

**Access.. and
rethinking the
relationship between
the WSIS goals and
the SDGs**

**Anriette Esterhuysen
22nd Annual Session
of CSTD**

What are communications policy makers talking about most at the moment?

The 4th industrial revolution

Internet of Things

Artificial Intelligence

Fake news

Cyber security

5G roll out

And sustainable development people?

Gender equality

Affordable and clean energy

Decent work and economic growth

Income inequality- which is at its highest ever, and growing. “The richest 10 percent have up to 40 percent of global income whereas the poorest 10 percent earn only between 2 to 7 percent” (UNDP)

Responsible consumption and production

Peace, governance, justice and strong institutions

**In spite of all our
efforts, is there still
a disconnect?**

Let's look at affordable access, for example... what is getting more time and attention right now?

Connecting things? Or connecting people? Or a hyper connected society for people who are already connected?

They might not be mutually exclusive.. but are we getting our priorities right?

We've Connected the Easy Half

Billions of People on Earth	Average Annual Income	Affordable Monthly Communication Spend
1st Billion	\$29,206	\$205
2nd Billion	\$12,702	\$53
3rd Billion	\$5,540	\$23
4th Billion	\$2,987	\$12
5th Billion	\$1,771	\$7
6th Billion	\$1,065	\$4.4
7th Billion	\$540	\$2.25

Source: Richard Thanki, University of Southampton from UN & ITU

5 G, spectrum auctions, and the digital divide

It can offer:

- Increased capacity of existing mobile broadband (e.g. virtual reality on your phone)
- Connect many more devices (e.g. Internet of Things)
- Increased reliability and lower the latency of networks (e.g. remote surgery).

It is very expensive...suited to big operators.

Is this what is needed to create more equitable access? Whether the response is yes or no, regulators are pre-occupied with it.

Impact of Spectrum Auctions

Country	Year	Spectrum	Price	# successful bidders
Nigeria	2014	2.3GHz	\$23,000,00	1
Ghana	2015	800MHz	\$67,500,00	1
Nigeria	2016	2.6GHz	\$96,000,00	1
Mozambique	2013	800MHz	\$30,000.00	0
Tanzania	2018	800MHz	\$20,000,00	2
Mozambique	2018	800MHz	\$83,000,00	3

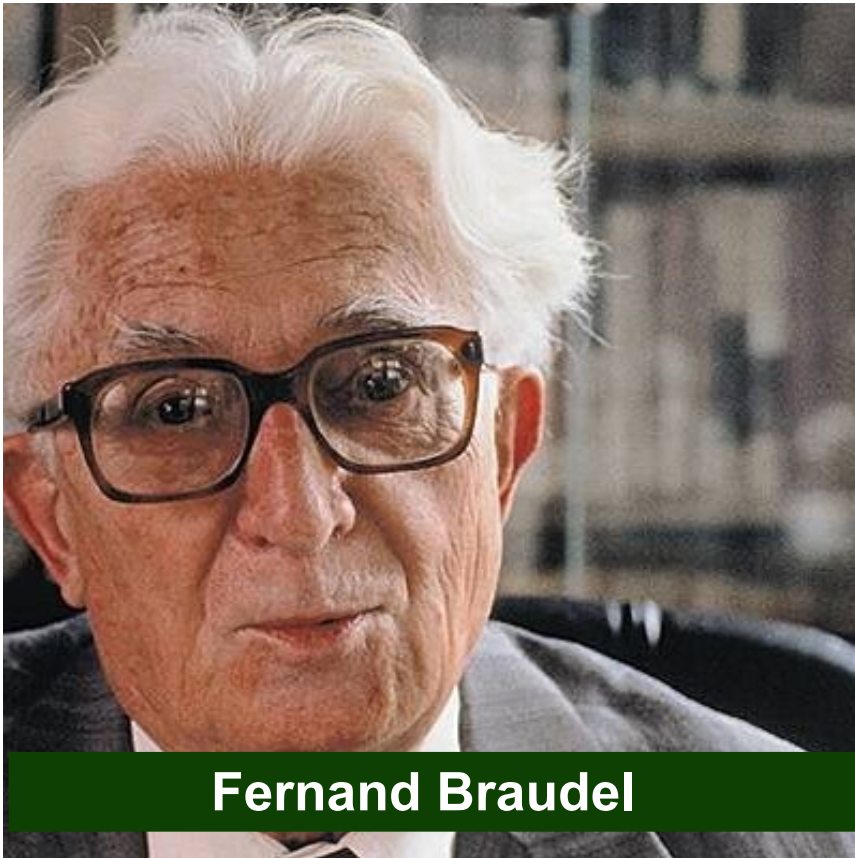
A close-up photograph of a heavily rusted, square padlock attached to a chain. The padlock is the central focus, showing significant corrosion and a dark, textured surface. The chain is made of thick, dark metal links. The background is a soft-focus bokeh of green and yellow leaves, suggesting an outdoor setting. The lighting is natural, highlighting the textures of the rust and the chain.

**Spectrum
Auctions Lock
Small
Operators Out
of the Market**

**Why does this
matter?**

Not One but Three Economies

Source: Steve Song @manypossibilities



Fernand Braudel

Global Economy

Large companies, financial institutions, the State: serves global markets

Local Market Economy

Small businesses, self-employment: serves local needs

Subsistence Economy

Few market economy activities and mainly informal activities: serves a subsistence economy

Apply this to access provision: Global



Local





Subsistence



R H I Z O M A T I C A

**All Three
Economies Need
Empowering
Policies and
Regulation to
Allow Them to
Flourish**



B4RN



Fibre

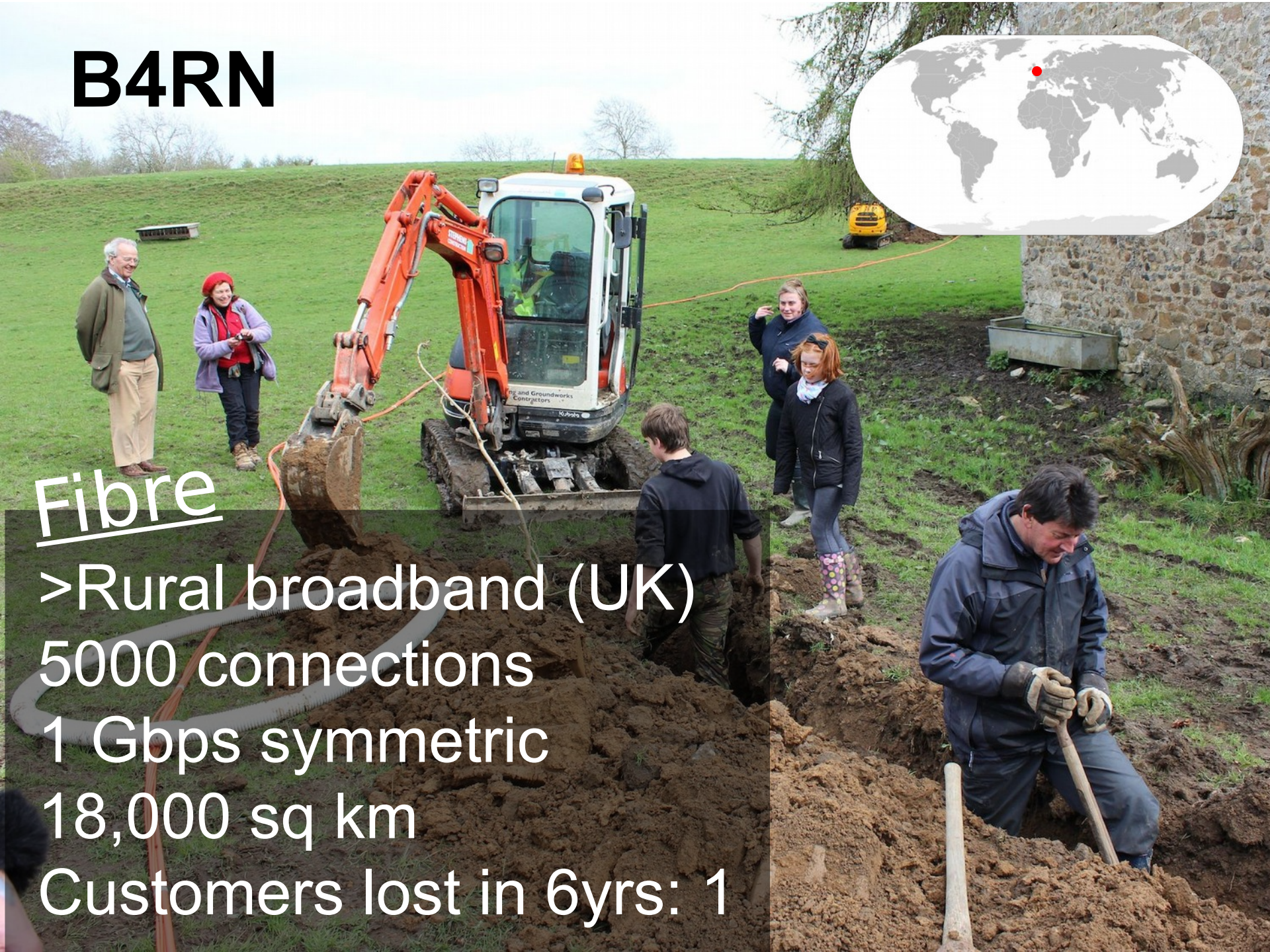
>Rural broadband (UK)

5000 connections

1 Gbps symmetric

18,000 sq km

Customers lost in 6yrs: 1



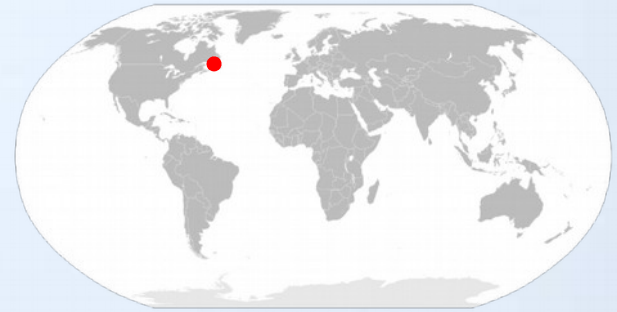
Zenzeleni



WiFi

In last year:
15 businesses
15K unique devices
20 TB of traffic
20-100x cheaper

Lawrencetown Co-op



WiFi

~230 customers

20 Mbps

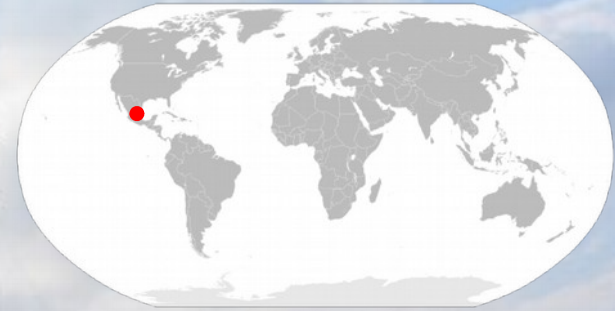
Had to reduce initial fee

\$45/mo ☾ \$29/mo

Exploring health / power



Rhizomatica



GSM

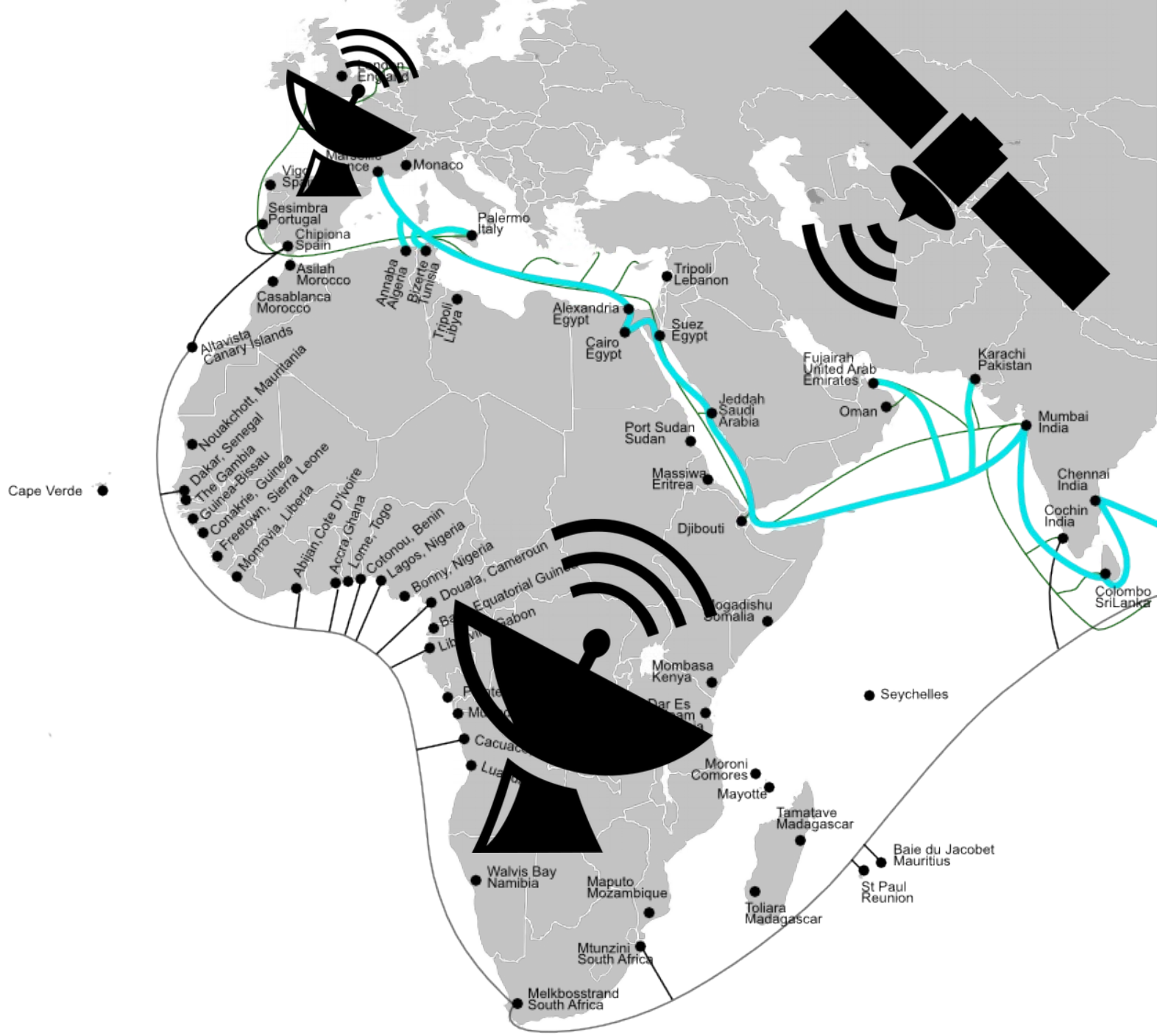
14 community operators
60+ localities
~3500 users daily
4 MHz spectrum



To get back to WSIS and the
SDGs...

Let's build sustainable
development considerations into
ICT policy, design and
programmes, rather than always
focusing on how ICTs can enable
the SDGs.

The State of Fibre 2009



The State of Fibre 2018

