The World Wide Web at 25 and its Impact Across Africa

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Information Management: A Proposal

Abstract

This proposal concerns the management of general information about accelerators and experiments at CERN. It discusses the problems of loss of information about complex evolving systems and derives a solution based on a distributed hypertext system.

Keywords: Hypertext, Computer conferencing, Document retrieval, Information management, Project control
Internet user penetration

Global distribution of people using the Internet (percentage), 2005 and 2014


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The impact of the Web in Africa...

Web Foundation – 2013 Web Index (thewebindex.org)

• The world’s first measure of the Web’s contribution to social, economic and political development in 81 countries.
• Highest ranked African country = South Africa (35)
• Followed by Mauritius (40), Tunisia (44), Kenya (53)
• Seven of the 10 bottom countries from Africa

Source: The Web Index  #affordableinternet
• Provides information to dairy farmers via Web-based application & SMS
• 11,000 registered users
• 42% of users have reported increased income
• Farmers who have been on iCow for 7 months have seen increased milk production of between 2-3 litres per animal per day, translating into average increased income of 25-30k per animal per year

Sources: iCow; HumanIPO

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• Started as Android app in 2011; now has expanded to include SMS and a web platform

• Interactive platform to provide up-to-date agricultural information
  – Share updated advice about crop and animal production
  – Provide updated & accurate pricing information; Marketplace for buyers and sellers

• Platform allows farmers to post their products for sale & allows consumers to connect directly with farmers
Internet: largely unaffordable in Africa

Fixed broadband prices in Africa are, on average, 64% of GNI per capita.

Source: ITU, 2013

Developed
Global
Developing
Africa
Mobile broadband affordability

Mobile broadband cheaper than fixed broadband services, but significantly more expensive in Africa

Cost of a pre-paid 500MB Mobile Data bundle (% monthly income)

- The Americas
- Europe
- CIS
- Asia Pacific
- Arab States
- Africa

Source: ITU, 2013, 2014

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A skewed picture...

A4AI 2013 Affordability Report

- Examined the cost of broadband for those living on less than $2 per day across 46 emerging and developing countries.
- Cost of entry-level broadband exceeds on average 40 percent of monthly income for people living on US$2/day. In many countries exceeds 80 percent or even 100 percent of monthly income.
- Zambia: 10 million + people live in extreme poverty, would have to spend at least 35% of their income to afford mobile broadband services or 135% of their income to access fixed broadband.

Source: A4AI #affordableinternet
WHO IS A4AI?
A4AI: Mission

Meet UN Broadband Commission Broadband Target of entry-level broadband services priced at less than 5% of average monthly income.

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Strength in diversity...

Global sponsors

Google
USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE
OMIDYAR NETWORK™
UK aid from the British people

Private sector

Alcatel-Lucent
Cambium Networks™
Digicel
ERICSSON
GILAT Satcom Global communications
GSMA
intel
internet solutions
MainOne
Microsoft
PHASE3 telecom
YAHOO!
Strength in diversity...

Public Sector / Academia

Civil Society / Foundations
Strength in diversity…

Local partners

[Logos of various organizations]
How we work...

• All of these 60 organisations have signed up to promote, support and implement agreed best practices to drive down price of access.
• Blend of advocacy, research and on the ground actions.
• Already working directly with governments of Nigeria, Ghana and Mozambique – more soon.
• Includes areas of focus such as infrastructure sharing, taxation, open access and spectrum management.
Thank you!

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