Cable connections and the cost of Internet access

Presented by:

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The “bigger” and “smaller” pictures
Because I'm Involved

- Tracking and participating in the Nigeria IGF
- Participating in the Côte d'Ivoire IGICI
- Chair of FOSSFA, manager of West Africa IGF
- Participated in the Central Africa IGF
- Active in the Africa IGF (AfIGF)
- Been working on IXP issues in Africa
- Been speaking on and blogging Internet Access
- Other life experience with Digital Solidarity Fund, ARAPKE and Connect Africa
Who owns the Internet?

“Nobody, but someone collects the cash”

- Telkom in South Africa
- Etisalaat
- MTN
- GLO
- VODACOM
- MainOne
- Aga Khan Foundation
- Development Financial Institutions
- France Telecom
Who pays how much/month?

“Random selection of prices for 1024 KBPS”

- Telkom South Africa – 797 Rands – 100$
- Ethio Telecom, Ethiopia – 550 Birr - 30$
- Tunisiana, Tunisia – 15 Dinars - 10$
- Orange, France – 25$ for 8MBPS
- Verizon, USA - 20$
- AVISO, Côte d'Ivoire – 50000 Francs - 100$
- Bitsyunet, Serbia – 2183 Dinars – 23$
- TogoTelecom – 127,440 Francs - 250$
- Orange Niger – 223,510 Francs - 445$
What EXACTLY are you paying for?

“This is where the money goes”

• To the cable owner/s for the investment
• For the investment bringing the cable inland
• For Electricity
• For transit (or non-peering)
• State taxes
• Monopoly
• Non regulation of quality of service
• ISP overhead
HOW COME? Tunisia is cheaper than USA?