

ICT TELECOMMUNICATION PROFILE IN BRIEF - Rwanda

1 . Basic Socio-Economic Indicators

	Units	2004
Population	millions	8,941
Density	Per sq km	339.5
Population growth rate	%	2.70
Rural Population	%	83.1
Households		1,757,426
GDP par capita	Rwf	117134
Inflation rate	Annual % change in CPI	12
Exchange rate	Rwf/\$	579

Source: MINECOFIN/Macro Dpt

2. Telecom Sector

2.1 ICT Policy, Legal and Regulation

Activity	Responsible
ICT Policy making and strategy developpement	Ministry of Infrastructure
Regulator for public utilities	Rwanda Utilities regulatory Agency

National ICT policy	Integrated ICT- led Socio- Economic Development Policy and Plan for Rwanda 2001- 2005
Legal framework	Law n° 39/2001 establishing Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Agency as a Multisector Regulatory Agency (telecom, energy, gaz, transport, water and sanitation)
	Law n° 44/2001 governing telecommunications
	Presidential Order n°04/01 determing the functioning of the Univeral Access Fund and Public Contributions
Various Regulations/Orders	More details on www.rura.gov.rw

2.2 Operators and Services Providers

Services	Operators
Fixed telecom operator	Rwandatel s.a, a state owned company (it is in process to be privatised and the winner will be granted a mobile licence)
Mobile operator	MTN Rwandacell, it will be granted a fixed license also
VSAT network operator	Artel s.a.r.l (rural telephony)
ISPs	Rwandatel sa Terracom(new entrant) Artel Mediapost
Leased line	Rwandatel s.a

3. Data collection

Responsible	Area of intervention
Ministry of Finance/Statistics Department	ICT usage data collection in households, public and private administration
Rwanda utilities Regulatory Agency	ICT data collection on quality of service, infrastructure development and access

4. Statistics

Main lines in use(land line + VSAT)	23,198
Public phones	3933
Main lines per 100 inhabitants	0.26%
Mobile telephone subscribers	138,728
Mobile Public phones	1457
Mobile telephone per 100 inhabitants	1.6%
Telecom net operating income (2003) USD	44,789,191
% of households with TV(census 2002)	0.1%
% of households with radio(census 2002)	41.7%
% of household with computer(census 2002)	0.1%
Internet subscribers	2639

Source: -General census 2002
- Telecom Oporato rs

5. Challenges

- Confidentiality: Some Operators hesitate to disclose some data because of confidentiality and competition.
- Capacity building: Regulation is a new concept in the country; much is needed in staff capacity building and sensitisation of all the stakeholders mainly operators
- Processing mechanism: There is not yet a systematic processing mechanism in place (there is no sotfware)
- Budget: ICT Community access and usage surveys require important means but sometimes Action undertaken there is no budget for that.

Discussions are underway between Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Agency and the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning/Statistics Department, for a Coordination of action in the area of ICT data collection, processing and dissemination.

Dessemination

Data collected are not yet published on the website.