms and partnerships, recurring workshops, in-depth data collection, and the development of the first Internet & Jurisdiction in the African Union Regional Status Report, this project



STATES



INTERNET
COMPANIES



TECHNICAL
OPERATORS



CIVIL
SOCIETY



ACADEMIA



INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS



will consolidate the timely information needed to enable the necessary capacity building to pursue an inclusive digital transformation based on evidence. It will furthermore ensure meaningful multistakeholder participation and provide the information needed to develop interoperable policy and regulatory frameworks for the digital 21st century, support the evolution of a digital single market, and contribute to Africa's Agenda 2063 and the UN Roadmap for Digital Cooperation. Given the size and scope of this project, it is pivotal to expand the existing I&JPN Secretariat in regards to the necessary regional know-how, language skills, and most importantly the project coordination capabilities that the wide array of activities and interlocutors will require.

PROJECT OUTLINE & DESCRIPTION OF REQUIRED TASKS

1. **Provide research guidance and policy brief authorship during the Knowledge Dialogue stage of the project (PHASE 1)**

The first part of the project will be linked to a so-called Knowledge Dialogue that will consist of two expert workshops starting in Q3/Q4 2021. These workshops will bring together knowledgeable stakeholders from the region and beyond and offer the opportunity to crowdsource the information necessary to formulate an inclusive and relevant report outline for practitioners. The consultant will provide research guidance during the preparatory stages of the workshops and draft short and concise policy and summary briefs during and after the Knowledge Dialogue.

2. **Undertake research/collect data necessary to author policy brief documents and an Internet & Jurisdiction in the African Union Regional Status Report** according to the report outline, with the support of the I&JPN Secretariat and its network, and the AUC **(PHASE 1 / PHASE 2)**

The contractor is expected to:

- Comment on the proposed report outline to highlight potential topical specificities (if necessary).
- Co-develop with the I&J Secretariat the multilingual data collection questionnaire(s), in compliance with established survey methods and to increase the quality of the necessary data received.
- In collaboration with the I&J Secretariat and after receipt of the relevant contacts and subsequent validation, reach out to contributors and mobilize them to participate in the data collection and peer review.
- Draw on relevant information collected by the I&J Secretariat from institutional partners and contributors, as well as the I&J Retrospect Database.
- Research additional information and, as necessary, follow-up with contributors to close regional or topical data gaps.
- In addition to desk research, the contractor is expected to leverage their own knowledge and network of experts to collect the relevant information for the project.
- Research additional information to close data gaps. In addition to desk research, the contracted team is expected to use his/her network of experts to contribute to the status report.

3. **Authorship of the Internet & Jurisdiction in the African Union Regional Status Report (PHASE 2)**

The contractor is expected to:

- Identify research assistant(s) that would, after having been vetted by the I&J Secretariat, schedule and conduct interviews on behalf of the I&J Secretariat.



- Ensure that the language used fosters the objective of the report to translate the often highly complex and technical issues into simple concepts that also a non-informed generalist could understand (“the I&J Voice”).
 - Utilize data obtained through data collection questionnaire(s) circulated by the I&J Secretariat as well as the results of follow-up targeted interviews.
 - Produce a draft of the Internet & Jurisdiction in the African Union Regional Status Report based on the in-depth research and analysis of survey and interview data.
 - Incorporate review comments received from AUC and from the open review processes.
 - Finalize the Report document in time for the 2022 IGF in Africa.
4. **Provide research support and curriculum guidance** in preparation of the Report launch event, outreach activities, capacity development, and for peer-to-peer learning workshops that will leverage an online learning module based on the findings of the Report (**PHASE 3**)

It is planned to conduct up to three regional peer-to-peer capacity building and consultation events based on the reports/knowledge dialogues findings, ideally in collaboration with existing mechanisms like the African IGFs and/or select RECs (ECOWAS, SADC, etc.). The planned peer-to-peer capacity building and consultation events will build on the findings of the Internet & Jurisdiction and African Union Regional Status Report and in particular on some identified contested issues. Ahead of the capacity-building events and in-depth online learning & training modules are developed from the substantive findings of the Regional Status Report and subsequently utilized to facilitate knowledge retention of participants before, during, and after the workshops.

The consultant will provide research guidance and curriculum support during the production stage of the learning module, which will be developed by a dedicated third party.

The Consultant will ensure that relevant and timely issues are well addressed and for that purpose interact and collaborate closely with the I&JPN Secretariat over the course of the entire project duration.

In addition, the contractor will:

- Prepare the report in American English.
- Ensure that:
 - Data for relevant figures and tables generated are provided.
 - References/citations as well as all-important assumptions behind text, figures, and tables are provided for all statistics and other information/data, and noted in full as endnotes; formatting of endnotes should follow I&JPN’s referencing guidelines, which will be provided. All references will be included in the final draft report.
- Recognize in the acknowledgment section all contributors who provided data for the policy briefs, summary documents and the Regional Status Report.
- Consult and collaborate closely with the I&JPN Secretariat on the report preparation and incorporation of comments received from the I&J Policy Network and project partners.
- Make available all relevant background information and in particular cases to the Internet & Jurisdiction Policy Network for inclusion in the Retrospect database (<https://www.internetjurisdiction.net/publications/retrospect>). Such information should be sent to the I&JPN Project & Research Coordinator so that the I&J Secretariat can further process it.

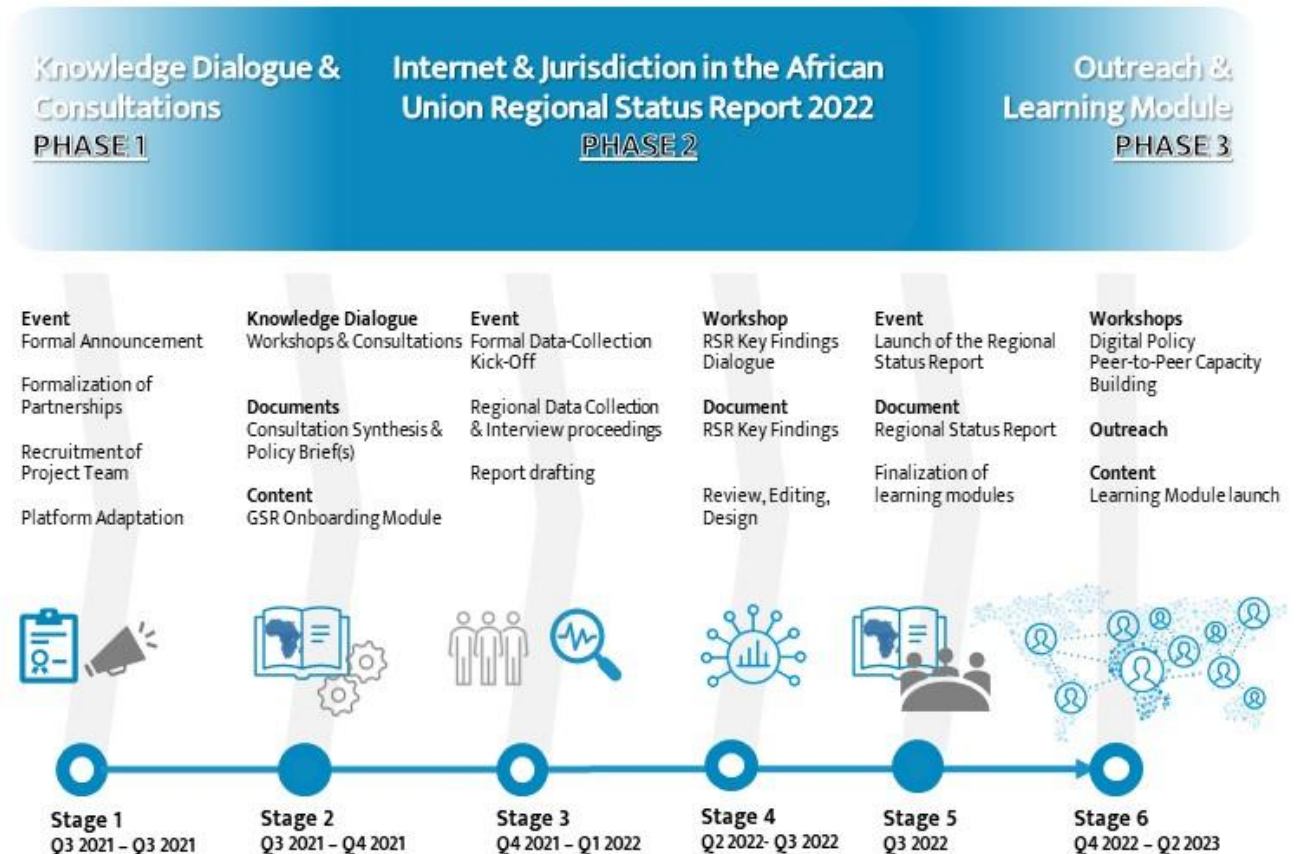
Referencing for data will be done in accordance with I&J’s authoring guidelines. All information submitted should be completed in line with the criteria defined.

The produced documents will remain in the ownership of the Internet & Jurisdiction Policy Network and will be circulated with a creative commons license free of charge, while acknowledging all contributors and authors involved.



GENERAL TIMELINE & DELIVERABLES

The contract will run from July 2021 until April 2023, with an overall project duration of 22 months.



KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

The selection of the contractor will depend on:

- Price – 30%
- Relevant experience – 30%
- Quality – 30% to be evaluated based on:
 - Portfolio
 - Expected outputs
- Flexibility and timeline – 10%



PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

The contracted team should have:

- A proven track record of knowledge about the digital transformation in Africa, Internet Governance and relevant stakeholders & sectors
- Extensive knowledge about the digital policy sector with working experience across the region
- Proficiency in English, good-to-have proficiency in French (the report will be drafted in English after potential data collection in French with subsequent translations)

The submission can be made in any format, and should include:

- The contractor's specific interest in the project and availability
- Profile and prior experience
- A detailed résumé, highlighting related work experience in the focus countries for the report
 - If a reporting team is being proposed then enclose the resumé of the lead team members
- An overview of projects managed covering similar scope and focus
- A breakdown of the number of workdays and daily rates
- The proposed total rate for carrying out the work in the timeframe provided, including VAT (if applicable)

Proposals should be submitted through the following form:

<https://connect.internetjurisdiction.net/zs/lsB8mX>

The deadline for receipt of proposals is 11:59pm CET (23:59) Sunday 4 July 2021.

All received proposals will be acknowledged but only short-listed candidates will be contacted.



ANNEX 1

PROPOSED REPORT CHAPTER OUTLINE (APPROX. 130 PAGES)

The planned 130-page Report will **feed from the collaborative spirit cultivated and Policy Briefs developed in Phase 1 and entail a multistakeholder data collection** round as well as examine the most relevant emerging issues and debates that range from topics such as:

- the empowerment of local actors to set compatible norms and enable interoperability of regimes,
- the digital divide,
- electronic evidence,
- digitizing Africa while promoting a comprehensive values-based rulebook for a digital economy,
- enabling good governance,
- the digital single market,
- and digital agriculture,

to map these upcoming policy challenges. The launch of the Report's findings in an official setting would moreover offer the opportunity for widespread acknowledgment of the important mapping of knowledge on digital policy issues in Africa and to show leadership of involved partners. Moreover, the data collected would contribute directly to the visibility of African challenges in other major policy publications, including the next edition of the Internet & Jurisdiction Global Status Report.

Following the established methodology of I&J's knowledge mutualization activities, a considerable **emphasis will be put on visual clarity and infographics that will support the translation of often very technical and legal substance into clear messages for practitioners and policymakers.**

Structure

The publication will be structured around four pillars and follow the proven methodology set up by the I&JPN:

- **Synthesis:** a succinct executive summary of findings,
- **Analysis:** a description of trends, past, current, or emerging, grouped by themes, and assorted by country and stakeholder groups,
- **Survey:** a questionnaire-based investigation of the perception by the African internet policy community of progress in the necessary coordination and cooperation among actors, and priority concerns,
- **Mapping:** a broad overview of actors and policy initiatives by IGOs, governments, companies, and civil society from around the African Region related to the major cross-border legal challenges

Outline

1. **Forewords** - By the leadership of the project partners & potential supporters
2. **Executive Summary** - Synthesis of findings and Snapshot of the state of the policy ecosystem
3. **Methodology Section** - Explanation of the data contribution and synthesis methodology of the Report
4. **Introduction** - Introduction and background landscape
5. **Overarching-Trends** - Identification of major transversal aspects to the trends & solutions in chapters 6 & 7
6. **Major Topical Trends in the African region**
 - a. Past, current, and emerging trends (15-20+ major trends)
 - b. Subdivided into three themes: Expression, Security, Economy
 - c. Integration of select summaries of conducted interviews with network stakeholders (with survey results as infographics)
 - d. Contains a selection of case studies
 - e. Includes relevant Key Actors and Initiatives
7. **Major Approaches to Solutions in the African region**
 - a. Past, current, and emerging approaches to solutions (15-20+ major approaches)
 - b. Subdivided into two dimensions: Legal Trends & Tools
 - c. Integration of select summaries of conducted interviews with network stakeholders (with survey



- results as infographics)
- d. Includes relevant Key Actors and Initiatives

The I&JPN Secretariat will use an adapted version of its innovative online Collaboration Platform, which will allow to:

- Considerably accelerate the production of the Report
- Curate a list of African experts, including their fields of expertise and focus
- Effectively communicate with relevant stakeholders, including personalized multi-lingual mass mailings
- Host multi-language data-collection questionnaires and templates to synthesize interview-data
- Enable the author and coordination team to keep track of interactions and the status of surveys/interviews
- Provide an online review tool that allows for the collection of feedback and comments to fill data gaps
- Utilize an in-depth survey analysis tool that simplifies the research and drafting process

Objectives

The Internet & Jurisdiction in the African Union Regional Status Report will be a high-impact publication benefiting all actors by helping, inter alia:

- Amplify visibility of the existing mechanisms and know-how in the Region to relevant stakeholders on other continents
- Enable governments inside and outside of the African region to make well-informed policy decisions on key issues that have a high impact on the economy, human rights and security,
- Equip decision-makers in the private sector to increase their awareness and ability to react accordingly,
- Civil society groups to identify opportunities to contribute to ongoing policy discussions,
- International organizations to refine their focus and identify areas for action,
- Academics to orient their research and determine emerging topics,
- Citizens and internet users in general, to get an overview of international policy developments that will impact them,
- Provide the necessary evidence and policy substance to prepare timely and regionally relevant learning materials that can be used for moderated peer-to-peer learning workshops and online courses.

ANNEX 2: INTERNET & JURISDICTION REFERENCING STANDARDS

This document outlines the referencing standards used by I&J for its publications and databases.

General Referencing Requirements

I&J relies on an extensive network of experts to provide us with the latest information on global development of the Internet & Jurisdiction ecosystem. The information provided by this network of contributors is vital to the production of I&J products.

To maintain the quality and integrity of our products, it is essential that we be able to verify the accuracy of the information that we receive. Thus, it is vitally important that contributors provide us with full source information alongside their contributions. This can be achieved by providing as many of the following items as possible:

- The name of the author or researcher responsible for the source material.
- The date of publication of the source material, including day, month and year (or whichever is available).



- The name of the publication/institution that released or produced the source material.
- The city in which the publisher of the source material is located.
- For information accessed online, the full web-link, and the day on which the information was accessed/retrieved.
- For information accessed from a printed publication, such as a journal, magazine, book, or newspaper: the edition of the publication, and the page number of the source material in the publication.

I&J recognizes that the above information might not always be available. In such cases, we ask that you provide as much source information as possible.

Specific Referencing Requirements

Please provide full source/ reference information for all data, quotations, etc. (anything deserving of a reference) in the endnotes of the document. The I&J Secretariat abides by the American Psychological Association reference style (APA).

The table below outlines the types of reference information that is required from contributors for various source types.

Source Type	Reference Style	Example
Online/Internet Publication	Author(s), Year of Publication, Page Title (in italics), URL address.	Benson, A. & Kipp, R. M. (2012). <i>Potamopyrgus antipodarum</i> . Retrieved from http://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/FactSheet.asp?SpeciesID=1008
Sources that are not officially published, such as conference documents, working papers etc.	Author, Date of Publication, Document Title (in italics), Location.	Bowker, N. I. (2003). <i>What it means to be online for people with disabilities</i> (Unpublished doctoral dissertation). Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand.
Books	Author(s), Year of Publication, Book title (in italics), Subtitle (optional), City of Publication, Publisher Name.	Durie, M. (2003). <i>Ngā kāhui pou: Launching Māori futures</i> . Wellington, New Zealand: Huia Publishers.
Journals & Magazine Articles	Author(s), Year of Publication, Article Title (not in italics), Journal name (in italics), Volume Number (in italics), Issue Number, and the Page Number Range of the Article.	Castles, F. G., Curtin, J. C., & Vowles, J. (2006). Public policy in Australia and New Zealand: The new global context. <i>Australian Journal of Political Science</i> , 41(2), 131-143.
Press Releases	Author(s), Year of Publication, Title (in italics), Subtitle (optional), City of Publication,	American Internet Association (2005), <i>AIA Releases U.S. Internet Annual Market Report</i> . [Press Release]. Washington, DC.
Personal interviews, correspondence, emails etc.	Author, A. Organisation (Year, Month Date). Interview type.	Marino, B. OECD. (2014, October 18). Personal Interview.