Universal Access

PREPARATORY MEETING OF THE ARAB REGION FOR THE WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE
Alexandria (Egypt)
17-19 October 2000
Universal access to communications is the main reason why we are all here.
What is Universal Access?

• Universal Service Telephone in most homes
• Universal Access Telephone within reasonable distance for everyone
Universal Service

Households with a telephone (%), 1999

LDCs
Yemen
Maghreb
Arab Region
Syria-Oman-Jordan
Lebanon
KSA
Gulf except KSA and Oman
Measuring Universal Access

- Total density
- Towns with telephone service
- Payphones
  - Per inhabitant
  - As % of main lines
- Mobile coverage
- Distance from a telephone
- Time from a telephone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payphones as % of total fixed lines</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mauritania</td>
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<tr>
<td>UAE – Morocco</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tunisia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oman-KSA-Sudan-Bahrain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jordan-Djibouti-Qatar</td>
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<td>Algeria – Syria</td>
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<td>Egypt - Kuwait</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Network growth

Fixed and mobile telephone subscribers per 100 inhabitants

- All developing countries
- Arab region

1995: 4.8
1996: 5.4
1997: 6.1
1998: 7.0
1999: 8.2

Difference:
- All developing countries: 3.2
- Arab region: 0.8

1999: 11.4
More mobile countries: Cambodia (93); Finland (98); Uganda, Ivory Coast, Portugal, Venezuela, Paraguay, S. Korea, Italy, Austria, Israel, Botswana (99); Japan, Hongkong, Singapore, South Africa, Philippines, Ireland... (2000)
Morocco becomes the first

Mobile subscribers in Morocco, 000s

High mobile coverage + pre-paid card = Universal Access?
Telephone density

Fixed and mobile telephones per 100 inhabitants, 1999

- UAE
- Bahrain
- Qatar
- Kuwait
- Lebanon
- KSA
- Oman

ALL DEVELOPING
- Syria
- Tunisia
- Jordan

ARAB REGION
- Egypt
- Morocco
- Algeria
- Yemen

Sep 2000

Fixed
Mobile
Digital divide in the Arab region

Internet users as % of population

All developing countries
Financing access

Telephone subscription as % of GDP per capita

- Gulf
- Tunisia
- KSA
- Algeria
- Arab
- LDCs
Accounting rates

Average accounting rate with US, per minute, US$

Source: FCC.
World

- National Telephone 54%
- Mobile 24%
- Other 15%
- International Telephone 7%

Arab region

- International Telephone 45%
- Mobile 27%
- Other 3%
- National Telephone 25%

Telecom revenue

Distribution of telecom revenue 1999

US$ 13.1 billion 1999
1.6% of world total
Future work

• Definition and measurement of universal access
• Universal access / service policies
• Universal access / service funding
• Setting targets for region