



Quarterly Country Coalition Reports

2nd Quarter Report:
April – June 2017

Coalition Leadership



- **National Coordinator**, Dr. Kwaku Ofosu-Adarkwa
- **Deputy National Coordinator & Consumer Advocacy and Pricing Transparency, National Champion**
Clara Pinkrah-Sam, Digital Entrepreneurship & BPO Expert, eTransform Project
- **Infrastructure Sharing & Open Access, National Champion**
Estelle Akofio-Sowah, Country Manager, Google Ghana
- **Taxation, National Champion**
Kwaku Sakyi-Addo, CEO, Ghana Telecom Chamber
- **Taxation, Deputy Champion**
Derek Barnabas Laryea, Research & Communications Manager, Ghana Telecoms Chamber
- **Research & Data Collection, National Champion**
Kafui Prebbie, CEO, TECHAiDE

Key Accomplishments



Hon Ursula Owusu-Ekufu, Minister of Communications' first meeting with the Coalition where she committed to supporting its work

- Secured renewed strong commitments from key government stakeholders, including Ministry of Communications new NCA and GIFEC heads.

- Ghana adopted the “1 for 2” target and launched the Ghana Gender ICT Scorecard
- Public Release of the Ghana Infrastructure Sharing Study with strong recommendations
- Review of 2017 Affordability Report & Launch of Ghana National Report
- Revived Data & Research Working group with expanded network of data collection agencies.



Working Group Reports

Consumer Advocacy & Pricing

Transparency

Consumer Advocacy & Pricing Transparency



Continues focus to achieve three major outputs:

1. More transparent pricing of broadband to increase consumer understanding of cost for service.
2. Encourage and help improve digital literacy in Ghana, especially with respect to internet and broadband pricing. Increased awareness could lead to demand and usage of internet thus providing access to it's related socioeconomic benefits.
3. Improve digital consumer protection in Ghana through empowering consumers.

Continued. . . Consumer Advocacy & Pricing Transparency



Seven (7) out of the eleven (11) concerns raised by the group have been resolved by some of the service providers. We have been given full assurance that all of our issues raised will be resolved by all the service providers as soon as possible. We are closely monitoring that so we can update our reports accordingly.

Continuing Consumer Concerns Include:

- Need for even greater transparency in internet pricing in Ghana could be potentially encouraging to more users.
- There is a persistent perception of some hidden charges which continue to discourage many people from using the internet more often than they need due to cost and speed.
- Consumers use pay-as-you-go even though they believe that bundles are cheaper due to non-transparent pricing of data.

Improved pricing transparency is an urgent need for the Ghanaian consumer.



Working Group Reports

Infrastructure Sharing & Open Access

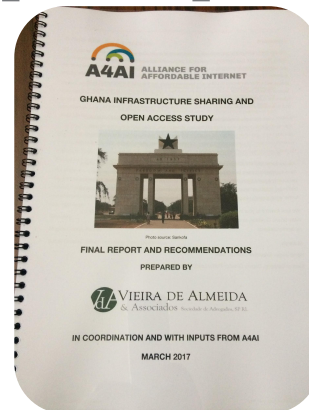
Infrastructure Sharing & Open Access



*Minister Ursula Owusu- Ekuful,
Communications Minister accepts report
on Ghana Infrastructure sharing study*

- Convened with key stakeholders on broadband and related infrastructure to support review and feedback of final report of Infrastructure Sharing Study.
- Public release of the report from the Infrastructure Sharing Study to the Ministry and participating stakeholders.

Full report can be downloaded
http://a4ai.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Ghana-Infrastructure-Sharing-Report_Final.pdf





Working Group Reports

Research and Data Collection

Research & Data Collection



Strengthening the "Core Team" Strategy:

- Developed a strategy to have 5 key volunteers to join the Group Lead and Deputy Group Lead as a "core team" to meet at least once a month to review progress and plans proposed by the Leads as well as help execute approved strategy. Formed in Feb. 2017
- Successfully invited 2 females (1 from NCA & 1 from Civil Society) and 3 males (1 from GIFEC, 1 Researcher & 1 from Civil Society) to join.
- In Q1 & Q2 held at least 3 face to face meetings and many online discussions using WhatsApp whilst exchanging emails internally before releasing to larger working group.

Continued . . . Research & Data Collection



Strategy to Strengthen the R&D Group Dynamics

- After the successful formation of the "core team", several meetings were held which endorsed the proposed strategy by the Leader & Deputy:
 - Improve the group dynamics by requesting commitment from members as opposed to a "loosely formed working group"
 - Identify key institutions to recruit into the group like the Ghana Statistical Service, GIFEC, etc.
 - Develop an infographic of the committed institutions to facilitate the ease of data sharing needed for advocacy and evidence based policy recommendation towards affordability.

Continued . . . Research & Data Collection



Working Group Meeting: March 15, 2017 @ GIFEC, Accra

- The first 2017 joint working group meeting held after several core team meetings to review strategy.
- 18 participants attended and endorsed the idea of having written commitments of members to indicate research or data collection activity involved with; these is being done online and monitored through a shared Google form.
- Members endorsed the idea of an infographic visually illustrating a network of all data collection institutions and affiliates as part of an advocacy roadmap towards the "1 for 2" campaign in Ghana.

Continued . . . Research & Data Collection



- The Accra regional event on the theme "Affordable Internet: The Role of Data" was held at the GIFEC conference room on June 28.

- 33 participants attended in a well engaged session with key speakers from NCA and GIFEC
- Meeting affirmed interest and commitment to impactful collaboration on data and research for affordable Internet

Taxation



- Engaged on working group issues at the Telecoms Day forum and dialogue with the Regulator (May 2017)
- Supported the Regulator in the development of the Telecoms/ICT contribution to Ghana's GDP report (June 2017)
- Facilitated a special consultation session preceding above to engage Telcom stakeholders on Infrastructure Sharing providing input and feedback to the study being conducted.



Working Group Action Plans Q3 & Q4

Consumer Advocacy & Pricing Transparency

Areas to sharpen focus:

- Automatic rollover services for prepaid customers
- Investigate the concept of bonus credit in relation to automatic rollover and other limitations
- Transparency in service contracts for consumers especially on pricing.

Infrastructure Sharing & Open Access

- Host convening to present study recommendations to private sector stakeholders.
- Develop and execute strategy for engaging government including but not limited to MoC, NCA, NITA, GIFEC, Power and Energy sectors on implementation of recommendations at policy level

Research & Data Collection



- Participate in the Africa Open Data Conference in July 2017
- Finalize and publish stakeholder mapping infographic
- Engage national coalition on key progress and strategy to impact data collection for improved positioning of Ghana's affordability drivers index
- Host regional networking event of all key stakeholders in the data collection ecosystem
- Plan networking/recruitment event in Kumasi to attract researchers beyond Accra and possibly increased engagement by women.

Working Groups Plans

Goal, Vision, Mission

- seeking sector specific tax reforms to increase affordability & connectivity using policy and regulatory dialogue

Wayforward Plans include:

- Building new bridges with policy makers within and outside the sector to continue advocating on A4AI's agreed taxation outputs
- Re-strategizing group activities to appeal to new members. Demystifying industry taxation and other fiscal issues that impact affordability.

Tentative Dates

3RD QUARTER

Review & Meeting of Working Groups
(Online and/or in-person)

Mid-September to October 2017

4th Quarter Coalition Meeting

Tuesday 28 November 2017



**THANK YOU!
THE A4AI-GHANA
TEAM**

WWW.A4AI.ORG