

LINK RIA! TO LIRNE

Prof Alison Gillwald
Wits University LINK Centre

About Research ICT Africa!

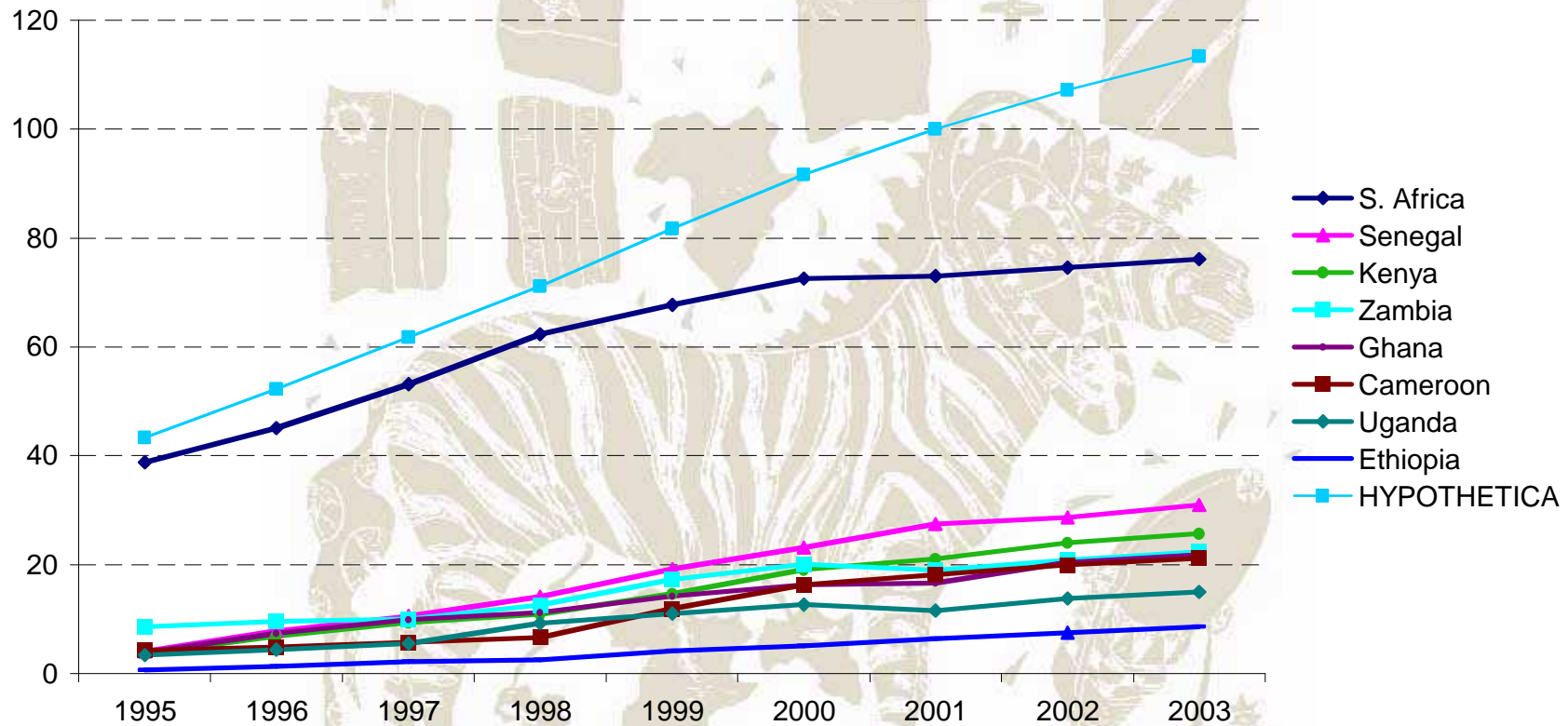
Why a network of researchers?

- To satisfy the growing demand for information and analysis needed for appropriate policy formulation and effective regulation
- To provide up to date and relevant repository of information (including appropriate indicators) on the African continent that informs policy-makers and decision-makers
- To establish the needs of countries and groups within them, and to conceptualise approaches that are likely to be effective in resolving country-specific problems
- Research focus on ICT policy and regulation
- Supported by the Canadian IDRC
- Phase 1 2003 - 2005 (SPR); Phase 2 2005 -2007 Phase 3 2007-2008
- Now 20 members including Francophone countries in West and North Africa members.

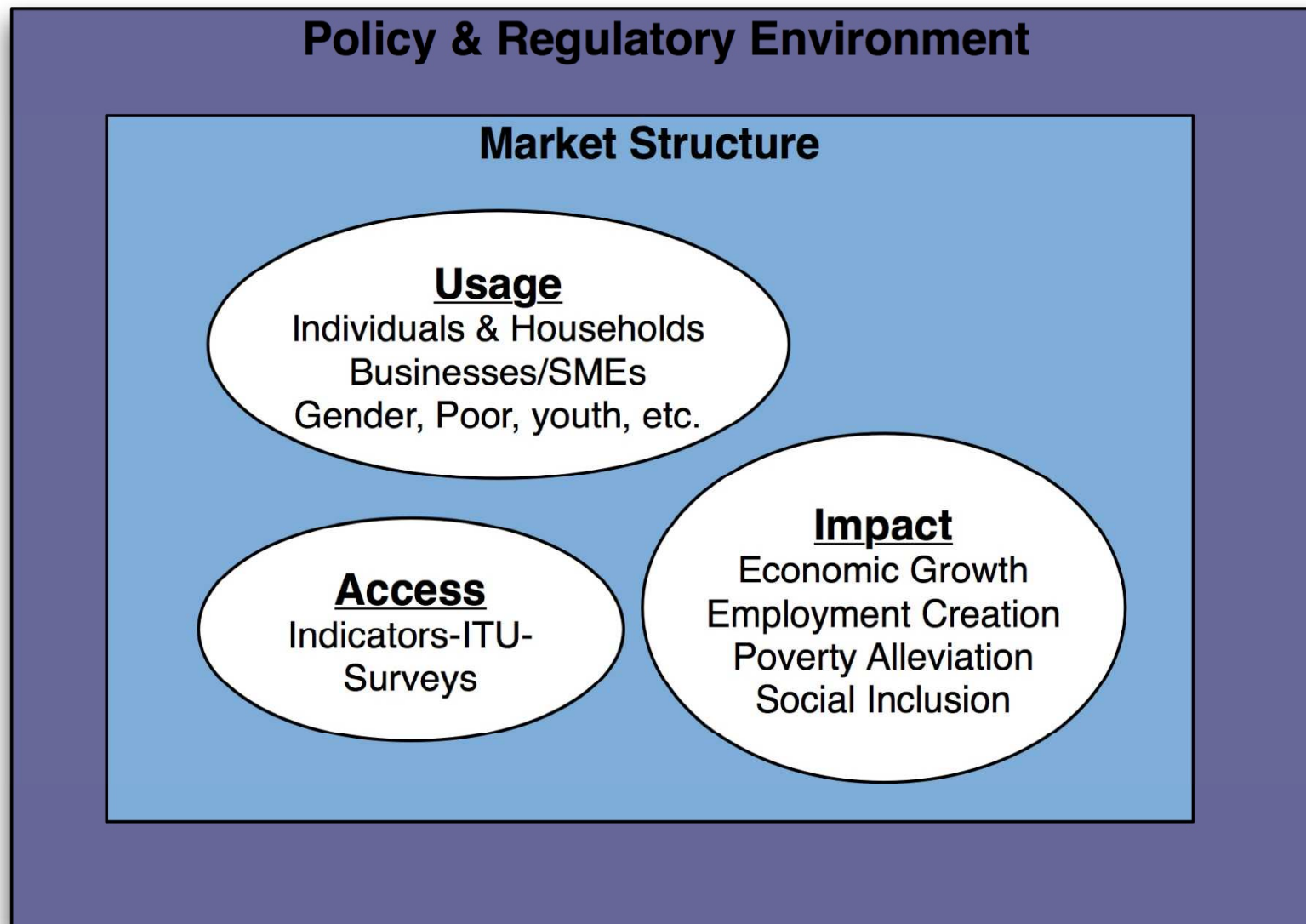
RIA! members

1. University of Botswana – Botswana – Sebusang Sebusang
2. University of Yaoundé II – Cameroon – Olivier Nana Nzépa & Robertine Tankeu Keutchankeu
3. University of Addis Ababa – Ethiopia – Lishan Adam
4. Science and Technology Policy Institute – Ghana – Godfred Frempong and George Essegbey
5. University of Nairobi – Kenya – Tim Waema
6. Universidade Eduardo Mondlane – Mozambique – Francisco Mabila
7. University of Lagos – Nigeria – Ike Mowete
8. National University of Rwanda – Rwanda – Albert Nsengiyumva
9. University of Witwatersrand – South Africa – Steve Esselaar/Christoph Stork
10. University of Dar es Salaam – Tanzania – Beda Mutagahywa and Innocent Ngalinda from Institute of Finance Management
11. Makerere University – Uganda – F F Tusbira and Ali Ndiwalana
12. University of Zambia – Zambia – Sikaaba Mulavu
13. Namibian Economic Policy Research Unit - Christoph Stork and Mariama Deen-Swarra
14. University of Cote d'Ivoire - Arsenen Kouaido
15. University of Burkina Faso - Pam Zohonogo
16. University of Benin - Augustine Foster Chabossou
17. Senegal - Olivier Sagna
18. Egypt- University of Cairo, Nagla Rizk,
19. Maghtech - Abdelkader Djeflat

Orbicom Infostates




Research approach





Research Agenda

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LIRNE.NET Montevideo March 2007

Towards an African e-Index

- State of Information Society: Analyzing e-access and e-usage allows measurement of progress of nations and population segments within and across countries towards information societies.
- Supply side sector performance review
- Demand side household and individual user access and usage survey
- Demand side SME access and usage survey
- Government?

Sector Performance Review

Purpose: To evaluate public policy against actual outcomes and developments in the telecom sector

- How has the sector progressed against policy objectives in comparison to previous years?
 - accessibility and affordability?
 - competition - input prices and range of services
 - investment and innovation
 - bring sector in line with technological, regulatory and industry developments locally and internationally
 - regulation in the public interest (to achieve the above)

Demand side

- What the Household and Individual user surveys Index seeks to do is measure what is happening in the ICT sector from the lens of users, consumers and those marginalised from services and to analyse access, demand and usage patterns in response to services delivered as a result of operators' responses to policy and regulatory frameworks
- Disaggregated data on basis of urban/rural, gender, establish demand elasticities of individuals and households in order to understand what is inhibiting take up and contribute to understanding of potential of ICT for poverty alleviation
- 2007 - 18 countries in East, North, South and West Africa.
- Collaboration e-Africa commission, NOS, NRA and universities

Focus of the 2007 household survey

- e-Access: Assess of households to ICTs across income groups, geographic location and other factors.
- e-Usage: Household and individual usage of ICTs across socio-economic and geographic factors including rural/urban and how gender plays a role.
- Demand Elasticities: Demand elasticities will be estimated using revealed preferences and stated choice concepts. Knowing the demand elasticities of individuals and households will facilitate an in-depth analysis of the obstacles to ICT adoption which might be of a monetary relevance (income - household or personal disposable income) or qualitative nature (culture, status etc.)
- Poverty Alleviation: Potential to enhance capabilities



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Household survey sample

- 29,000 household across 20 countries
- Nationally representative result
- Compliance with national statistics
- Household as well as individual information is collected
- PDAs and laptops replace paper questionnaires.

Objectives of the SME study

- Look at the impact of ICTs on economic growth and employment creation from the demand/user side
- Identifying obstacles to ICT usage that SMEs face in their daily business activities
- Providing guidance in the formulation of policy that will induce economic growth and employment

Why SMEs?

- The sector in which most of the world's poor are working
- The sector exceeds the average economic growth of national economies in many developing countries
- Contributes significantly to economic growth and employment

Sector Performance Review

SUPPLY
SIDE

Household Survey

DEMAND
SIDE

SME Survey

The background of the slide is a collage of African flags and a zebra. The zebra is positioned in the center, facing right, with a map of the African continent overlaid on its body. Above the zebra, there are several African flags, including those of South Africa, Nigeria, and Kenya. The zebra is also decorated with traditional African patterns and a large, ornate headdress. The overall theme is African culture and identity.

Thank you

For more information see:

- www.researchICTafrica.net
- <http://link.wits.ac.za>