

# GLOBAL CONNECT INITIATIVE

1.5 BILLION MORE ONLINE BY 2020

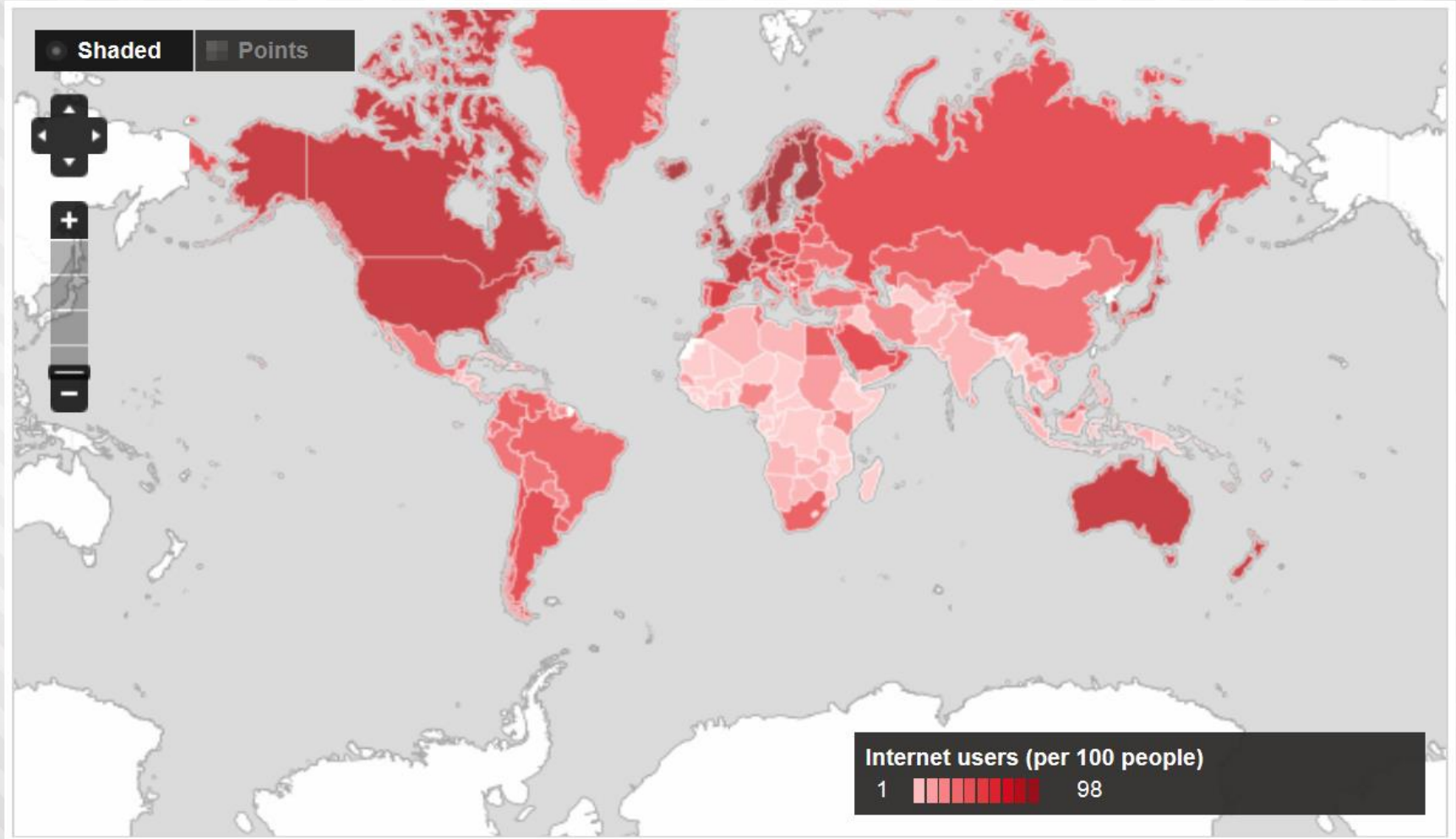
An initiative to help bring an additional  
1.5 billion people online by 2020;  
supporting achievement of the SDG goals.

<https://share.america.gov/globalconnect>



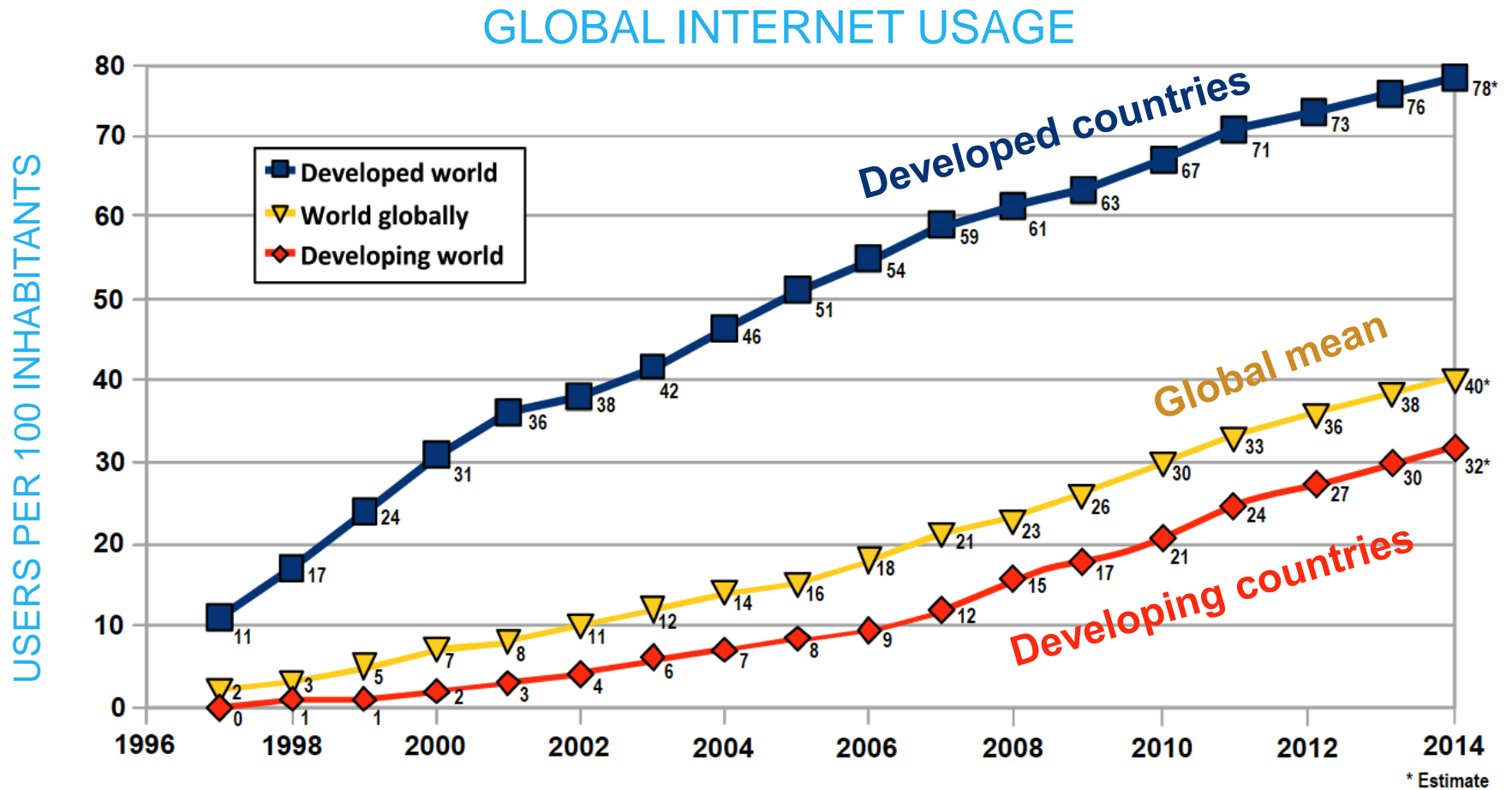
# The Challenge of Internet Access:

The majority of Internet usage is in developed countries



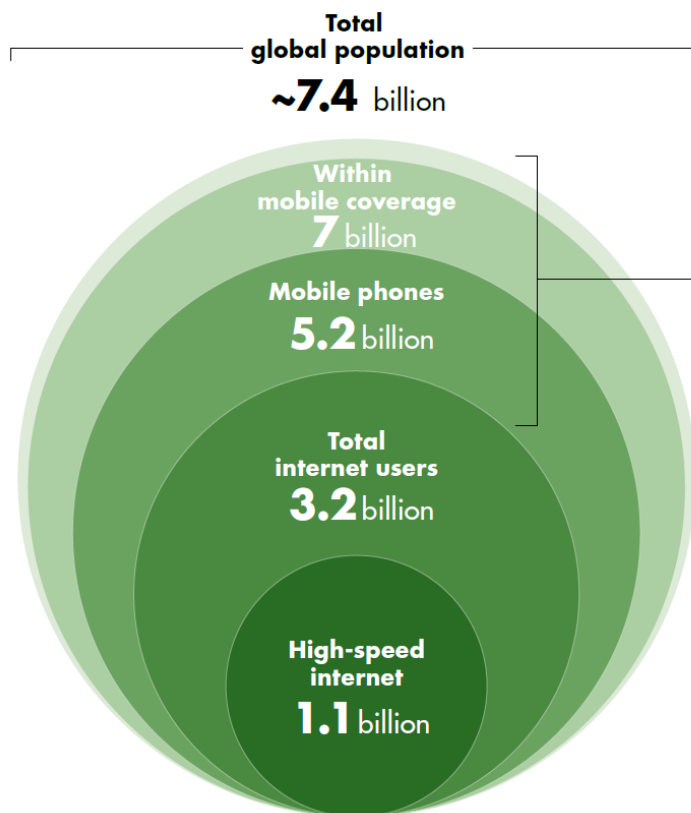
Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators: 2011-2014

# Despite Growth, the Digital Divide Persists

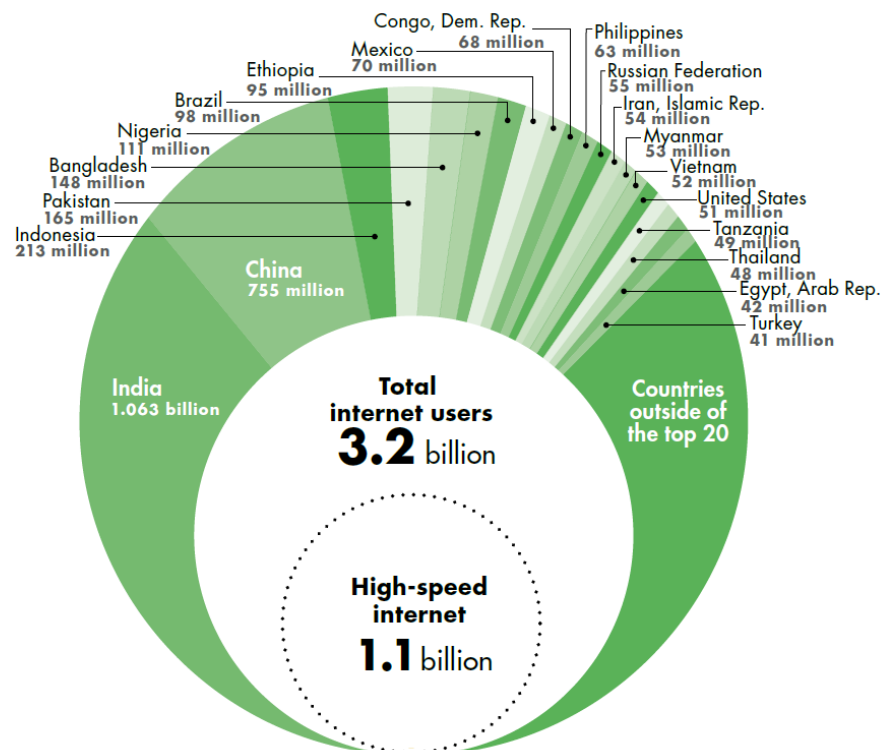


# Nearly 60% of World's People Are Offline

a. ICT access by population



b. A closer look at the world's offline population



Note: High-speed internet (broadband) includes the total number of fixed-line broadband subscriptions (such as DSL, cable modems, fiber optics), and the total number of 4G/LTE mobile subscriptions, minus a correcting factor to allow for those who have both types of access. 4G = fourth generation; DSL = digital subscriber line; ICT = information and communication technology; LTE = Long Term Evolution.



Sources: World Bank 2015; Meeker 2015; ITU 2015; GSMA, <https://gsmaintelligence.com/>; UN Population Division 2014. Data at [http://bit.do/WDR2016-FigO\\_5](http://bit.do/WDR2016-FigO_5). (as cited in WDR 2016 Digital Dividends 2016, WB)



# The Opportunity: A New Economic Frontier

- The Internet economy already accounts for 6 percent of GDP in developed economies.
- Growing by 15-25 percent in developing economies.
- Developing economies experience 1.4 percent increase in GDP for every 10 percent increase in connectivity.



# Economic and Social Impact of Improved Internet Access in the Developing World

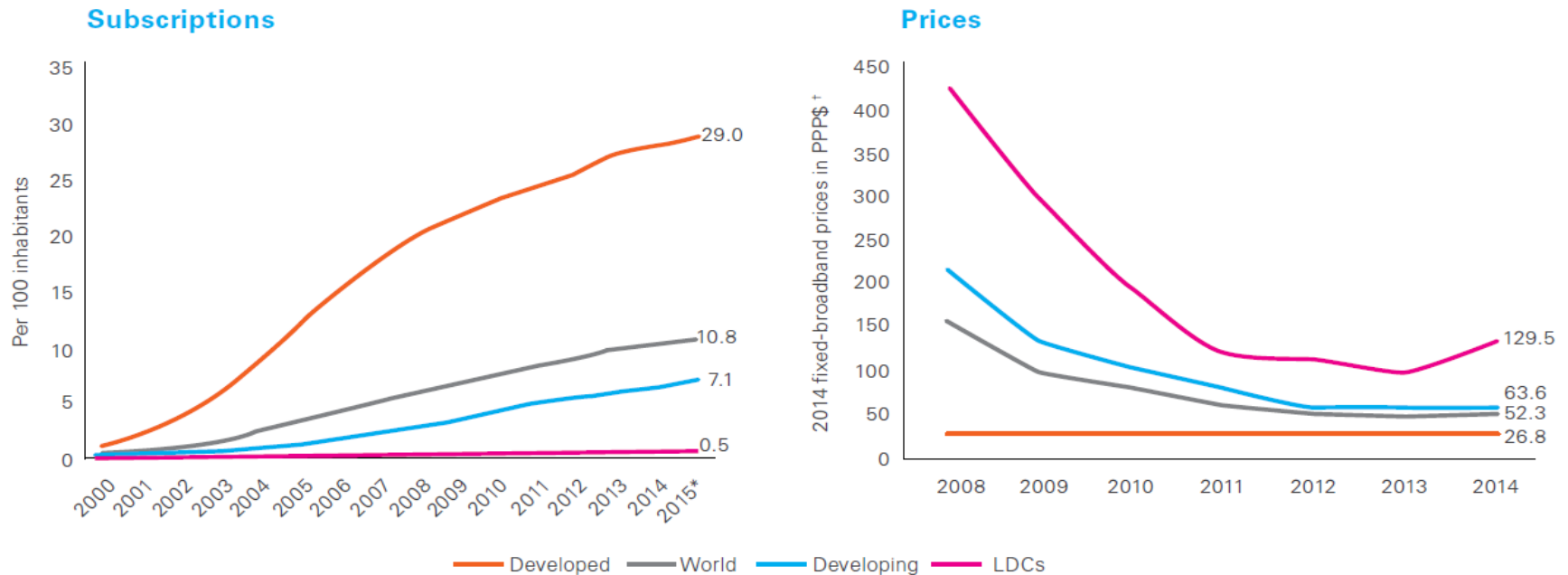
Productivity Gains	+25%
Total GDP Improvement	\$2.2 Trillion
GDP Growth Gain	+72%
New Jobs	140 Million Jobs
Personal Income Gains	\$600 Per Person Each Year
Number Lifted Out of Extreme Poverty	160 Million People
Lives Saved Through Improved Health Care	2.5 Million Lives



Source: Deloitte, Value of connectivity: Economic and social benefits of expanding internet access, February, 2014.  
(as cited in Center for Technology Innovation at Brookings, February 2015, table 9)

# Developing Countries Lag Behind As Prices Stagnate

## Fixed Broadband Subscriptions



- 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 fixed-broadband 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.

# Where Are We Seeing Progress?

## Snapshot of the 2015-2016 Affordability Drivers Index (ADI) Rankings

Top 5: Overall ADI Rankings	Top 5: Least Developed Countries
Colombia (1)	Rwanda (11)
Costa Rica (2)	Uganda (16)
Malaysia (3)	The Gambia (20)
Turkey (4)	Myanmar (27)
Peru (5)	Tanzania (30)

Source: Alliance for Affordable Internet (A4AI)  
Affordability Report 2015  
[http://a4ai.org/affordability-report/data/?\\_year=2015&indicator=INDEX](http://a4ai.org/affordability-report/data/?_year=2015&indicator=INDEX)





# Key Objectives of the Global Connect Initiative

- Mainstream the view that Internet connectivity is as fundamental to economic development as roads, ports, electricity
- All countries integrate Internet connectivity and digital technologies as a key part of national development strategies
- International development institutions prioritize Internet for development
- Catalyze and support innovative industry-driven solutions
- Countries and other stakeholders build policy environments that encourage investment in broadband infrastructure and innovative technical solutions for expanding connectivity



# Connectivity Principles

Internet connectivity as an integral part of all national development strategies

Accelerate efforts towards universal connectivity

Innovative industry-driven solutions to extend connectivity to remote areas

Foster digital literacy; enable and promote the development of locally relevant content, applications, and services

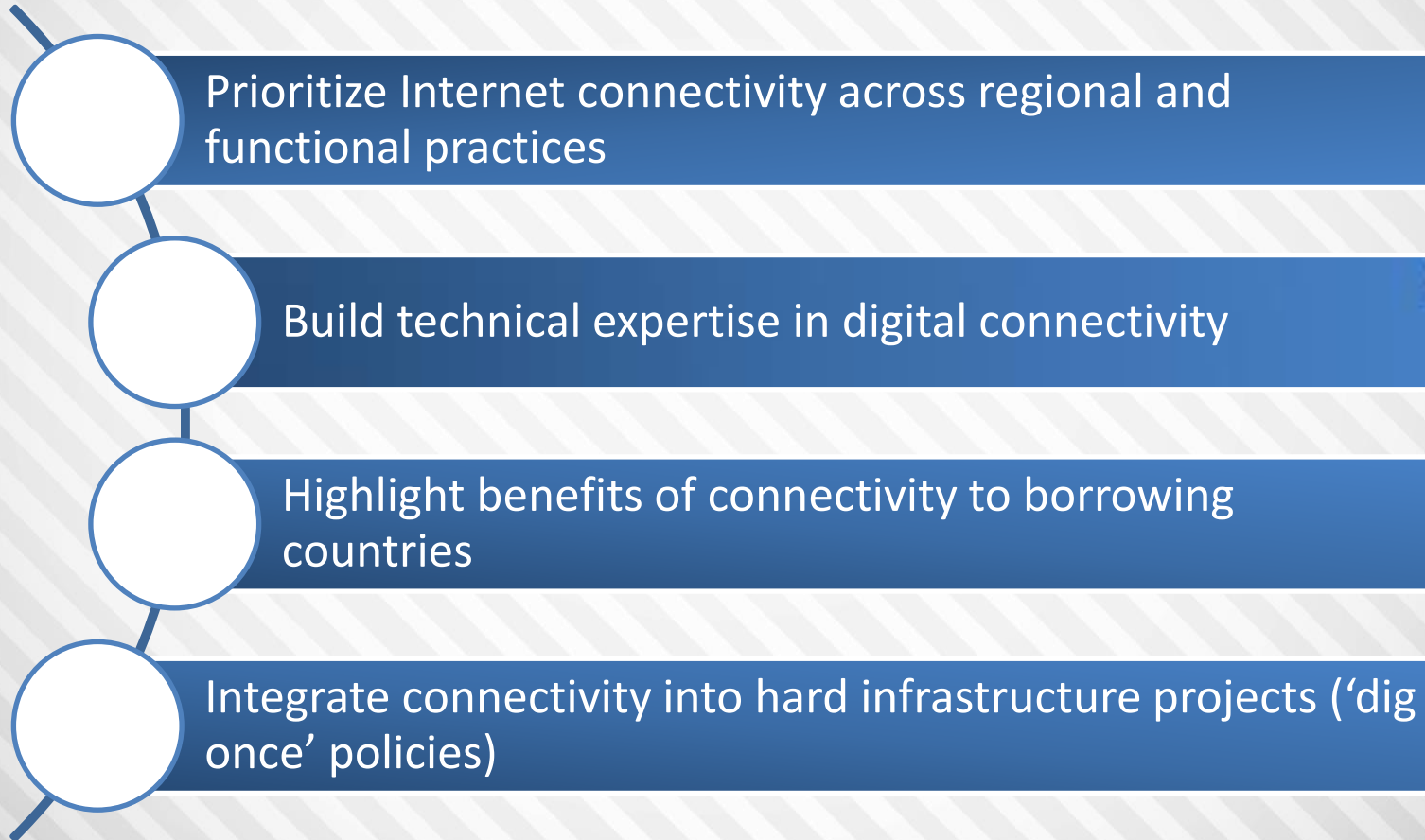
Encourage public access, as for example in public libraries and community centers

Enabling environments to spur connectivity, entrepreneurship, cross-border information flows, and open and competitive marketplaces

Make Internet connectivity more available, accessible, and affordable around the world, to help achieve the SDGs.



# Key Objectives for International Financial Institutions



# Timeline of Engagement

Spring 2015

Secretary's speech in Seoul previews Global Connect Initiative and highlights need to raise Internet access

September 2015

Launched Global Connect Initiative at UNGA

April 2016

Global Connect events on April 13 and 14, including high level event with Secretary Kerry and President Kim.

May 2016

Secure G7 support for Global Connect, the principles and announce policy and financial commitments

2016 and Beyond

Continue Implementation (e.g. Global Connect events at all future Bank Fund Meetings to engage Finance Ministers)





# April 14 High Level Event



- Co-hosted by World Bank, on margins of World Bank/IMF Spring Meetings in Washington, DC
- Guests included finance ministers, along with international financial institutions, industry, and civil society
- More than 100 participants, event highlighted 65 initiatives valued at \$20 billion.



# Building Global Support

Recognizing the importance of the goal of the Global Connect Initiative to bring 1.5 billion additional people online by 2020, many stakeholders have expressed their support for the Global Connect Initiative, including:

- 35 Governments
- 10 International Organizations and Multilateral Development Banks
- 59 Industry and Civil Society Organizations

The complete list is available on [share.america.gov/globalconnect](https://share.america.gov/globalconnect)



# Global Actions

- Announced over 65 new and ongoing initiatives supporting connectivity.
- Highlighted planned and recent investments in connectivity valued at more than \$20 billion.
- Five major lines of effort reflected in the Global Connect Connectivity Principles:
  - Prioritizing Connectivity in Development, Accelerating Work toward Universal Access, Connecting Remote and Underserved Areas and Populations, Promoting Public Access, and Adopting Policies to Support Connectivity.

Global Actions is available on [share.america.gov/globalconnect](https://share.america.gov/globalconnect)



# U.S. Government

- The U.S. government offers multiple programs to encourage and support innovative industry-driven ICT solutions.
- By promoting U.S. private sector participation in the global ICT economy, these programs help address critical development challenges overseas, while creating jobs, economic growth and stability.



# Other Countries

- In **Costa Rica**, vigorous competition among three major mobile carriers and specialist providers has increased internet penetration over mobile lines from 57.4% of the population in 2012 to 89.9% in 2014. This progress has not been matched by fixed-line internet penetration so Costa Rica's telecom authorities through the "National Telecommunications Development Plan" aim to provide broadband internet at median OECD speeds to 80 percent of the population by 2021.





# International Organizations

- The **Asian Development Bank** and the **International Finance Corporation**—a member of the World Bank Group—are providing loans of \$300 million to Ooredoo Myanmar for the rollout of a mobile telecommunication network across Myanmar, which will help extend affordable telecom services across the country, boosting economic growth and job creation.





# Industry

- When **Telenor** launched service in Yangon, Myanmar, the company signed up 514,000 new customers – in one day. After 15 months of operations, Telenor now has 15 million customers. In a country that has been cut off from the outside world for more than 60 years, the opening of the market to competition and foreign investments has raised mobile penetration from below 10 percent in 2013 to 60 percent in 2015.



# Civil Society

- The **World Economic Forum** in partnership with the core Northern Corridor governments (Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, and South Sudan) will launch in May 2016 a multistakeholder initiative to develop new models of public private collaboration to accelerate “internet for all” to the approximately 70 million people in these countries currently not using the internet.



# How You Can Support

- Endorse the Global Connect Initiative Principles
- Encourage MDBs and governments to build tech expertise on digital connectivity; share best practices with emerging economies; and look for opportunities to integrate “dig once” policy
- Highlight innovative industry led approaches to provide connectivity to remote areas



# Questions?



Resources: Visit the Website!

**<https://share.america.gov/globalconnect/>**

World Development Report 2016: Digital Dividends

**<http://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/wdr2016>**

POC:

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