



ITU CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

Distance Learning course on

“Broadband” for English speaking countries in Africa



27 June – 5 August 2011

Course Description

General Information

Course Title:	“Broadband” for English speaking countries in Africa
Course Description:	<p>Africa is the last frontier in terms of connectivity and recent years have seen large expenditure in infrastructure to overcome lack of bandwidth. This is mainly in the form of a large number of undersea consortium cables. African countries and providers are adopting new business models and increasing geographic coverage, while having to consider regulatory change. Competition is forcing a decline in end-user bandwidth costs while introducing new products and services.</p> <p>This course looks at a range of African broadband issues and future trends, the impact of regulation, as well as future plans of some large providers and the impact this will have on increasing connectivity on the African continent.</p>
Developed by:	This distance learning course has been developed by Telkom Centre for Learning (CFL).
Course date:	27 June to 5 August 2011
Course duration:	6 weeks
Registration deadline:	20 June 2011
Course code:	11cAFE122111

Target Population

This course is targeted at managers, engineers and employees from regulators, government organisations, telecommunication companies and academia, interested in learning about more characteristics, dynamics, trends and status of broadband provisioning and access in Africa.

Main Objectives

By the end of this course, participants will:

1. Understand the current and future broadband landscape in Africa
2. Understand African broadband trends through examples in Egypt, Morocco and Nigeria.
3. Be able to describe the mobile broadband trends in Africa
4. Understand the regulatory impact on the future of African broadband provisioning and access.
5. Have a sound knowledge, and understanding the impact of the current and future plans of broadband enabling providers in South Africa, such as: Seacom, Telkom SA, Vodacom/Vodafone, MTN.

Course Schedule

	Module Title	Content
Week 1	Module 1: An Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Internet:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Definition○ General description (for non specialists)• Broadband:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Definition○ General description (for non specialists)• Mobile Broadband:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Definition• General description (for non specialists)
		Discussion / Forum
		Self Test
	Module 2: International, African trends with South Africa as a case in point	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ITU Broadband Commission: Vision Statements• Trends: ITU calls for broadband internet access for half of the world's population by 2015• Trends in Africa: 6th Annual Summit: Technology, Innovation & Regulation• Trends in Africa: Broadband landscape changing• Examples of different trends in South Africa:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ South Africa Broadband Overview○ 1 Gbps FTTH for South Africa planned○ Broadband war: The winners and losers (an overview of landscape in South Africa)• Fibre optics - the missing link in the SA

		digital landscape!
		Discussion / Forum
		Self Test
Week 2	Module 3: The Broadband future: with a focus on Egypt, Morocco and Nigeria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The future built on broadband: a report by the Broadband Commission of ITU (summary of some of the concepts) Broadband and convergence: challenges (ideas coming from one article published by AHCET) Examples of trends: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EGYPT: current broadband, overview Internet current situation; broadband optimism on the rise MOROCCO: current broadband Overview, 3G broadband growth accelerates; ADSL stalls; Wana switches gear NIGERIA: Nigeria intensifies focus on broadband connectivity, Nigeria broadband market reaches N245 billion, Broadband for Nigeria
		Discussion / Forum
		Self Test
Week 3	Module 4: Mobile Broadband: with a focus on Egypt and Nigeria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobile Broadband (ITU-April 2010) 2010 African Mobile Broadband examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travels with a mobile phone: mobile broadband in Africa Egypt - Telecoms, Mobile, Broadband and Forecasts Mobile Broadband, a success story in Morocco Nigeria: iBurst Nigeria secures license to operate mobile broadband network Nigeria: Mobitel inaugurates 4G Broadband
		Discussion / Forum
		Self Test

Week 4	Module 5: Broadband and Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ITU Global Symposium for Regulators (Senegal) • Can competition repeat the “mobile miracle” for broadband? • Regulators worldwide embrace principles of open networks, open access • An example of a public open network.
		Discussion / Forum
		Self Test
	Module 6: This task will be assigned during the first week of the seminar	<p>Research to be conducted by the participants to determine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current and future plans of broadband service providers in Africa, such as Seacom, Telkom SA, Vodacom/Vodafone, MTN, and others • The roles of the Governments. • Participants will be grouped into groups of two or three. They will be assigned to research Service Providers or Governments, and tasked to determine and report on the plans of service providers and/or the role of Governments.
		Discussion / Forum
		Self Test

Evaluation

Besides the weekly quiz and their assignment score, participants will be evaluated according to their substantive posts on the discussion forum, active participation in the online chat sessions and other course activities, reflecting both the quantity and quality of time spent on the course. Below are the evaluation schemes:

Quiz #1:	10%
Quiz #2:	5%
Quiz #3:	5%
Quiz #4:	5%
Quiz #5:	5%
Quiz #6:	10%
Final Evaluation:	20%
6 Chat Sessions	10%
6 Discussion Fora (5% per forum)	30%
Total Evaluation:	100%

Important: Grades will be allocated based on the performance.

Course Methodology

- **Course materials:** The Course material will be made available on the website on weekly basis.
- **Discussion Forums:** Discussion forums will be organized based on the weekly content, where students are highly encouraged to participate and interact with instructors and other students. This activity will be evaluated by the tutor and coordinator of the course;
- **Chat sessions:** Chat sessions will be conducted every three days (per module) where discussions would be held with the instructor on a particular topic.
- **Quizzes:** Six mandatory quizzes will be held during the course.

Tutor

The course will be led by Mr. Jaime Herrera Santiesteban (Assessor: Subgerencia Sector Telecomunicaciones, Instituto Costarricense de Electricidad (e-mail: jherrerass@ice.go.cr).

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