Progress in Measuring ICT for Development

WSIS Forum 2011
16-20 May, Geneva

Susan Teltscher
Head, ICT Data and Statistics Division
Telecommunication Development Bureau
International Telecommunication Union

Monitoring progress: need for quantitative evidence

- Need indicators on ICT access, use and impact
- Need ICT data to monitor the digital divide
- WSIS outcome documents call for measurement of information society to track progress and inform policy
- International community is addressing this issue through the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development
Members
ITU
OECD
UNCTAD
UNDESA
UNESCO Institute for Statistics
World Bank
ECA
ECLAC
ESCAP
ESCWA
Eurostat

Steering Committee: ITU, UNCTAD, ECLAC

Partnership recent activities

- Measuring e-government
- Measuring the WSIS targets
- Measuring impact

- Global event, Seoul, Republic of Korea (July 2010) (with UNSD)
- Workshops and training courses
WSIS mid-term review based on measurable indicators – WTDR 2010

- First global effort to measure progress towards the achievement of the targets agreed at the WSIS
- Mid-term review based on quantitative indicators
- Policy recommendations to help achieve the targets by 2015
- Basis for Partnership Task Group on Measuring the WSIS Targets

Main authors: ITU, UNESCO, WHO and UNDESA, as well as civil society

New Partnership publication: “Measuring the WSIS targets”

- A response to the WSIS call to develop indicators for measuring the information society
- A concrete list of indicators to monitor the 10 WSIS targets
- A practical tool for policy makers and data producers in developing countries
- The main reference document for the final review or progress made in 2015

Launched today
Global ICT trends

5.3 billion mobile cellular subscriptions

Two billion Internet users – but too few in Africa

- Global Internet users have doubled in the past five years
- Only 1 out of 5 people in developing countries are online, and only 1 out of 10 in Africa
- Future: mobile Internet

Source: ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators database.
Note: 2010 data are estimates.
Mobile Internet

- Non-existent at time of WSIS
- New devices are mushrooming (smart phones, tablet computers etc.)
- Mobile applications (across all sectors) are driving demand

Implications:

- Subscriptions to 3G networks (broadband) growing exponentially
- Internet users shift from fixed to mobile access, numbers will grow quickly
- Future measurement challenges

Progress in measuring Internet users

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>At least one year between:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia &amp; Pacific</td>
<td>33.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arab States</td>
<td>41.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americas</td>
<td>33.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIS</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>81.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All ITU members</td>
<td>81.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators database.
Note: * Data in this chart refer to countries that have collected data on individuals using the Internet through official national surveys.
Mobile Internet:
Needs to be addressed in all statistics

- ICT infrastructure services
- ICT manufacturing
- Household access
- Individual use
- Business access and use
- E-government
- ICT use in education
- E-health
- Other applications
- E-waste

More information

http://www.itu.int/ict
http://measuring-ict.unctad.org