The World Wide Web at 25 and its Impact Across Africa
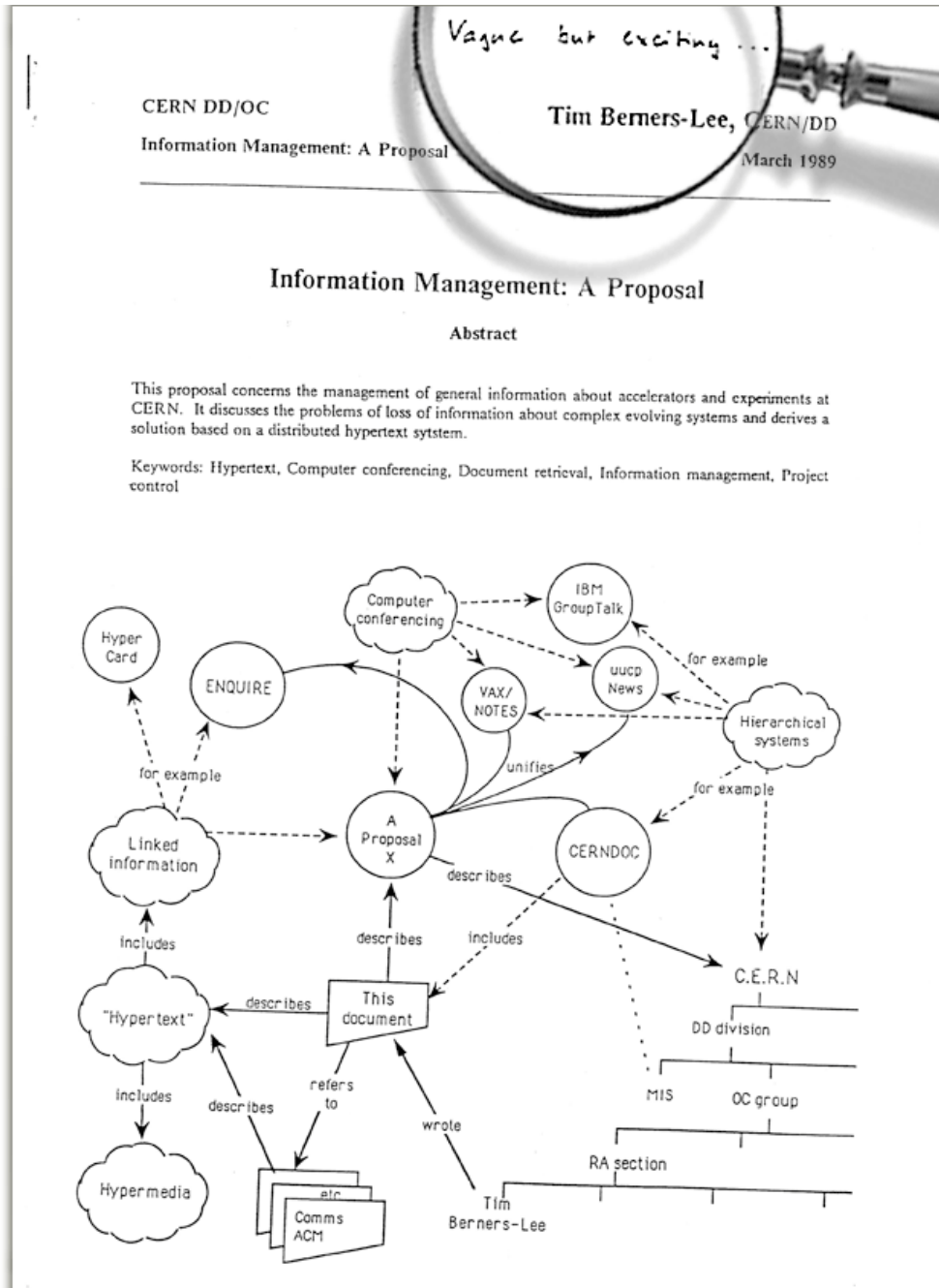
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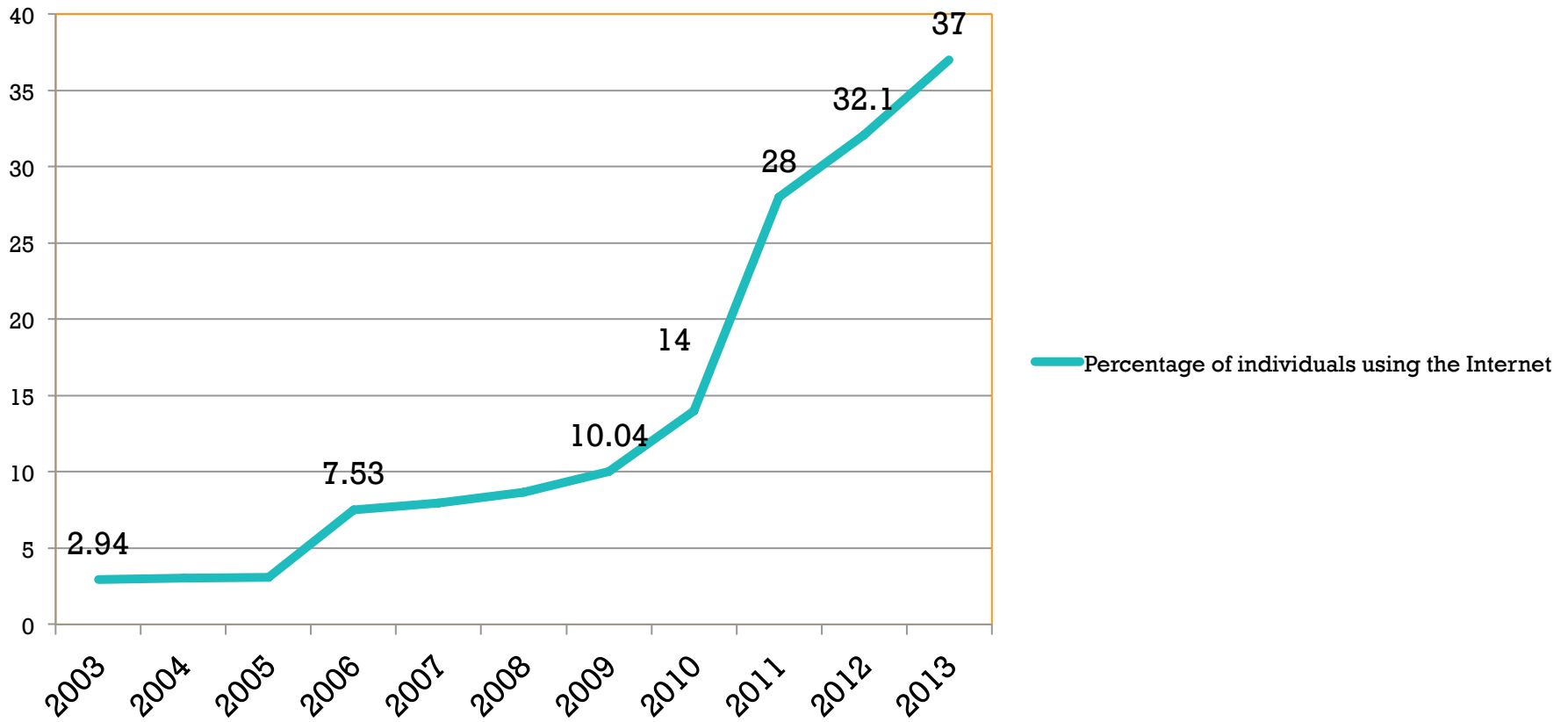
A4AI

## Sir Tim Berners-Lee's original proposal for the World Wide Web

(Photo Credit: CERN)

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Vague but exciting...

CERN DD/OC

Information Management: A Proposal

Tim Berners-Lee, CERN/DD

March 1989

Information Management: A Proposal

Abstract

This proposal concerns the management of general information about accelerators and experiments at CERN. It discusses the problems of loss of information about complex evolving systems and derives a solution based on a distributed hypertext sytstem.

Keywords: Hypertext, Computer conferencing, Document retrieval, Information management, Project control

Computer conferencing
IBM GroupTalk
Hyper Card
ENQUIRE
uucp News
for example
VAX/ NOTES
Hierarchical systems
for example
unifies
Linked information
A Proposal X
CERNDOC
for example
describes
includes
includes
describes
C.E.R.N
describes
This document
DD division
"Hypertext"
includes
describes
refers to
wrote
MIS
OC group
Hypermedia
etc
Comms ACM
Tim Berners-Lee
RA section

Internet usage in Kenya

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Percentage of individuals using the Internet

Percentage of individuals using the Internet

2.94
7.53
10.04
14
28
32.1
37

2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013

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Internet user penetration

Global distribution of people using the Internet (percentage),
2005 and 2014

Source: ITU, 2005, 2014

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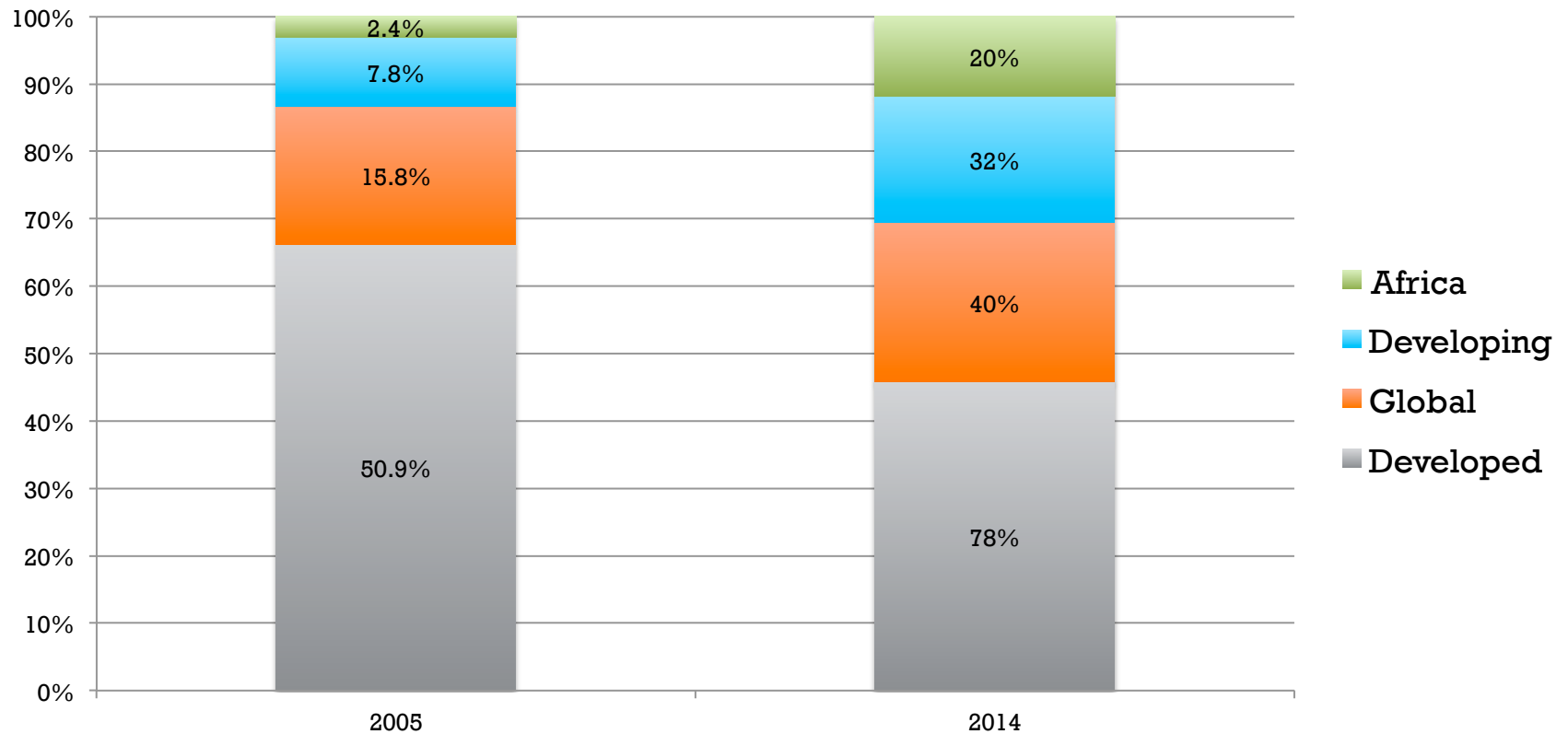
The impact of the Web in Africa...

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Web Foundation – 2013 Web Index (thewebindex.org)

- The world's first measure of the Web's contribution to social, economic and political development in 81 countries.

- Highest ranked African country = South Africa (35)

- Followed by Mauritius (40), Tunisia (44), Kenya (53)

- Seven of the 10 bottom countries from Africa

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- Provides information to dairy farmers via Web-based application & SMS

- 11,000 registered users

- 42% of users have reported increased income

- Farmers who have been on iCow for 7 months have seen increased milk production of between 2-3 litres per animal per day, translating into average increased income of 25-30k per animal per year
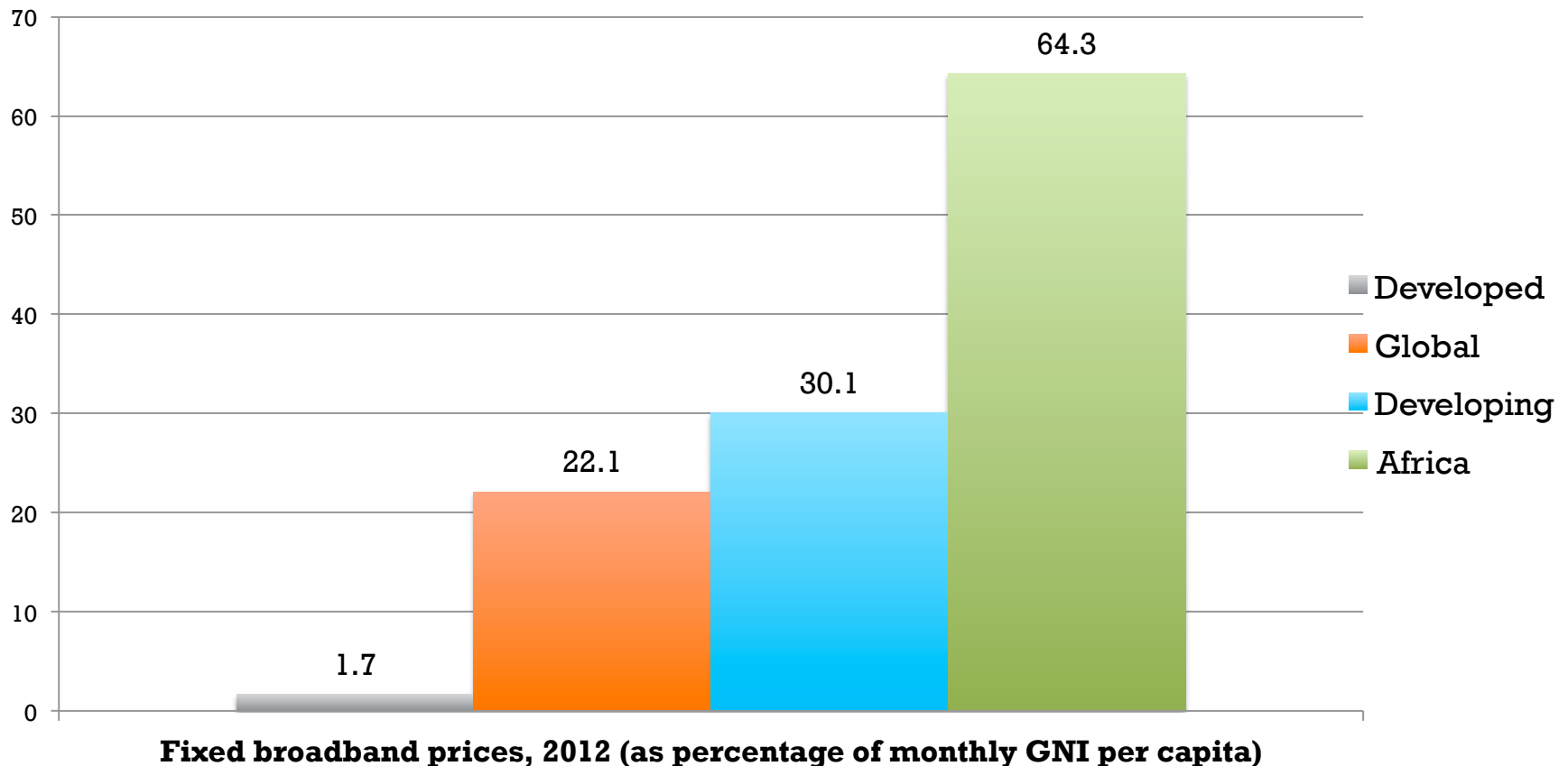
Sources: iCow; HumanIPO

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- Started as Android app in 2011; now has expanded to include SMS and a web platform

- Interactive platform to provide up-to-date agricultural information
  - Share updated advice about crop and animal production
  - Provide updated & accurate pricing information; Marketplace for buyers and sellers

- Platform allows farmers to post their products for sale & allows consumers to connect directly with farmers

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Internet: largely unaffordable in Africa

A4AI

Fixed broadband prices in Africa are, on average, 64% of GNI per capita.

Fixed broadband prices, 2012 (as percentage of monthly GNI per capita)

- Developed: 1.7
- Global: 22.1
- Developing: 30.1
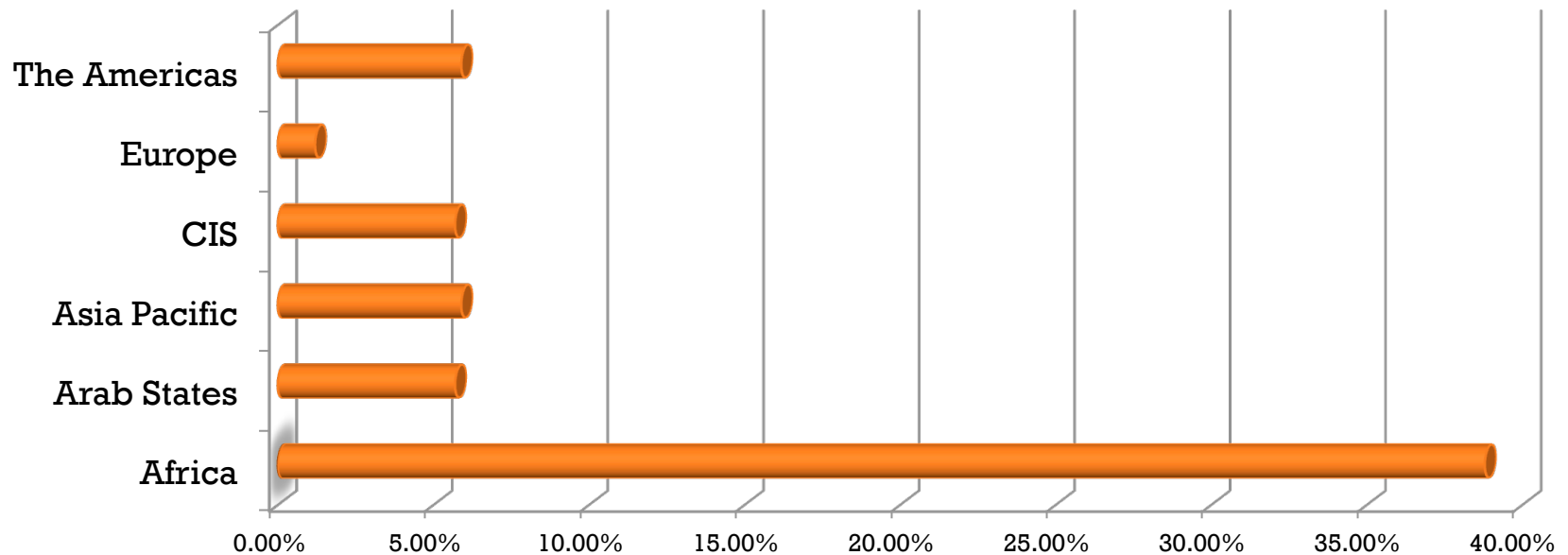- Africa: 64.3

Source: ITU, 2013

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Mobile broadband affordability

Mobile broadband cheaper than fixed broadband services, but significantly more expensive in Africa

Cost of a pre-paid 500MB Mobile Data bundle (% monthly income)

Source: ITU, 2013, 2014

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A skewed picture...

A4AI 2013 Affordability Report

- Examined the cost of broadband for those living on less than $2 per day across 46 emerging and developing countries.

- Cost of entry-level broadband exceeds on average 40 percent of monthly income for people living on US$2/day. In many countries exceeds 80 percent or even 100 percent of monthly income.

- Zambia: 10 million + people live in extreme poverty, would have to spend at least 35% of their income to afford mobile broadband services or 135% of their income to access fixed broadband.

Source: A4AI

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WHO IS A4AI?

Strength in diversity…

Global sponsors

Private sector

Strength in diversity…

Public Sector / Academia

Civil Society / Foundations
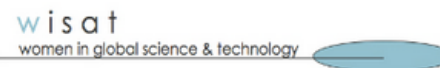
Strength in diversity...

Local partners

How we work...

- All of these 60 organisations have signed up to promote, support and implement agreed best practices to drive down price of access.

- Blend of advocacy, research and on the ground actions.

- Already working directly with governments of Nigeria, Ghana and Mozambique – more soon.

- Includes areas of focus such as infrastructure sharing, taxation, open access and spectrum management.

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Thank you!

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