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Mauritania's strategy for community access to ICTs

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OUTLINE OF PRESENTATION

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IV - COLLECTION OF MAIN INDICATORS

V - FUTURE PROJECTS

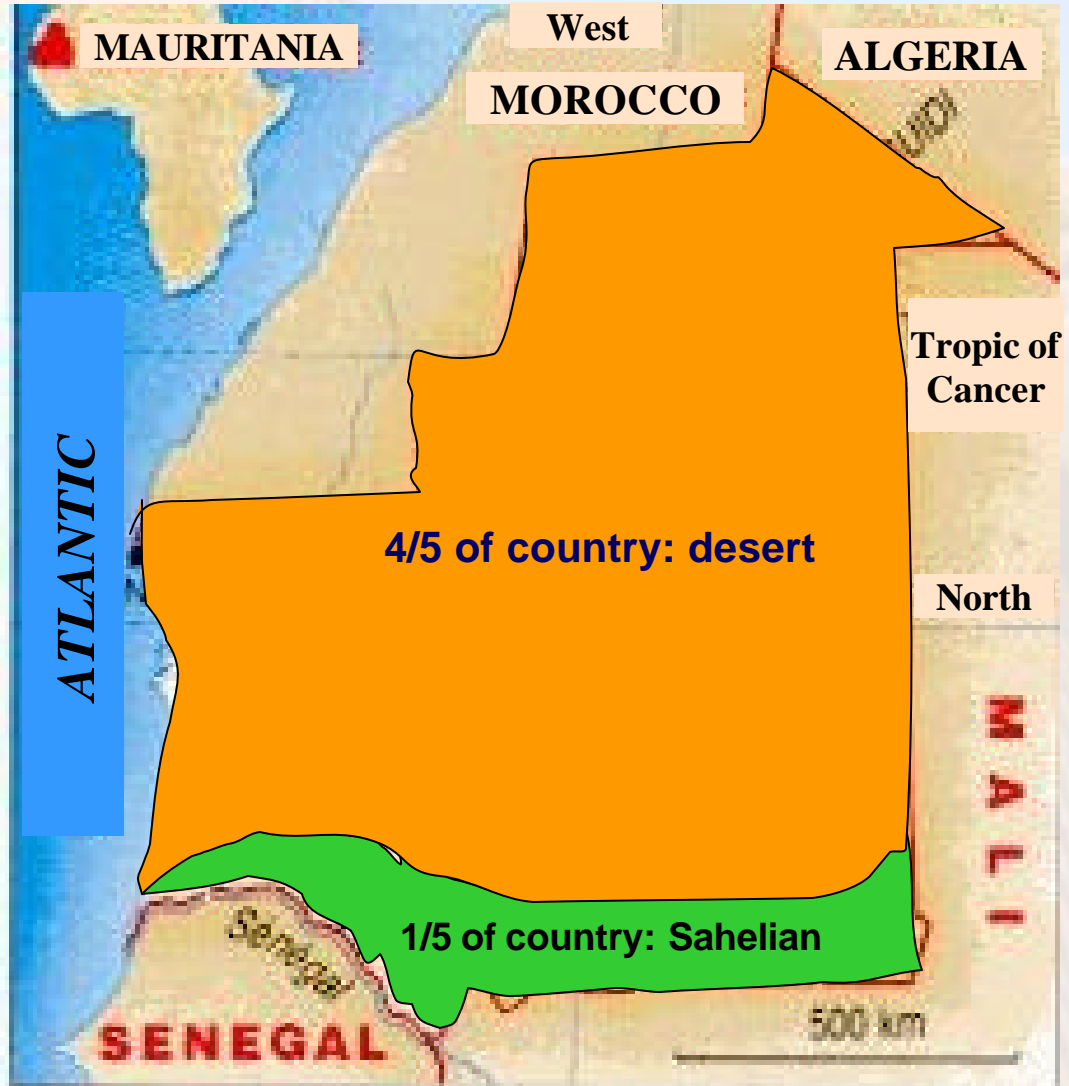


CONTEXT OF MAURITANIA

1 030 000 Km²

2 500 000
inhabitants

2.5 inhabitants/Km²



CONTEXT OF MAURITANIA (continued)

- ✓ **LDC (Approximately USD 350 GDP/inhabitant)**
- ✓ **Liberalized telecommunication sector**
 - Law passed in 1999
 - Regulatory authority in place
 - Privatized incumbent telecommunication operator
 - 2 GSM operators operational



MAURITANIA'S STRATEGY FOR ACCESS TO ICTs

- ✓ **Institutional and legal environment created**
 - Establishment of department responsible for ICTs
 - Liberalization of Internet sector
 - Adoption by government of national strategy for ICT development
 - Establishment of agency for access to basic services (Telecoms, NICTs, water and electricity)



MAURITANIA'S STRATEGY FOR ACCESS TO ICTs (continued)

- ✓ **Framework for dialogue: State - ISP - telecom operators and civil society**
 - Establishment of organization of Internet service providers
 - Establishment of NICT observatory
 - Institutionalization of permanent framework for dialogue between telecom operators, the State and Internet service providers
 - Regular surveys of service users



MAURITANIA'S STRATEGY FOR ACCESS TO ICTs (continued)

- ✓ **Framework for dialogue and partnership with development partners**
 - ITU (Centre for tradeswomen, telemedicine project)
 - UNDP (Cybercommunes of Kiffa and Kaédi)
 - GTZ (Cybercommune of Aioun)
 - World Bank (Lycées)



MAURITANIA'S STRATEGY FOR ACCESS TO ICTs (continued)

✓ Incentive measures

- Suppression of all import tax on computer equipment
- Simplification of ISP establishment procedures
- Incentives for opening cybercafes in the country's interior (50% reduction on dedicated lines; State pays for two people per cybercafe for a year)
- State training of cybercafe technicians



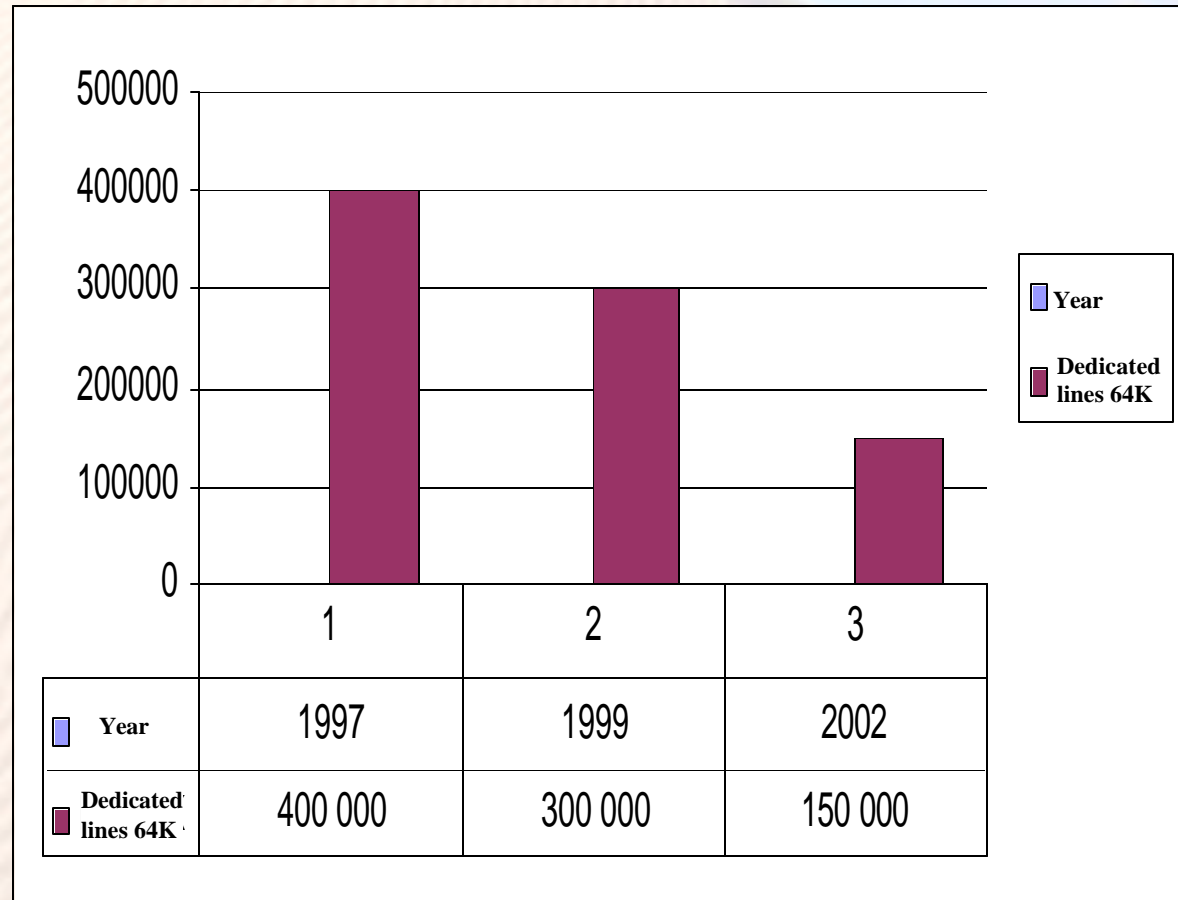
MAURITANIA'S STRATEGY FOR ACCESS TO ICTs (continued)

- ✓ **Implementation of community access projects**
 - Equipping and connection of lycée classrooms to Internet (2 lycées per town) for the benefit of teachers and pupils (14 lycées to date)
 - Equipping of rooms in the country's public hospitals and their connection to Internet (telemedicine project) for the benefit of doctors and nurses (18 hospitals to date)
 - Installation of rooms in town halls (5 town halls to date)
 - Installation of a community access centre for tradeswomen (with ITU support)



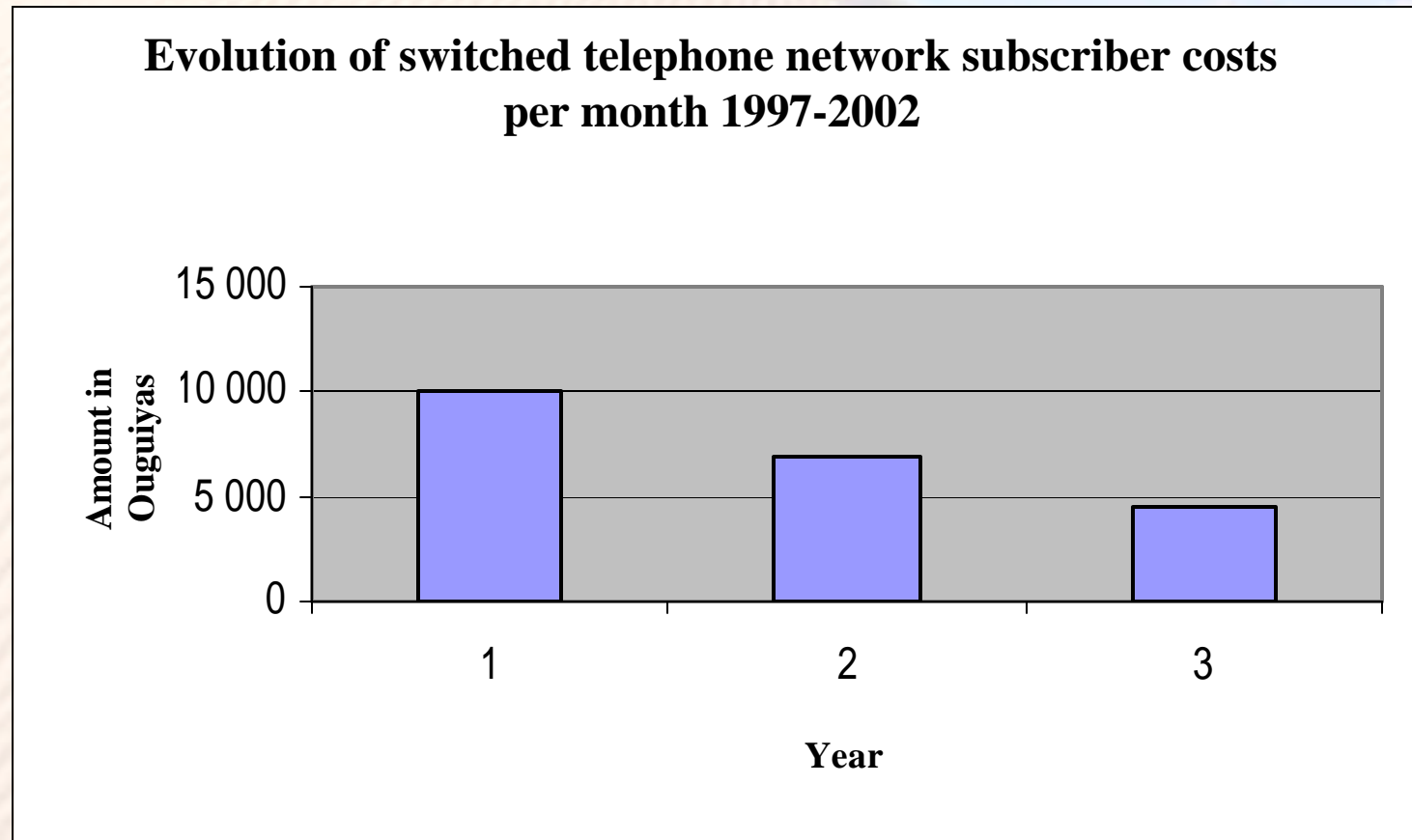
RESULTS ACHIEVED

✓ Reduced dedicated line costs



RESULTS ACHIEVED (continued)

- ✓ Reduced switched telephone network access costs



RESULTS ACHIEVED (continued)

✓ Evolution of main indicators 1997 - 2003

Cybercafes	3	65
Cybernauts	800	15 000
Websites hosted in Mauritania		300
Dedicated Internet lines in Nouakchott	4	101
Dedicated Internet lines in Nouadhibou	0	14
Dedicated lines for other towns	0	18
Internet cost per minute	16	5
Cost of 64K dedicated Internet lines	400 000	150 000
Internet bandwidth for international, in Mbps	0.064	10
Number of jobs created by cybercafes	10	370
Turnover of cybercafes in millions of Ouguiya	20	260



COLLECTION OF MAIN INDICATORS

✓ Contributors

- **Office National des Statistiques (ONS):** Data on population and localities
- **Internet access providers:** Customer data
- **Secretariat of State to the Prime Minister, Responsible for New Technologies(SETN):** Surveys, data consolidation and publication
- **Agence d'Accès Universel(AAU):** Data on community centres in rural areas



COLLECTION OF MAIN INDICATORS (continued)

✓ Data collection methodology

- Basic data (population per locality, population distribution) provided by ONS
- Data on community centres in rural areas provided by AAU
- Data on dedicated lines installed provided by the Internet access providers
- Regular surveys in the field carried out by SETN to confirm the data provided by the different players involved



COLLECTION OF MAIN INDICATORS (continued)

✓ Data collection methodology (continued)

- **Cybercafe:** Air-conditioned room with at least 20 computers with permanent 64 Kbps access minimum and a printer, open to the public six days a week for at least 14 hours a day.
- **Private room:** Room with at least 10 computers and permanent 64 Kbps access, open to a restricted public
- **ICT user:** Any individual using an Internet browser and e-mail software at least once a week



COLLECTION OF MAIN INDICATORS (continued)

✓ Data evaluation methodology (continued)

- **Locality:** Any grouping of the population with at least one water point (well or borehole)
- **Rural area:** Locality with population of less than 2 000 inhabitants and with no administrative body
- **Number of users per switched telephone network access:** 3
- **Number of users per private permanent dedicated line:** 20
- **Average number of users/community centre:** 100



FUTURE PROJECTS

- ✓ Establishment of community access centres by the Agence d'Accès Universel in the country's remote localities
- ✓ Installation of cybercommunes in all town halls of the country
- ✓ Creation of Internet access rooms for public sector employees



THANK YOU

