A4AI-Ghana Coalition Online Knowledge Forum

Ghana's Digital Future Through Innovative Internet Technology & Partnerships

10 September 2020

AGENDA

13h00 - 13h10	Check-in, Housekeeping
13h10 - 13h15	Welcome & Introduction of Program & Speakers
13h15 - 13h30	**Keynote Address: Trends in Innovative Technology & Science: Bridging the Gender Digital Divide,** Kwamena E. Quaison (MSc), Director for Science, Technology & Innovation (STI), Ministry of Science, Environment, Technology and Innovation (MEST&I)
13h30 - 14h00	Presentations & Dialogue Lightning Talk - **Women in Technology Innovation** **GIFEC** **HUAWEI** **GISPA**
14h00 - 14h20 14h20 – 14h30	Questions / Comments Wrap- Up

Host & Moderators

Moderator: Dr. Kwaku Ofosu-Adarkwa

A4AI-Ghana
National
Coordinator

Speaker: Onica N. Makwakwa

A4AI Head of Africa
World Wide Web
Foundation

KEYNOTE: Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology & Innovation (MESTI)

Kwamena E. Quaison (MSc), Director for Science, Technology & Innovation (STI)

Summary of Keynote Address

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Presentations & Panel Dialogue

CHEN, KUAN-HONG (Arthur) 陳冠宏

Chief consultant / senior solution director
National broadband and full-fiber analysis office, Huawei

SUMMARY

- 20 year experience in ICT industry
- 10 year experience in multi-national team management
- Proficient in ICT strategic planning
- Proficient in national fiber based broadband rollout
- Profession in next generation data center consulting
- Profession in project management with PMP

Experience

- 2016 –   Huawei Technologies   Chief consultant/senior solution director
- 2012 – 2015   Alcatel-Lucent Taiwan   Sales director ; General project manager
- 2008 – 2012   Hewlett-Packard Taiwan   Business development manager ; senior sales manager ; Presales
- 2001 – 2008   NOKIA and NSN Taiwan   Project manager ; Team leader ; Engineer
- 2000 – 2001   SunMoonStar Enterprise   Assistant ; Engineer
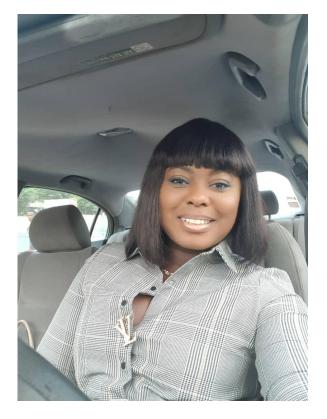
Highlights of Presentation

To remove obstacles impeding broadband affordability Huawei caled for the following interventions:

1. Improve collaboration between service providers operators in duct sharing to minimize excavation cost advocated
2. Policy to guide the reuse of existing infrastructure both underground and aerial to bring down the coast of broadband
3. Promotion of innovation to drive on technology to enhance wide coverage
4. Company open for PPP collaboratio to extend service to underserved areas based on the model being ipleented with GIFEC

Speakers

ABENA NYASEM, Head of Sustainability and Partnership at GIFEC

She is a Development Consultant with specialization in developing Sustainability Models, Compliance, facilitation and training in Entrepreneurship and ICTs as well as Universal Access and Service principles. Ms. Nyamesem is responsible for developing innovative models that ensure compliance, value and sustainability of projects to serve the needs of now and future generation. She endeavors to establish profitable industry partnerships and corporate arrangements with a focus on maximizing impact in beneficiary communities and for its members.

Summary of Presentation

1. GIFEC positioning itself to engage fully in the GIFEC-TELCO-INVESTOR tripartite partnership model to extend connectivity to underserved and unserved areas
2. Smart Community project on course to support the provision of connectivity for entrepreneurial skills development
3. Approval from Cabinet gained to commence aerial broadband connectivity project on existing infrastructure
4. Plans to engage ISP in collaboration to reach out to underserved areas

Richard Densu, President and Board Chairman
Ghana Internet Service Providers Association (GISPA)

Richard Densu is an experienced Senior Business Leader with over 15 years of diversified senior management experience leading business innovations. He is currently the President and Board Chairman of the Ghana Internet Service Providers Association, GISPA

Summary of Presentation

1. Avoiding infrastructure duplication should be given key attention
2. The possibility abound for infrastructure sharing both passive and active to bring down cost of broadband as coverage is improved.
3. Technology Neutral Licence regime for free spectrum
4. Policy to give effect tot common use of national backbone assets

1.

"Connectivity alone is not enough"

"The poverty gap is a tech gap"

2. **Forum Discussion Comments, Questions & Dialogue**

Key Highlights

1. The importance of mainstreaming tech and entrepreneurial skills for girls in order to close the digital gender gap.
2. Commitment to lifelong learning opportunity and address barriers to training is essential.
3. An inclusive risk mitigation approach that also supports SMEs in digital skills programs is necessary.
4. Public Private Partnership (PPPs) are important and should be open to more partners
5. There is a need to explore neutral licenses, community networks to Fasttrack access

Action Items to Further Ghana's Digital Future

1. Implementation of infrastructure sharing regulations to enhance both active and passive sharing.

2. Explore universal technologies including policies for neutral licenses, reuse of old infrastructure, and capacity building on community owned networks.

3. Enhance understanding on [Meaningful Connectivity target](#).

Resources

1. *Ghana Infrastructure Sharing and Open Access Study*

2. *Closing the investment gap: How Multilateral Development Banks can Contribute to Digital Inclusion*

3. *The good practice database,* a library of case studies around telecommunications policy as a publicly-available reference*: https://a4ai.org/good-practices-database/*

4. *Meaningful Connectivity: A new Target to Raise the Bar for Internet Access*

Thank You

www.a4ai.org