



Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology

Proportion of individuals using the Internet

63% of the global population were using the **internet in 2021** and the number of users in the Least Developed Countries increased by 20%. However, the **digital divide**, which is the gap between regions that have or do not have access to modern information and communications technology, still needs to be closed. **Connectivity to the internet** is key to **leave no one behind** and bring the world closer together and improve **digital cooperation**.



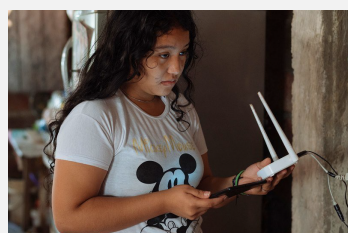
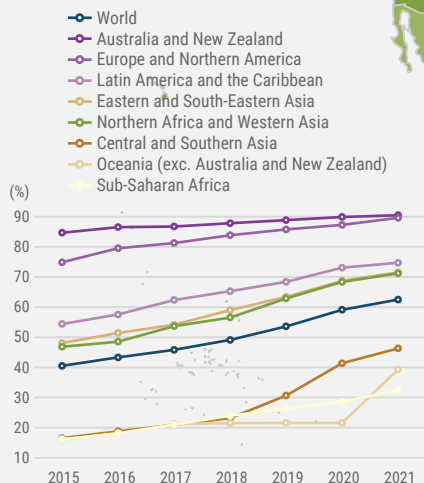
▲ Next gen, 'lightning' fast global communication network on track for 2020 entry

ITU Photo, 2017

▲ «Learning Crisis Classroom» installation by UNICEF

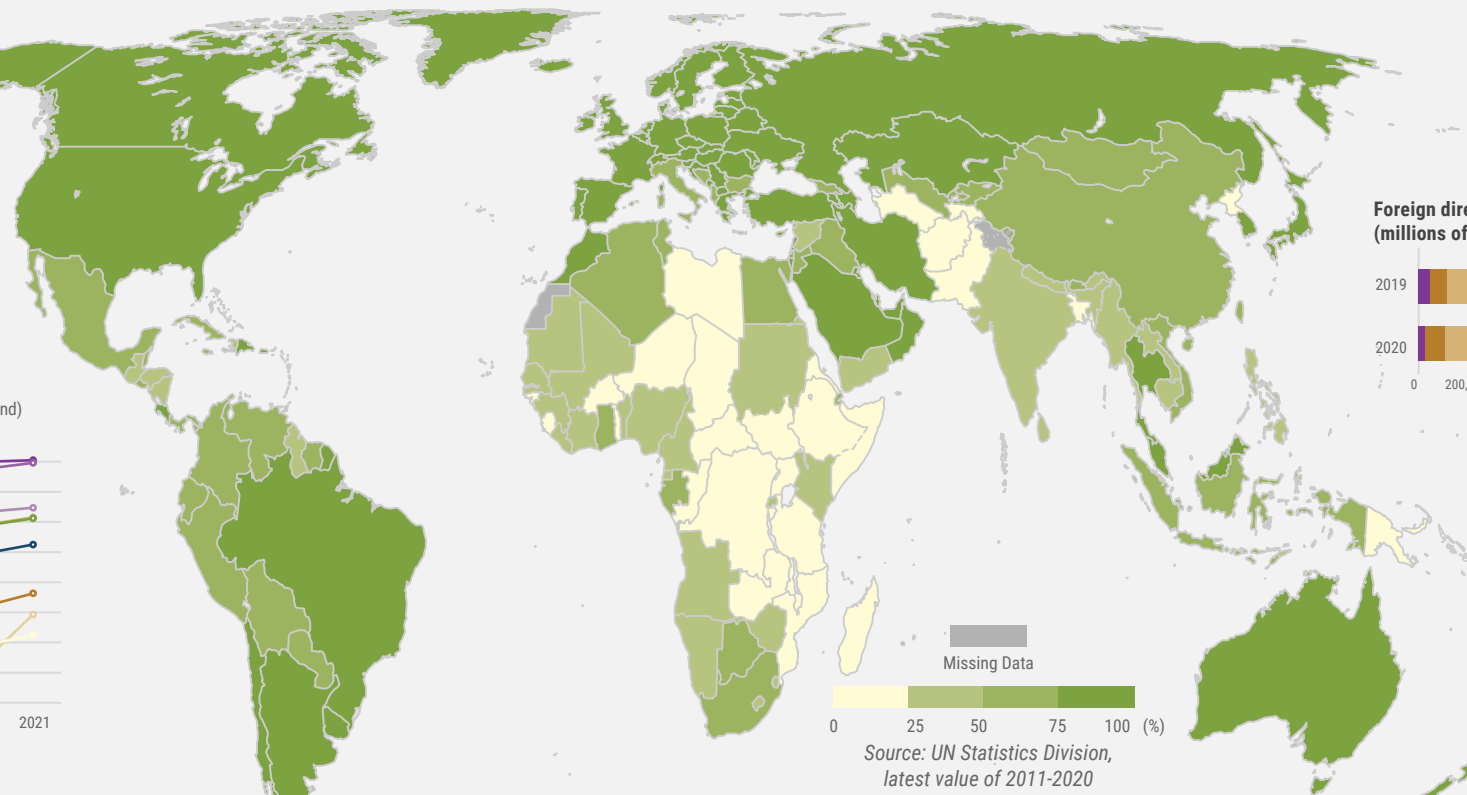
UN Photo-Mark Garten, 2022

Internet users per 100 inhabitants 2015-2021 (percentage)

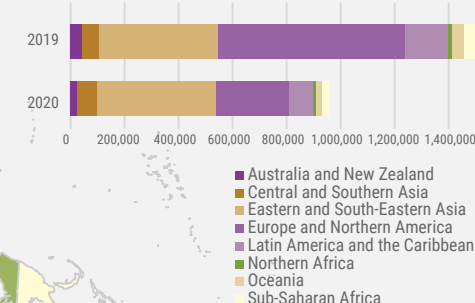


▲ A teenage girl prepares to take part in a virtual class at home in Ecuador

UNICEF-Santiago Arcos, 2021



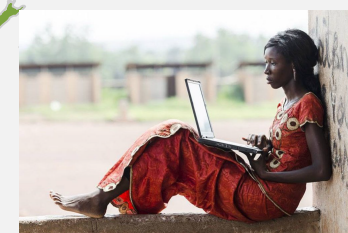
Foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows (millions of US dollars)



Source: UN Statistics Division



▲ ITU Photo, 2017



“Digital technologies sustain life, work, health and learning for billions of people. In the face of COVID-19, businesses, governments and the digital community have proven resilient and innovative, helping to protect lives and livelihoods. These challenging times have accelerated the transformation everywhere..”

Secretary-General of the United Nations

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

UNITED NATIONS Geospatial

Map No. 4652.17

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