



Network Infrastructure sharing and Open access Models

SomNOG2 Conference 2017

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Comparison of Mobile Broadband and Mobile Voice Subscriptions

■ Mobile-broadband subs per 100 ■ Mobile-voice subs per 100



Source: World bank 2016

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Network Infrastructure Needs

- Redundant International submarine cables
 - At least two
- Reliable national backbone
- Sufficient last-mile access for remote areas
- Affordable pricing
- Interconnections -both IP and mobile networks



Network Infrastructure challenges

- Expensive International and last-mile access
- Limited network coverage (Internet)

Causes:-

- Duplication of infrastructure
- Low level of competition
- Short technical expertise
- High network costs



Scope and Ease of Infrastructure sharing



Source: APC/Deloitte Study 2015

Why Infrastructure sharing necessary

- Promotion of competition
- Optimization of capital investment
- Promotion of new added values services
- Coverage expansion



First year cost of rolling-out a new fibre network



Major Benefits of Infrastructure Sharing



Burundi's national fibre backbone - The Burundi Backbone System (BBS)

Before Burundi gained access to an international fibre cable in 2012, internet access was dependent on expensive satellite connections and was limited to a small number of urban subscribers. In rural areas the backbone network remained underdeveloped.

To solve this problem the government created a PPP with the Burundi Backbone System (BBS) in 2010. BBS is a company that was formed as a joint venture between four of the country's leading telecom operators and one ISP.

The World Bank provided the Burundian government with a loan of US\$11.5m to help finance the US\$25m project.

The project involves the creation of a 1,250km fibre optic backbone connecting all 17 provinces.



Way forward

- Telecom Infrastructure sharing will become important for speedy growth and rollout of telecom services especially in developing countries
- Government has to take initiatives to facilitate proper framework for infrastructure sharing
- Proper regulatory and policy framework for infrastructure sharing is important to boost this sector.



