



# Bridge the Digital Divide

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# What is Broadband?





In many developing countries, *mobile* is the first and/or only access to Internet and broadband



# What are the Barriers to IMT Access?



## INFRASTRUCTURE

Lack of mobile internet coverage or network access

Lack of adjacent infrastructure (e.g. grid electricity)



## USER CAPABILITY

Lack of digital literacy

Lack of language literacy



## LOW INCOMES AND AFFORDABILITY

Low income or consumer purchasing power

Total cost of ownership for device

Cost of data plan

Consumer taxes and fees



## INCENTIVES

Lack of awareness of internet or relevant use cases

Lack of relevant content and services (e.g., local, localised)

Lack of cultural or social acceptance

Source: Digital Inclusion report, GSMA, 2014

## What can Help?



Infrastructure  
sharing



Timely release  
of low frequency  
spectrum



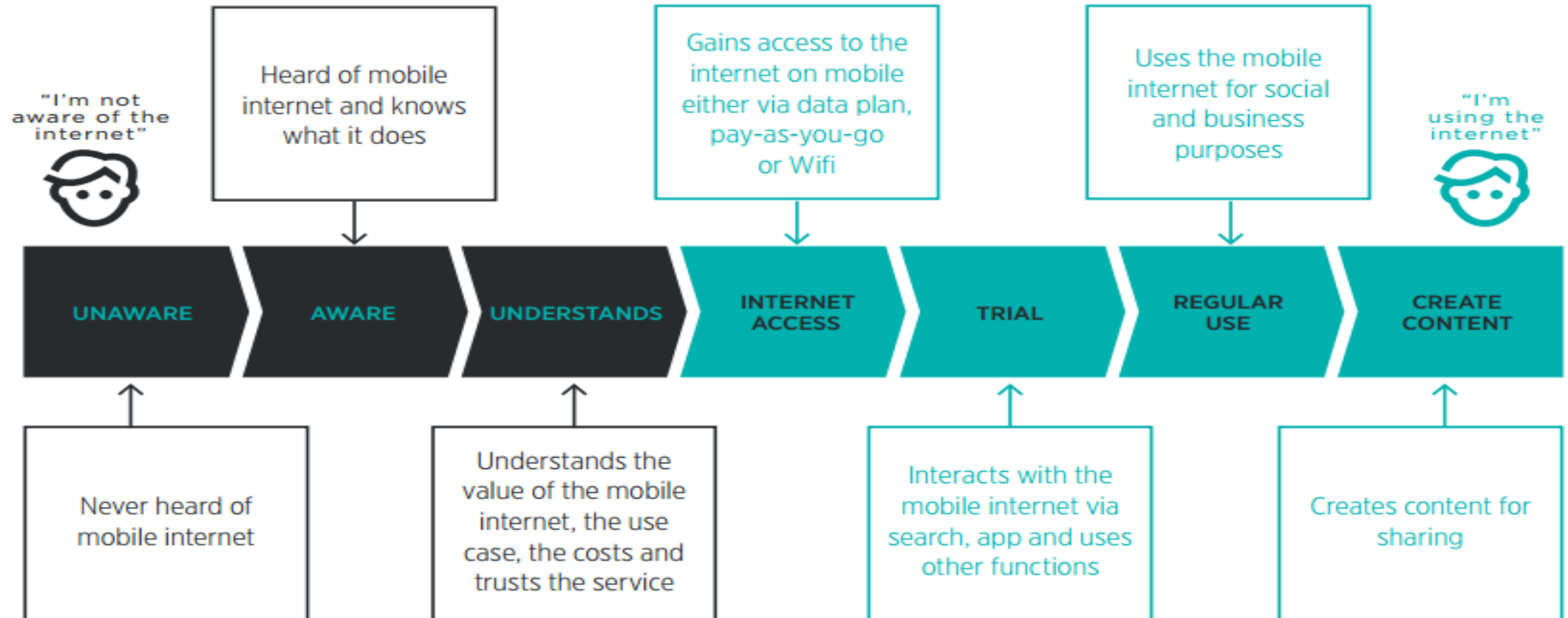
Public subsidies  
for networks



Use of  
renewable energy

Source: Digital Inclusion report, GSMA, 2014

# Improving Awareness



Source: Digital Inclusion report, GSMA, 2014



# Bridge the Digital Divide

- ✓ Provide incentive to infrastructure rollout on the supply side
- ✓ Release as much sub – 1GHz band as possible, e.g. 600 MHz
- ✓ Raise the awareness amongst the citizens to increase demand
- ✓ Support the global harmonisation to get affordable equipment and devices





**Thank You**

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