

Connect2Recover

Building back better with broadband

#Connect2Recover

<https://connect2recover.itu.int/>

Webinar

26 May 2021, 9:50

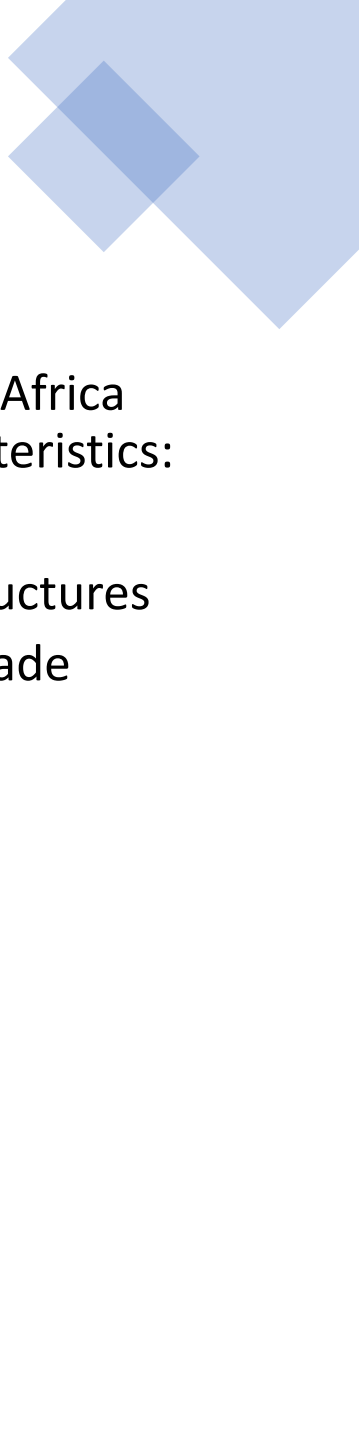


Overview of Connectivity Status in LDCs

- Global Covid-19 Pandemic has impacted all countries and it's full economic impact will be felt around the world in many years to come
- The Impact of Covid-19 was felt more in Least Developed Countries due to:
 - Weaker economies
 - Underdeveloped infrastructures
 - Dependencies on Developed Economies which reduced investments due to pandemic
 - Higher rural populations and sparse populations in rural areas
- ICT has proved to be both resilient to the impact of Covid-19 and an important enabler during Covid-19 Pandemic



What, Where are the LDCs

- Least Developed Countries, are predominantly in Africa and Small Island States have the following characteristics:
 - Low Savings Rates
 - Poor and Vulnerable Institutions and Infrastructures
 - Highly dependent on international aid and trade
 - Low literacy rates
 - Inadequate technology and capital
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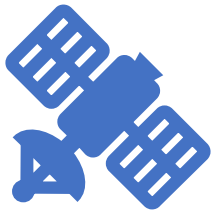
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Small Island States



The Connectivity in LDCs



International Connectivity

Satellite and Submarine cables



Backbone

Microwave and fibre backbones



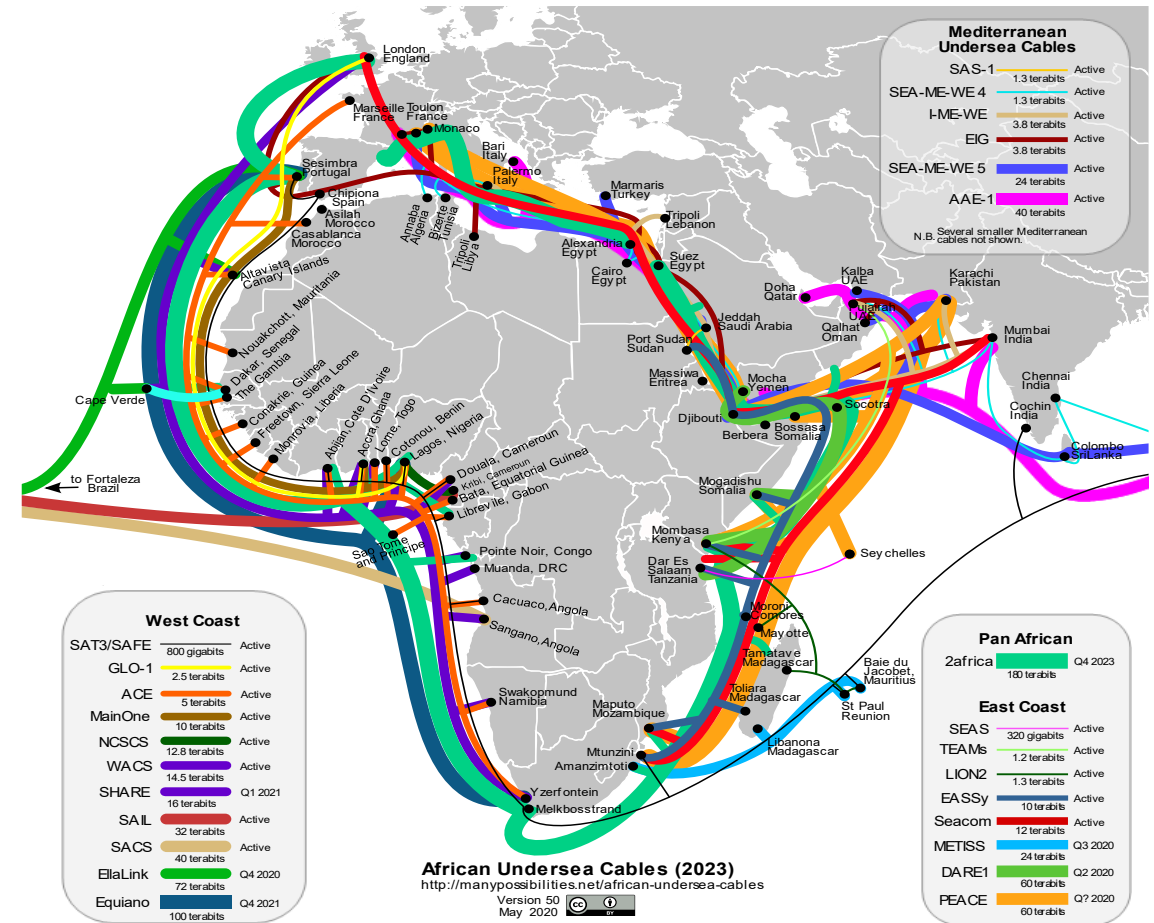
Last mile

Mobile connectivity
Fibre connectivity is limited

International Connectivity for Broadband

The international connectivity in Sub-saharan Africa.

Among the countries some are landlocked and they are all LDCs: Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Malawi, Mali, Niger, Rwanda, South Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe



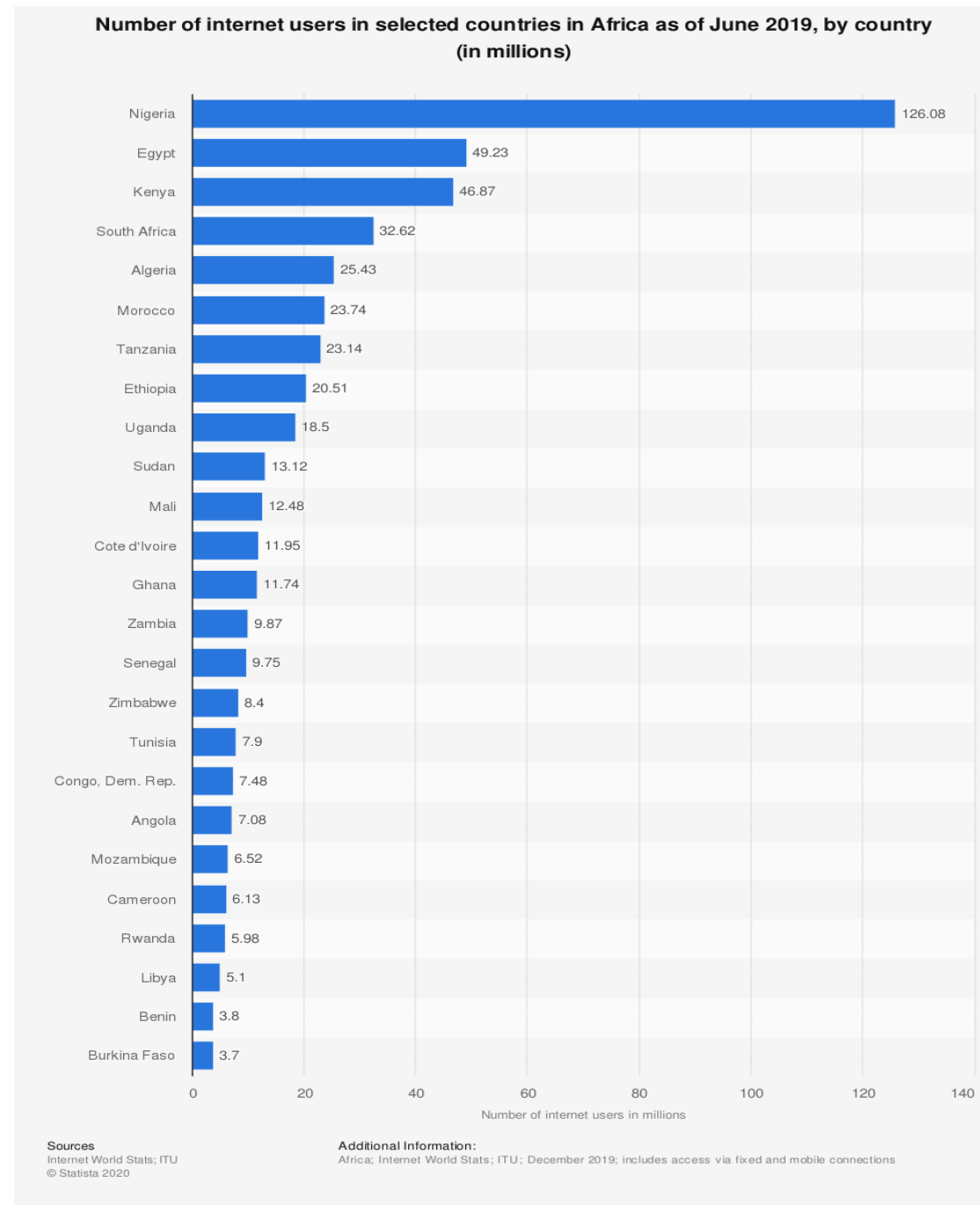
Terrestrial Connectivity Using Fiber Backbone

- Terrestrial Fiber links to have been in development primarily for backbone connectivity
- the main form of broadband access in Africa is still wireless
- Through 3G and 4G mobile networks.



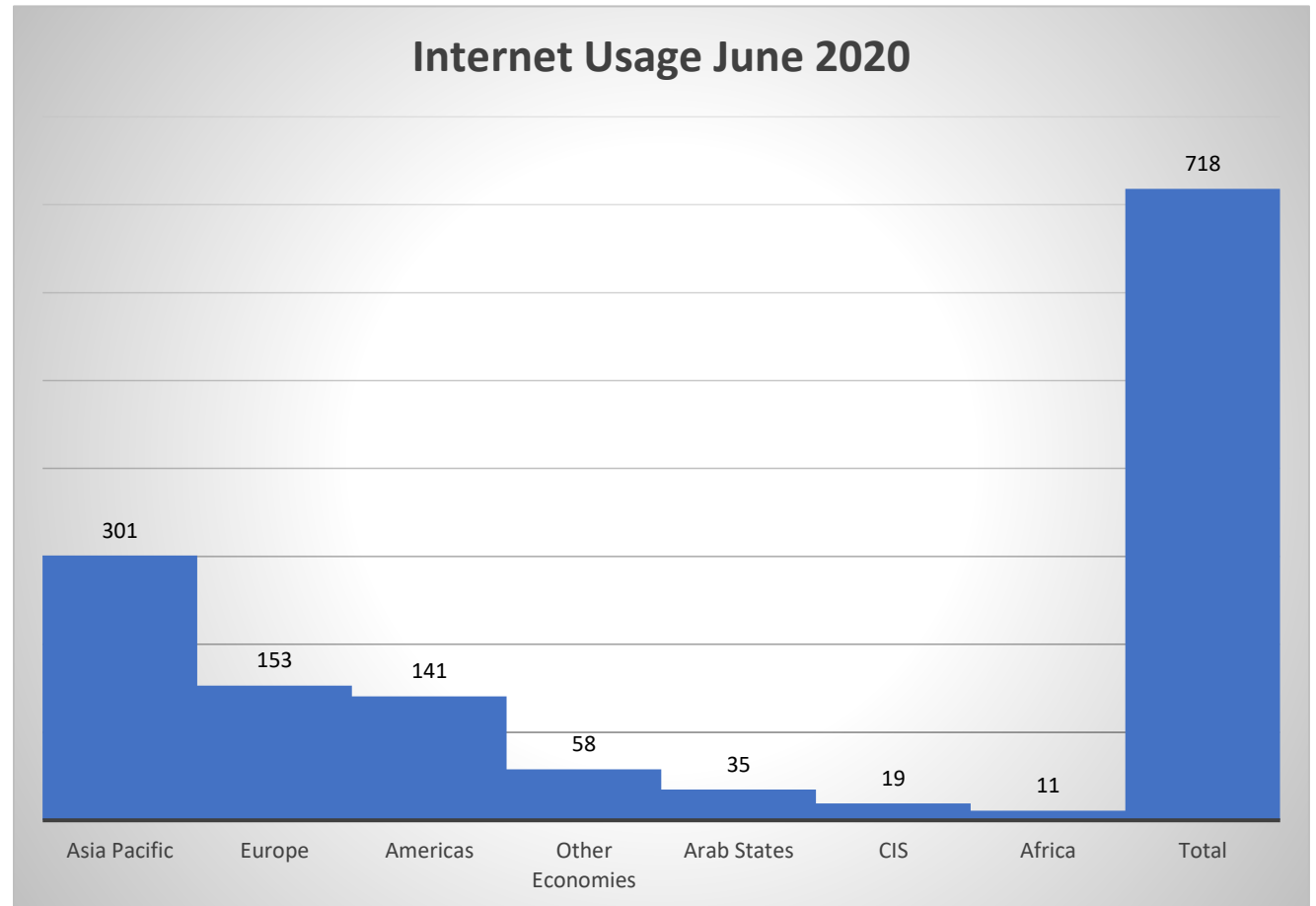
Top 25 countries in Africa by Internet Users

- Nigeria is leading the largest number of internet users followed by Egypt and Kenya. Having access to Internet is an important for using ICT for economic activities during Covid-19 pandemic.
- In Sub-Saharan Africa, 26% are connected to internet, 49% have coverage without internet and 25% have no connectivity at all.



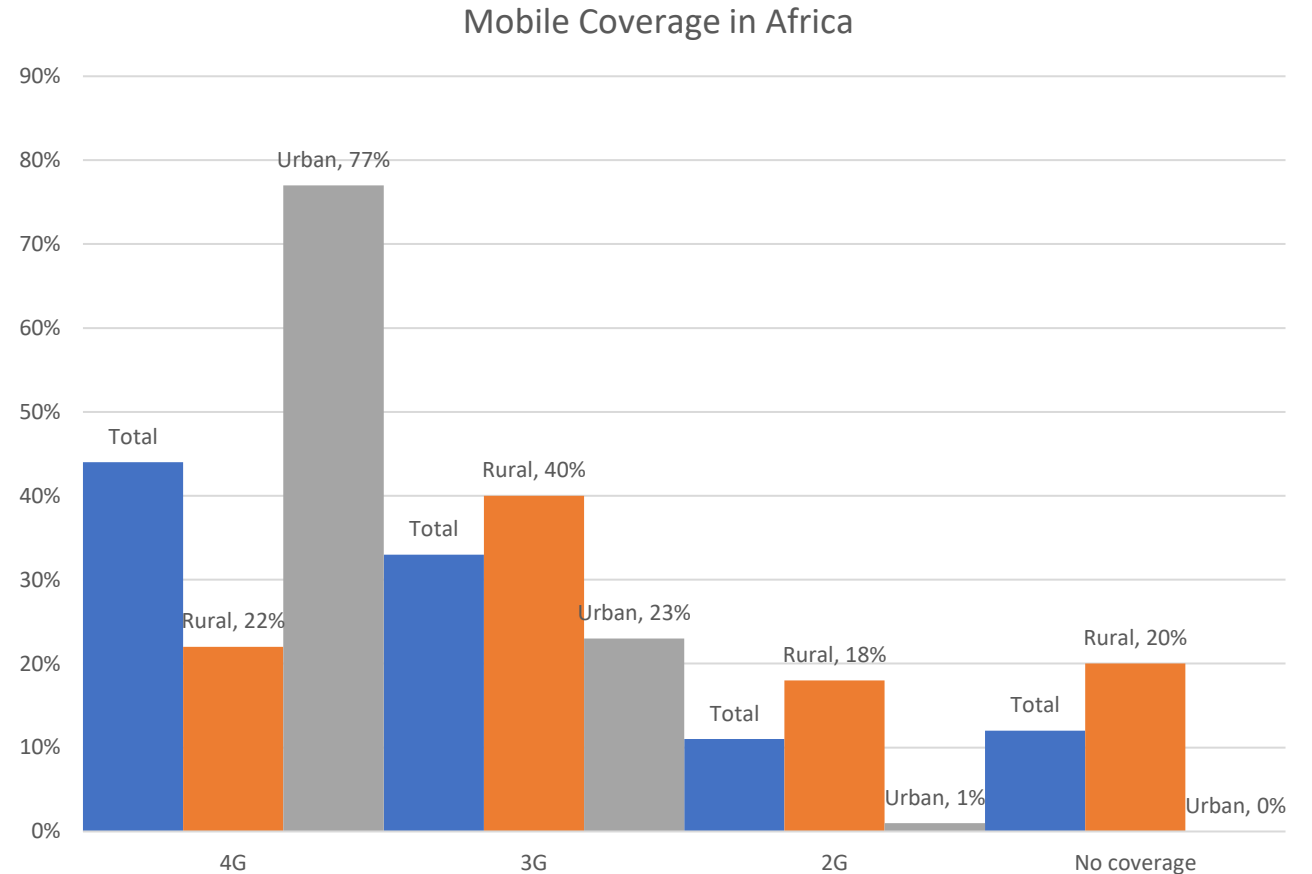
International Bandwidth Usage in LDCs in Africa

- Global Growth of International Bandwidth Usage is 38% (ITU stats)
- By June 2020 only 11 Terabits per second bandwidth was used in Africa out of the global total of 561 terabits per second global usage



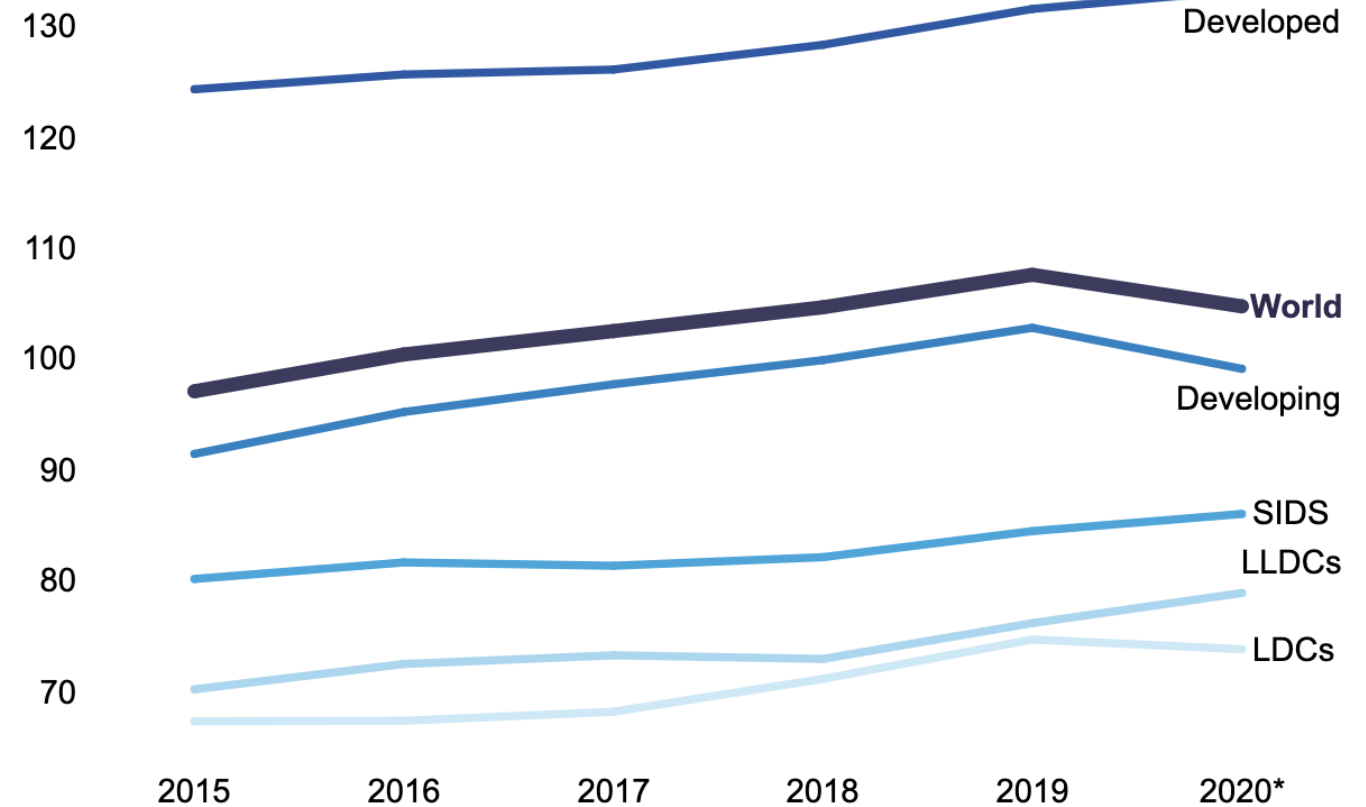
Mobile Network Coverage in Africa

- Coverage has a big divide between urban and rural
- The divide is highest with 4G infrastructure, where 77% of the 4G coverage is in urban areas with only 22% in rural areas.
- 23% of the population have no access to broadband coverage



Mobile Subscriptions

- A decline of mobile subscriptions in LDCs and Developing Countries, further research is needed to establish whether it is due to the economic effects of Covid-19 or other economic factors



* ITU June 2020 estimate. Source: ITU

Connect2Recover from Covid-19 Impacts for LDCs in Africa

- Special Focus is needed to push for infrastructure development in Africa to ensure available and resilient infrastructure for population especially the rural populations in Africa.
- By utilising the Connect2Recover initiative for the reinforcement of the digital infrastructure and ecosystems of beneficiary countries, It is expected that digital technologies such as telework, e-commerce, remote learning and telemedicine will support the COVID-19 recovery efforts and preparedness for potential future pandemics
- Connect2Recover seeks to galvanize action for affordable and reliable connectivity as part of COVID-19 recovery strategies. Whereas it heralds the beginning of ITU's transition from COVID-19 response activities to helping countries to prepare for and adjust to the new circumstances caused by the pandemic, it also reinforces continuity of ITU's core work and mission, which is to extend connectivity to everyone.
- Countries need to go back to ITU work under the HIPSSA Project to align policies on access to submarine cables https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Projects/ITU-EC-ACP/HIPSSA/Documents/FINAL%20DOCUMENTS/FINAL%20DOCS%20ENGLISH/submarine_cables_ecowas_regulation.pdf
- but also access to these cables from Landlocked countries:https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Projects/ITU-EC-ACP/HIPSSA/Documents/FINAL%20DOCUMENTS/FINAL%20DOCS%20FRENCH/ecowas_study-access_from_landlocked_countries-fr.pdf

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Thank you !

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