ACHIEVING UNIVERSAL CONNECTIVITY

An estimated 3.6 billion people, almost half of the world’s population, currently do not have access to the Internet. Least developed countries are the least connected, at only 19 per-cent of their populations.

By 2030, every person should have safe and affordable access to the Internet, including meaningful use of digitally enabled services in line with the Sustainable Development Goals.

THE WAY FORWARD

1. **AGREE ON BASELINE** of digital connectivity that individuals need to access the online space

2. **DEVELOP CONNECTIVITY TARGETS** and metrics which address risk factors and vulnerable and marginalized groups

3. **ESTABLISH DEFINITION FOR “AFFORDABILITY”** and universal targets and metrics to form the basis of cost and investment estimates

4. **BRING TOGETHER INVESTORS AND FINANCING EXPERTS** to explore financing platform to fund connectivity initiatives and find new models for investments

5. **COMPREHENSIVE CONNECTIVITY PLANS**, based on data and local and regional assessments of connectivity needs

6. **AN ENABLING REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT FOR SMALLER-SCALE INTERNET PROVIDERS**

7. **MORE USE OF EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES** to provide, monitor and finance internet connectivity

8. **MORE NEW AND POTENTIALLY TRANSFORMATIVE MODELS SUCH AS GIGA**

9. **ACCELERATE DISCUSSIONS ON CONNECTIVITY** as part of emergency preparedness, responses and aid

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