Making ICT Available
Accessible and Affordable: Issues, Problems & Opportunities

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1. Agenda

• Introduction
• ICT infrastructure in Nigeria
• Increasing Affordable Access
• Opportunities
• Conclusions
2. Introduction:

- In Nigeria, the Telecommunications Industry has experienced exponential growth in the last four years with over twelve (12) million lines connected to date.

- For this, Nigeria has been described as one of the world’s fastest growing telecommunications markets.

- These achievements can be attributed largely to the foresight by government and the enabling and conducive environment with respect to government policies and regulatory regime.
3. Introduction

• The need to keep abreast of developments and remain relevant in the global information society became a priority

• Hence, Government’s continued commitment to promoting a regulatory environment that is independent, fair, transparent and predictable within nationally and globally defined agenda for sustainable development
4: Growth of subscribers in the Nigerian network - Source: NCC

- Fixed
- Mobile
- Total

- 1999
- 2000
- 2001
- 2002
- 2003
- Mar '04
- June '04
- Sept '04
- Oct '04
- Dec '04

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5. Increasing Affordable Access

Access has been increased by:

- Opening of all segments of the telecom Market to competition
- Promoting a conducive climate for Investment
- Prioritizing Deployment of infrastructure
- Facilitating deployment of appropriate technologies
- Empowerment of the regulatory body
- Mandating interconnectivity
6. Increasing Affordable Access

We now need to go further by:

- Mandating Facilities Sharing especially in rural areas
- Prioritising deployment of nationwide backbone infrastructure
- Reviewing import duty tariffs
- Encouraging local manufacture
- Essential Regulation
7. Extending The Reach

Information and Communications Technology must continue to be on the front burner of priority sectors of government.
8. Extending The Reach

The national carriers and the major operators licensed to deliver long distance transmission infrastructure will be encouraged to fast forward roll-out.
9. THE BROADBAND CHALLENGE

• Broadband is an accelerator of social and economic development in the modern world with its applications enabling economic and social benefits such as Public Safety, National Security, Telemedicine, E-government, distance learning, utility applications etc.

• As Nigeria struggles to extend access to telecommunications in the country, another big challenge will be that of ensuring that the nation is not left behind in the broadband revolution that is sweeping across the world.
10. Investment Opportunities

- Nitel Privatisation
- Nigerian Communications Satellite Project
- Abuja Technology Village Project
- Long Distance Transmission Infrastructure
- Equity in Existing Operating Companies
- Rural Telecom Project
- Broadband Infrastructure
- Post Exclusivity Opportunities
11. Conclusion

- Access to telecommunications is critical to the development of all aspects of a nation’s economy including manufacturing, banking, education, agriculture and government.
- Nigeria's immediate requirement for information and communications technology facilities is still enormous and the required capital and time investment needed are huge.
- The Federal government is committed to widely available and affordable ICT access for all
Thank You!!!