



Regional Development Forum 2008
“Bridging the Standardization Gap in Developing Countries”
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**ITU-D activities
to help ICT development
in the Americas Region**

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The ITU-D and the ICTs

Mission of the Telecommunication Development Sector (ITU-D):

- Assist countries in the field of ICTs in facilitating the mobilization of technical, human and financial resources needed for their implementation, as well as in promoting access to ICTs.
- Promote the extension of the benefits of ICTs to all the world's inhabitants.
- Promote and participate in actions that contribute towards narrowing the digital divide.
- Develop and manage programmes that facilitate information flow geared to the needs of developing countries.

Doha Action Plan - Programmes

- 1) Regulatory reform
- 2) Information and communication infrastructure and technology development
- 3) E-strategies and ICT applications
- 4) Economics and finance, including costs and tariffs
- 5) Human capacity building
- 6) Least developed countries and small island developing states, and emergency telecommunications.

Doha Action Plan

ACTIVITIES

- Statistics and information on telecommunication – ICT
- Partnership and promotion

SPECIAL INITIATIVES:

- Private Sector
- Gender
- Youth and Children
- Indigenous People and communities
- People with disabilities
- Communities living in underserved areas

ICT application

- e-government
- e-learning
- e-health
- e-environment
- e-commerce

WTDC-06

WTDC-06: reaffirmed two cross-cutting activities that are considered critical to sustaining ICT development:

ICT Statistics, indicators and information
&
Partnership Promotion

ICT Statistics and Indicators



World Telecommunication-ICT Indicators: recognized as the main source of global, and internationally comparable, ICT-telecommunication statistics.

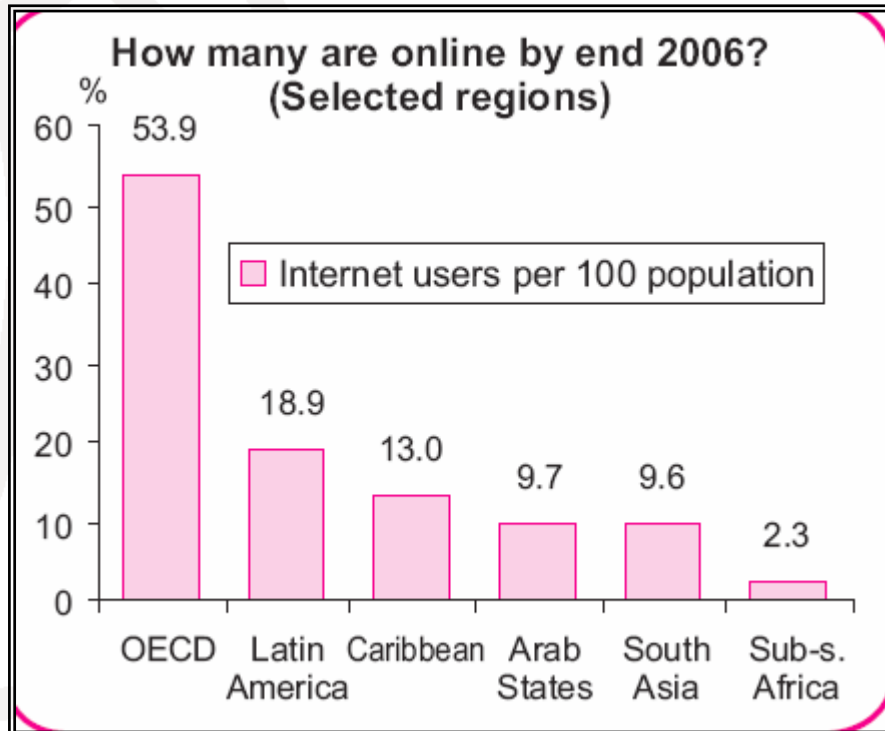
What kind of data ITU collects...

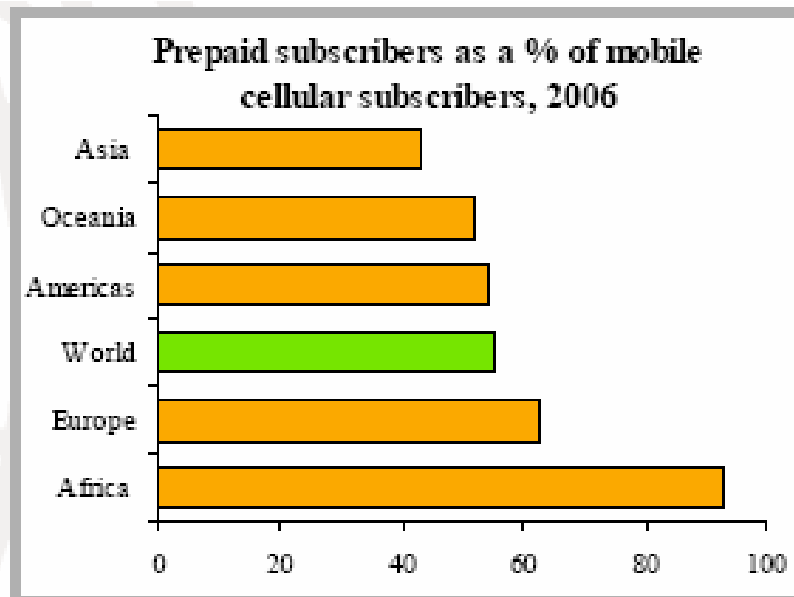
- Mobile fixed telephone networks
- Internet subscribers and users
 - Telephone and data traffic
 - Tariffs
- ICTs households

ICT relevant indicators

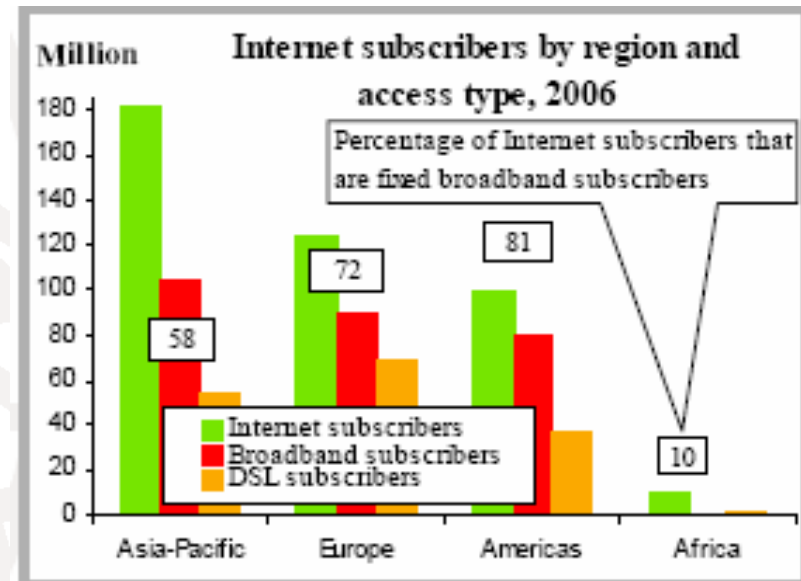
By the end of 2007, the world had over than 3.1 billion mobile subscribers, compared to 1.3 billion fixed telephone lines. In a number of countries, mobile penetration has exceeded 100%.

On average, 1 out of 5 people in Latin America use the Internet.

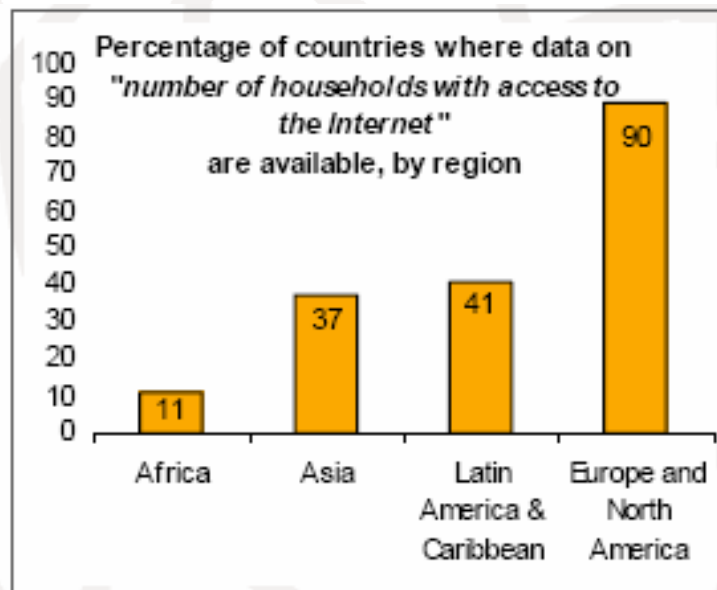




Source: ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database



Source: ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database



Growth and development in telecommunications and ICT have led not only higher access levels and growing revenues in the sector itself.

Where the indicators can be found?



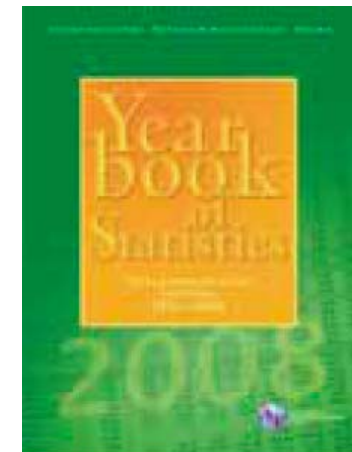
The ICT “eye” website is a one stop-shop for ICT information and provides telecommunication/ICT indicators and statistics, regulatory and policy profiles, national tariff policies and scientific institutions, and much more...



Mesuring the Information Society



World Telecommunication – ICT Development Report



The Yearbooh Of Statistics

ITU FORUM: Brasilia, 2008

www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/

Partnership promotion

Through partnership, ITU aims at extending the benefits of **ICTs to all of the world's inhabitants** and "connect the unconnected".



Connect Americas Summit - Main Objectives

- Seal commitments aimed at realizing the WSIS connectivity goals and in turn, support the achievement of the UN Millennium Development Goals for 2015;
- Mobilize the human, financial and technical resources required to bridge the existing gaps in ICT infrastructure;
- Provide a unique platform for executive-level networking and partnership-building, as well as announcing new initiatives for the Americas Region.
- Promote the development of telecommunication and ICT Infrastructure by showcasing and sharing information

Regional Initiatives

The issue “Regional Initiatives” was proposed by the BDT in order to assist Member States to implement activities focused on the priorities identified and established by the region themselves.

In the Americas Region, they have been identified during the ITU-D Regional Preparatory Meeting (RPM) for the World Telecommunications Conference (WTDC-06), held in Lima, Peru in August 2005 and later approved by the WTDC-06.

Regional Initiatives

- 1) Connectivity in rural areas, marginal urban areas and isolated areas in the Americas region
- 2) Interconnection of information networks for disaster prevention
- 3) Support to administrations in the design and implementation of policies and programmes for large-scale development of broadband access, with a view to meeting national universal service objectives
- 4) Establishment of a Caribbean Task Force on spectrum management
- 5) Caribbean Centre of Excellence Project

Initiative 1

Connectivity in rural areas, marginal urban areas
and isolated areas in the Americas Region

Objectives:

- To develop a manual on initiatives, policies, strategies, standards, projects and best practices as applied to rural areas, marginal rural areas and isolated areas;
- To share experiences in regard to best practices and development indicators among the Administrations of Member Countries with a view to improving policies, strategies and standards implemented in each country.
- To increase society's awareness of the need to support the inclusion of groups that are marginalized or excluded from the Information and Knowledge Society;
- To contribute to the human development of marginalized or excluded groups through the use of ICTs.

Initiative 2

Interconnection of information networks
for disaster prevention

Objectives:

- To facilitate rapid recovery of public systems and services through mechanisms which include: identification of critical resources and points of interconnection of regional and sub regional ICT networks;
- Identification of administrative frameworks to manage the sovereignty of such resources and points of interconnection where national borders are bridged;
- Development of relevant, redundant information databases;
- Coordination of governmental and NGO rescue and response agencies to manage regional and sub regional response;
- Identification of regulatory implications for sovereign States and development of a proposed framework for collaboration and harmonization with regard to disaster preparedness and response.

Initiative 3

Support to Administrations in the design and implementation of policies and programmes for large-scale development of broadband access, with a view to meeting national universal services objectives

Objectives:

- To support national Administrations in the design and implementation of policies and programmes to support broadband access and use on a large scale, as a way to help meet national universal service objectives.
- The initiative recognizes that, to meet these objectives, telecommunication infrastructure must be expanded and modernized, and hence policies are needed that will promote investment by telecommunication companies.
- The initiative recognizes that capacity building in broadband technologies is required within telecommunication authorities at the national level, including in regard to political, economic, technical and regulatory issues, and that coordination is needed between ITU-D, ITU-R and ITU-T Study Groups, as well as with regional telecommunication organizations.

Initiative 4

Establishment of a Caribbean Task Force
on spectrum management

Objectives:

- To develop regional expertise and strengthen institutional mechanisms for spectrum management in the Caribbean.
- Other objectives include the coordination of appropriate harmonized policies and best practices, the establishment of a database of regional spectrum allocations, the provision of technology updates and guidance to regional stakeholders and assistance in the mitigation and resolution of interference problems.

Initiative 5

Caribbean Nodes for Centre of Excellence

Objectives:

To provide a virtual web-based facility which is dedicated to providing training, technical assistance, expert advice and information on all aspects of the development of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and to facilitate sharing of experiences, collaboration and consensus-building on regional issues in the Caribbean.

Partnership ITU-Private Sector in the AMS Region

The ITU has recently signed an agreement (in the framework of the Regional Initiative: connectivity in rural, isolated and marginal urban areas) with **NEC Argentina** for the development of an integration network and Health management for communities of Bolivia, Paraguay and some locations in Argentina.

Initiative Internet Training Centers: creation of Internet training centers to provide Internet and training programs on ICTs for final and advanced users of the Developed and Developing Countries. Through the *train-the-trainer* strategie, the ITU/BDT and its partners provide relevant training with acessible cost by using presencial workshops and training methods on distancy. Nowadays, there are 78 Training Centers (12 in association with the **European Commission** and 66 with **Cisco**).

Centres of Excellence for the Americas Region

What is the Centre of Excellence?

The Worldwide Centre of Excellence Network consists of regional mechanisms aimed at strengthening the capacity within each region in order to develop high-level know-how and expertise in telecommunication policy, regulatory issues, corporate management and advanced telecommunication technology.

Centre of Excellence for Spanish Speaking Countries:

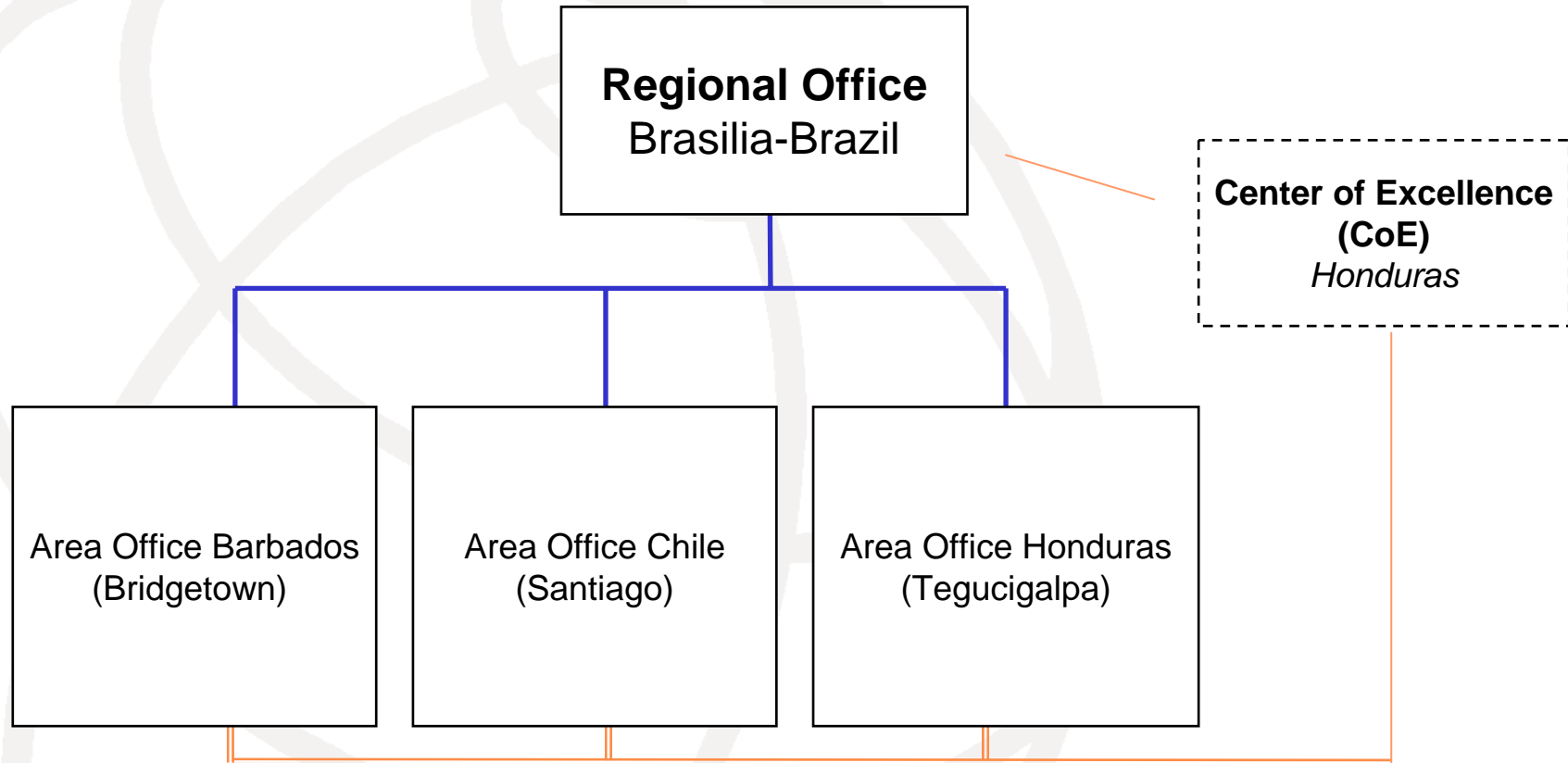
The network will be streamlined in order to optimize its synergy in providing a variety of training programmes, advanced on-line solutions, face-to-face seminars and other multi-node courses. Training programmes and courses will continue to be developed in the areas of telecommunication policy, regulation, management and new technologies and services with the final aim to setting up a sound and self-sustainable capacity building environment in the Americas Region.

The Caribbean Region: a network of nodes that consist of potential content providers (universities, technological institutions and training centres, among others) as well as service and technology providers that will offer advanced on-line solutions combined with face-to-face seminars.

Some important activities carried out in the AMS Region on the **Bridging the Digital Divide** and the **Connectivity Agenda for the Americas** (Quito Action Plan)

- ✓ Assessment of ICTs in LAC
- ✓ Support to the implementation of the Americas Centre of Excellence (LA)
- ✓ Telecommunication Market: Economical aspects (LAC)
- ✓ Telecommunications Network Infrastructure (LA)
- ✓ Identification of national and sub regional policies and regulation and country level requirements for ICTs applications (Central America)
- ✓ Evaluation of Access Infrastructure (Central America)
- ✓ Guide for harmonized regulation in Central America
- ✓ Frequency Harmonization for using new services (CA)
- ✓ Diagnostic of the Americas Region on telecommunications policies, strategies and regulatory issues and ICTs development and its applications in Education, Health and catastrophes in rural, isolated and urban marginal areas, including a particular focus on the indigenous communities of the Latin American Region

The Americas Regional Office





THANK YOU!

ITU FORUM: Brasilia, 2008