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Connectivity, Information and Communication Technologies & E-commerce in the LLDCs

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LLDCs connectivity challenges

• No direct access to the sea and **limited access to** international connectivity
• High ICT prices
• Some LLDCs have large land areas and the roll-out of terrestrial communication infrastructure is costly

Source: ITU
Recommendations

Competition
Coverage obligations & universal service funds
Rationalize taxation
Digital literacy and skills
Achieve gender parity
Institutional strengthening
Build core infrastructure
Better data

Source: ITU

3-dimensional framework to guide policy makers

- Access
- Affordability
- Skills

Main challenge: Affordability

Nepal

Main challenge: Access/Skills

Bhutan

Main challenge: Skills

Sudan

Rwanda
Transport

Trade

E-commerce

ICT infrastructure – access - use
% of Internet users purchasing or ordering goods or services

United Kingdom
Germany
Sweden
Australia
France
Finland
Belgium
Korea (Rep.)
Slovakia
Spain
Slovenia
Croatia
Japan
Poland
Greece
Latvia
Brazil
Czech Republic
Hungary
Belarus
Italy
Serbia
Qatar
Bulgaria
Russian Federation
Romania
Macao, China
Iran (I.R.)
Indonesia
Ukraine
TFYR Macedonia
Jamaica
Mexico
Paraguay
Kazakhstan
Colombia
Morocco
Thailand
Peru
Zimbabwe
Ecuador

Note: Data only available for some countries
Source: ITU
Driving e-commerce

• Sound legal and regulatory framework
  – Clear rules on electronic payments, e-documents and e-signatures
  – Customer protection and trust, online dispute resolutions
  – Cybersecurity
  – Rules on intermediary liability
  – Data protection regulations
• Reliable transport and logistics services
• Raising awareness
• Developing e-commerce skills
• Data on users and non-users
Better data for better policies: NEW ITU indicators on e-commerce

- Type of goods and services purchased online
- Payment channels for online purchases
- Reasons for not purchasing online
- Method of delivery