

A “Nigerian” Service Provider’s Response to COVID-19

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 MainOne

COVID-19 Emergency

Direct Impact

- Lockdowns
- Redirection of traffic - Origination shifts from offices and business districts to homes
- Increase in data traffic volumes – Movement of business and social interactions online
- Erosion of mobility and income translating to erosion of voice traffic
- Increased adoption of Cloud services

Policy Responses

- Formal Emergency Planning Framework includes Road maintenance but does not include Telecoms
- Ease of movement and Right of Passage still needed to be negotiated and secured
- Safety of staff and facilities largely burden of private sector employers e.g. transportation, healthcare for employees
- Policy frameworks emerging for Critical National Infrastructure, but implementation still lagging



Network Changes:

Core Network

- Core has been easy to upgrade – 50% capacity increases within 3 months, will grow 100% in 6 months
- Critical to relieving bottlenecks has been the enablement of local/regional service providers – private NNIs, access to IX's and facilitation of private peering arrangements etc
- Engagement of global content on peering arrangements and optimization of traffic to local markets
- Improvements tied to existing service locations

Last Mile Network

- Difficult to implement capacity increases to end users due to infrastructure limitations
 - Fiber permits becoming easier and less expensive to secure
 - Still not easy or quick to achieve: Planning, Economics, Spectrum, Permits, Deployment & Coordination
- Service penetration and access remain key issues and COVID-19 has only heightened the need
- Challenge in emerging markets and bottlenecks remain in last mile infrastructure
- There is an urgency in expanding broadband access in emerging economies not just for business and leisure but the delivery of critical government and social services





Thank you



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