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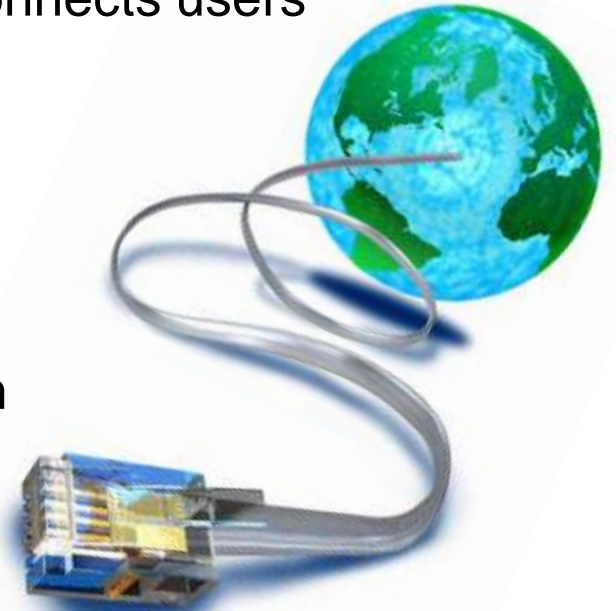
National Broadband Strategies: *The Commonwealth Approach*

CTO Forum 2015
Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya
14 September 2015

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Commonwealth Telecommunication Organisation (CTO)

Rethinking Broadband as an Ecosystem

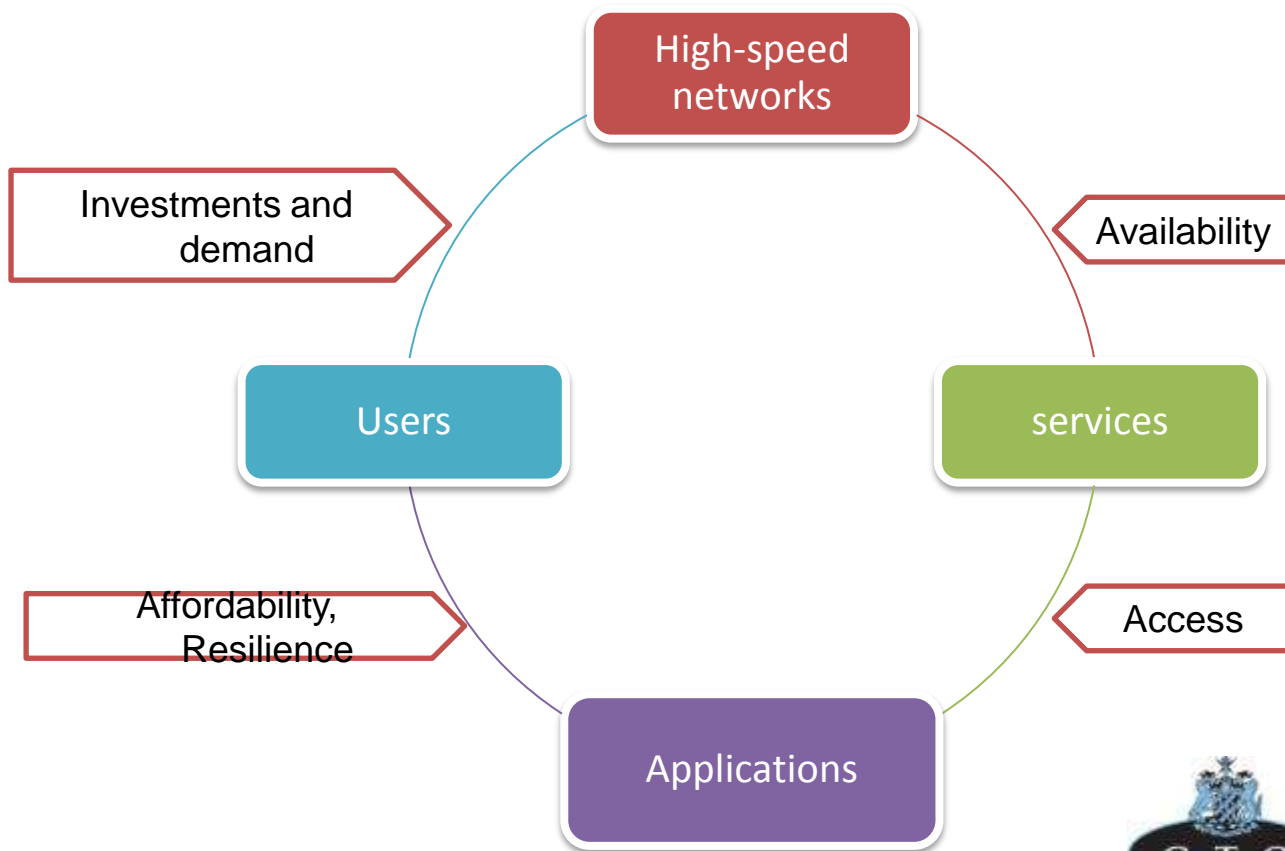
- Traditionally Broadband
 - Defined as a high-speed network that connects users
 - Speeds above 256 Kb/s (1 – 2 Mb/s)
- Broadband Ecosystem
 - Interconnected, multi-layered ecosystem
 - Consists of high-capacity communications networks, services, applications and users



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Rethinking Broadband as an Ecosystem

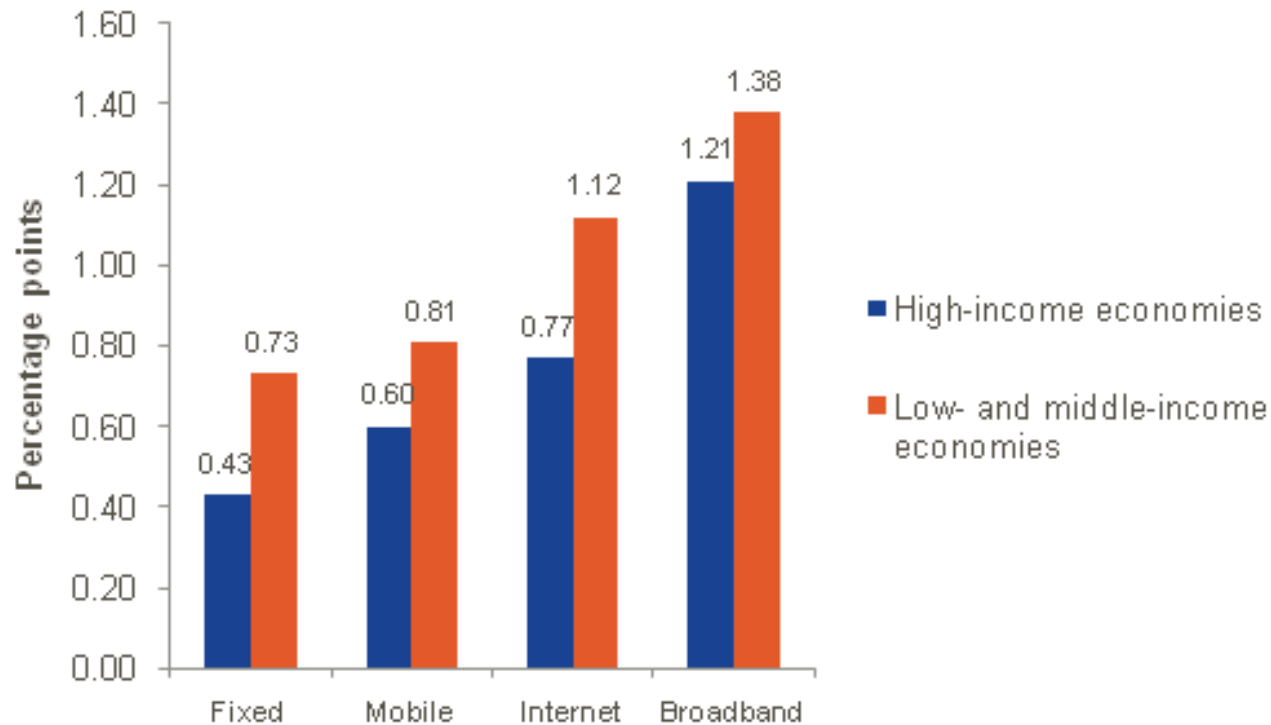
- Broadband ecosystem
 - Inter-connected components need relevant policies & strategies



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Broadband & Economic Growth

- Change in GDP provided by a 10% increase
 - Considering Fixed, Mobile, Internet and Broadband



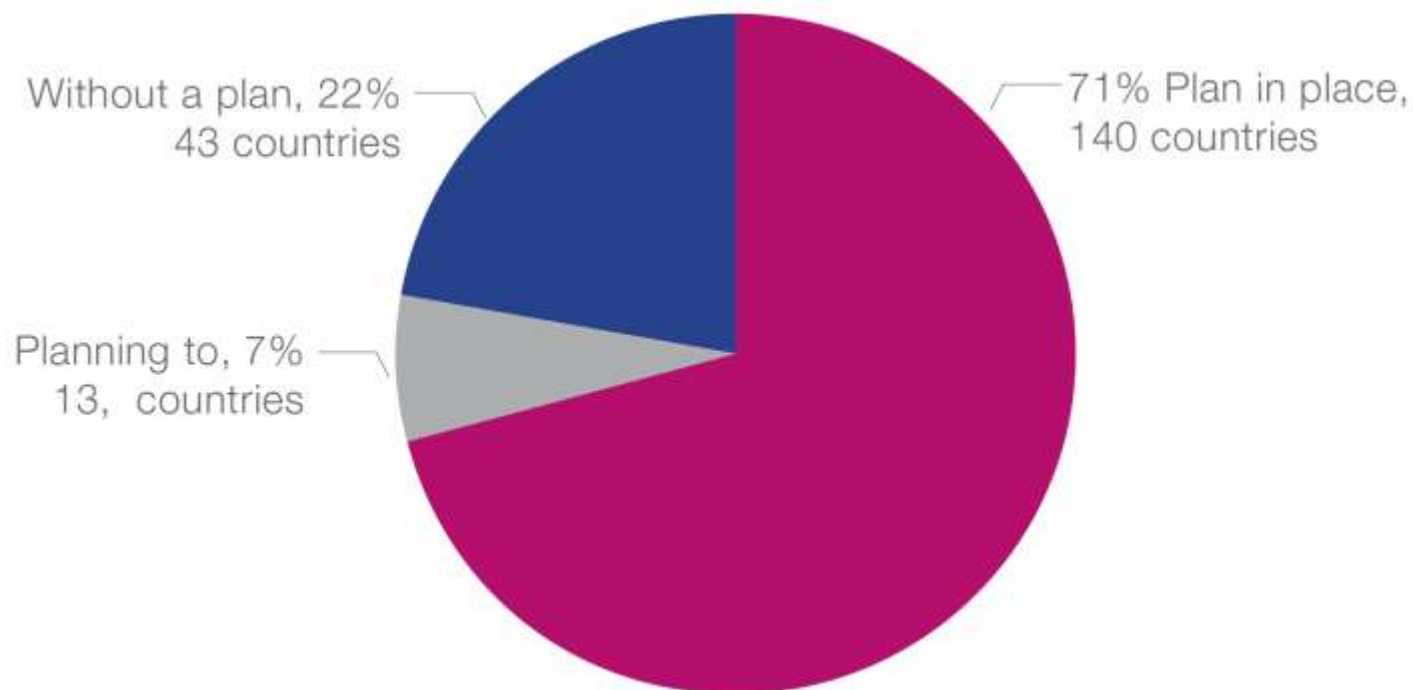
Source: World Bank (2009)



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Broadband Strategies [1/2]

- Countries with National Broadband Plans, Strategies or Policies
 - Based on 196 countries (includes plan, strategy or policy specific to broadband)



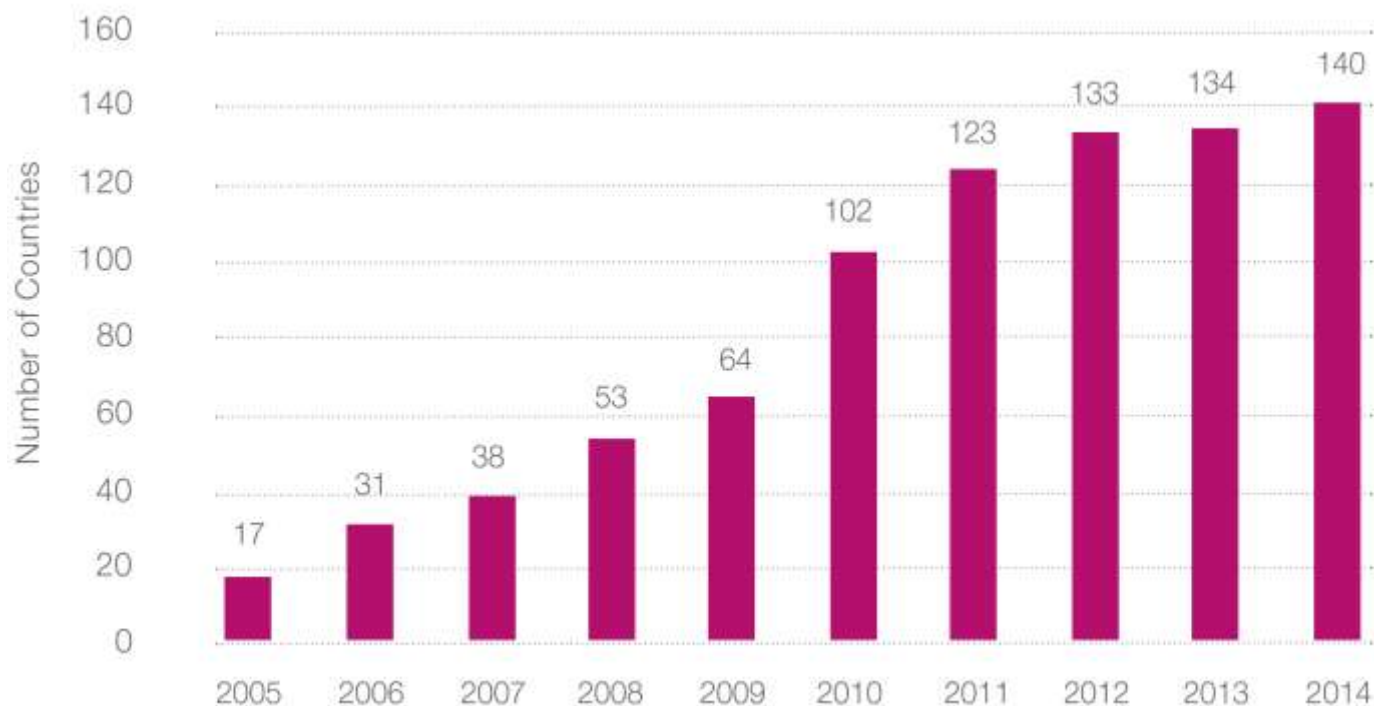
Source: ITU (2014)



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Broadband Strategies [2/2]

- Number of countries with National Broadband Plans
 - Based on 196 countries (from 2005 – 2014)



Source: ITU (2014)



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Development of a Nation Broadband Strategy

- Need support from highest levels of government
- Adopt a multi-stakeholder partnership (private sector, public sector & civil society)
- Draw on the expertise of the International Community
- Appoint a lead organisation or institution
- Be realistic and sympathetic to the commercial consideration of the private sector
- Add mechanisms to monitor & validate implementation

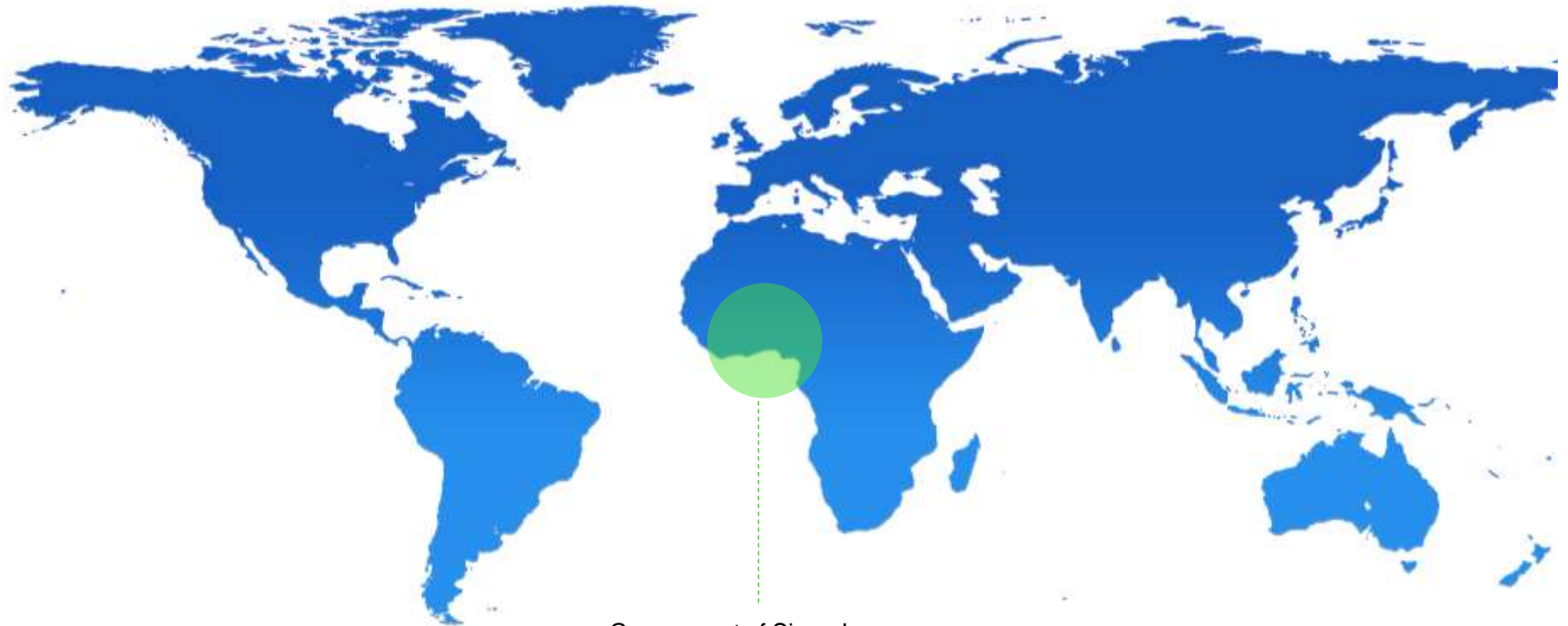


STRATEGY



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CTO Project: Sierra Leone (2013-14)



Government of Sierra Leone



Project Sponsor: 2013 - 14



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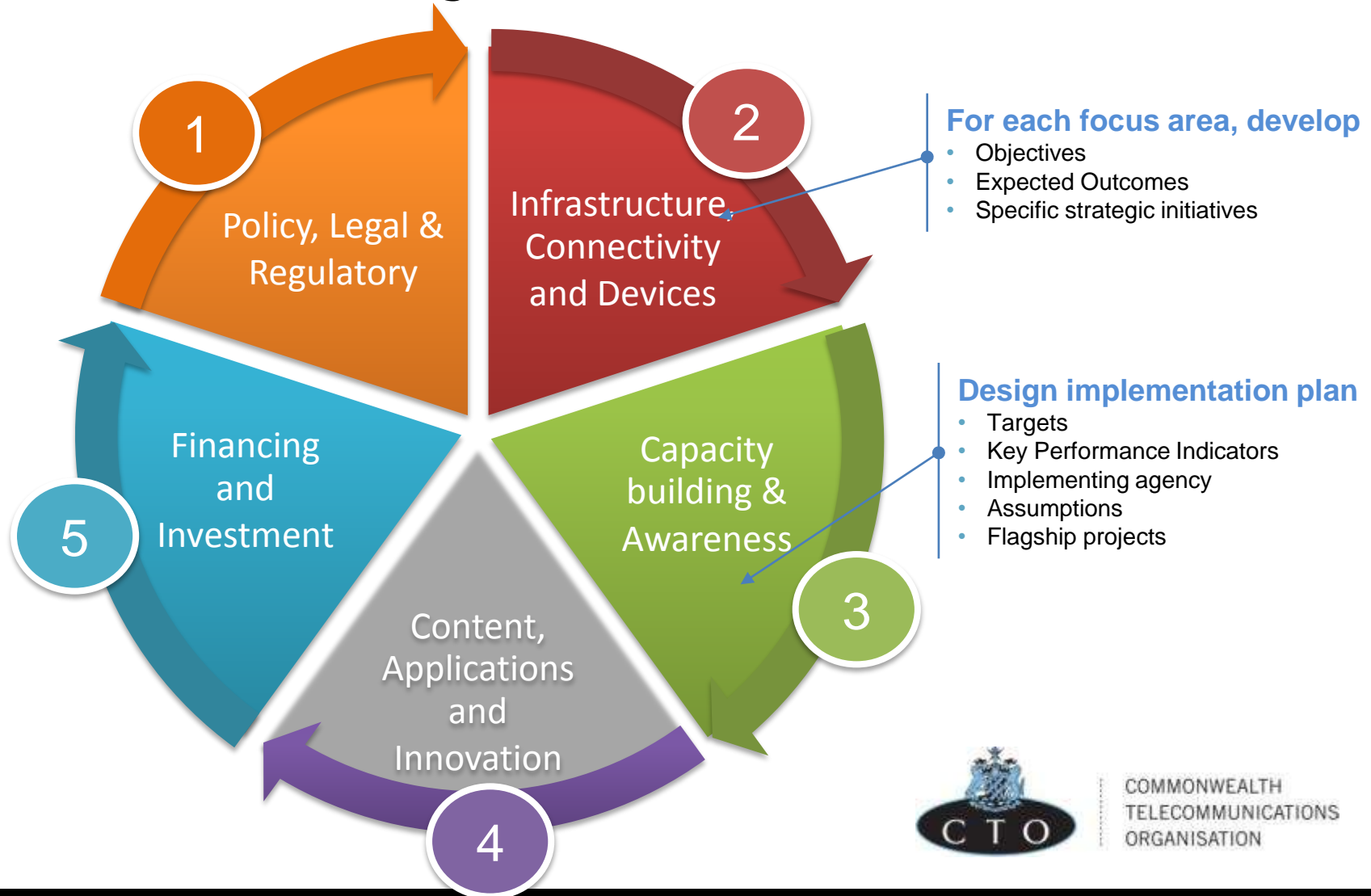
The Commonwealth Approach [1/2]



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The Commonwealth Approach [2/2]

- Considers five strategic focus areas



Policy, Legal & Regulation

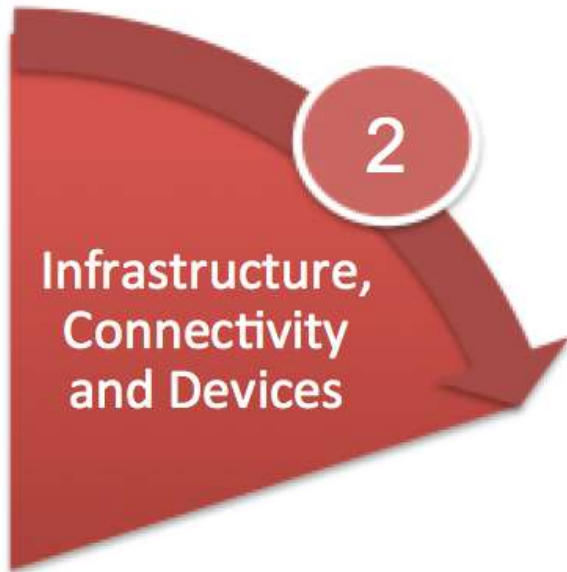


- Increase competition in the ICT sector
- Address issues related to privacy, data protection, cybercrime, critical national infrastructure
- Promote innovative use of spectrum
- Promote Open Access & Infrastructure sharing
- Promote good QoS and enhance user experience with broadband
- Develop policies that are inclusive and progressive



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Infrastructure, Connectivity and Devices



- Enable transparent, affordable and open access to shared infrastructure
- Extension of broadband connectivity to all unserved areas
- Increase affordability of ICT devices for target user groups
- Increase broadband access to homes and businesses
- Develop wireless broadband infrastructure across the nation



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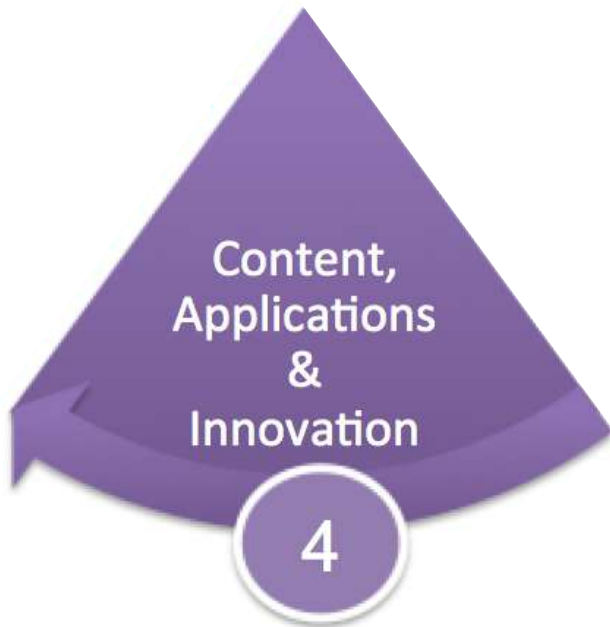
Capacity Building & Awareness

- Encourage demand for broadband
- Enhance digital literacy skills
- Develop local technical expertise
- Create awareness of existing planned broadband technologies, services & capacity building initiatives



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Content, Applications & Innovation



- Develop, and provide broadband e-Government applications and services
- Create and encourage innovation and creativity of new applications and services
- Engage with R&D activities across the nation
- Promote the availability of, and access of local, culturally relevant content in digital format



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Content, Applications & Innovation



- Promote private investments and partnerships in the ICT sector
- Promote the development, and usage of ICT financial services and applications
- Consider setting up & operationalizing a Universal Services Fund
- Promote the use of ICTs by government for financial transactions



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Key Achievements by Sierra Leone

- Definition of Broadband

- Broadband is connectivity that allows users to utilize all features of the Internet without constraint, and specifically to have uninterrupted access to voice, data, video and applications at a minimum speed of 2Mbit/s

- Broadband Vision

- Sierra Leone aims to become a community where 80% of its population enjoy a high quality Internet experience, and have uninterrupted access to voice, data, video and applications, which helps reduce poverty and enables effective education and development of the nation and people. In the medium term, Sierra Leone will seek to ensure that 40% of the nation has access to broadband by 2018



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The Way Forward & Next Steps

- Kenya Counties ICT Workshop (16th Sep 2015)
 - **Theme:** *Enhancing Broadband Connectivity in the Counties*
- Developing a Broadband Strategy model for Small Island States (SIS)
 - Already work has started with Barbados (via CTO fellowship)
- Developing and implementing National Broadband Strategies
 - On-going work
- Building capacity on leveraging Broadband
 - Broadband is one of the niche focus areas for CTO



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Q & A Session

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