A4AI-MOZAMBIQUE EXPERT WORKSHOPS

30 March 2015, 12:30-16:30
31 March 2015, 8:30-16:30
Indy Village Conference Center, Maputo, Mozambique

About the A4AI-Mozambique Coalition: Progress so far

The Alliance for Affordable Internet (A4AI) brings together prominent players from the private sector, public sector, and civil society to provide a unified voice and coordinated focus in addressing the shared goal of open, affordable access to the Internet in the developing world. The Alliance aims to increase the affordability of both mobile and fixed-line Internet access dramatically, with a focus on achieving the UN Broadband Commission Broadband Target of entry-level broadband services priced at less than 5% of average monthly income.

Since the start of its work in Mozambique A4AI has held a successful 1st A4AI-Mozambique Forum in which a number of priority issues were identified. These priority issues appear to challenge or, if not addressed effectively, have the potential to undermine efforts to increase broadband access and affordability in Mozambique. The priority issues identified in Mozambique are:

- Fiscal policy, Taxation
- Infrastructure Sharing and Open Access
- Research and Data Collection

In November of 2014, the Coalition met to start defining the work plans for each of the Working Groups established to tackle the above priority areas. In addition, A4AI partnered with Cetic.br to implement a 2-day workshop on ICT research and data collection mechanisms (the second workshop on this theme is scheduled for June 2015).

Mozambican stakeholders are currently finalizing each Working Group’s work plan to guide the Coalition work towards producing policy and regulatory outputs related to each of the priority issues identified. These Working Groups are lead by three of Mozambique’s key ICT stakeholders (A4AI Champions) and are comprised of stakeholders from government, the private sector, civil society, and academia.

Objectives and Outline of the A4AI-Mozambique Expert Workshops

The two A4AI-Mozambique half-day expert workshops have been designed to complement and enhance the work of the A4AI-Mozambique Coalition as a whole, but the work of two of its working groups in particular. The first of the half-day workshops will focus on infrastructure sharing and open access. Facilitated by Michael Jensen, Internet Access Specialist at APC and A4AI Advisory Board member, it will examine recent experiences and good practices in infrastructure sharing and open access models, including the obstacles and opportunities for infrastructure sharing in Mozambique.

The second half-day workshop will focus on fiscal policy and taxation in general. Facilitators of this interactive workshop include William Burnfield, Managing Director at Great Village Consultants and Sonia Jorge, Executive Director of the A4AI, who will share in detail the results of an initial effort to
map fiscal policy affecting the ICT sector in Mozambique. By providing a clear picture of the current fiscal/taxation situation, the Coalition members will be able to make informed decisions as to which specific taxes/duties should be tackled for change in the sector. It will further provide details to develop the working group’s work plan, including discussing options for aligning government and industry’s objectives for taxation and steps required for achieving any required policy change.

AGENDA

30 March 2015, 12:30-16:30

Expert Workshop: Infrastructure Sharing and Open Access

Half-Day Workshop

12:30-13:30 Registration and Welcome Lunch

13:30-14:15 Infrastructure Sharing and Open Access Models: Overview

*Mike Jensen, APC*

- Why infrastructure sharing
- Different types of infrastructure sharing
- Some examples of infrastructure sharing from around the world

14:15-14:45 Overview of telecom infrastructure in Mozambique with a focus on obstacles/opportunities for sharing

*Sonia Jorge, A4AI and Mike Jensen, APC*

14:45-15:00 Coffee/Tea Break

15:00-15:30 Breakout groups discuss specific cases or news stories on infrastructure sharing from around the world

*Mike Jensen and Sonia Jorge facilitate*

15:30-16:00 Breakout groups discuss opportunities for intervention in Mozambique

*Mike Jensen and Sonia Jorge facilitate*

16:00-16:20 Report back and Action Planning

16:20-16:30 Closing
AGENDA
31 March 2015, 8:30-16:30

Expert Workshop: Fiscal policy and taxation in the ICT sector in Mozambique

8:30-9:00 Networking Breakfast and Registration

9:00-9:45 Mapping fiscal policy and taxation in Mozambique: Overview
William Burnfield, GVIC, and Sonia Jorge, A4AI
  • The impact of fiscal policy/taxation on the ICT sector
  • A map of fiscal policy and taxation in Mozambique

9:45-10:30 Impact of changes in fiscal policy
William Burnfield, GVIC

10:30-10:45 Coffee/Tea Break

10:45-11:30 Breakout groups discuss specific cases or news stories on fiscal policy and taxation from around the world
Will Burnfield and Sonia Jorge facilitate

11:30-12:00 Breakout groups discuss opportunities for intervention in Mozambique
Will Burnfield and Sonia Jorge facilitate

12:00-12:20 Report Back and Action Planning

12:20-12:30 Closing

12:30-13:30 Lunch

A4AI Mozambique Coalition Meeting: Progress update and Work Plans

13:30-13:45 Introduction and Objectives of the Meeting
Sonia Jorge, Executive Director, Alliance for Affordable Internet (A4AI)

13:45-14:15 A4AI-Mozambique Coalition Lightning Talks
Representative of working groups will give brief updates on the current status of workplans in the form of a lightning talk that emphasises objectives, potential activities, key challenges and next steps.

• Taxation Working Group, Plans: Progress and Next Steps
  Horacio Simao, Director, Agencia Tributaria

• Research and Data Collection Working Group: Plans, Progress and Next Steps
  Francisco Mabila, Director, CIUEM

• Infrastructure Sharing and Open Access Working Group: Plans, Progress and Next Steps
  Salvador Adriano, CEO, MoRENet
14:15 – 15:00 Working Group Session 1
Working Group members, with the support of the A4AI team and international experts, will work together to polish their respective work plans and integrate options discussed and plans outlined during workshops.

15:00 – 15:30 Refreshment Break

15:30 – 16:00 Working Group Session 2
Working Group members, with the support of the A4AI team and international experts, will continue to work together on their respective work plans.

16:00 – 16:20 Group Reporting
Working Group representatives will report on the outcome of the working groups sessions. They will also agree upon the next steps for the coalition, including advocacy steps and the schedule for the next coalition meeting and knowledge sharing workshops.

16:20 – 16:30 A4AI-Mozambique Coalition M&E
The A4AI-Mozambique Coalition will discuss and identify ways in which its working methods/practices might be improved to achieve outcomes.

16:30 Closing