Tackling the statistical divide to help bridge the digital divide - ITU’s role and activities

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The ITU - Helping the world to communicate

- The UN-specialized agency for telecommunications: where governments and the private sector coordinate global telecom networks and services
- Founded in 1865
- 189 Member States and over 700 private sector members
Mobile overtakes fixed!
Telephone subscribers, world, millions

- Information sharing: tracking the global diffusion of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)
- The ITU, through its ICT indicators, is the only source of internationally comparable data on ICT/telecommunications

In Australia mobile overtook fixed in 2001, when the number of mobile subscribers grows from 8.5 to 11.1 million (compared to 10.5 million fixed lines)

Source: ITU
## Data collection

### HOW?
- Two Telecommunication Indicator Questionnaires per year addressed to government agencies responsible from ICT/telecom or operators
- Online research
- Annual reports

### WHAT?
- Telephone network
- Mobile services
- Traffic
- Staff
- Quality of Service
- Tariffs
- Revenues & Investment
- Broadcasting
- Information Technology

Data is entered into the World Telecommunication Indicators Database
Data dissemination

- Yearbook of Statistics
  - Published annually for almost 3 decades
  - Covers 80 ICT/telecom indicators for almost 200 economies
- World Telecommunication Indicators Database
  - Covers 80 ICT/telecom indicators for almost 200 economies
- Online, at www.itu.int/ict/statistics
Analysis

- World Telecommunication Development Report
- Regional Reports on ICT/telecom developments
- Case Studies (www.itu.int/ict/cs)
Case Studies - International comparisons

Internet case study rankings, 2000-03

HK, China
Korea (Rep.)
Singapore
Malaysia
Mauritius
Thailand
Indonesia
Philippines
Maldives
Hungary
Cape Verde
Fiji
Egypt
Bolivia
Vietnam
Laos
Uganda
Nepal
Cambodia
Ethiopia

Legend:
- Pervasiveness
- Dispersion
- Absorption
- Uptake
- Connectivity
- Organization
- Sophistication
The DAI ranks 178 economies according to their ability to access ICTs.

Based on 5 categories and 8 indicators.

Classifies economies into: high, upper, medium, low.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economy</th>
<th>Infrastructure</th>
<th>Affordability</th>
<th>Knowledge</th>
<th>Quality</th>
<th>Usage</th>
<th>DAI</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 Sweden</td>
<td>0.94</td>
<td>0.99</td>
<td>0.99</td>
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<td>0.66</td>
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<td>0.96</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>0.76</td>
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<td>0.96</td>
<td>0.74</td>
<td>0.65</td>
<td>0.817</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Netherlands</td>
<td>0.78</td>
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<td>0.99</td>
<td>0.61</td>
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<td>0.792</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 Hong Kong, China</td>
<td>0.93</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>0.83</td>
<td>0.68</td>
<td>0.51</td>
<td>0.790</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Finland</td>
<td>0.81</td>
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<td>0.99</td>
<td>0.55</td>
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<td>10 Canada</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 Australia</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0.99</td>
<td>0.63</td>
<td>0.36</td>
<td>0.74</td>
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</table>
The digital divide and the statistical divide
International cooperation and coordination

- The Millennium Development Goals: ITU tracks target 18 of the MDGs
- World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)
- Partnerships: “Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development” (UNCTAD, OECD, World Bank etc)
- Conferences/workshops/meetings
- Case studies
Case Studies on monitoring ICT

- To be carried out in Australia, Korea (Rep.), and Hong Kong, China
- To analyze best practices of governments in measuring the availability and use of ICT in different sectors of the economy
  - How (surveys, questionnaires) and how often is ICT data collected?
  - What policies and administrative processes are guiding the selection of ICT indicators and surveys?
  - Who is responsible for carrying out the data collection and how are different parties involved cooperating?
  - How are results used to impact/change policies?
- Results of case studies will be presented at www.itu.int/digitalbridges
Welcome to the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Home Page

The ITU’s Telecommunication Indicator Reports present an analysis of trends and developments in the global telecommunications sector, backed by official statistics from the world’s leading source of telecommunication information. These reports and databases are available online.

- Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development
- UN Millennium Development Goals
  - UN MDG Database
  - ICT and MDG (Chapter 4 of the WTDR 2003)
- Register for notification of new publications
- Information sharing: a synopsis of our work

- Telecommunication Indicators Handbook
  - HTML (English, français, español), PDF
- Draft v1.1 March 2003
  - Word (English; French; Spanish)
- Draft Proposed additional indicators

What's New

Publications

- African Telecommunication Indicators 2004 - Press Release
- Digital Access Index (DAI)
- World Telecommunication Indicators Database
  - Last update 30 June 2004

Event

- Monitoring the Information Society: Data, Measurement and Methods (Geneva, 8-9 December 2003)