

## A4AI-Nigeria Coalition Online Conversation

# 5G in Times of Covid19

19 May 2020

## AGENDA

13h00 - 13h10	Check-in, Housekeeping	Onica N. Makwakwa, A4AI Head of Africa ( <b>Host)</b>
13h10 - 13h15	Opening Remarks: Relevance of 5G on Access & Affordability	Olusola Teniola, A4AI- Nigeria National ( <b>Moderator)</b>
13h15 - 13h30	What you need to know about 5G and radiations!	Opeyemi Praise, A4AI- Nigeria Member
13h30 - 13h50	Q & A - Round 1	
13h50 - 14h10	Q & A - Round 2	
14h10 - 14h15	Wrap-up & Closing Remarks Olusola Teniola & Onica N. Makwakwa	

## **Speakers**

#### **Moderator: Olusola Teniola**



Olusola is the National Coordinator of the A4AI-Nigeria coalition. He is part of a high leverage network in Nigeria helping to pave the way to real change in Broadband and Telecoms in Nigeria, access to affordable internet and improving the lives of communities across the country.

#### **Speaker: Opeyemi Priaise**



A rare combination of Telecoms Engineering, Business Analysis, Project Management and Finance (Passed CFA Level 1). He has been a member of the A4AI-Nigeria Coalition and active in the Infrastructure Working Group on Spectrum issues.

## **Questions and Comments**

- 1. With everyone working from home these days, 4G performance is not feeling as great as it was a few months ago. Do you think this will drive 5G in the urban areas where 4G is now getting choked up? Or do you think the operators will simply increase 4G density?
- I'll be keen to see how the NCC plans to bridge the Gap of 54,000KM of fibre needed.
- 3. The Covid pandemic has really exposed our lack of infrastructure and tech gaps most felt by children in communities where there isn't even 2G coverage

## **Questions and Comments (continued)**

- 4. 5G rollout seems to have been unlucky ... Had this begun some three years ago, before the pandemic, we would have heard a lot of success stories. This still brings us back to the issue of 5G readiness, especially for most African countries. Were we ready for 5G? Are we currently ready for it? Post-Covid will we have the necessary support from the Policymakers in Governments?
- 5. What more can A4AI do to generate more support for infrastructure sharing to improve coverage.
- 6. The kind of content to be accessed over the network also helps to drive roll out and adoption. With more and more data hungry apps being rolled out and impacting Lifestyle there is now a growing need for quantum internet resources to drive innovation. That is a catalyst for 5G

## **Questions and Comments (continued)**

7. Is it not possible for our coalition to advocate for indigenous development and research of these technologies beyond just consuming the technologies?

8. What are the Policies you would recommend that the government should put forward in regard to 5G?

**Click here** for the discussion and responses to some of these questions/comments.



## Policy Opportunities to Advance Access & Affordability

- Infrastructure policies for investment and cost of deployment (Licensing & RoW).
- 2. Investment in **digital skills** development that matches aspirations for a digitized economy.
- **3.** Affordable Devices to enable greater and affordable access for all Nigerians.
- **4. Spectrum** Cost that encourages greater market **competition** which would ultimately drive affordability for consumers.
- 5. Policies and regulations to enable **community networks and other technologies (e.g. TVWS)** as viable solution for affordable access in remote areas.

### **Resources Shared**

- 1. What are the Policies you would recommend that the government should put forward in regards to 5G? Written by Opeyemi Praise
- 2. <u>Covid-19 and RF EMF</u> by International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection
- 3. <u>5G is here! Can it deliver on Affordable Access to close the digital</u> <u>divide?,</u> Eleanor Sarpong, A4AI
- 4. <u>Covid-19 Policy Brief: Internet Access & Affordability</u>, A4AI

### Resources

- 1. From Benjamin Akinmoyeje to Everyone: (3:06 PM) the southwest telecom deployment is dense unlike the northern with larger landmass, it is difficult to get access to fiber or any other Internet infrastructure.
- 2. From Charles Adetola to Everyone: (3:08 PM): Why is the cost so high?
- 3. Busayo Obisakin: We need to address Poverty first
- 4. Dewole Ajao: There will always be places where people cannot afford "Internet Connectivity" or



#### Thank You <u>www.a4ai.org</u>