Enabling Environment, Lifting Barriers to Connectivity and Building Connectivity

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Enabling Environment



Enabling Environment

What is it?

- Environment that enables
- ✓ Innovation
- ✓ Infrastructure
- ✓ Partnerships
- For Development
- Impact of this study



LACNIC/ISOC Supported RPKI Training Workshop

Smart Development

Three Infrastructures

- Human
- Technical
- Governance

Partnership for Development

Stakeholder Approach



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Lifting Barriers Study



Lifting Barriers to Connectivity

Available in English, French, and Spanish (link on Resources slide)

- Why did we do this study?
- How did we do this study?
- Impact of this study



LACNIC/ISOC Supported RPKI Training Workshop

Lifting Barriers to Connectivity

- "We" examined: international connectivity, national backbone and 'middle-mile' elements of the value chain as well as any obstacles to competitive Internet access services
- Examined key indicators (price, speed and usage of Internet) as well as macroeconomic and policy environment for 20 benchmark countries.
 - FOUND that: the pricing of services for end users is one of the strongest measures of a successful policy environment for two reasons
 - Lower prices attract more users, which increases scale and reduces unit costs, thereby increasing the utility of the Internet to citizens and businesses

Lifting Barriers to Connectivity Value-chain

Analysys Mason

Figure 2.1: Elements of the Internet access value chain [Source: Analysys Mason, 2013]



Lifting Barriers to Connectivity: Benchmarking

Figure 3.8: Average price per GB of traffic for low-, medium- and high-usage Internet access bundles [Source: Analysys Mason, Google, Telegeography, 2012]



Recommendations (1):

Our conclusions and recommendations are presented in terms of solutions that can offer one of three types of improvement:

- Removing roadblocks. Policy-makers should remove roadblocks that deter investment in and use of terrestrial fibre, including: lack of liberalisation; high cost of licences; challenges accessing rights of way for deployment within countries and across borders; and high taxes on equipment and services.
- Promoting investment. Governments should promote privatesector investment in infrastructure to the extent possible, offering regulatory certainty to give confidence to investors and allowing or promoting infrastructure sharing in order to lower costs. Where private-sector investment is not likely, governments may need to use their own resources – financial and infrastructural – to ensure services are delivered, potentially using public/private partnerships (PPPs).

Recommendations (2):

 Leading at the highest levels of government. Development and usage of communications infrastructure should be made a high-level priority, with an agency invested with oversight of all aspects of the value chain, including research and innovation, taxation, state investments in infrastructure and/or operators, and regulation. Such an agency should have the authority to address any conflicts within the government that result in any roadblocks or reduced investment.

Specific policy suggestions in these broad areas are shown in the table below.

Category	Specific lessons	Figure 0.3: Policy lessons drawn from this study [Source: Analysys Mason, 2013]
Remove roadblocks	 Liberalise the regulatory regime by allowing competition and lowering barriers to entry, particularly in the markets related to submarine cables and international gateways 	
	 Reduce bureaucracy and costs of rights of way, including across borders 	
	 Reduce the sector-specific tax burden 	

Recommendations (3):

Promote investment and	 Offer investors greater policy and regulatory certainty
services	 Infrastructure sharing should be incentivised, or obliged where appropriate and proportionate Government should invest judiciously, ideally in open- access PPPs, and not in infrastructure that competes with the private sector
Offer high-level political vision and leadership	 Good political leadership and a clear ICT strategy are key Holistic view of the Internet access value chain, involving a wide range of stakeholders, to identify obstacles and remove conflicting policies around tax, investment and promotion of ICT Policies should not have the effect of distorting the market by favouring individual operators or restoring <i>de facto</i> monopolies

Lowering Costs (1)

- Liberalize backhaul from the submarine cable-landing station/ allow more high capacity networks to compete
- Peering at the IXP
- Local content caches available at IXP
- Regulator to Company discussions about the cost of doing business and ways to lower that

Lowering Costs (2)

- Creative cost-sharing transit
- Active web-site at IXP so that investors can see that you have eyeballs on the network:



https://www.inex.ie/technical/stats

Some Links to Resources

- Internet Society: <u>http://www.internetsociety.org</u>
- IXP Study: <u>http://www.internetsociety.org/ixpimpact</u>
- Lifting Barriers to Connectivity Study: <u>http://www.internetsociety.org/doc/lifting-barriers-internet-development-africa-suggestions-improving-connectivity</u>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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