Bridging the Digital Divide: Insights from the State of Broadband reports

Phillippa Biggs
ITU

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International Digital Divides Persist

Proportion of individuals using the Internet, by age, 2017*

Source: ITU.
Int’l Digital Divide Persists – Technologies Continue to Evolve

Source: ITU.
National Costs of Deploying FTTH over households

Source: Analysys Mason.
Commercial viability of different technologies (population)

Source: Analysys Mason.
The Good News 1 – Various policy options exist

Source: Analysys Mason.
Policy options – Supply Side

Supply side options include:

• M1: Mobile networking sharing
• M2: Access to non-telecom infrastructure
• M3: Spectrum assignment
• M4: Coverage obligation
• M5: Mandating wholesale NGN access at sustainable prices
Policy options – Demand Side

Demand-side options include:

• M6: Public campaigns to promote digital economy
• M7: Setting up public access points to information regarding use of digital services
• M8: Providing subsidies or social tariffs to low-income citizens
• M9: Cutting VAT for ICT services
Universal Service Funds

Source: ITU.
The good news 2 – Governments are acting on the policy front

Source: ITU.
The good news – firms are getting better at deployment.

Source: ITU.
Shifting in Value – Telecoms Industry

Source: Accenture/WEF.
5. Key Conclusions

- The digital divide remains with us, but it is evolving.
- Competition among next-gen technologies is intensifying.
- The national digital divide also continues to be problematic.
- The overall digital gender divide has grown slightly.
- Good news – industry getting more efficient, action on policy front, different policy options are available.
Thank you very much
Digital Divides – from basic telephony to Internet

- National, International, Gender divide, youth divide.

Remaining no unconnected People

Source: ITU.