

Advancing affordability to connect the next 50%



A global coalition working to make broadband affordable for all



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A4AI: Public-private collaboration in action with 80 member organisations



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



NEPAD
TRANSFORMING AFRICA



Nigeria



All have endorsed one set of policy **best practices**

- grounded on the principles of internet freedom and the fundamental rights of expression, assembly, and association online -

for making **affordable broadband internet** a reality.

Affordability still a major barrier to access



The high cost to connect is excluding billions from the digital revolution

About half of the world's population is still offline
And recent annual rates of growth in internet use have slowed down

Just 24 countries meet the "1 for 2" affordability target
1GB for 2% or less of average monthly income

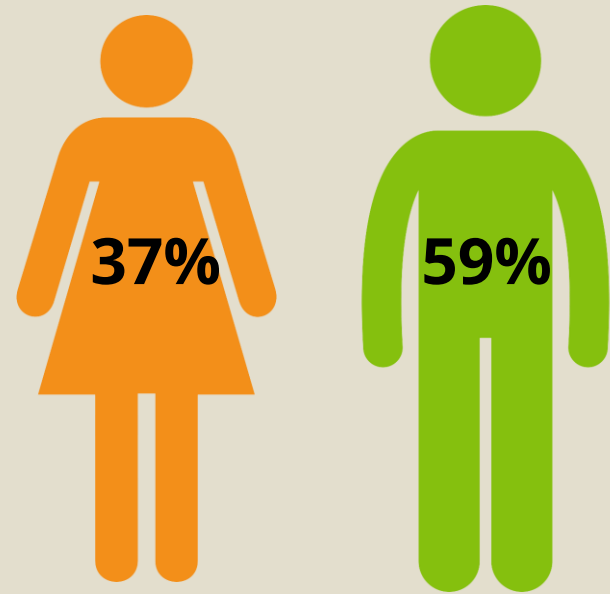
Mobile broadband affordability, 2015-2017



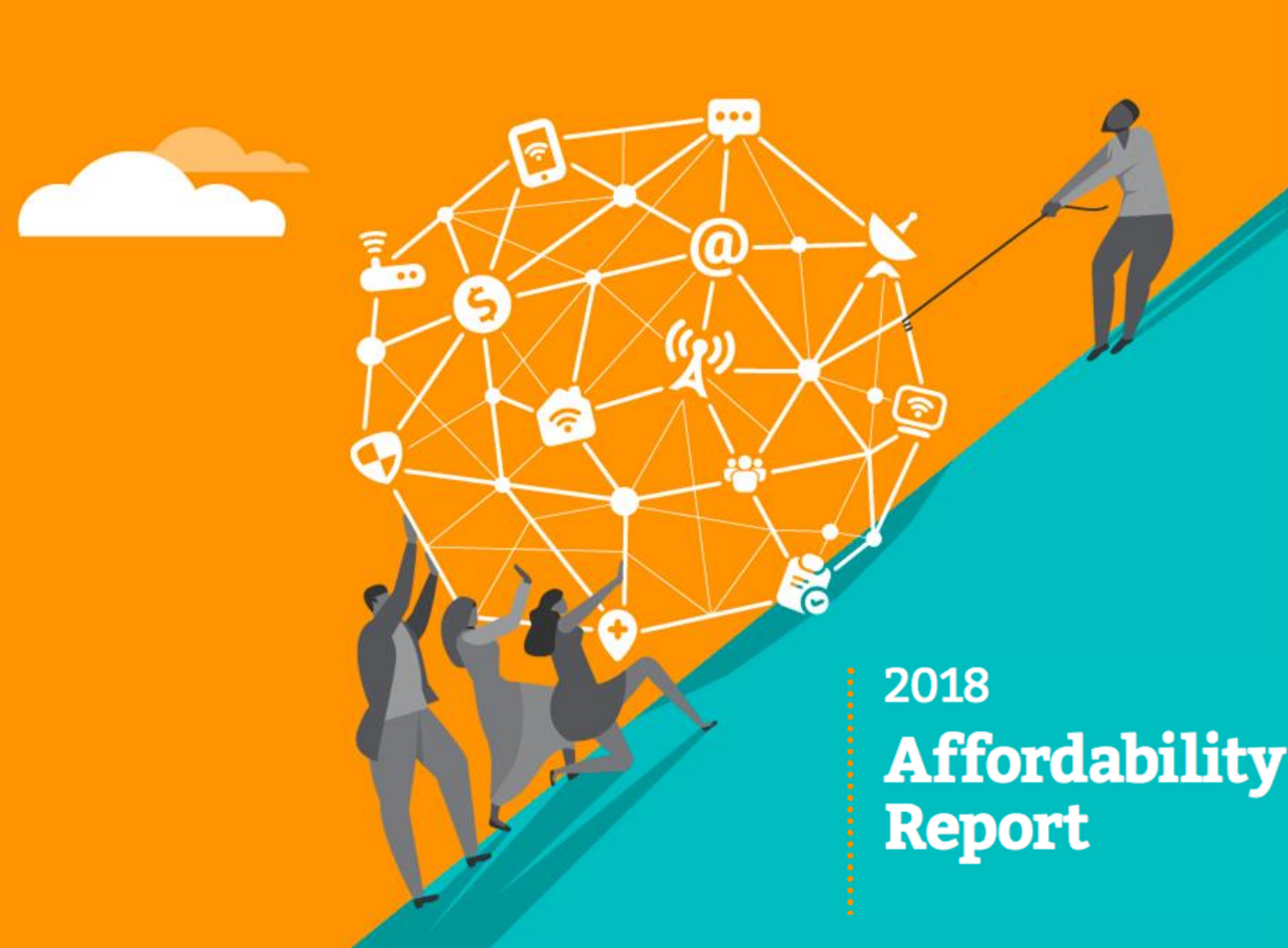
Lack of affordability also drives the digital gender divide



- Globally the digital gender gap is growing (ITU, 2017).
- Web Foundation (2015) urban household survey (in 10 countries):
 - High prices cited as a major reason for not using the internet among women
 - Women are 50% less likely than men to use the internet in poor urban communities



% of poor urban men and women surveyed by Web Foundation who are online across 10 cities in low- and middle income countries



Advancing affordable internet
for everyone.



2018
**Affordability
Report**

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Key Policy Areas to Reduce Industry Costs



- Regulatory Environment
 - Peru working toward transparent benchmarking of QoS
 - Ethiopia made initial steps towards greater competition in the market
- Broadband Strategy
 - Bolivia’s new national broadband plan includes clear time-bound targets (2020)
- Universal and Public Access
 - Most improvement in Asia-Pacific with investments in infrastructure (Thailand), public access (Philippines), and the digital gender gap (Pakistan)
- Infrastructure Sharing
 - Guidelines for sharing in the Dominican Republic and Tanzania.
- Spectrum Management
 - Spectrum “roadmap” in Indonesia

Progress toward affordable internet



Policy progress is slowing.

Policy scores increased by just 1% over the previous year — lowest improvement since 2014.

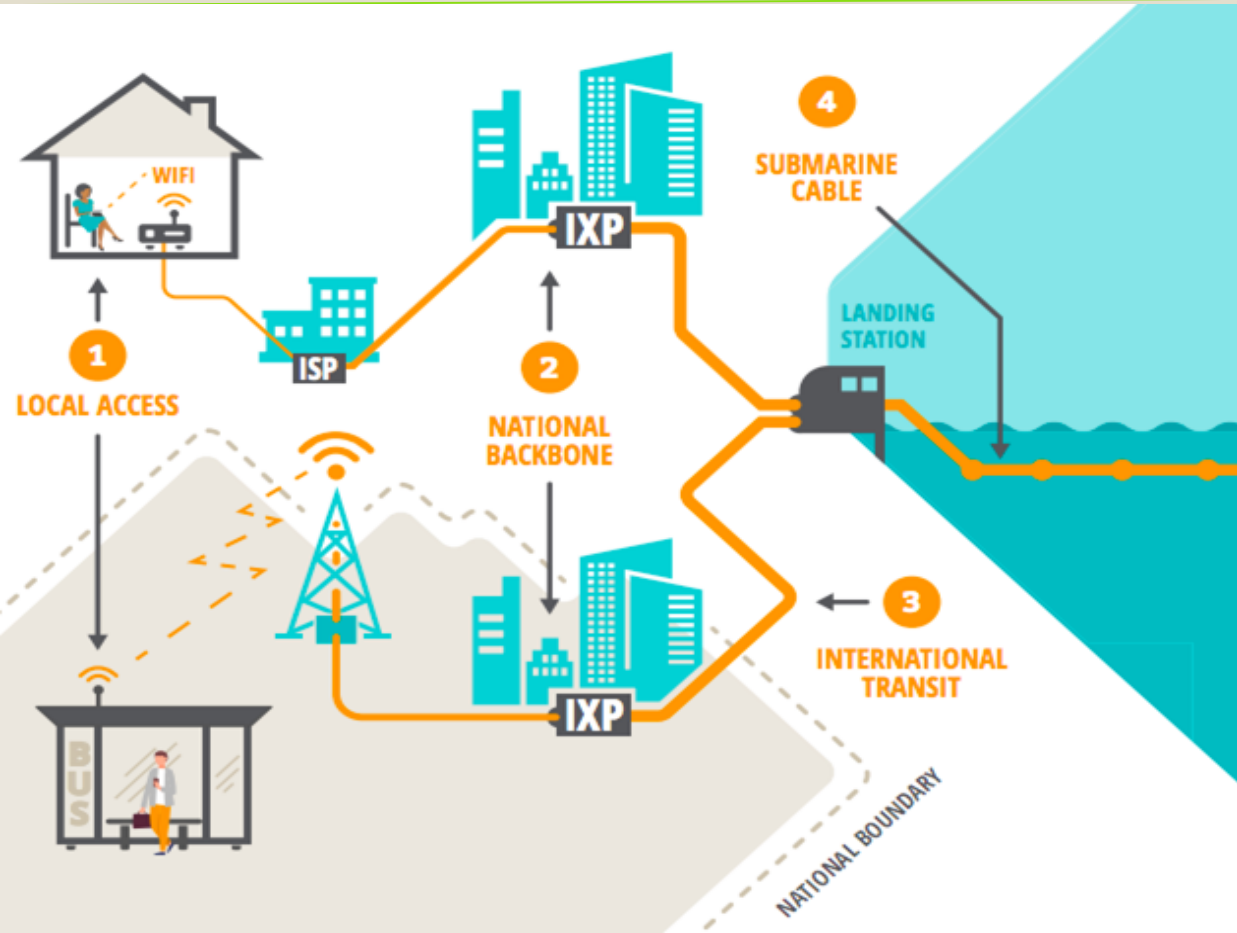
Policy scores fall in key areas.

For the first time ever, we saw scores backslide cross measures of the regulatory environment and policies around universal and public access.

Infrastructure gains are faltering.

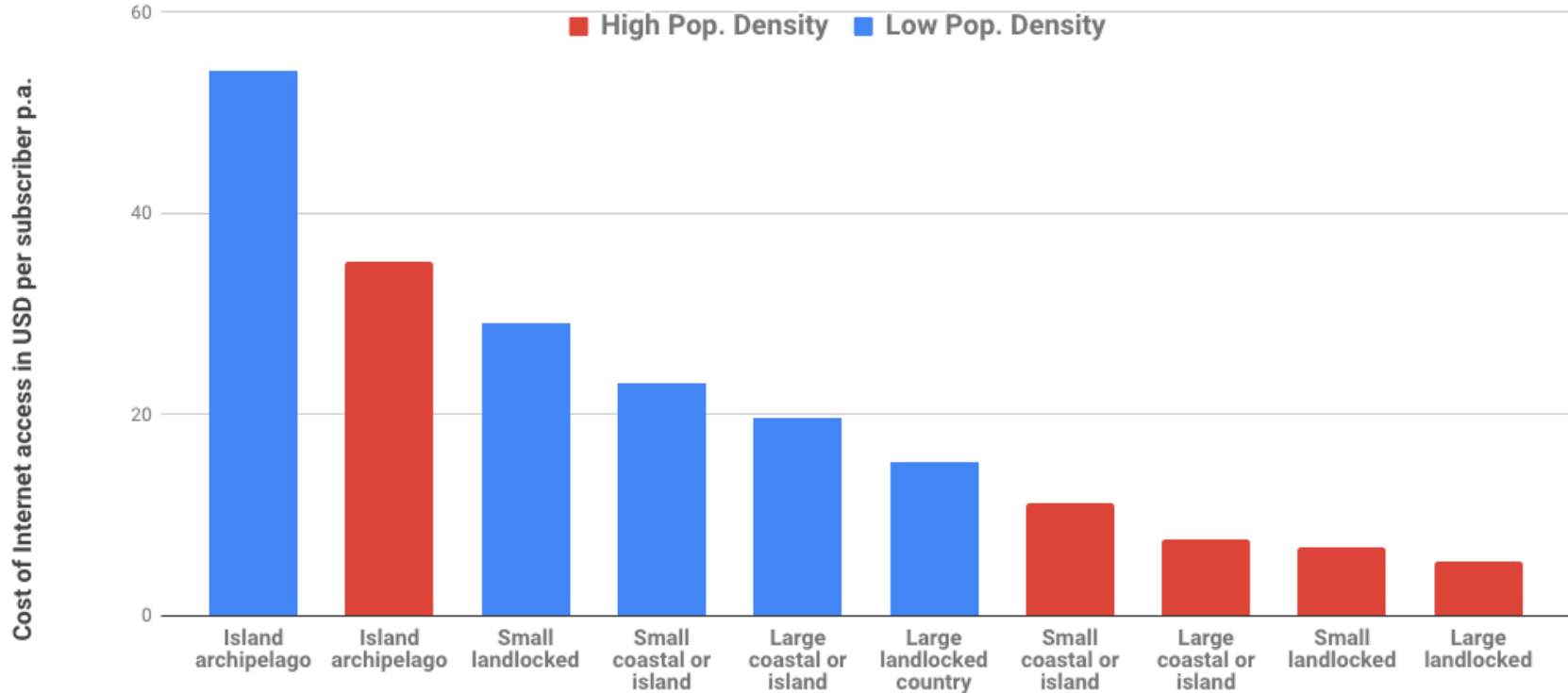
Policies to expand infrastructure have stagnated — a point reinforced by costs that remain stubbornly high.

Identifying the costs components for broadband



- Key Cost Components:
 - Local Access
 - National Backbone
 - International Transit
 - Submarine Cable

How geography impacts affordability (using cost models)



Time for action to advance affordable access



Develop cost reduction strategies that are rooted in a country's unique geographic challenges.

Develop or update national broadband plans with concrete targets and timelines (including those for gender).

Implement policies for public access (e.g., Universal Service & Access Funds, community networks, etc.)

Support infrastructure development (e.g., access to rights of ways, spectrum allocation, etc.)



Thank you!



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