

Uganda's Experience on Building ICT indicators

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Outline of Presentation

- Overview
 - Facts of Uganda
 - Policy, Legal & Regulatory Framework
 - Institutional Arrangements
- ICT indicators & infrastructure
 - Categories and Indicators
 - Collection, computation editing and verification
 - Disseminations
- Challenges & Issues
- Present Activities
 - Policy Initiatives and Processes
- Way Forward

UGANDA - Some Facts

■ Population	27 million
■ Population growth rate	3.4%
■ Languages	80
■ English, Swahili, Luganda	
■ Land area	214,038 sq km
■ Population density	126 per sq km
■ Capital	Kampala
■ population	2,000,000
■ GDP growth rate	5.3%
■ GDP per capita	USD 200
■ Inflation rate	3.5%
■ Exchange rate	1750 Depreciation

Telecom Indicators

■ National Operators:	2 National (fixed & mobile)
■ Cellular Ops.:	3
■ ISP Ops.:	12
■ ISP with IDGs:	8
■ Fixed Subscribers:	66,000
■ Mobile customers:	1,100,000
■ Pop. penetration:	4.5%
■ Pop. Access:	55%
■ Total Bandwidth:	80Mbps
■ Number of PC:	120,000
■ Number of ISP sub:	8000

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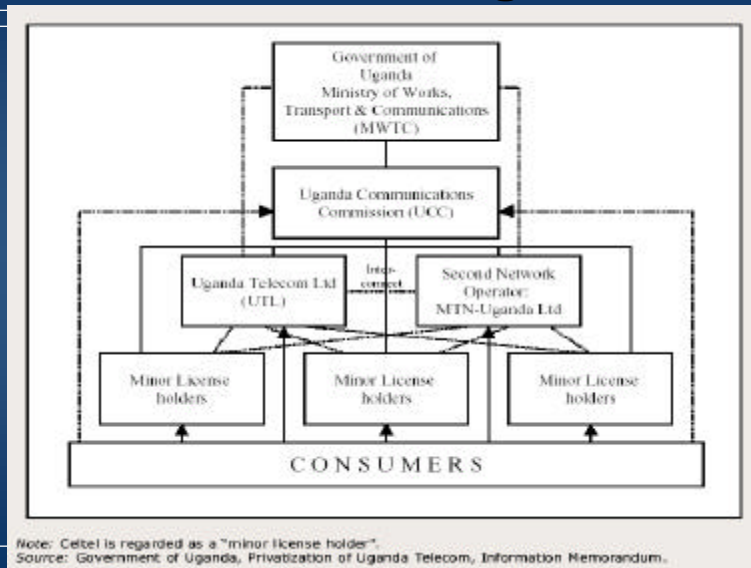
Policy, Legal & Regulatory Developments

- Prior 1996: Monopoly – high inefficiencies, low capacity,
- 1996: A Communications Policy announced
 - Enabling legal framework for communications development
 - Facilitation of private sector participation in overall national development;
 - Separation of roles; policy, regulation, operations
 - Introduce Competition thru multiple operator licensing
- 1997: A Uganda Communications Act Cap 106 was announced
- 1998: **Independent** Regulator Uganda Communications Commission established

Policy, Legal & Regulatory Developments

- **1998**: Unbundling of the Incumbent UPTC
 - Post Uganda Post, Uganda Telecom and Post Bank Uganda
- **1998**: Competition introduced
- **1998**: Licensed a Second National Operator
- **2001**: Sale of 51% of incumbent (UTL) to 'Strategic Investor'
- **2001**: Rural Communications policy established
- **2003**: Draft Postal Policy
- **2004**: ICT National Policy
- **2005**: Recommendations for a new Telecommunications policy

Institutional Arrangements



Uganda ICT policy

- Policy was adopted by Government of Uganda early 2004
- **Policy Statement:**
The Republic of Uganda recognises the important role information and ICTs play in national development. Government consequently and unreservedly commits itself to champion the development and use of ICT in Uganda.
- **The Vision**
*A Uganda where national development, especially **human development** and **good governance**, are sustainably enhanced, promoted and accelerated by efficient application and use of ICT, including timely access to information.*
- 14 broad strategies ranging from infrastructure development, the social economic aspects, affordability, awareness, accessibility, rural development, content development among others.
- Formulation process was holistic, involving government, academia, civil society, among others

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Uganda ICT policy Cont;

- Weakness in Uganda's ICT Policy
 - Lag in preparation and adoption of the policy. Initial process started in 2001, cabinet adopted policy in 2004- Lack of capacity and coordination
 - No clear implementation strategy within the policy. Funding, coordination body, etc lacking
 - Example 2 address convergence how??? Not mentioned.
 - No **TARGETS/ INDICATORS** within the policy. Blanket statement without clear targets.
- Holistic in the process formulation but holistic in implementation?????
- **IMPLEMENTATION !!!! IMPLEMENTATION!!!**

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Telecom Policy review Process

- Need to review telecommunication policy
 - First Policy adopted in 1996, nearly 10 years down
 - Need to review targets sets in the 1st policy
 - Address emerging issues such as convergence
 - Address the weakness within the policy. E.g. the 1996 was not holistic, specific to telecom and not addressing other sectoral needs
 - End of the limited competition July 2005
- Process 1st Internal, the involved key stakeholders at second level and finally public meeting.
- Defining the Policy: Uganda Vision 2025, PEAP and PMA, MDGs, WSIS, WTO, Regional and international policies, comm. related sectoral policies such as broadcasting, postal etc, other sector ICT policies and initiatives e.g. Health, education, agriculture, government, business and trade among others.
- Key features inc. Technology neutral, encourages new services such as VoIP, rural access as a key, infrastructure deployment through PPP, addressing affordability thr. Lowering of tariffs,.. etc

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TARGETS/ Indicators for the proposed policy

Part 1: Targets to support the universal access objectives aimed at enabling the human development plans of various government service delivery sectors by 2010.

1. **Institutional Data Access Points** of speeds not less than **256kb/s**: For all universal primary education schools and post primary institutions; all Educational Institutions; Government health units at LC111; Population Centres in units of 1,000 people; Agricultural extension units and other public institutions as may be subsequently
2. **Public Data Access Points** of speed not less than 256kb/s within each sub county (LC111) of the Administrative districts of Uganda (2004)
3. **Public Voice Access Points** within each Local Council second Level (LC111)/parish of the administrative districts of Uganda (2004)
4. **Interconnection of all higher local governments capitals** by gigabit optical fibre as part of the National Data Backbone

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TARGETS/ Indicators for the proposed policy Cont.

Part 2: Targets to that address sectors of the population that can afford services. These will be achieved largely through market liberalisation, fair competition, and regulation that assures fair pricing.

1. A universal service (tele-density) target of 20% of the projected population, up from the current 4.2%.
2. Internet connection of not less than 256kbps to at least 10% of households in the country up from the current figure that is less than 1%. (Dependent on electricity penetration)

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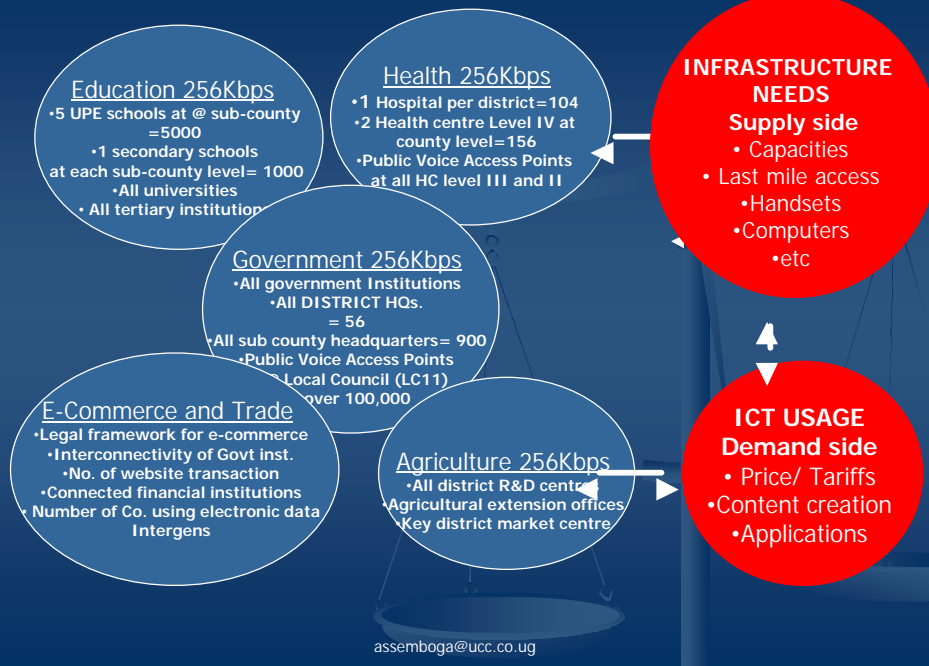
TARGETS/ Indicators for the proposed policy Cont.

Part 3: Increase public and private Participation through licensing and incentive regulation.

1. *Simplify licensing procedure by estb. 2 broad categories, Infrastructure and service*
2. *Fully competition for service licenses category*
3. *Issue at least 1 more national operator license within 18 months after duopoly*
4. *Issue 1 license for National backbone infrastructure by 2007*
5. *Price regulation based on market size and degree of competition.*
6. *Roll out obligation, service quality obligations, etc*

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TARGETS/ Indicators for short-term 2007



Data Collection, Processing and Dissemination within Uganda Communication Commission.

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Data Collection

- Collection
 - Quarterly report
 - Annual compliance reports
 - Financial Reports
 - reports
 - Ad-hoc
- Survey
 - Internet usage, cafés, NGO's offices
- Consultancies and Research bodies

Data Processing and storage

- No specific software for data entry
 - Excel and Access
- No specific software for Processing
 - Excel, Access, SPSS, Eviews, STRATA etc
- Tentative Data bank in Excel and Access
- Data Bank on Main server (Restricted access)
- IMIS System in place

Data dissemination

- Over the net www.ucc.co.ug
- Regular publications Annual, quarterly etc
- Networking with member countries
- Networking with international organizations, ITU, COMESA,
- Data source for researcher
- Note: All data disseminated is aggregated unless specified

Challenges

- Specific to UCC is inadequate human resources, funding.
- Collection, unwillingness for operators to disclose some data
- **Irregular** Reporting by operators
- **Verification**: No systematic mechanism in place to verify data submitted – costly
- **Research and Development-Measuring the Micro and Macro impact of the collected indicator/ data.**
- Internally no data processing software in place
- **DISSEMINATION**: Not regular
- **DEFINITION**: Need to revise some definitions for indicators

Challenges Continued

- Not Specific to UCC
 - The delayed in the implementation of the national ICT policy e.g. No ICT secretariat to coordinate activities and ICT data collection

WAY FORWARD Indicators

- Need to create an ICT secretariat to coordinate ICT activities
- Redefine elements of indicators to include ICT application indicators
- Redefined modalities of data collection and **data dissemination**
- Impose strict obligations to ensure commitment from operators to supply data regularly
- Create a specific software for collection analysis, etc uniform to countries
- **NEED FOR ACCURATE AND TIMELY INDICATORS**

Thank you

