Towards affordable internet for all

Dhanaraj Thakur  
Senior Research Manager, A4AI  
dhanaraj.thakur@webfoundation.org  
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All have endorsed one set of policy best practices - grounded on the principles of internet freedom and the fundamental rights of expression, assembly, and association online - for making affordable broadband internet a reality.
2017 Affordable Report
What is the ADI?

ADI = Affordability Drivers Index

Does not directly measure affordability; Measures the extent to which countries have implemented policies to improve internet affordability

ACCESS

INFRASTRUCTURE
## 2017 ADI: Global rankings (selected LDCs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>ADI Score</th>
<th>Rank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>51.5</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>48.9</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>43.7</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>41.7</td>
<td>41</td>
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<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>41.4</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>39.4</td>
<td>46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>39.1</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Progress toward affordable internet: A global overview

**Public Access**
- Only 45% of countries have plans to facilitate resource sharing among telecommunications companies (e.g., sharing of infrastructure, including towers and fibre networks); even where countries have plans, implementation is rare.

**Resource Sharing**
- 45% of countries studied have public access policies in place that are also backed by financial support for implementation.

**Efficient Use of Spectrum**
- Only one in three countries have detailed, time-bound plans for making more spectrum available to meet increasing demands.

**USAF's**
- Universal Service and Access Funds, an important tool to finance strategic investments in the sector, either don’t exist or are dormant in over a third of countries.

**Broadband Plans**
- National broadband plans to guide the policy reforms needed to achieve universal access have never been developed or are badly outdated in 41% of countries.
Exploring the extent of the gender digital divide

- Women are 50% less likely than men to use the internet in poor urban communities (Web Foundation 2015)

- Globally women are 12% less likely to use the internet than men (ITU 2017)
Failing to take needed action to provide affordable internet

Globally, policies have barely changed since 2014

<< Average increase in policy scores across all areas: 10% >>

Just 19 countries meet “1 for 2” affordability target

--1GB of mobile broadband priced at 2% or less of average monthly income --
Slow progress means billions are still excluded

Average price of a 1GB (prepaid, mobile) broadband plan as a % of GNI per capita, by region (2013-2015)

Source: A4AI calculations based on latest ITU pricing data.
How affordable is 1GB for different income groups?

Internet Affordability Across Income Quintiles
Price of 1GB as % of GNI pc

- Bangladesh
- Cambodia
- Nepal
- Indonesia
- 2% Target
What action must we take to make universal access a reality?

**Employ Public Access Solutions to Close the Digital Divide**
Critical to reach groups that cannot pay for regular internet use.

**Foster Market Competition through Smart Policy**
Competitive markets provide foundation for growth, innovation & affordable access.

**Implement Innovative Uses of Spectrum**
Clear strategies to ensure availability of sufficient spectrum on a timely basis.
What action must we take to make universal access a reality?

- **Promote Infrastructure and Resource Sharing**
  Provides operators the best option to reduce the cost of service provision.

- **Make Effective Use of Universal Service and Access Funds**
  Active, transparent & efficiently managed funds can support broadband strategies & targets.

- **Turn Effective Broadband Planning Into Effective Implementation**
  Plans that set clear, time-bound and measurable targets including on gender.
Tangkyu

Dhanaraj Thakur
Senior Research Manager, A4AI
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