



**world summit
on the information society**
Geneva 2003 - Tunis 2005

Helping the world communicate



**International
Telecommunication
Union**

World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) - eLAC 2007: Access and Digital Inclusion

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Inter-agency multistakeholder meeting:
Supporting eLAC2007

June 7 2005, Hotel Novo Mundo, Rio de Janeiro





WSIS Key Principles

- 1) The role of governments and all stakeholders in the promotion of ICTs for development
- 2) Information and communication infrastructure: an essential foundation for an inclusive information society
- 3) Access to information and knowledge
- 4) Capacity building
- 5) Building confidence and security in the use of ICTs
- 6) Enabling environment
- 7) ICT applications: benefits in all aspects of life
- 8) Cultural diversity and identity, linguistic diversity and local content
- 9) Media
- 10) Ethical dimensions of the information society
- 11) International and regional cooperation

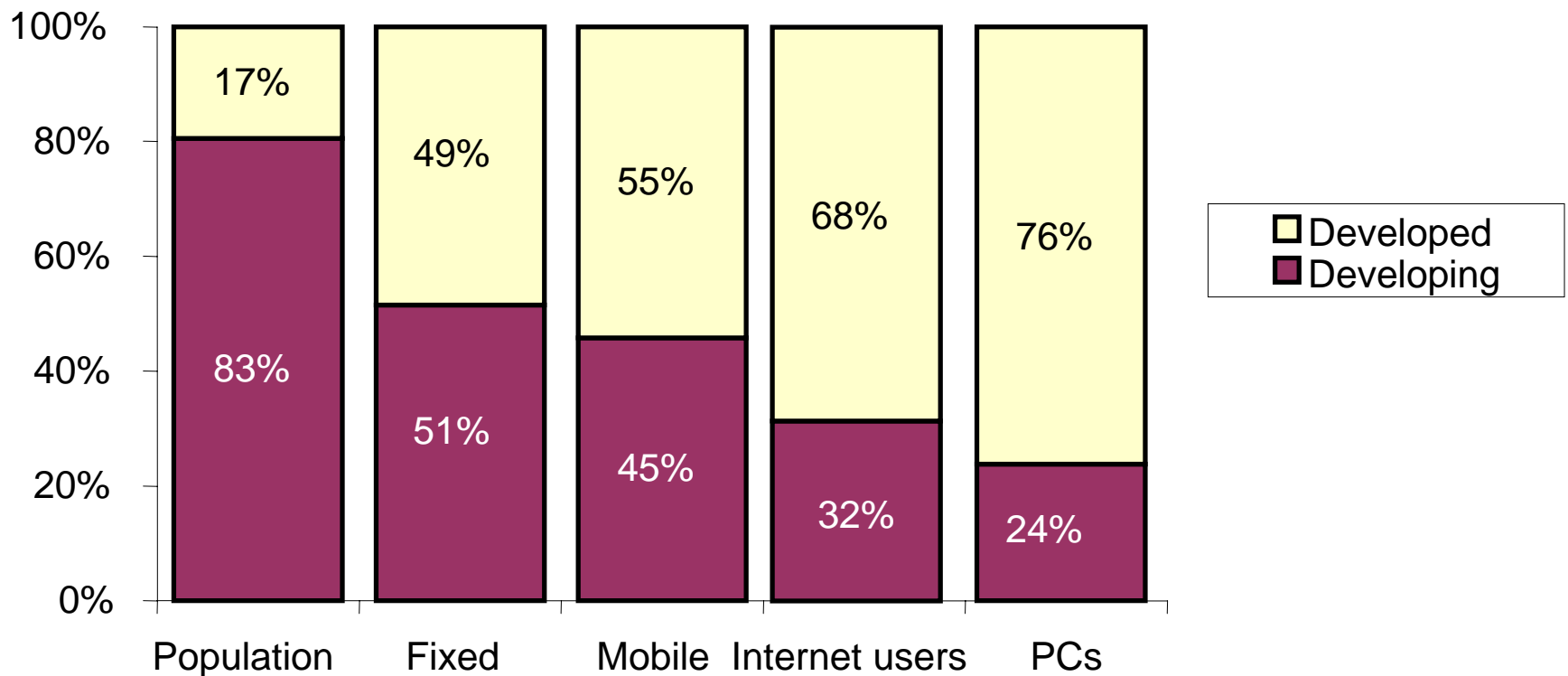


What does WSIS say about access and digital inclusion?

- "... Information Society, where everyone can create, access, utilize and share information and knowledge, enabling individuals, communities and peoples to achieve their full potential ..." (Declaration, para 1)
- "We are also fully aware that the benefits of the information technology revolution are today unevenly distributed between the developed and developing countries and within societies. We are fully committed to turning this digital divide into a digital opportunity for all, particularly for those who risk being left behind and being further marginalized." (Declaration, para 10)



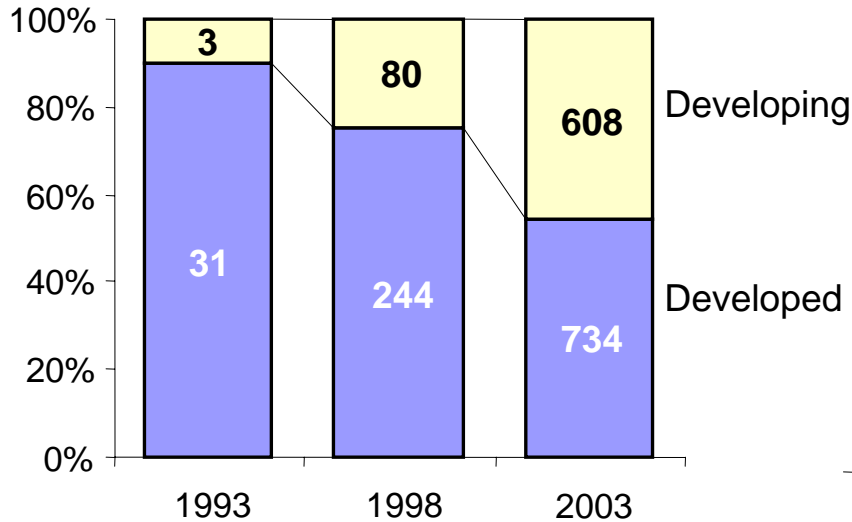
Access and Digital Inclusion: Availability of ICTs - Population Distribution & ICTs 2003



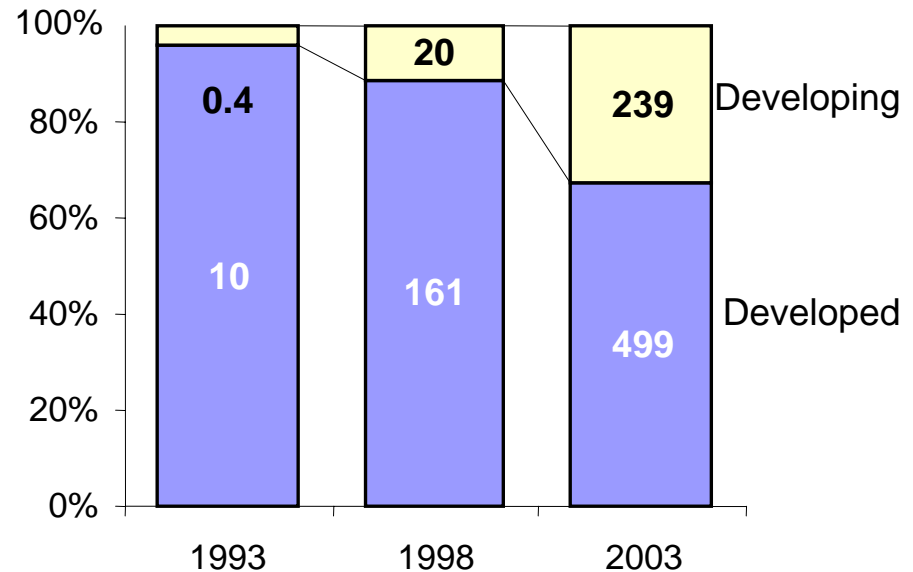


Bridging the digital divide (millions)

Mobile



Internet users

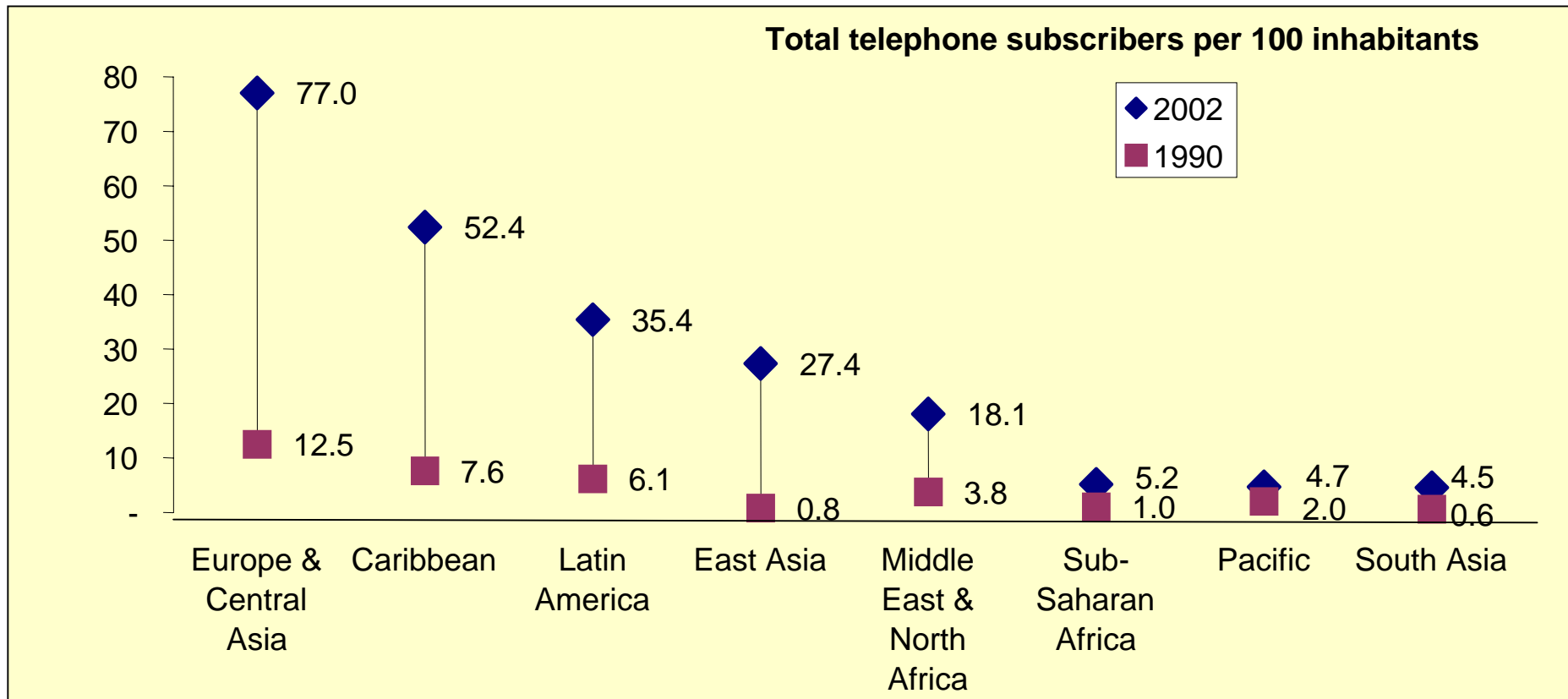


Source: ITU Internet Reports 2004: The Portable internet.



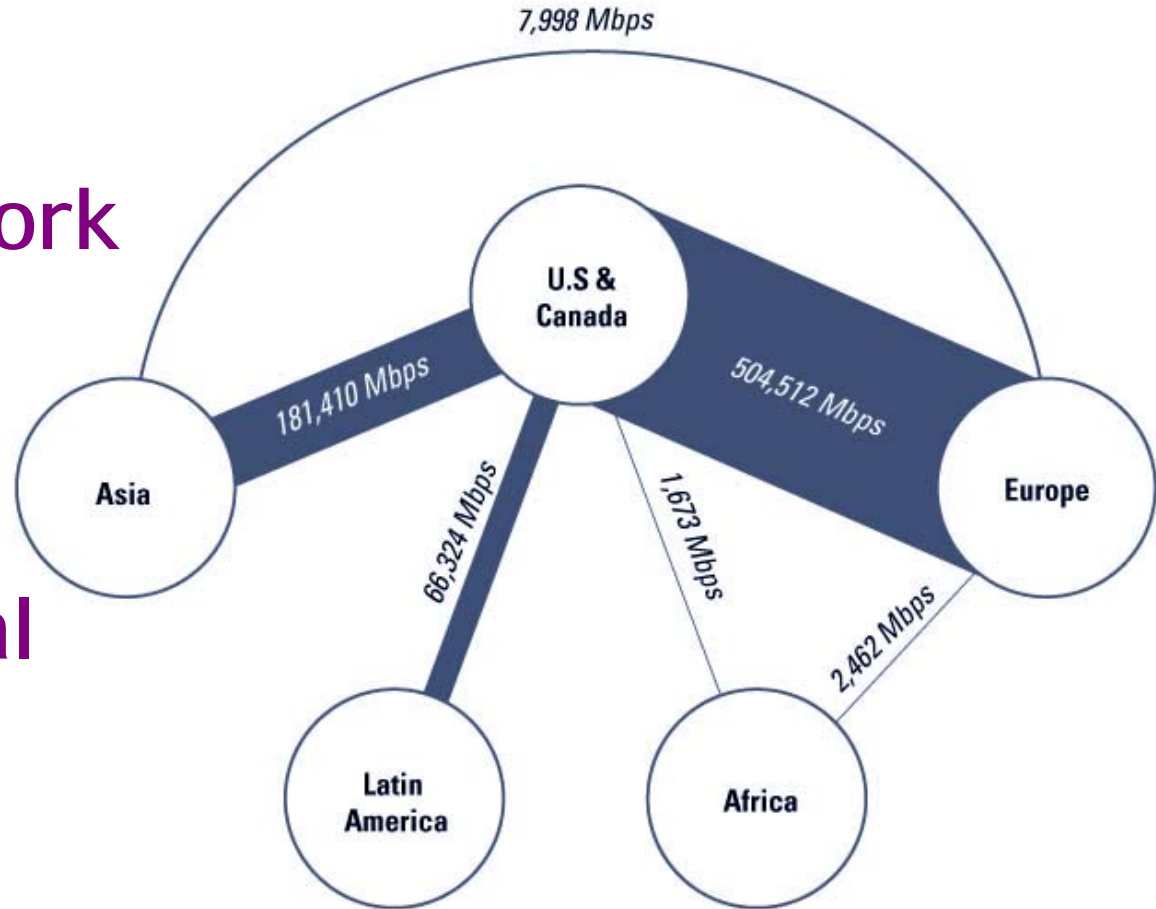


Some developing regions are doing better than others





But much work
needed to
improve
regional &
international
Internet
bandwidth



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Summit Objectives by 2015

- a) to connect all villages with ICTs
- b) to connect all educational institutions
- c) to connect all scientific and research centres;
- d) to connect all public libraries, museums and archives
- e) to connect all health centres and hospitals;
- f) to connect local and central government departments
- g) to adapt all primary and secondary school curricula to meet the challenges of the Information Society;
- h) to ensure that all have access to television and radio services;
- i) to encourage the development of content on the Internet;
- j) to ensure that more than half the world's inhabitants have access to ICTs within their reach.



eLAC2007 Part A: Access and Digital Inclusion - Specific follow-ups for 2006-2007 timeframe

- Regional infrastructure
- Community Centers
- Schools and libraries on-line
- On-line health centers
- Local government
- Alternative technologies



Leveraging the WSIS Stocktaking

- Inventory of activities undertaken by governments and stakeholders in implementing WSIS Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action
 - May 2005: 1'700 WSIS-related activities
- Searchable, publicly accessible database of WSIS-related activities has been created, including project descriptions, supporting documentation and URLs, which are searchable by WSIS action lines, the development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration (MDGs), geographical coverage, keyword, etc.
 - <http://www.itu.int/wsis/stocktaking>



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Examples from the WSIS Stocktaking related to eLAC2007 Part A: Access and Digital Inclusion





Regional Infrastructure

- Argentina: National Programme for the Information Society
 - <http://www.psi.gov.ar>
- Colombia: Connectivity Agenda
 - <http://www.agenda.gov.co>
 - e.g., Compartel broadband satellite project for rural areas (e.g. schools, prefect offices, hospitals)



Community Centers

- Brazil: Instituto Nacional de Tecnologia da Informação
 - Brazil's digital inclusion activity is to install, in the poorest parts of Brazilian cities, communal spaces that allow free access to the Internet and participation of the citizens in information technology through telecentres, post bank agencies, cultural centres, etc.



Schools and libraries on-line

- Bioline International: Open Access to Scientific Literature from Developing Countries
 - Bioline International (BI) is electronic publishing service committed to providing open access to quality peer-reviewed scientific research generated in developing countries
 - Goal of BI is to improve the accessibility, visibility and research impact of research published in developing countries.
 - Crucial to a global understanding of health (tropical medicine, infectious diseases, epidemiology, emerging new diseases), biodiversity, the environment, food and nutritional security and international development.



On-line health centers

- Guyana: National Patient Management Information System
 - The Ministry of Health has developed software to be used by health centres and hospitals across Guyana to capture epidemiological data, as well as to administer the patients' medical records.
 - This software would be used by the various health centres in Guyana's ten administrative regions to enter the data, which would then be sent to the processing department located within the Ministry of Health.
 - This information would provide the data that are needed by departments to process critical reports, as well as to promote better health activities in areas that may be in need of such services.



Local Government

- Mexico: @campus: online learning program for public servants
 - @Campus is an online learning programme for public servants, helping to consolidate civil service reform in Mexico. The project provides civil servants with an Internet-based education portal offering courses and information on certification. With financial support from ICA and the expertise of the Canadian School of Public Service, Mexico has instituted a pilot phase through which 800 public servants have received training. The goal is for up to 47'700 public employees to have access to the e-learning platform and for the project to be a reference project for future rollout in the region.
 - ICA's Mexican partner on the @Campus Mexico programme is the Secretaría de la Función Pública (SFP).



Suggestions for way forward...

- Contribute to the WSIS stocktaking...
- Let us learn from the experiences of others in the region and elsewhere in implementing eLAC 2007



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Thank you

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