Coalition Meeting

Bridging the Digital Divide in Ghana Through Smart Policies & Strategies
2018 AFFORDABILITY REPORT

Wednesday, 28 November 2018
Ghana-India Kofi Annan Centre of Excellence in ICT (AITI-KACE)

About the A4AI-Ghana Coalition

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 a goal of *"1 for 2"*—no more than 2% of monthly income per capita for 1GB broadband connection.

At the start of its work in Ghana, A4AI held a successful first A4AI-Ghana Forum in which a number of priority issues were identified. These priority issues have the potential to undermine efforts to increase Internet access and affordability to broadband in Ghana. The priority issues identified in Ghana were:

- Taxation
- Infrastructure Sharing and Open Access
- Research and Data Collection
- Consumer Awareness and Pricing Transparency

The Coalition members formed four working groups that have been working on each priority issue. These working groups have since produced work plans, chalked some successes and continue to develop policy and regulatory outputs (e.g. draft proposals and recommendations) designed to resolve the key challenges.

Objectives and Outline of the A4AI-Ghana Coalition Meeting

The A4AI Ghana Coalition Meeting on **Thursday 23rd August** under the theme, **Bridging the Digital Divide Through Smart Broadband Policies, 2018 Affordability Report,** is open to all people interested in increasing broadband access and affordability in Ghana, with a view to discussing key considerations including policy, regulation and innovation needed to achieve this goal.   The meeting will also afford the four A4AI-Ghana working groups the opportunity to review their work to date, discuss opportunities for continued collaboration and reset priorities going forward.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

08:30 – 09.00	**Registration**
09:00 – 09:20	**Chair,** Dr. Kwaku Ofosu-Adarkwa, National Coordinator, A4AI-Ghana, Chair **Welcome Message** ● Ms. Onica N. Makwakwa, Africa Regional Coordinator, A4AI
09:20 - 09:40	**Keynote Message** Honourable Ursula Owusu-Ekuful, Minister of Communications (invited) ***"Leaving No One Behind: Progress in Policy Towards Achieving the "1 for 2" Affordability Target to Ensure More Ghanaians are Connected."***
09:40 - 10:20	**Presentation** ● ***2018 Affordability Report,*** Onica N. Makwakwa, A4AI Head of Africa ● ***"Innovation in Spectrum Management and Mobile Number Portability: Progress in Regulations Towards Achieving the "1 for 2" Affordability Target to Ensure More Ghanaians are Connected."*** *Mr. Joe Anokye, Director General, National Communications Authority*
10:20 – 10:40	**Lightning Presentations on New Technologies and Connectivity Opportunities** 1. Public Access Model 2. Rural Connectivity 3. Community Networks
10:40 - 11:15	**Fireside Chat: Leave No One Behind - Closing the Policy gaps** ● Broadband Infrastructure in Ghana, John Ayitevi, Working Group Champion ● Consumers & Affordability, Clara Pinkrah-Sam, Working Group Champion ● Research & Data, Kafui Prebbie, Working Group Champion ● Fiscal Policies & Taxation in Ghana, Derek Laryea, Working Group Champion ● Wrap Up Message: Dr. Kwaku Ofosu-Adarkwa, National Coordinator, A4AI-Ghana, Chair Moderator: Nanjira Sambuli, Senior Policy Manager, World Wide Web Foundation
11:15 - 11:30	**Group Photo and Coffee Break**
11:30 - 12:45	**Breakout Sessions** **A4AI-Ghana Coalition Reports & Planning: Sharpening Key Policy Outputs for Effective Advocacy** 1. Consumer Advocacy & Pricing Transparency Working Group 2. Infrastructure Sharing & Open Access Working Group 3. Taxation Working Group 4. Research & Data Collection Working Group
12:45 - 13:15	**Reports from Breakout Sessions**
13. 15- 13.25	Ghana beyond Accra - Reflections from regions on progress towards affordable broadband
13:25 – 13:45	**Closing: Action Plan & Key Actors**
13:45 - 14:50	**Networking Luncheon**