# ICT Facts & Figures



# The world in **2015**

"This year governments are making their final assessment of the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which global leaders agreed upon in the year 2000. Over the past 15 years the ICT revolution has driven global development in an unprecedented way. Technological progress, infrastructure deployment, and falling prices have brought unexpected growth in ICT access and connectivity to billions of people around the world. In 2015 there are more than 7 billion mobile cellular subscriptions worldwide, up from less than 1 billion in 2000. Globally 3.2 billion people are using the Internet of which 2 billion are from developing countries. ICTs will play an even more significant role in the post 2015 development agenda and in achieving future sustainable development goals as the world moves faster and faster towards a digital society. Our mission is to connect everyone and to create a truly inclusive information society, for which we need comparable and high-quality data and statistics to measure progress."

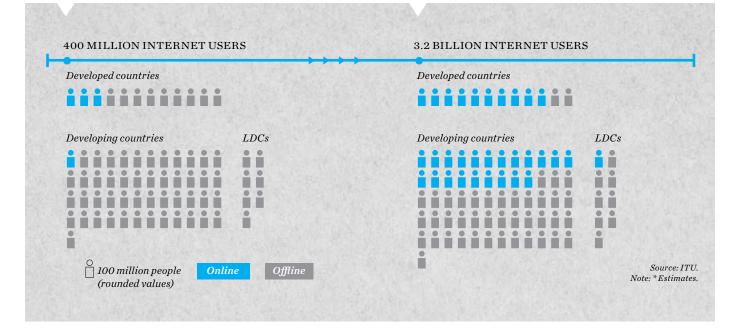


Brahima Sanou, Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau

## MDGs 2000-2015: ICT revolution and remaining gaps

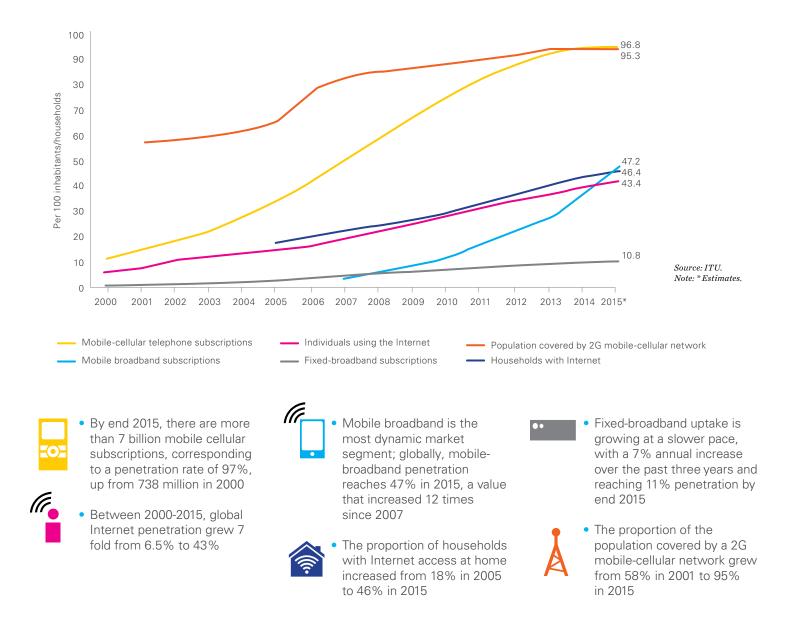
#### 2000

#### **2015**\*

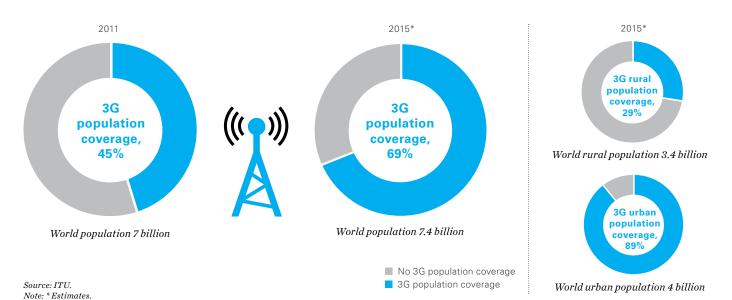


- Globally 3.2 billion people are using the Internet by end 2015, of which 2 billion are from developing countries
- For every Internet user in the developed world there are 2 in the developing world
- However, 4 billion people from developing countries remain offline, representing 2/3 of the population residing in developing countries
- Of the 940 million people living in the least developed countries (LDCs), only 89 million use the Internet, corresponding to a 9.5% penetration rate

### 15 years of ICT growth: what has been achieved?

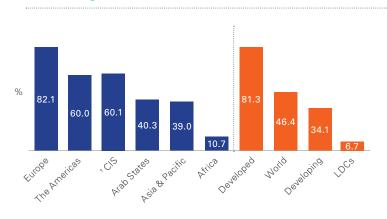


#### **3G** mobile-broadband coverage is extending rapidly and into the rural areas



## The digital divide in 2015\*

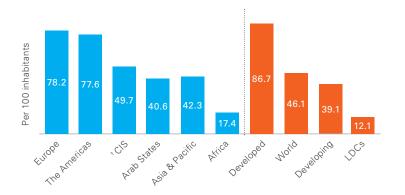
Percentage of households with Internet access



Percentage of individuals using the Internet



**Mobile broadband subscriptions** 



- By end 2015, 34% of households in developing countries have Internet access, compared with more than 80% in developed countries
- In least developed countries (LDCs), only 7% of households have Internet access, compared with the world average of 46%
- Internet penetration in developing countries stands at 35%; LDCs lag behind with only 10%



- In Africa, one in 5 people use the Internet today, compared to almost 2 in 5 people in Asia & Pacific, and 3 in 5 people in the CIS
- Mobile-broadband penetration levels are highest in Europe and the Americas, at around 78 active subscriptions per 100 inhabitants
- Africa is the only region where mobile broadband penetration remains below 20%



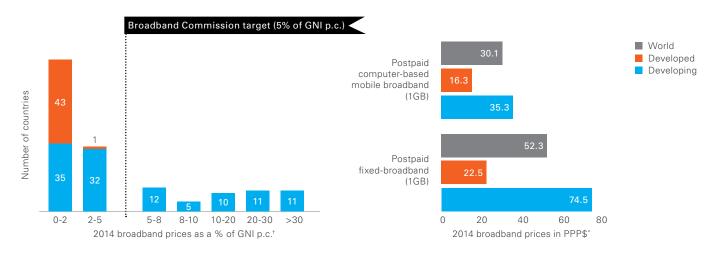
- Berger 100 13.6 3.7 8.9 0.5 29.0 10.8 7.1 0.5 Europe Anericos CCS 5100 Asia Province Asia Area Dove Anorio Developing LOCS
- Fixed-broadband penetration remains at less than 1% in LDCs
- Africa and the Arab States stand out as the regions with the fewest fixed-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, at less than 1 and less than 4, respectively



Source: ITU. Note: \* Estimates. † CIS Commonwealth of Independent States.

#### **Fixed-broadband subscriptions**

## Broadband now affordable in 111 countries with mobile-broadband less expensive than fixed-broadband plans



- In 2014, in 111 countries the price of a basic (fixed or mobile) broadband plan corresponds to less than 5% of average GNI per capita, thus meeting the Broadband Commission target
- The global average price of a basic fixedbroadband plan (52 PPP\$) is 1.7 times higher than the average price of a comparable mobile-broadband plan (30 PPP\$)
- In developing countries, average monthly fixedbroadband prices (in PPP\$) are 3 times higher than in developed countries; mobilebroadband prices are twice as expensive as in developed countries
- Source: ITU. Note: <sup>†</sup> Either fixed broadband or mobile broadband. \*Based on simple averages including data for 160 economies.

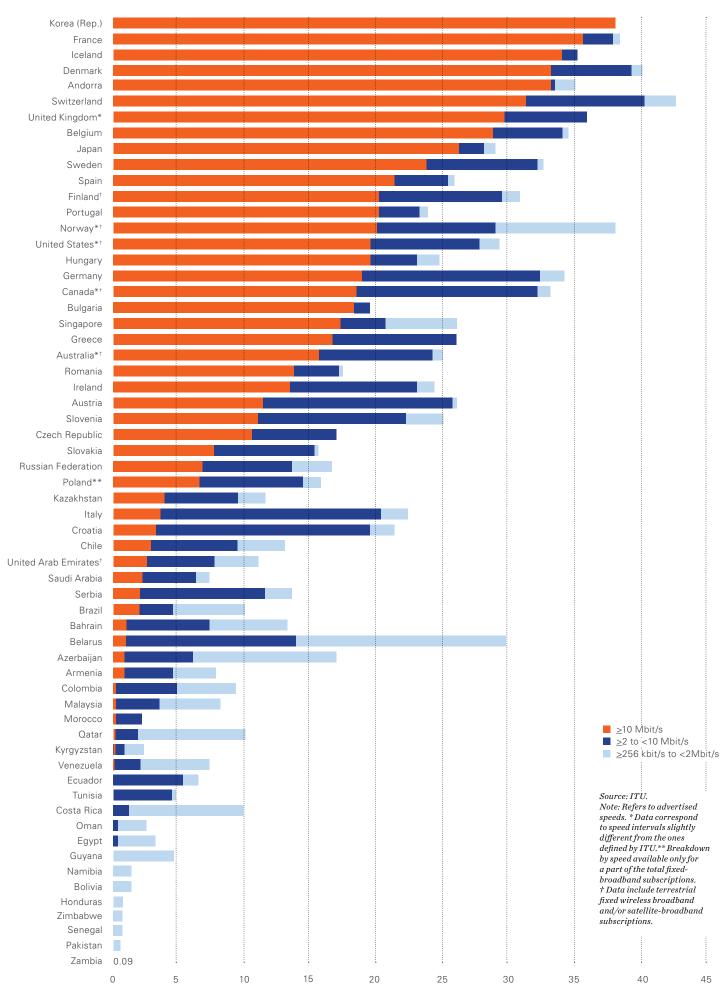
## *Fixed broadband subscriptions: developing countries lag behind as prices stagnate*



• Fixed-broadband uptake remains slow in developing countries and particularly in LDCs, where penetration rates are now at 7% and less than 1%, respectively. • While the prices of fixedbroadband plans dropped sharply between 2008 and 2011, especially in developing countries, they have been stagnating since then and even increased slightly in LDCs

Source: ITU. Note: \* Estimates. †Simple averages.

## Differences in broadband speed persist



Fixed-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, by speed, early 2014 (selected countries)

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

13th World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium (WTIS), Hiroshima, Japan, 30 November to 2 December 2015, http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/events/wtis2015/registration.aspx

Measuring the Information Society Report 2014, http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/publications/mis2014.aspx

Manual for Measuring ICT Access and Use by Households and Individuals 2014, http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/publications/manual2014.aspx

Final WSIS Targets Review: Achievements, Challenges and the Way Forward, http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/publications/wsistargets2014.aspx

 $Yearbook \ of \ Statistics \ 2014, \ http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/publications/yb2014.aspx$ 

Handbook for the Collection of Administrative Data on Telecommunications/ICT 2011, http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/publications/handbook.aspx

#### ICT Data and Statistics Division

Telecommunication Development Bureau International Telecommunication Union Place des Nations 1211 Geneva 20 - Switzerland indicators@itu.int www.itu.int/ict

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