



# Advancing affordability to connect all Ghanaians

**A4AI-GHANA** 

**Policy Wins and Opportunities** 

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### What is A4AI?



We are the

world's broadest technology sector alliance working to

drive down the price of broadband by

transforming policy and regulatory frameworks.

## Public-private collaboration in action with 80 member organisations























#### All have endorsed one set of **best practices**

- grounded on the principles of internet freedom and the fundamental rights of expression, assembly, and association online -

for making affordable broadband internet a reality.

### How do we work in member countries?



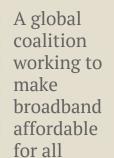
## In each member country, we form a national multi-stakeholder coalition

IDENTIFY KEY BARRIERS TO AFFORDABLE ACCESS &

DEVISE TAILORED SOLUTIONS TO DRIVE PRICES DOWN

#### **A4AI** in Ghana

#### Kwaku Ofosu-Adarkwa, PhD National Coordinator





## **Working Group Champions**

Consumer Advocacy & Pricing
Transparency: Clara Pinkrah-Sam,
Digital Entrepreneurship & BPO
Expert

**Infrastructure Sharing:** Estelle Akofio-Sowah, Country Manager, Csquared

**Taxation:** Derek Barnabas-Laryea, Head of Research and Communications, Ghana Chamber of Telecommunications

**Research and Data Collection:** Kafui A. Prebbie, Chief Executive Office, TECHAiDE

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## **Key Touch Points: A4AI & GHANA MOC**



#### **OUTCOME:**

- Introduced vision of A4AI and Ghana Coalition Leadership.
- Endorsement of the "1 for 2 Affordability Target"

#### OPPORTUNITIES FOR POLICY/REGULATORY COLLABORATION

- 1. Reformulating Ghana **ICT Digital Policy** proposed under the e-Transform with A4AI inputs
- 2. Adoption of recommendations from A4AI research on **infrastructure sharing** study in Ghana
- 3. Development of public access policy in collaboration with GIFEC
- 4. Identify key policy and regulatory areas to support NCA in implementation of "1 for 2 affordability target"

### **A4AI-Ghana Thematic Areas**



- 1. Affordability Target
- 2. Pricing Transparency and Consumer Advocacy
- 3. Infrastructure and Open Access
- 4. Taxation
- 5. Research and Data Collection
- 6. Bridging the Gender Gap

## 1) "1 for 2" Affordability Target 1G data at 2% average monthly income



## **Accomplished**

 Minister Ursula confirmed Ghana's commitment to the target.

(Note: Target was also endorsed by ECOWAS and recently adopted by the UN Broadband Council)

## **Opportunities**

 Include target in any upcoming ICT Policy Review.

 Explore opportunities to universalize broadband in underserved areas through GIFEC.

## 2) Pricing Transparency and Consumer Protection



## **Accomplished**

- Surveyed over 6,000 consumers on experience of service
- Strengthened collaboration with NCA Consumer directorate and other civil society stakeholders.

## **Opportunities**

- Clear regulation on pricing transparency including real-time updates on data usage.
- Addressing demand side issues through policy on digital literacy and development of relevant content. (GIFEC)
- Review the National Broadband Policy and Plan for universal access through encouraging sharing.





#### **Accomplished/Impact**

 Completed Infrastructure Sharing and Open Access Study

#### **Opportunities**

- Adoption of infrastructure sharing policy and regulations as per study concluded in 2017
- Explore opportunities within GIFEC to incentivise sharing as strategy to universalize broadband in underserved areas.

#### 4) TAXATION



#### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Consensus among all key stakeholders regarding role of taxation in high cost of access.
- Submitted
   recommendations for
   rollback of taxes that were
   adopted in 2016.

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

- Review of the impact of taxes on overall technology tools.
- Raise awareness on sector's total tax contribution with support/championing by MoC and MNOs.
- Rollback of ECOWAS 10% CST on handsets to promote ICTs
- Policy on surcharge to International Incoming Traffic

## 5) Research and Data Collection



#### **ACCOMPLISHED**

Increased stakeholder interest in data gathering for the ICT sector designed to better enable Government of Ghana agencies and others access to harmonized and reliable evidence-based research to inform policy decisions.

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

- Attached is an infographic mapping key data gathering stakeholder in the ICT sector.
- Increase ICT related
   questions on internet and
   affordability in the next
   Ghana Population and
   Housing Census.

## 6) Bridging the Digital Gender Gap



#### **ACCOMPLISHED**

- World Wide Web Foundation, in partnership with the Media Foundation for West Africa, studied women's rights online and produced a Gender Scorecard for Ghana (2016).
- A4AI hosted inaugural Africa Summit on Women and Girls in Technology (Accra, Ghana in 2016)

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

 Update gender scorecard (2018)

 Training and development of strategy to mainstream gender in ICTs.



## Thank you!

