ALLIANCE FOR AFFORDABLE INTERNET



A4AI-Nigeria Multi-stakeholder Coalition *Objectives and Plans*

Sonia Jorge, Executive Director Alliance for Affordable Internet www.a4ai.org

Agenda

- What is A4AI?
- The A4AI national multi-stakeholder coalition model and objectives
- A brief look at internet affordability in Nigeria
- Starting the dialogue with stakeholders

WHAT IS A4AI?



What is A4AI?



- An global coalition: 50+ members
- Laser focus on broadband affordability via policy and regulatory reform
- Secretariat: World Wide Web Foundation
- Global Sponsors:
 - Google
 - UK DFID

- Omidyar Network - US AID



Policy, Engagement and Information

- Clear focus on Policy and Regulatory Reform
 - Underpinned by:
 - 1. Leadership at the national level
 - 2. Coalition building
 - 3. Impartial research & knowledge-sharing
- Engaging with 10 to 12 countries by end of 2015 across Africa, Asia and Latin America
- On-going research and production of an annual Affordability Report
- International advocacy
- Facilitating South-South dialogue

THE A4AI NATIONAL MULTI-STAKEHOLDER COALITION MODEL AND OBJECTIVES



The National Coalition Concept

- A4AI recognizes that sustainable change requires **workable approaches to the proposed reforms**, but also clear consideration of the acceptability of the reforms to key stakeholders.
- The process of **multi-stakeholder coalition building** will seek to ensure that public, private, academic, media and CSO sectors are represented in the national multi-stakeholder coalitions and will be grounded upon the **principles of consultation, collaboration and open dialogue**.
- This will also ensure that the policy and regulatory reform proposals developed by the national coalitions are **informed and shaped by the views and concerns of all stakeholder groups** in each country.

Objectives of the Forum



- To agree to establish an A4AI Nigerian multistakeholder coalition that will contribute towards the implementation of government policy and plans to bring about affordable Internet access to all Nigerians.
- To outline the coalition action plan and timeline of activities (coalition meetings, workshops, seminars, proposal development, etc.)
- To agree on coalition work methods and tasks (online channels, F2F, frequency, etc.)

Tasks of the A4AI-Nigeria Multistakeholder Coalition



- To identify key priority areas/issues for coalition engagement
- To support the development of concrete proposals for the implementation of broadband policy and plan objectives, including regulations that create the right incentives for lowering cost structures and eliminating barriers to affordability
- To support the policy and regulatory reform process with evidence and solid research

A BRIEF LOOK AT INTERNET AFFORDABILITY IN NIGERIA



Affordability in Nigeria

- Nigeria ranked 19 of 46 countries in our latest <u>Affordability Index</u>; it ranked 5 among developing countries
- Around 33% of Nigerians use the internet
- Nigeria is ranked 142 of 169 countries by the ITU in their latest ranking on fixed broadband prices and 99 of 126 countries for pre-paid (500 MB) mobile broadband
- An internet connection costs between 13%-36% of the GNI per capita
- Internet users have grown by more than 9% since 2010 (24% of the population in 2010, 33% in 2012)
- Fixed and mobile broadband adoption remains low (6%)









Cost is the key barrier...

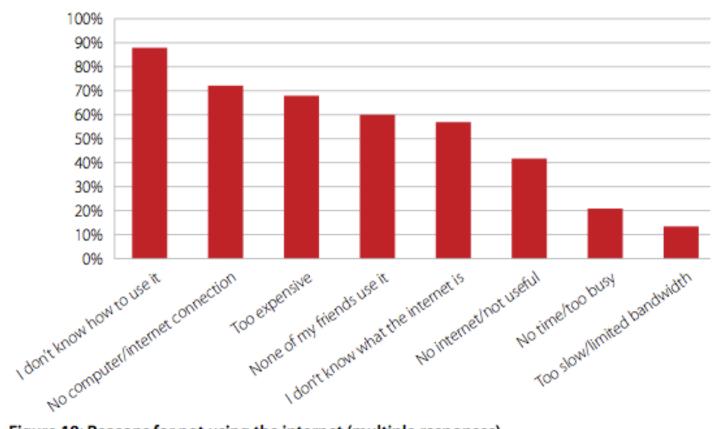


Figure 18: Reasons for not using the internet (multiple responses)

Source: RIA ICT Survey data 2011-12



Longstanding Internet Community

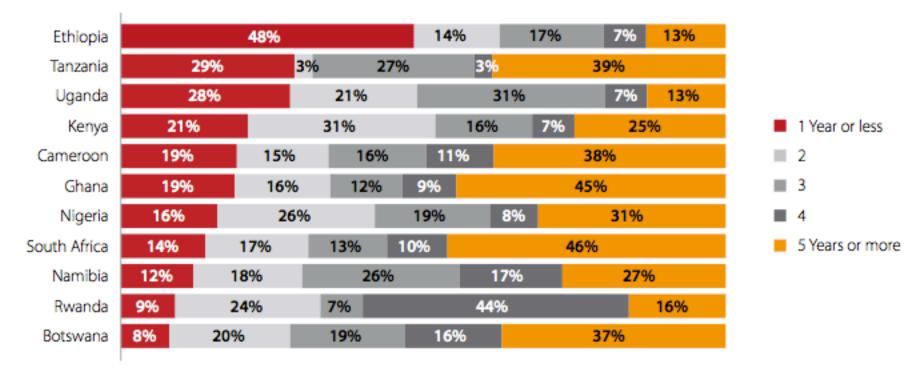


Figure 27: Period since first use of internet

Source: RIA ICT Survey data 2011-12



Mobiles are key to access

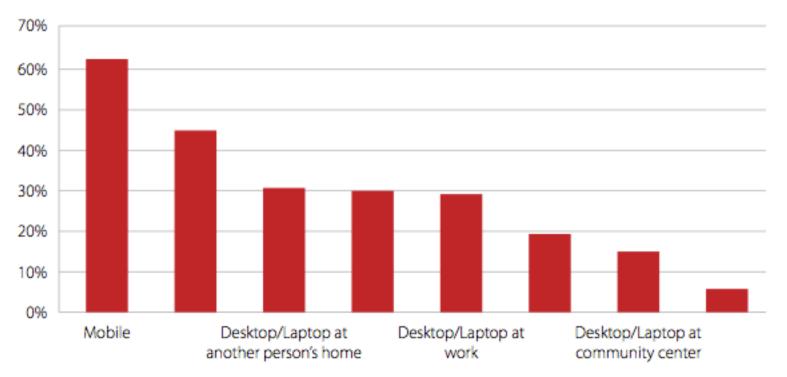


Figure 21: Primary individual user means of access to the internet in the last 12 months (multiple responses, among internet users)

Source: RIA ICT Survey data 2011-12

Some challenges



- To create incentives for the deployment of a national fiber optic network across the entire country;
- To develop a framework that ensures the benefits of open access and infrastructure sharing are realized;
- To address high cost points, stemming from factors such as spectrum prices and the cost of physical attacks on infrastructure;
- To increase citizen awareness about the possible benefits of the internet and how to use it; and
- To ensure reliable, clean grid electricity supply.



Competition Alone Is Not a Silver Bullet



Image: <u>Edyson on Flickr</u>

PPPs Can Play a Key Role in Infrastructure Deployment





Image: <u>Kojach</u> on Flickr



Underserved Populations Should Be a Focus



Image: <u>Novartis AG on Flickr</u>

STARTING THE DIALOGUE WITH STAKE-HOLDERS



Because...



 Policy and regulation is the key, and active participation of all stakeholders in hammering out a concrete plan of action is perhaps the single most important step to move from high prices and low uptake to low prices and high demand.



Thank you!

Sonia Jorge, Executive Director Alliance for Affordable Internet www.a4ai.org