

UNIVERSAL ACCESS INITIATIVES IN NIGERIA

ITU/CTO

WORKSHOP ON UNIVERSAL ACCESS
MODELS

BANJUL, 10 – 14 March 2003

1

INTRODUCTION

OVERVIEW OF THE TELECOM SECTOR-1986-2000

- **PRE-DEREGULATION ERA 1986**
Department of Postal and
Telecommunications was split to create:
 - ✓ Nigerian Telecommunication Ltd(NITEL)
 - ✓ Nigerian Postal Services(NIPOST)
- **COMMENCEMENT OF FORMAL DEREGULATION**
1992
 - NITEL attained full commercial status
 - Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) established.

2

INTRODUCTION (CONTD)

- 1996 – 1998 – There was an unsuccessful attempt to formulate a National Policy on Telecommunications

3

REFORM AND LIBERALISATION

- 1998 – The NCC Act was amended to transfer the powers of the Minister under the WTA
- 2000 – The National Policy on Telecommunications released by the government.

Nigerian Telecommunications market fully liberalised

4

REFORM & LIBERALISATION (CONTD)

2001 – NTP revised to accommodate the views of all stakeholders.

2002 – A new legislation, the Communications Bill is before the House of Assembly.

5

GAINS OF LIBERALISATION

- ✓ Successful auctioning of the 2nd Generation Digital Mobile Licenses in January 2001.
- ✓ Licensing of Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) Operators in 2002.
- ✓ Licencing of two Long Distance Operators in 2002.
- ✓ Preparation of the Incumbent Operator for privatisation.
- ✓ Several Internet Providers have been licensed to encourage fast growth of Internet nationwide.

6

GAINS OF LIBERALISATION (CONTD)

	December 2000	December 2002	Projection to Dec., 2003
Number of Connected Fixed Lines	450,000	702,000	1,200,000
Number of Connected Digital Mobile Lines	None	1,594,179	2,900,000
Number of National Carriers	1	2	2
Number of Operating ISPs	18	30	35
Number of Active Licensed Fixed Line Operators	9	16	30
Number of Licensed Mobile Operators	1	4	4
Number of Km of Microwave Links	16,000 km (est.)	31,200 km (est.)	37,000 km
Private Investment	\$50m USD	\$2,100m USD	\$3,800m USD

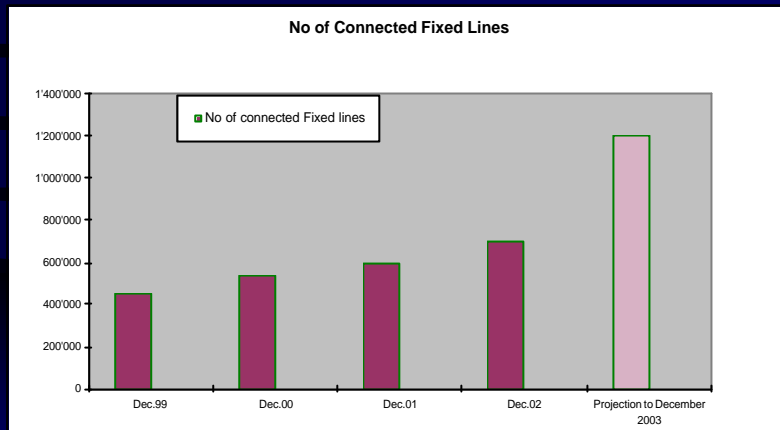
7

Satellite Based Services

	1999	2000	2001	2002
Licensed Domestic VSAT Operators	38	50	63	88
International Gateway Operators:	1	1	3	4

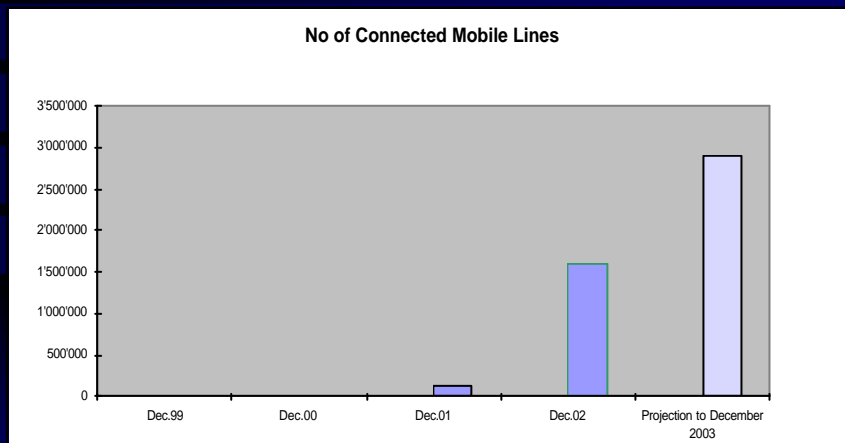
8

No. of Connected Fixed Lines



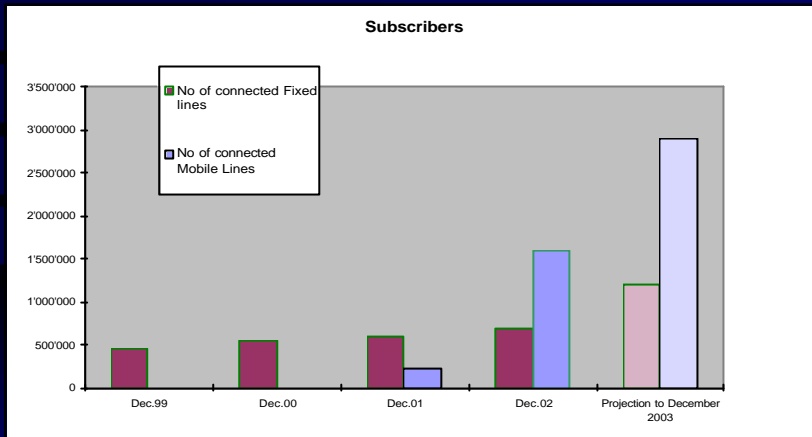
9

The Nigerian Scenario No. of Connected Digital Mobile Lines



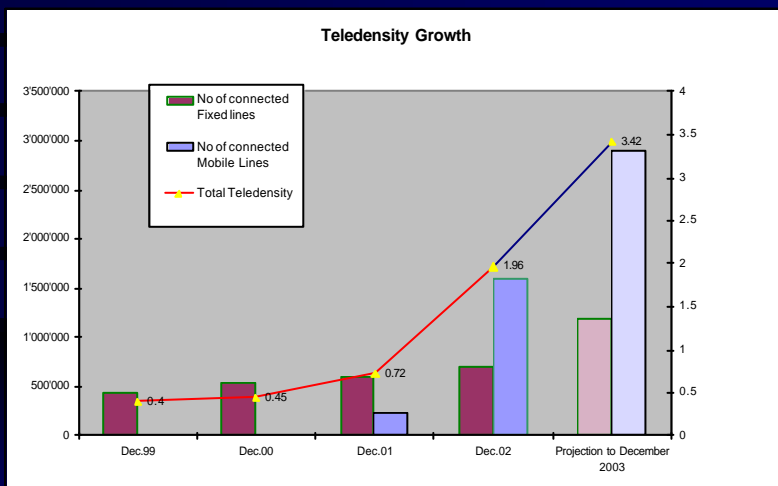
10

The Nigerian Scenario Subscribers of Fixed and Mobile Lines



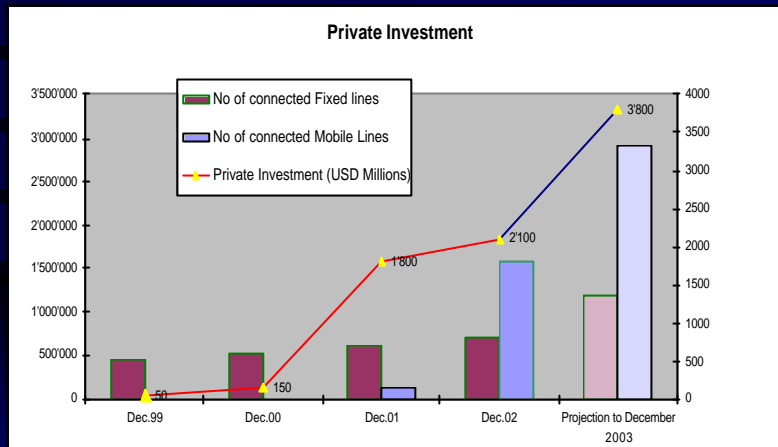
11

The Nigerian Scenario Teledensity Growth



12

The Nigerian Scenario Impact of Private Investment on Subscriber Growth



13

STRATEGY FOR UNIVERSAL ACCESS

AIM

To make telephone accessible to all communities through regulatory intervention.

14

POLICY INITIATIVES

- Establish Institutional Framework for Universal Access
- Develop a Universal Access Strategy
- Establish a Universal Access Fund
- Encourage Collaborative participation with all Stakeholders including local communities.
- Establish market oriented mechanism.
- Encourage participation of micro finance Institutions.

15

PROGRAMMES & PROJECTS

- Rural Telecoms Sub-committee
Set up by govt to develop a policy Framework for Universal Access for Nigeria.
- A Study completed on the development of community based Telecoms Systems to:
 - Sensitize rural community.
 - Establish willingness to participate.
 - Establish needs

16

PROGRAMMES & PROJECTS (CONTD)

- Study on Universal Access Strategy to:
 - Define an Institutional Framework
 - Develop policies.
- Study on development of Communications Strategy to:
 - Establish Demand and Supply
 - Identify Priority areas
 - Conduct cost-benefit analysis
 - Identify appropriate locations for Pilot projects

17

PROGRAMMES & PROJECTS (CONTD)

- Conduct Competitive Bidding process for Pilot project.
- Success or Failure of Pilot projects will determine future licensing and Universal Access Strategies.

18

POLICY DIRECTION

- PROVIDE ACCESS IN ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT
- ENSURE ACCESS WITHIN 5 - 10 KILOMETERS FROM HOME
- TELECENTERS
- MPC
- PHONESHOPS

19

OTHER EFFORTS TOWARDS PROVIDING ACCESS

- LICENSING OBLIGATIONS
- LDO
- FWA
- SNO
- FIXED TELEPHONY(WIRELESS & WIRELINE)
- TELECENTERS
- CYBERCAFES
- PAYPHONES
- PREPAID CALLING CARD

20

CONCLUSION

- Telecommunications Service is a fundamental right of every individual and as such Universal Access is key to achieving this objective.
- With the Plans and programmes enumerated above, Nigeria is on the track towards providing sustainable access to telecommunications services nationwide.

21

THANK YOU

22