

RESULTS AND FINDINGS FROM THE STUDY- GENERAL ASPECTS OF THE REGION, REGULATORY FRAMEWORK, ACCREDITATION BODIES AND INSTITUTIONS

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GENERAL ASPECTS OF THE REGION

- Southern African region
 - Estimated population -283,659,000,
 - GDP - USD 655,142,000,000 and
 - Land size of 9,882,959km².

- South Africa, the biggest economy in the sub-region.
 - most populated country in the sub-region. Estimated population - 50,586,757
 - GDP - USD408,236.8
 - land size -1,219,090km².
 - literacy rate - 88.7% for persons above 15 years.

GENERAL ASPECTS OF THE REGION

- Namibia
 - total area - 824,292 sq km,
 - an estimated population - 2 113 077 and a
 - GDP - USD12,823,000,000.
 - Literacy rate - 89%.

GENERAL ASPECTS OF THE REGION

- Botswana
 - Total area of 581,730 km²,
 - Estimated population of 2,101,715
 - GDP of USD17.33 billion.

GENERAL ASPECTS OF THE REGION

- Botswana reported the highest penetration rate of 153% among the three respondents for mobile services.
- They also reported a penetration rate of 48% for Internet.
- The country also has three major telecommunications providers.
- South Africa, the biggest telecommunications market in the sub-region has a penetration of 128.7% for mobile services and 9.3% for Internet services.
- South Africa has three mobile network operators and two fixed line operators.

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK AND INSTITUTIONS (PER COUNTRY)

- South Africa and Botswana have a regulatory framework and regulation which establishes technical requirements for products and services to be legally imported and deployed in the marketplace.
- Namibia's Type Approval Regulations is however still in draft form.
- Tanzania also has a regulatory framework in place since 2012.

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK AND INSTITUTIONS (PER COUNTRY)

- South Africa is the only country which has adopted comprehensive conformity assessment schemes for market entry. Includes certification through testing in labs and labeling.
- Botswana relies on documents from test labs outside the countries and also use proxies such as EC, FCC and other for conformity assessment.
- SABS Product Mark Scheme is based on ISO/IEC 17025, which outlines the general requirements for the competence of testing and calibration laboratories.

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK AND INSTITUTIONS (PER COUNTRY)

- All the respondents have compulsory legislations and regulations dealing with ICT and telecom products.
- With the exception of South Africa, all the other countries are having challenges with enforcement due to capacity constraints.
- None of the respondents have MRAs , South Africa will however accept test reports that are issued by an Accredited Test Laboratory (ATL).
- South Africa and Botswana have a national standards system and national SDOs. There was no response on this issue from Namibia.

ACCREDITATION

- South Africa is the only country with an accreditation body- South African National Accreditation System (SANAS). SANAS covers ICT and Telecom products and Electrical Equipment and other unrelated scopes.

LABORATORIES

- South Africa is the only country with accredited test labs. These include Telkom, SABS, Gerotek, Test Africa, ITC Laboratories are accredited by SANAS.

CHALLENGES

- Only three responses out of the 15 member countries in the SADC sub-region to C&I survey questionnaires.
- Team also relied on perspectives of the SADC secretariat and other secondary sources.

THANKS!