A shared platform to accelerate digital inclusion

September 2019
1. The Global Context
2. Internet Access and Adoption
3. Internet for All
4. Public Private Partnership
The Digital State of Play

Vision:
By 2030 our goal is for every person in the world to meaningfully participate in a digitalized economy & society.

Digital Opportunity for All

- **50%** of the world population not online
- **5.5%** Internet growth has slowed from 17% in 2007 to 5.5% in 2018
- **1%** of Multilateral Investment Banks investment commitments go to ICT sector
- **1 Trillion** Estimated ICT infrastructure investment gap by 2040
- **2 Billion** people live in a country where 1GB of mobile data is priced above the affordable threshold of 2% or less of average monthly income
- **2.8** Each 10% increase in internet penetration correlates with an increase of up to 2.8% in the rate of GDP growth.
• …Connecting a population is not just about economic growth or social inclusion. It’s about keeping your country from missing the Fourth Industrial Revolution”

• Addressing the access and adoption priorities to get the remaining 50% of the world online and digitally empowered

• New business models and financing mechanism need to emerge to address the growing digital investment gap

• Need for enhanced collaboration to allow all stakeholders to align incentives, in particular short-term fiscal pressures from finance ministries with long-term national broadband plans from ICT ministries and industry RoI needs

From: “Half the world’s population is still offline. Here’s why that matters”
World Economic Forum Agenda Blog, Oct 2018
The Connectivity Challenge

- Internet connectivity statistics are improving but not fast enough.
- At the current pace, Latin America and Africa will reach 2018 levels of more advanced regions only in 2023.
- At that time, the more advanced regions will likely be further away (many are investing in ultra-broadband now)
Four principal barriers hinder universal internet access and adoption

- Infrastructure
  - 33% of people in rural areas live outside of 3G coverage
  - 92% of people in developing regions live outside of fixed-broadband coverage areas

- Affordability
  - 10% of people live below the international poverty line of $1.90 per day
  - 33% of countries surveyed that meet the global affordability standard of 1GB of data for 2% of income

- Skills, awareness & acceptance
  - 14% of people over 15 are considered illiterate
  - 50% women are up to 50% less likely to be connected

- Content
  - 80% of online content is written in 1 of 10 languages (native to only ~3b people)
  - 51% of countries exhibit “low” or “medium” e-government readiness

~3.9 billion non-users

Goal: Increase multi-stakeholder coordination and collaboration such that it accelerates the development and/or deployment of new, scalable, and replicable models of increasing internet access and adoption to connect the nearly 3.9 billion people in the world that are still offline.
PLATFORM ACTIVITIES
• 2 regional platforms in African and Latam
• Improvement in the alignment of private sector projects

BUILDING UNDERSTANDING
• Development of framework for internet access and investment, leveraged by multiple partners

AGENDA SETTING
• Improved dialogue and public-private coordination to unlock investment:
  Global working groups around topics: ICT connectivity financing models, digital literacy and skills and gender digital divide

INFRASTRUCTURE
• Argentina: **11 active projects** that address **3-4 million new internet users**
• Argentina: development of “dig once” policy

AFFORDABILITY
• South Africa: Internet4Mzansi project provides **affordable Wi-Fi** connectivity currently available to >**33,000 people in remote areas**

SKILLS
• Rwanda: Digital Ambassadors Program in Rwanda increased **use of digital services 129%**. 87% of participants increased income, and 26% of participants succeeded in finding a job.
• Argentina: **80,000 people** received training in digital skills

CONTENT
• Argentina: **75 trained college students** have replicated content training across their provinces
Discussion Prompts

- Public-Partnership
- Coordination
- Explore New Models