NGAO: Building digital resilience comic strip

for journalists, politicians and human rights activists ahead of elections

Implemented by Core23lab with the support of Accessnow
Elections are critical times in which the digital space acts as a civic space for many different stakeholders but without communities attaining digital resilience skills they are left vulnerable.
Meet Jean a journalist, Françoise a human rights activist, Mireille a female politician running for a senator position and fifi a digital security expert as they take us through ways to build digital resilience during elections.
Hi! My name is Fifi and today I will take you through some tips needed to build your digital resilience towards elections. Do you have any questions for me?
Yes Fifi, I am a human rights activist. How do I continue engaging my audience and pointing out human rights concerns during elections, when social media sites are blocked?
As a human rights activist, elections are a crucial time for you to ensure human rights are respected. To access social media during election you can do the following 1. Verify and test blocked websites/platforms and apps using OONI 2. Use VPN to access blocked content
What is OONI?

OONI
OONI is an app that allows you to test the blocking of websites and apps and measure the speed and performance of your network....
...you can download and install OONI app on your device android device through app store and IOS device through app store. Before downloading make sure your VPN is off

Aha, what is a VPN?
A VPN is a virtual private network that enables you to access blocked websites and contents.
Ok, is this free?
Some VPNs are free, others have to be purchased.
What are some free VPNs I can use in case of an internet shutdown?
Some of the free VPNs you can use are: PSIPHON, Lantern, and Tunnelbear.

- **PSIPHON**, a free VPN that can be downloaded here: https://psiphon.ca/
- **Lantern**, also a free VPN found at https://getlantern.org/en_US/index.html
- **Tunnelbear**, a free VPN found at https://www.tunnelbear.com/
I didn’t know this before. Does this work when I want to access a blocked website?
Yes it does but you can also use Tor Browser, to use it you need to download and install tor browser in your device.
Those were interesting insights Fifi, for me as a journalist my key concern during elections is how to stay safe online, what do you advise?
Thats a good question Jean, it applies to you too Françoise

1. Create strong passwords
2. Use VPNs
3. Always update your devices and apps
4. Stay in control of your personal information
5. Protect your devices
6. Use a secure internet browser such as Tor
7. Use secure messaging apps to protect your devices i.e. Signal
Thanks Fifi, I feel ready for the coming elections. What role can I play to build the digital resilience of others?
That is a good question Jean, everyone has a role to play and everyone needs to have digital resilience skills....
As a journalist you can share this security tips with other users and you can also report on various digital issues such as how to stay online.
How about me as a woman politician, what role can I play to ensure digital resilience during elections?
Politicians are important figures in this case, you can advocate and share digital security tips for other candidates but you can also advocate for the digitals space to remain open during and after elections.
How exactly can I do that?
There are many ways you can ensure this but these three are important:

1. Push back on laws that legitimize internet shutdowns
2. Build partnerships with stakeholders
3. Ensure internet shutdowns do not happen
I see as a legislator I have a key role to play before and after elections at ensuring my people and country build digital resilience.
Exactly!
Thank you Fifi for sharing this important information

There is a lot to do together!
There are many resources available to you during elections such as AccessNow’s digital security helpline which offers 24/7 digital security support.
Thank you Fifi!
Ngao: A digital resilience communiqué
for journalists, politicians and human rights activists ahead of elections

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