



AFRICAN REGION PRESENTATION

ITU GCBI VIRTUAL MEETING, 1-2 June 2020

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AGENDA



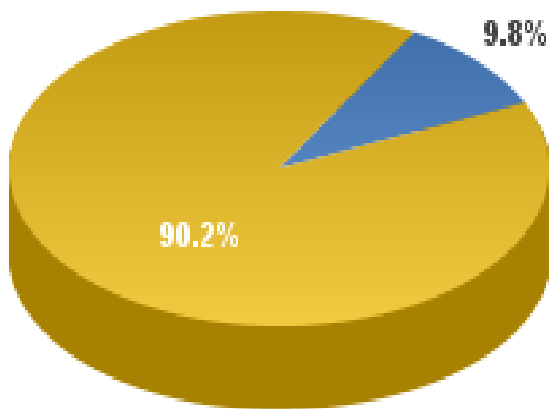
1. ICT Penetration in Africa
2. Digital priorities in Africa
3. Digital capacity and skills needs
4. Regional strategies and priorities
5. Challenge and opportunities
6. Recommendation for ITU

1- Some Figures on ICT penetration in Africa (ATU)

INTERNET USERS AND POPULATION STATISTICS FOR AFRICA

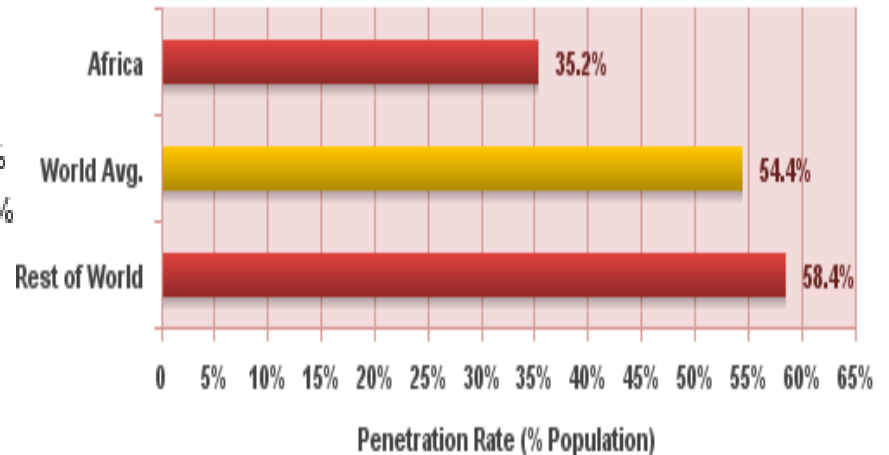
Population (2018 Est.)	Pop. % of World	Internet Users, Latest	Internet % Users	Facebook 31-Dec-2017
1,287,914,329	16.9 %	453,329,534	35.20 %	177,005,534

Africa Internet Users November 2015

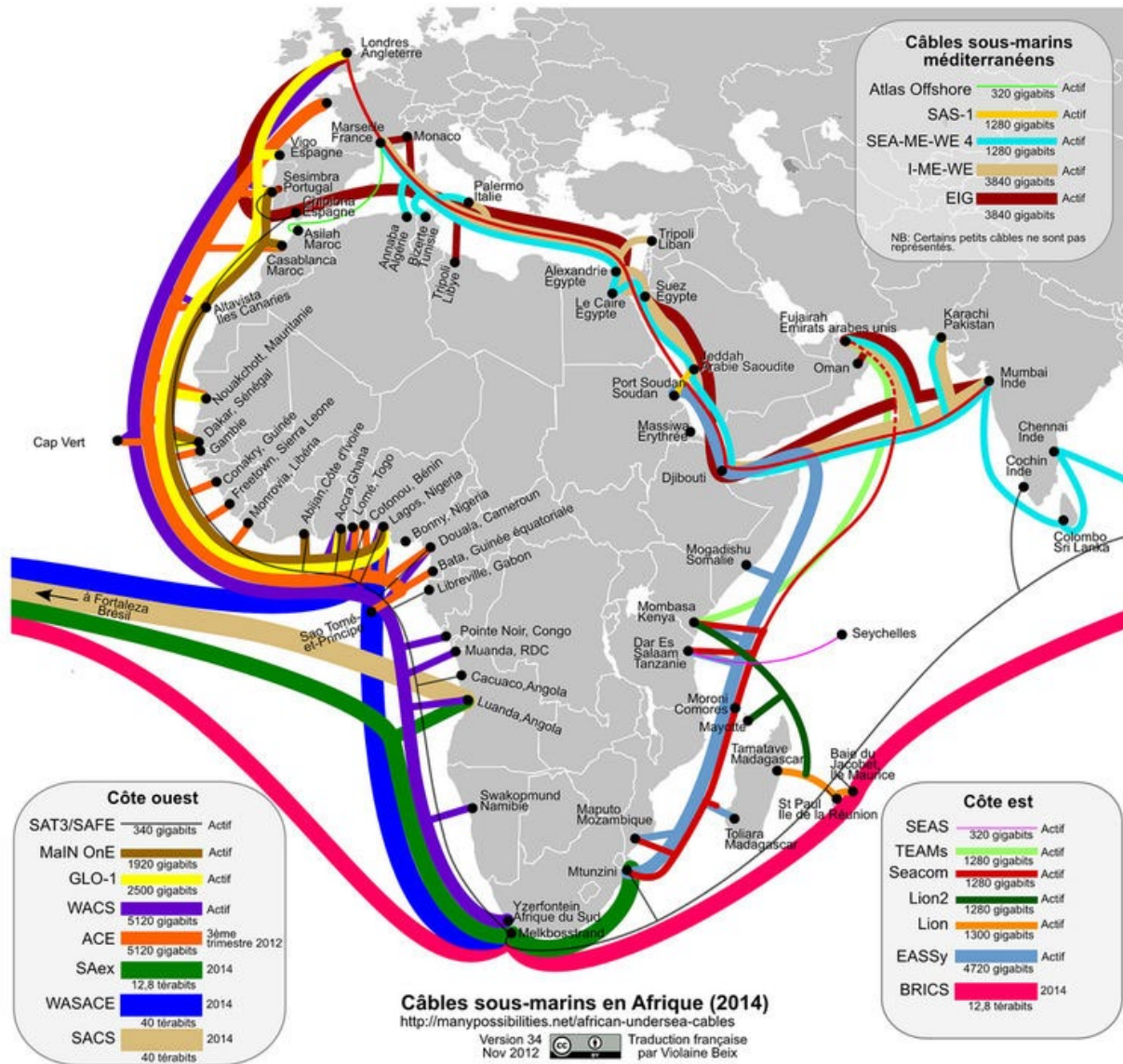


■ Africa, 9.8 %
■ World, 90.2%

Internet Penetration in Africa December 31, 2017



| Source: Internet World Stats - www.internetworldstats.com/stats1.htm
 453,329,534 estimated Internet users in Africa in December 31, 2017 and
 4,156,932,140 Internet users in all the World in December 31, 2017
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Some ICT proven outputs and impacts on the national economies

- *The positive impact of ICTs and the Internet on economic growth is well established, as several studies and field experiences confirm;*
- *A clear correlation between the maturity of the Internet ecosystem and the improvement of business productivity;*
- *The business models that favored broadband investment are those with better growth rates;*
- *The contribution of traditional sectors to GDP declines while that of the ICT sector increases;*

*Capacity Building in ATU highlighted perspectives
to build a sustainable digital economy in Africa*

Capacity building:

“Ensure the upgrading of the existent human resources to meet the needs of technological evolution and academic curricula to meet the needs of ICT growth and the new labor market”

ITU Centres Of Excellence In Africa

- ❑ *Ecole Supérieure Multinationale des Télécommunications (ESMT), Senegal*
- ❑ *Ecole Supérieure Africaine des Technologies et de la Communication (ESATIC), Côte d'Ivoire*
- ❑ *Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Postes, Télécommunications et TIC (SUP-PTIC), Cameroun*
- ❑ *African Advanced Level Telecommunications Institute (AFRALTI), Kenya*
- ❑ *Computer Emergency Response Team of Mauritius/National Computer Board (NCB), Mauritius*

2- DIGITAL PRIORITIES IN AFRICA

- Internet infrastructure capacity and resiliency including national/regional IXPs, data centers and cloud computing to address the needs of emergency
- National Emergency communication plans to manage crisis situations (frequency spectrum, emergency number, ...),
- affordable access and connectivity particularly for emergency, health, education and media services
- mobile payment and digital finance services
- develop Tele-working platforms and digital local services to maintain the economy activities and social interactions
- develop elearning platforms
- The need of enhanced frameworks for data regulation, cybersecurity and privacy
- Accelerate the rural areas coverage using universal service funds

3- DIGITAL CAPACITY AND SKILLS NEEDS/GAPS IN AFRICA

- . The need to develop specific training programmes on digital technologies to address the need of the other sectors such as health, education, etc. including emerging technologies Artificial intelligence, ...
- . Data processing, ...
- . Development of digital content and services,
- . Cybersecurity

4- REGIONAL STRATEGIES AND PRIORITIES (1/2)

The digitization of telecommunications networks and the full connectivity of all African countries through:

Access by all African countries to current and future submarine cables.

Absolute priority to landlocked countries that do not take sufficient advantage of the capabilities of submarine cables.

Digital solidarity within the framework of the ease of creation of interstate digital terrestrial transmission arteries.

The assistance of the African Union in achieving these objectives through the implementation of its Agenda 2063 in which telecommunications development component occupies an important place.

Covid 19 will contribute to compromising the framework of this agenda due to the freezing of all international activities.

4- REGIONAL STRATEGIES AND PRIORITIES (2/2)

ATU is preparing an e-skill framework including e-learning for Africa to assist its Members to address the challenges of the AU digital transformation strategy for Africa.

5- CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The global Covid19 crisis highlighted the importance of the ICT infrastructures and digital technologies it's an opportunity for Africa to strategize to accelerate the digital transformation and to give the priority to build adequate infrastructures, develop enhanced regulation and legal frameworks as appropriate, promote the creation of digital local content and services and uses of emerging technologies.

- ✓ Telephone and Internet traffic on a universal scale.
- ✓ Excessive use of bandwidth.
- ✓ Socio-economic activities though the use of digital telecommunications tools.
- ✓ The development of digital telecommunications associates with various public utility applications

- ✓ Creation of applications and other IT solutions.
- ✓ Emergence of start-ups.
- ✓ Increasing the incomes of telecom operators and others access providers.
- ✓ The significant increase in distance and online trainings

6 - RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ITU

To facilitate the process of bridging the digital divide in africa, ITU should:

- Set a clear action plan with a timeline to address the connectivity gap in Africa
- Collaborate closely with the ATU in the telecommunications component of Agenda 2063 and make proposals for assistance, especially in terms of regulatory aspects, training and capacity building
- Provide assistance to countries that are lagging behind in the digitalization and connectivity process through training and all other forms of assistance

Thank you

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