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Launch of the ADB Sustainable Development Working Paper

DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY AND LOW EARTH ORBIT SATELLITE CONSTELLATIONS

Opportunities for Asia and the Pacific

28 APRIL • 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (GMT+8)



PROGRAM

Opening and Introduction

Arndt Husar, Co-Author
and Senior Public Management Specialist (Digital Transformation), ADB

Digital Connectivity and Low Earth Orbit Satellite Constellations - Opportunities for Asia and the Pacific

John Garrity, Co-Author
and Consultant (Digital Connectivity), ADB

Opportunities for investment, technical assistance and partnerships

Thomas Abell, Chief, Digital Technology for Development Unit, ADB

Perspectives

Atsuko Okuda, Regional Director, ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

Jun Murai, Distinguished Professor, Keio University (Japan)
and Founder, WIDE Project

Audience Q&A



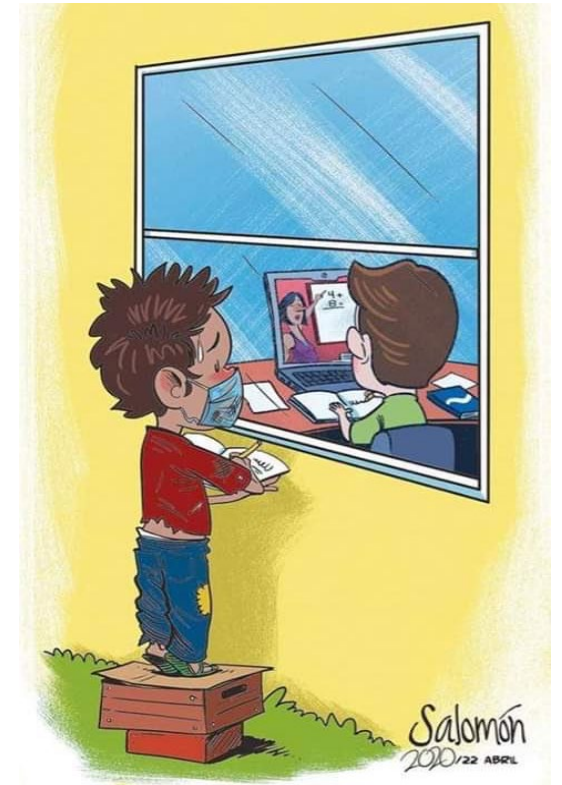
WHY FOCUS ON INTERNET CONNECTIVITY

Connectivity is essential for economic growth and social development. It is also critical to resilience and recovery.

The digital divide directly impacts **economic opportunities** and raises **income inequality**.

Telecom infrastructure has been mostly privately funded, but **role of public policy and finance** is crucial for further expansion.

Now comes the hard part... Closing the remaining connectivity gaps! Policies, business models, technologies, and partnerships.



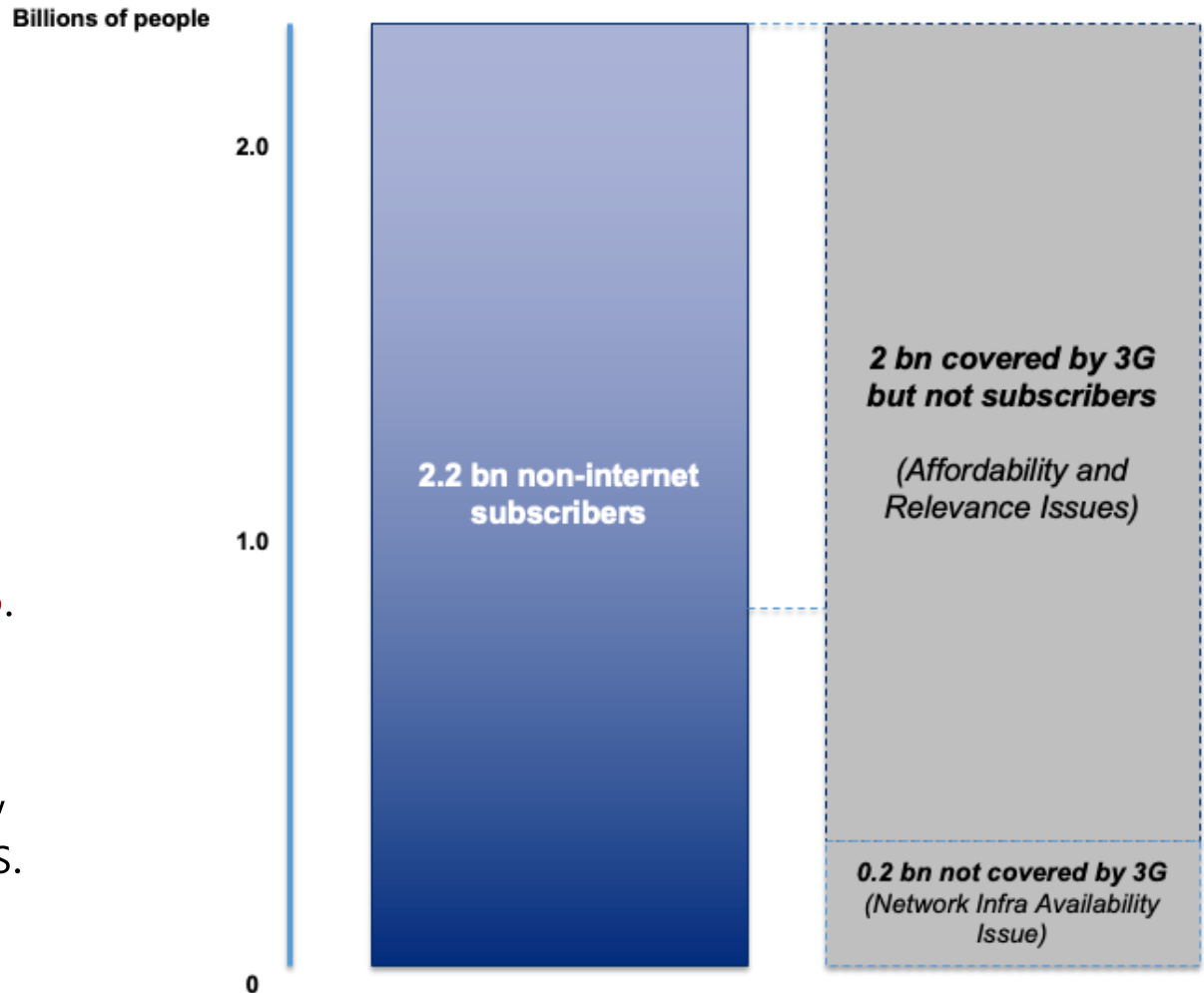
ACCESS, AFFORDABILITY AND ADOPTION GAPS

In Asia and the Pacific, among
2.2 billion non-internet subscribers,

**the majority is
covered by 3G, but**

the remaining 2 billion people have
affordability and relevance issues.

Asia has made significant gains with affordability,
but struggles with **equal access** (gender, age,
literacy, rural, unemployment) and relevance issues.



ACCESS, AFFORDABILITY AND ADOPTION GAPS

Even when targets (<2%) of affordability are reached,

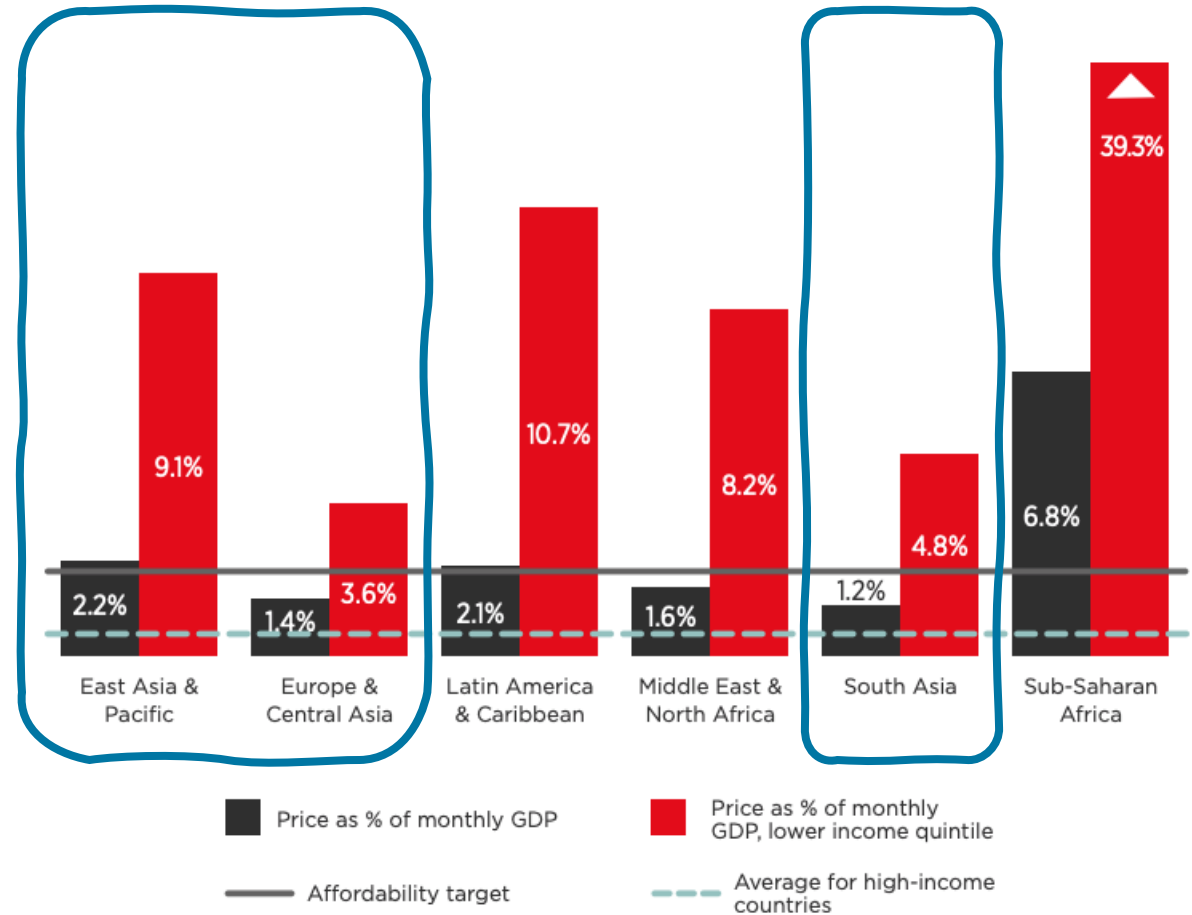
Lower income populations

still find prices unaffordable.

55%

(2.37bn people) in Asia-Pacific

are not using the internet



Source: GSMA Intelligence calculations based on pricing data from Tarifica. For each region, the mean average is taken based on the countries for which we have available data. Data on income distribution is sourced from the World Bank.

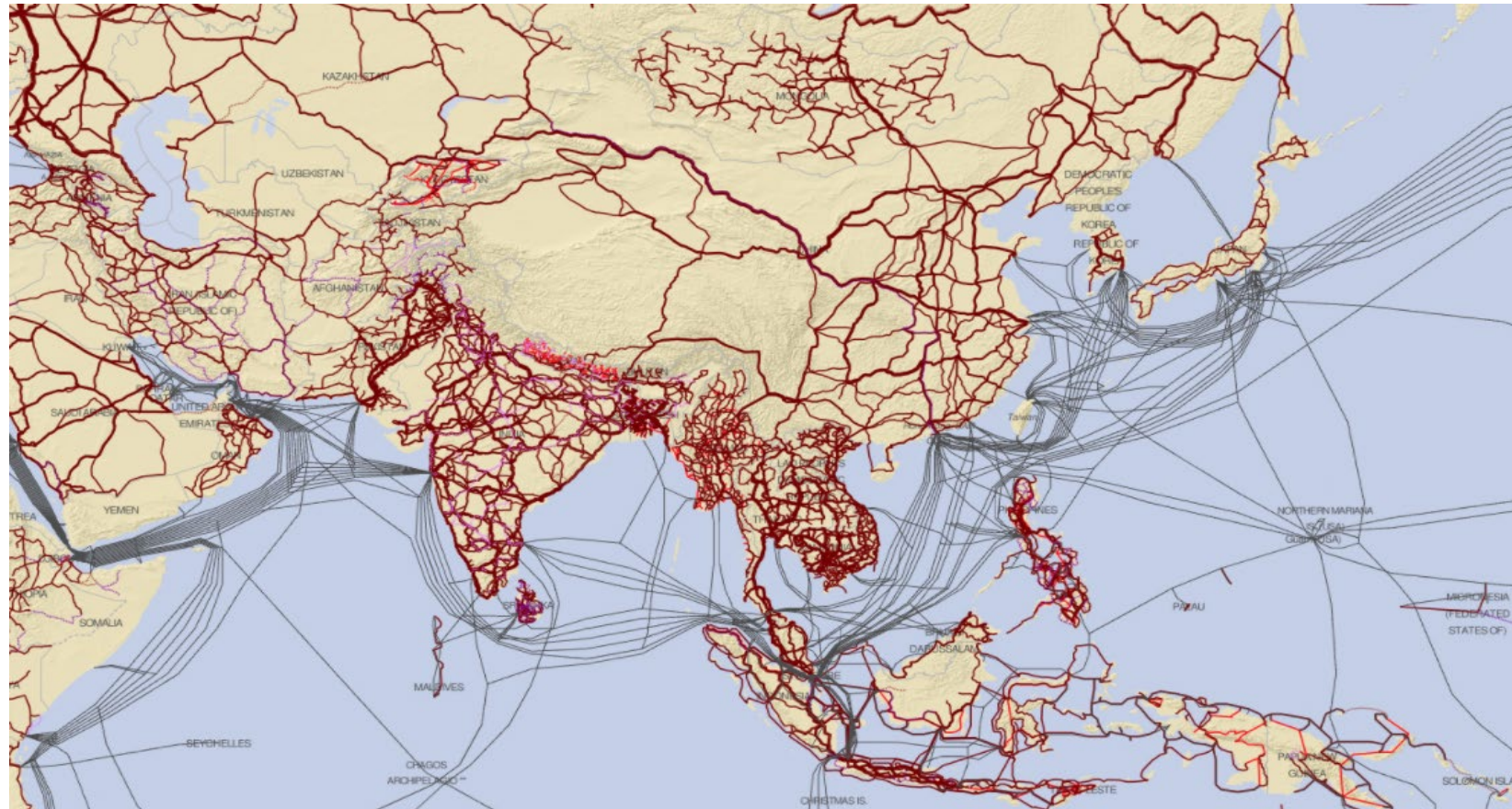
ACCESS, AFFORDABILITY AND ADOPTION GAPS

3 billion

reside greater than 10km from high-capacity, high-speed fiber optic infrastructure, and out of those **1.5 billion** more than 50km away

200 million

not covered by 3G



LEO SATELLITES CONSTELLATIONS

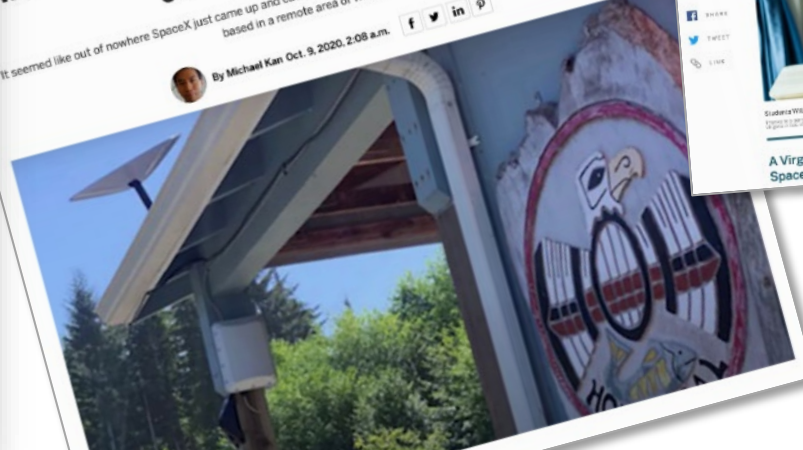
HIGH SPEED, LOW LATENCY BROADBAND



**Bringing connectivity
from 560km to 2m...**

Native American Tribe Gets Early Access to SpaceX's Starlink and Says It's Fast

PCMag Asia > Computers & Electronics > Networking
"It seemed like out of nowhere SpaceX just came up and catapulted us into the 21st century," says a leader of the Hoh tribe, which is based in a remote area of Washington state.
By Michael Kan Oct. 9, 2020, 2:08 a.m.

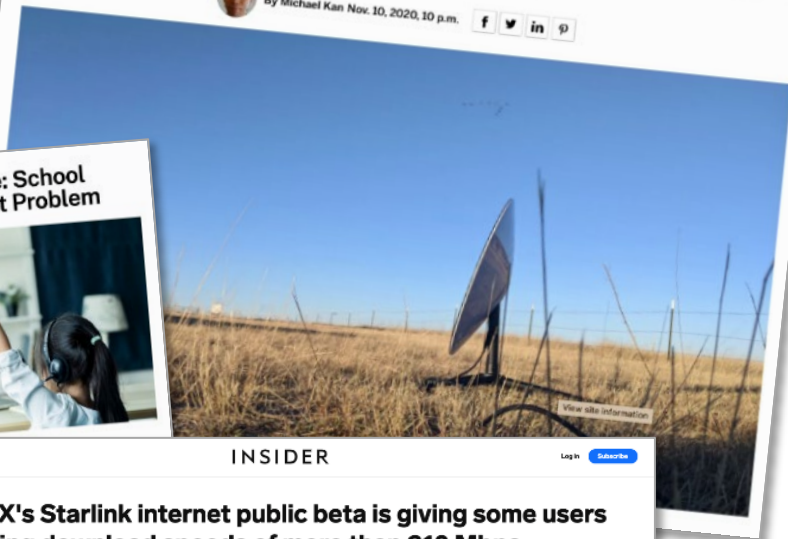


Wise County Goes Live: School District Solves Internet Problem



From Painfully Slow to Lightning Fast: SpaceX's Starlink Makes Rural Internet Usable

Rural Americans have long dealt with slow internet. But in interviews, SpaceX Starlink beta testers in Montana, Idaho, and elsewhere report speedy service that has transformed the way they use the web.
By Michael Kan Nov. 10, 2020, 10 p.m.



SpaceX's Starlink internet public beta is giving some users blistering download speeds of more than 210 Mbps, including in rural areas

TG TechGenyz
Kate Duffy Dec 30, 2020, 11:55 PM

SpaceX Starlink sets up new record with its network speed of 200Mbps; but is it affordable?

Tania Halder TECH Apr 6, 2021, 10:33 am