



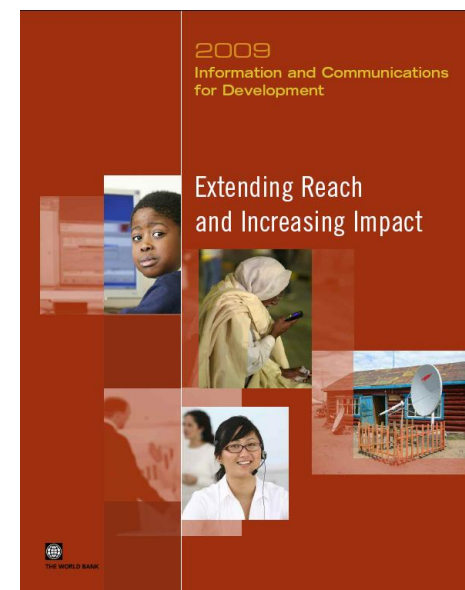
**ICT: The single most important
development tool of our generation**

**Opening Remarks, Dr Mohsen Khalil,
Director, Global ICT, IFC/World Bank
(Delivered by Tim Kelly)**

**Policy Coherence in ICT for Development
OECD/infoDev Workshop, Paris,
10-11 September 2009**

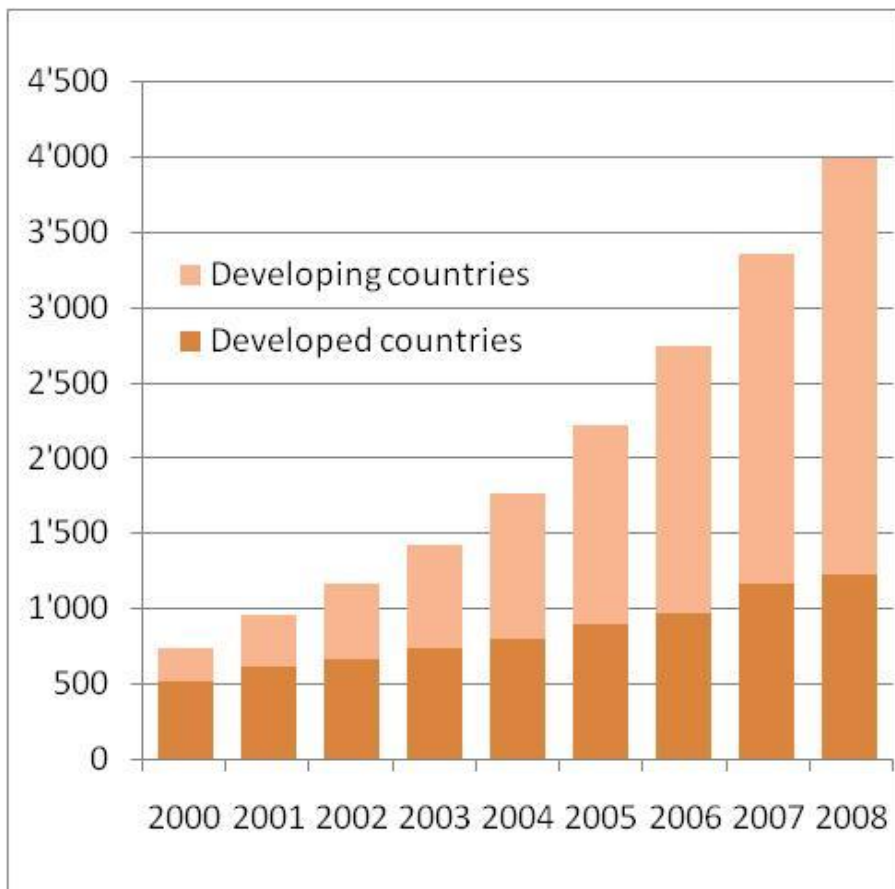


- The evolution of internet-enabled **mobile phones**, and their global spread, offers enormous development potential
- Access to **broadband services** can bring a wide range of benefits including higher productivity, lower costs, new economic opportunities, increased educational attainment etc.
- **Government policy** has a key role to play in extending reach and increasing the impact of ICTs
- Developing countries can exploit growth opportunities presented by global trade in **ICT and ICT-enabled services**



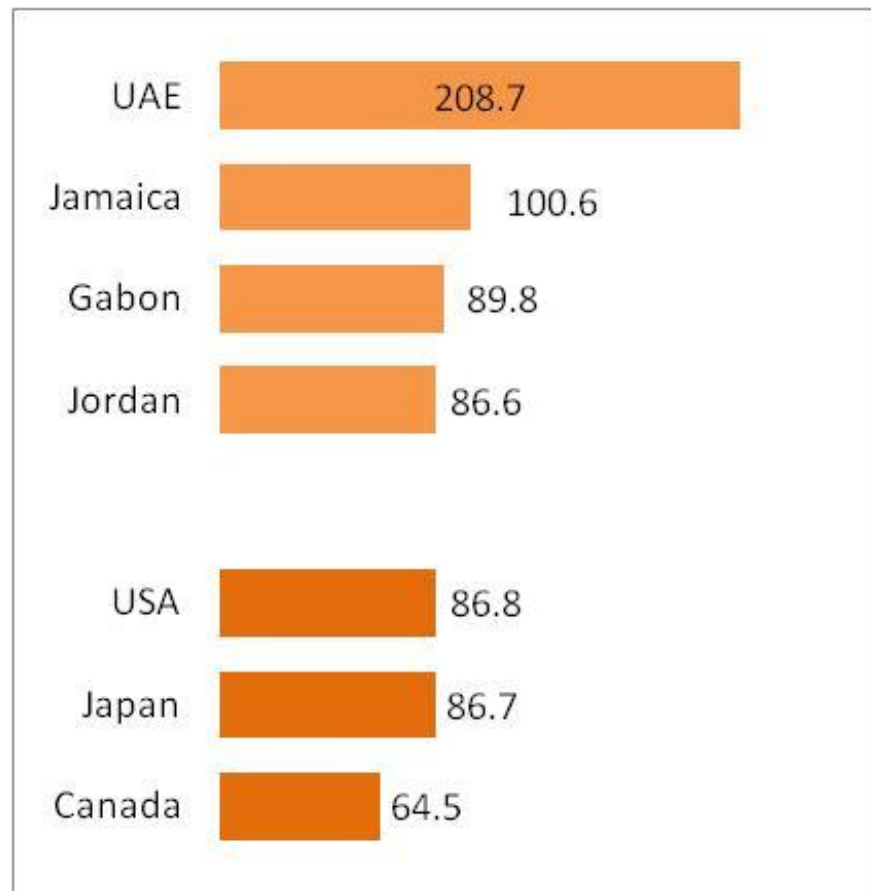


Mobile phones have narrowed the gaps in voice communications worldwide



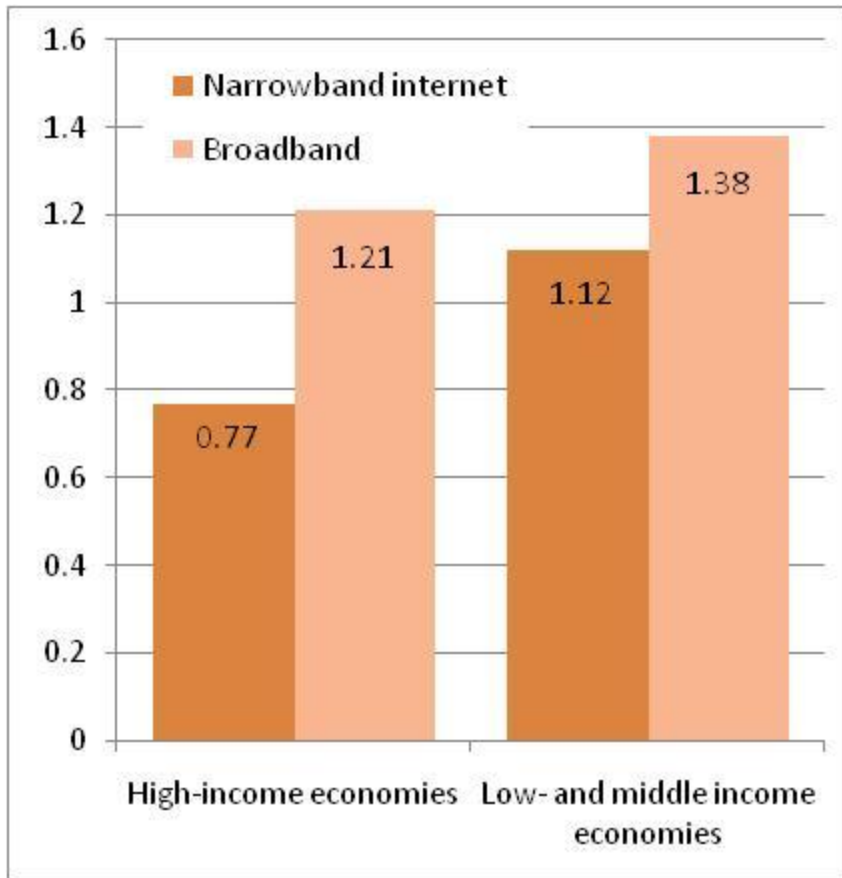
Mobile phones worldwide, millions

Some developing countries are beginning to leapfrog OECD counterparts



Mobile density, per 100 pop.

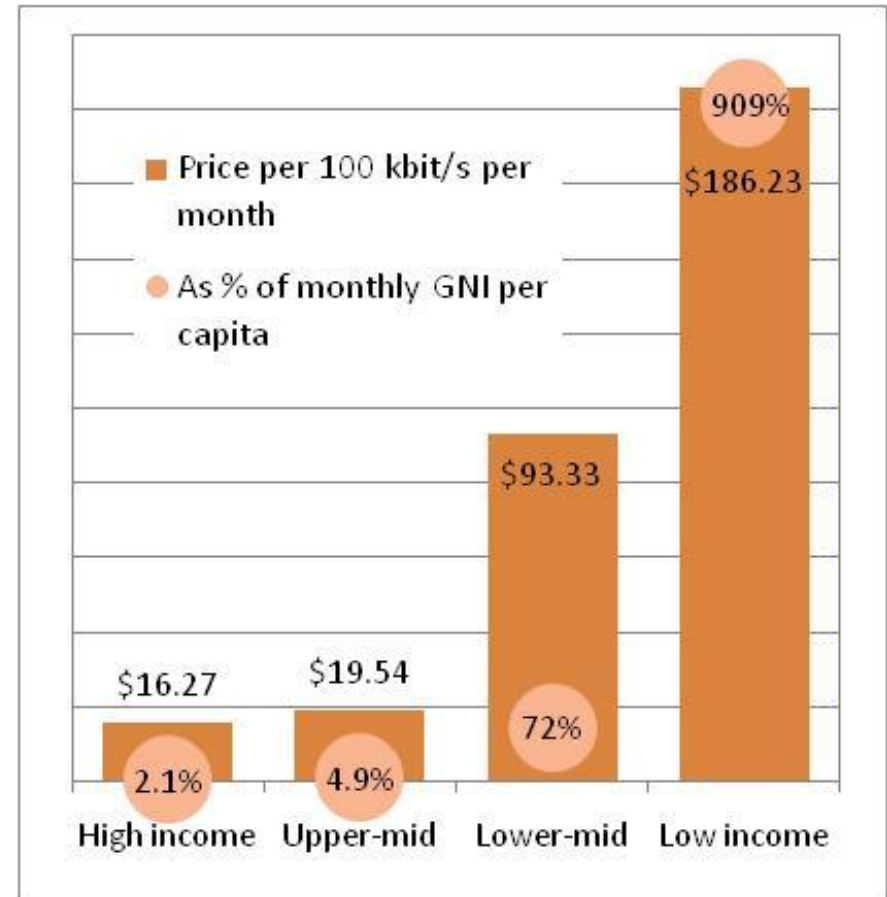
Broadband provides a bigger boost to the economy than narrowband internet



Source: World Bank (2009) "Info and Comm for Development"

Impact on GDP of a 10% increase in penetration of ICTs

But broadband prices are much higher in the developing world



Source:ITU (2007) "World Information Society Report"

Broadband prices, per 100 kbit/s per month, 2007



Goal: Extending broadband access by making the service more affordable, more useful and more available in rural areas

Consequence: But this would require a public private partnership with clearly defined roles and expectations



Challenge: How to develop a national broadband strategy and incorporate it as part of an economic stimulus package without distorting the market



Goal: Achieving universal service in mobile and broadband will require a substantial increase in their user base worldwide

Consequence: But that would increase the carbon footprint of the ICT industry when emissions of greenhouse gases must be cut



Challenge: How to use ICTs to substitute for the physical movement of good and people



Goal: Extending electronic access to banking services in the developing world, via mobile phones and computers

Consequence: But that would challenge the position of the traditional banking sector and may require changes to legislation



Challenge: How to harness the skills and experience of the banking sector to see mBanking as an opportunity not a threat



Goal: Providing ICT access to all primary and secondary schools and universities in the developing world

Consequence: But that would require considerable investment and may reduce resources available for teachers



Challenge: How to use ICTs to reduce costs, for instance for textbooks, while creating incentives for creation of relevant content



A joint World Bank / IFC department offering a full range of services



Policy / Regulation

Public Investments



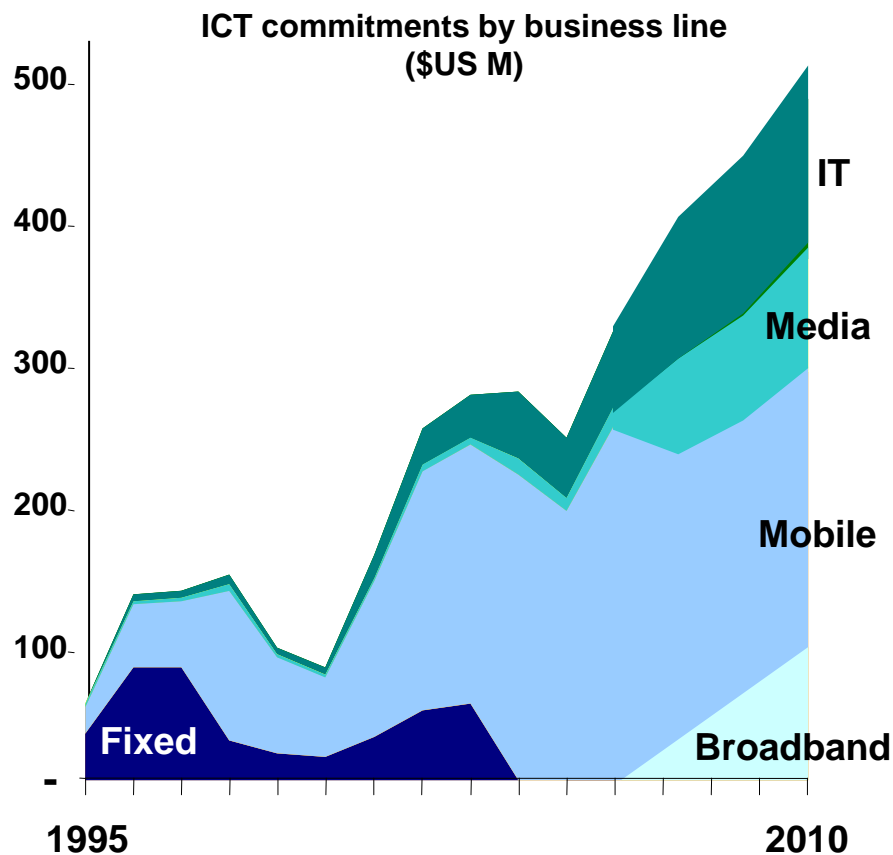
Technical Assistance



Private Investments



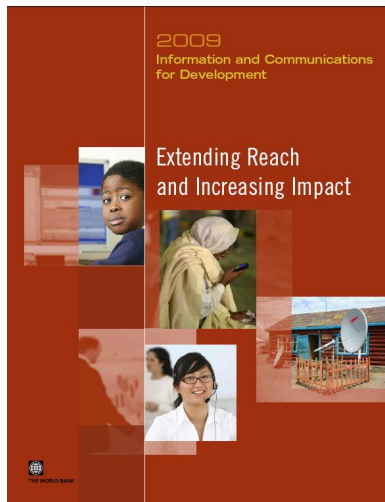
A major investor in developing world ICTs



Current portfolio: \$1 billion
Mobilized over \$7 billion



Global Information and Communication Technologies



Thank You

Global ICT Department
www.worldbank.org/ict
www.infodev.org