The state of Knowledge Society in Botswana

By
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Presentation: Outline

- The most recent "main country indicators" for ICT, Education STI
- How the indicators evolved over the last 5 years
- The major goals of: ICT policy; Education; STI policy
- Policy implementation
- Policy impact
- The development of the KS pillars over the next 5 to 7 years
Increased ICT:

- Access – 94% have *access to mobile phone*
- Use
- Skills

- *Strong growth in mobile broadband uptake – many citizens have joined the information society*
  - *Banking and other commercial transactions*
  - *unprecedented use of social media*
The most recent "main country indicators" for Education

- **Access, Equity, Quality, Relevance, Accountability & learning outcomes**
- Implementation of the 2016-2020 Strategic Plan *the Education and Training Sector Strategic Planning (ETSSP)* with the assistance of the European Union

- **Partnerships** – *with private sector, civil organisations and communities to address issues of poor quality education*
- SDG4 - 471 of 755 primary schools offer pre-primary education

- Research university - Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST)
- Open University
The most recent "main country indicators" for STI

Revised STI Policy 2012
To drive research, development and innovation the following institutions were established:

- Botswana Innovation Hub
- Botswana Institute of Technology Research and Innovation (BITRI)
- Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST)
- New technologies developed - such as the Kalahari Sand Building Block
How the indicators evolved over the last 5 years

Implementation & Monitoring of Policy Frameworks

• Vision 2016

• National Development Plan 10
  - ICT Maitlamo Policy
  - Liberalisation of the ICT industry
  - Improving ICT Infrastructure
  - Reforms & restructuring - Education, Science Technology & Innovation
What are the major goals of ICT Policy; Education & STI Policy

- **ICT policy** - *To position Botswana for sustained growth in the digital age by serving as a key catalyst in achieving social, economic, political and cultural transformation within the country*

- **Education** - ‘*To provide an overall policy and strategic sector framework for the education sector that will play a pivotal role in the development of a modern, sustainable, knowledge-based economy that supports inclusiveness and diversity*’.

- **STI policy** - *Increased national capacity for economic growth through infusion of indigenous knowledge into the national R&D agenda, innovation and sustainable technology development, use and application of science and technology to improve quality of life*
Policy implementation, Impact & KS in 5 to 7 years

- A coherent fashion
- Improved digital literacy within the country
- More citizens participating in a knowledge based economy
End of presentation

THANK YOU