

## **Press Release**

### **Launch of SafetyComm Cyber Support Center**

We are pleased to invite you to the launch of our new Cyber Support Center along Bilpham Road adjacent to Palacina Lounge and Cafe in Juba on May 5th, 2023. The event will start at 1:00 PM and will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony, a tour of the facilities, and a networking lunch.

This is an excellent opportunity to showcase our work of creating a safer space for South Sudanese online. Thank you for your continued support and partnership. We hope you will join us for this special occasion and celebrate our achievements.

Find attached detailed information about SafetyComm Cyber Support Center.

**Juba, South Sudan 2nd May 2023.** Defyhatenow, the leading organization in combating cyber threats, hate speech, misinformation, and increment to violence, will be **Launching a Cyber Safety Center in collaboration with South Sudan National Communication Authority**. The event will take place from **1 PM to 4 PM** on May 5th, 2023, at the SafetyComm Cyber support center adjacent to Palacine along Bilpam Road in Juba.

The Center, which will act as a one-stop point for handling incidents related to ensuring the cyber safety of South Sudanese, is a joint effort of DefyHateNow and the South Sudan National Communication Authority.

The increase in broadband connectivity through fiber optic cables, the advent of 4G Sim Cards, and the upgrade of remote locations to 3G Connection have significantly increased the number of online users in South Sudan. The expansion led to an exponential growth in severity and types of threats and strategies used by online scammers, hackers and other malicious actors. These threats include ransomware, revenge porn, cyber extortion, scams, account hacking, cyberbullying, online impersonations, and others.

With the launch of the center, SafetyComm will aim at **Providing a safer digital experience for citizens by reducing all forms of harm resulting from cyber threats to South Sudanese.** ”

The event will feature a panel discussion on emerging cyber threats in South Sudan and how SafetyComm is working to protect citizens from online harm. The panel will

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consist of leading experts in cybersecurity and other related fields. The event will also provide an opportunity for attendees to network and exchange ideas.

Attendance to the event is by invitation only, and guests are encouraged to RSVP as soon as possible to secure their spot. For more information on the event, please contact Victoria Peter Amidi, Outreach Coordinator, at [victoria@safetycomm.org](mailto:victoria@safetycomm.org)

### **About SafetyComm**

SafetyComm is a platform that works on combating cyber threats to citizens in South Sudan by providing a support system to mitigate harmful cyber trends. SafetyComm supports victims of online harm, creates awareness, and provides capacity building to various governmental, non-governmental, and private sector actors in South Sudan.

Established in 2021 by #defyhatenow and funded by the National Communication Authority, SafetyComm has supported over 250 cyber incidents to date.

SafetyComm operates the only publicly available cyber support Center, which continues to act as a vital support line to citizens and institutions in the country.

[safetycomm.org](https://safetycomm.org)

[info@safetycomm.org](mailto:info@safetycomm.org)

### **About #defyhatenow South Sudan**

DHN is a national organization that works on promoting digital rights and creating a framework for increasing trust between stakeholders and communities in Africa through mobilizing civic action against all forms of hate speech, misinformation, human rights violations, and incitement to violence; with an operational base in Juba, South Sudan

[defyhatenow.org](https://defyhatenow.org)

[southsudan@defyhatenow.org](mailto:southsudan@defyhatenow.org)

### **About NCA**

NCA is the National Telecommunication and ICT regulator in South Sudan, established by an act of parliament in 2012 with a mandate to regulate, promote and facilitate access to affordable quality ICT services through a conducive environment to enable accelerated socio-economic development in the country. NCA is currently headquartered in Juba, South Sudan, and has operations in the ten states of South Sudan and the three administrative areas.

[nca.gov.ss](https://nca.gov.ss)

[info@nca.gov.ss](mailto:info@nca.gov.ss)

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**Program**  
**5th May 2023**  
**Time: 13:00 to 16:00**  
**Theme: Safer Cyberspace in South Sudan**

1. 13:00 Arrival and Networking
2. 13:30 Welcome speech from #DefyHateNow
3. 13:40 Speeches
  - a. Speech by the head of incident response at SafetyComm
  - b. Speech by a youth representative
  - c. Speech by Women representative
  - d. Speech by a student representative
  - e. Speech by a project beneficiary
4. 14:30 Keynote speech by Guest of Honor
5. 15:45 Ribbon cutting
6. 15:00 Press conference
7. 15:30 Refreshment and entertainment

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