

International Benchmarking for the Information Society

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ITU-KADO

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International Benchmarking for the Information Society

I. CHALLENGES OF OUR TIMES

II. MAJOR RESEARCH EFFORTS

III. CRITICALLY PLOTTING A COURSE

I. Challenges of Our Times

1. The Information Society

the information economy

social and cultural consequences

2. The Digital Divide

magnitude and evolution

3. The Issue of Measurements

II. Major Research Efforts

4. A Taxonomy of Approaches

macro/meso/micro, sectoral, thematic
e-readiness, digital divide

5. Internal Country Digital Divides

detailed, specific ICTs and variables
composite

- the Korean personal Informatization index
access, capacity, usage

$$PII = (.2 \times PAI) + (.3 \times PCI) + (.5 \times PUI)$$

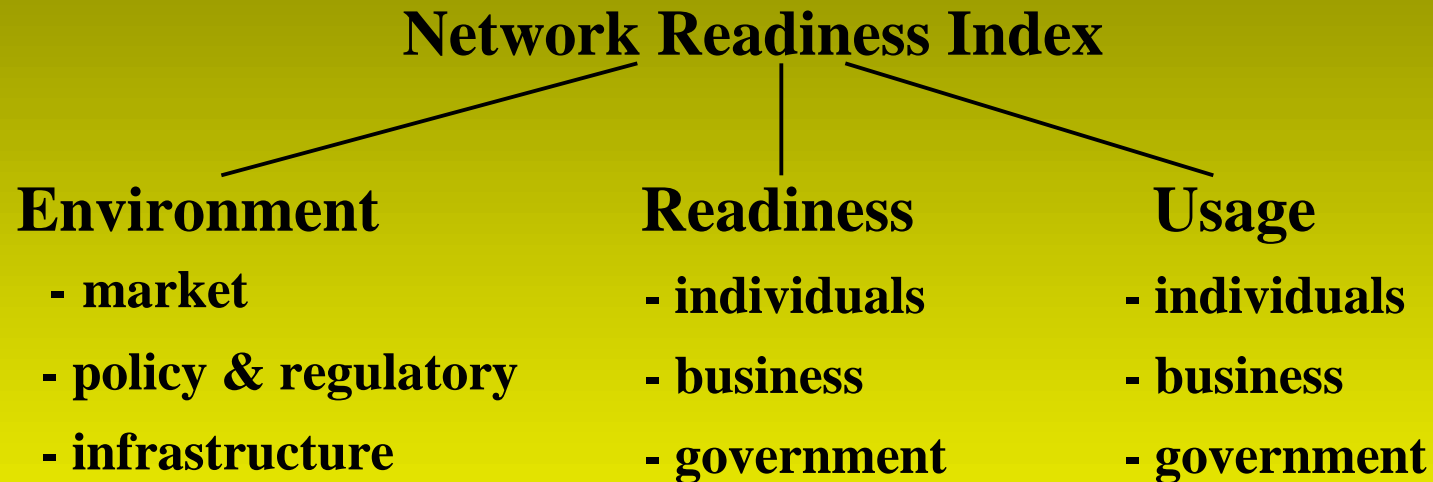
II. Major Research Efforts

6. International Benchmarking

- quantitative & qualitative
- e-readiness & digital divide
- individual variables & aggregate measures
- public & proprietary data
- global scope & targeted

International Benchmarking

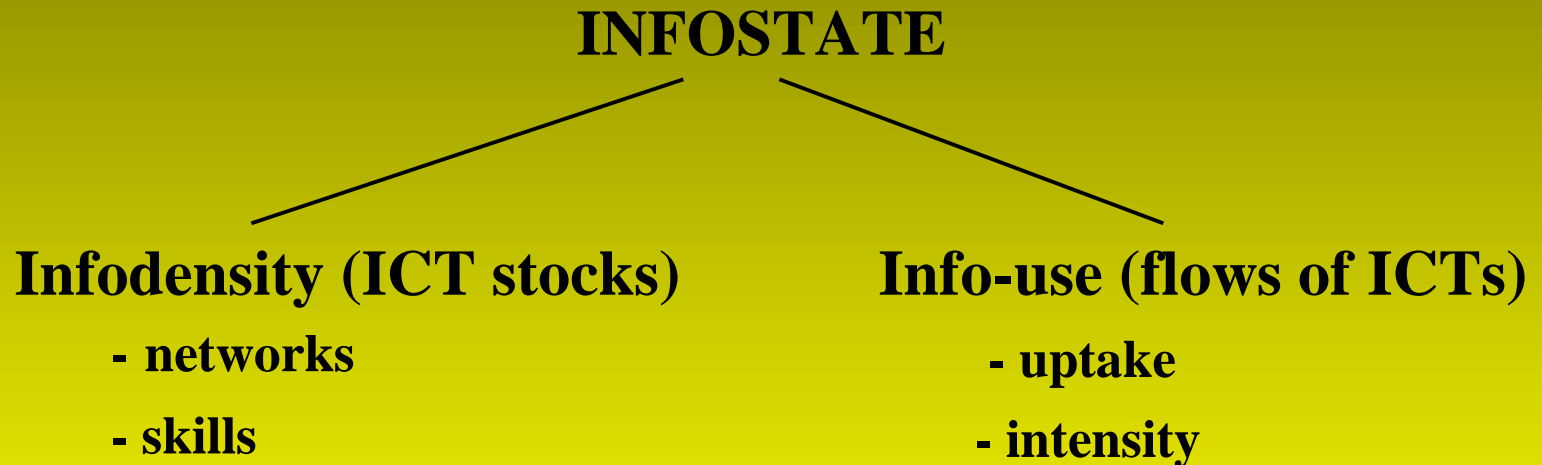
Global Information Technology Report - WEF, INSEAD



**9 sub-indexes, based on 48 indicators (soft and hard),
produce rankings for 102 countries, 2002-3**

International Benchmarking

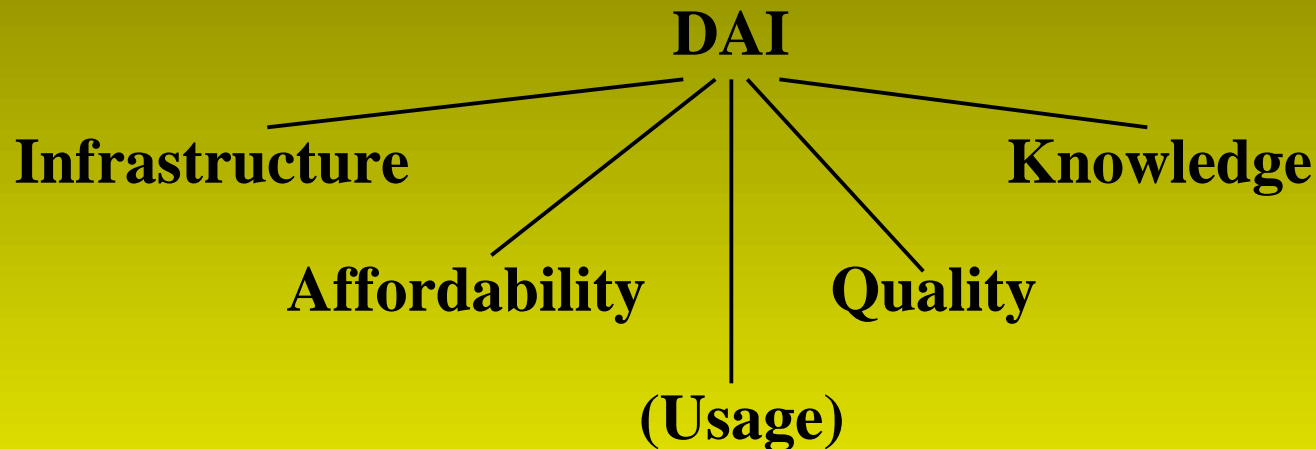
Monitoring the Digital Divide - ORBICOM



**4 components, based on 21 indicators (public data),
produce time-series for 139-192 countries, 1996-2001**

International Benchmarking

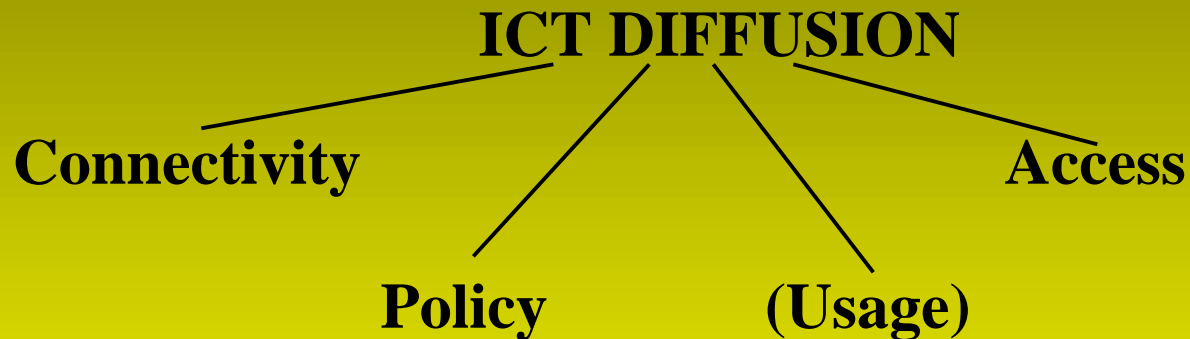
The Digital Access Index - ITU



**4 components, based on 8 indicators (public data),
produce rankings for 178 countries, 2002**

International Benchmarking

ICT Development Indices - UNCTAD



**3 components, based on 22 indicators (public data),
produce rankings for 166-200 countries, 1999-2001**

International Benchmarking

McConnell International

assesses e-readiness in 53 countries for 2001 on the basis of:

connectivity, e-leadership, information security, human capital, e-business climate

Mosaic

framework to assess Internet development, based on:

pervasiveness, geographic dispersion, sectoral absorption, connectivity infrastructure, organizational infrastructure, sophistication of use

Economist intelligence Unit

e-readiness rankings for 60 large countries, based on many indicators and

categories (connectivity and technology, business environment, consumer and business adoption, social and cultural environment, supporting e-services)

International Benchmarking

SIBIS - IST programme

assesses EU and accession countries, Switzerland and the US

focus on ICT access and usage (Internet readiness, digital divide, information security), including measurements and analysis of determinants (barriers, digital literacy, learning and training) and benchmark applications (e-commerce, e-work, e-science, e-government, e-health)

Technology Achievement Index - UNDP in 2001 HDI

assesses the creation and diffusion of technologies, and user preparedness for 72 countries with 8 indicators

International Benchmarking

Connectedness Index - Conference Board of Canada

compares 10 advanced OECD economies: Canada, US, Sweden, Finland, UK, Australia, Germany, Japan, France and Italy for 2002.

Index based on: *Availability* (20%), *Reach* (25%), *Use* (50%), *Price* (5%) and links to socio-economic enablers.

42 indicators are used - more for bilateral Canada-US comparisons

Composite Index for Asia - UNDP 2003

explores linkages between ICTs and MDGs, and 2 alternative methodologies for the construction of composite indices

assesses 9 countries based on 22 indicators for: availability of supply-linked (skill independent), availability of supply-linked (skill-dependent), efficiency and speed, targeting social sectors, and vulnerable groups.

International Benchmarking

	Countries	Indicators	Years
WEF-INSEAD - Global Information Technology Report	102	48	2002-3
ORBICOM - Monitoring the Digital Divide	139-192	21	1996-2001
ITU - Digital Access Index	178	8	2002
UNCTAD - ICT Development Indices	166-200	12	1999-2001
McConnell International	53	several	2001
UNDP - ICT and Human Development	22	9	2001
Conference Board of Canada - Connectedness Index	10	42	2002
Economist Index	60	many	2001

II. Major Research Efforts

7. Synoptic Findings

- **only in very developed countries, the profile of new ICT users starts to resemble that of the population**
- **gaps between ‘haves’ and ‘have-nots’ are huge**
- **the digital divide appears to be closing somewhat, but...
only in an overall sense - and because
middle countries catch up to top**
- **problem with have-nots remains, especially in Africa**
- **leapfrogging to wireless helps, but speed is very slow**

III. Critically Plotting a Course

8. Data Requirements

- **Severe data gaps have been identified**
 - cross-sectional**
 - time-series**
- **Study of internal country digital divides**
 - requires very detailed data by ICT and group of interest**
 - available only in a few countries**
- **For study of the digital divide internationally,**
 - indicators at national level offer good starting point -**
 - if complemented by detailed national data, so much the better**

III. Critically Plotting a Course

9. Critique and Methods

- **Advantages and limitations of composite measures**
- **The importance of frameworks - and linkages**
- **Indicators - if some are good, aren't many better?**
 - **the trade-off between depth and breadth of coverage**
- **The issue of weights...**
 - and other statistical matters....**
- **Sensitivity and robustness checks**

III. Critically Plotting a Course

10. The Way Forward

The short-term

- **choosing from the best we have**
 - collaborative alliances for Tunis
- **consolidating and diffusing new knowledge (OECD Guide)**
- **linking ICTs and MDGs for political profile**

The long-term

- **new data: the only acceptable progress**
- **proposed international partnership critical**
 - *core set of indicators*
 - *enhance capacities in developing countries*
 - *develop global database of ICT indicators*

Thank you

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