The state of meaningful access to information in 2022

A global overview of progress since 2015

About Development and Access to Information (DA2i)

- Demonstrate how access to information contributes to development, and is embedded across the UN 2030 Agenda;
- Demonstrate libraries' contributions to providing equitable access to information in the context of the Agenda;
- Raise the visibility of libraries within the context of development agendas.









Can access to information create more socially and economically inclusive societies?

Given the unprecedented ability we have today to gather, use, create, and exchange information, how can we capitalize on the strengths of the information society to help combat poverty and inequality, make governments more transparent and accountable, improve gender equity, increase youth's social and economic participation, and promote civic life in our communities?

Three dimensions of DA2i

"The rights and capacity to use, create, and share information in ways that are meaningful to each individual, community, or organization."

Connectivity

Physical connectivity infrastructure and how it is used

Indicators: Technology access, use, &

Freedom

The legal context and policy environment that support a rights-based approach

Indicators: Freedom in the world & internet

Gender Equity

The social context to provide equitable access and fair opportunities

Indicators: Technology use, skills, employment, and STEM & political



1 billion new internet users since 2015



92%

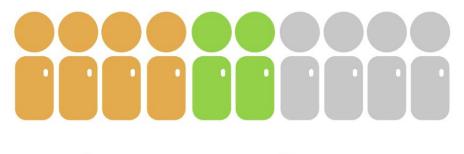
Of the world is covered by at least a 3G Network

60%

1 billion new internet users

of people in the world are internet users

▲ 20% from 2015



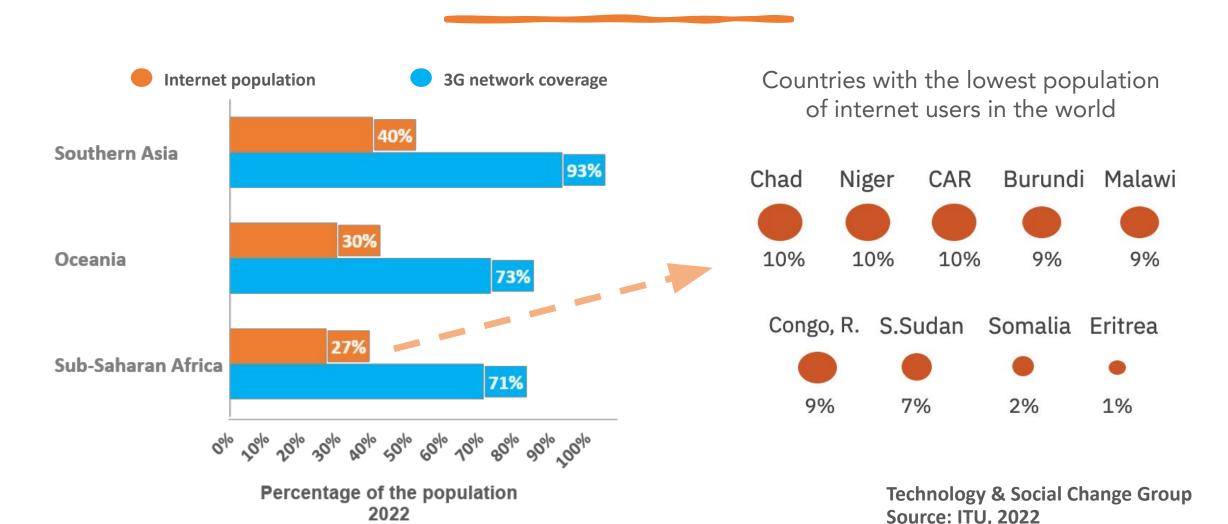
2015

2022

2.7 billion people still offline

Technology & Social Change Group Source: ITU, 2022

Affordability of internet services and devices still a major obstacle for inclusive access



Freedom

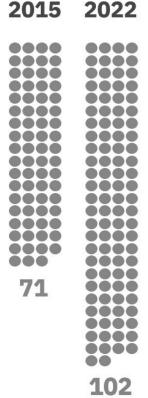
Progress 2015-2022



Civil rights and political freedoms have declined across all regions

COUNTRIES WITH INCREASING FREEDOM SCORES

COUNTRIES WITH
DECLINING
FREEDOM SCORES



43

28



FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION



FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION

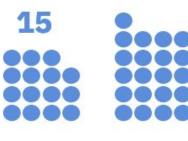




Technology & Social Change Group Source: Freedom House, 2022

Internet freedom declined for a 12th consecutive year

COUNTRIES WITH INCREASING INTERNET FREEDOM



2015

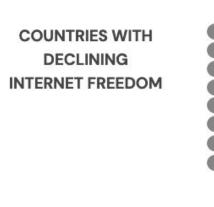
2022

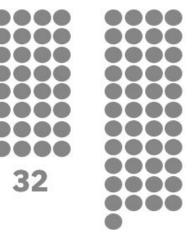
21

According to Freedom House estimates:

76% live in countries where individuals were arrested or imprisoned for posting content on political, social, or religious issues.

69% live in countries where authorities deployed progovernment commentators to manipulate online discussions.





45



Gender inequality decreased slightly between 2015 - 2022



37% 1% ▲

Women graduating from STEM disciplines



22% 2% ▲

Women in parliament seats



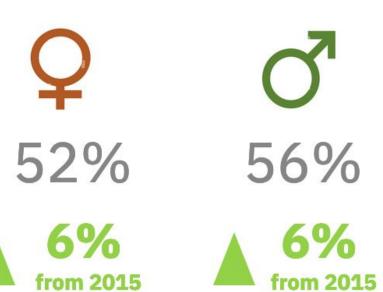


31% ▲
Young women are three times for likely to not be in education, employment and training than men

Technology & Social Change Group Source: UNESCO, ILO, and the World Bank, 2022

259 million fewer women using the internet than men

Gender digital divide

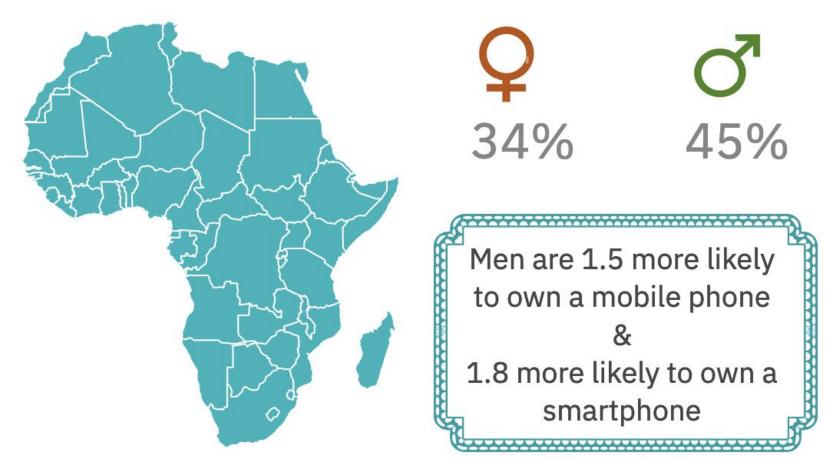




4 out of 5 women are offline

Technology & Social Change Group Source: ITU, 2022

Sub-Saharan African countries have the widest gender internet gap



Technology & Social Change Group Source: ITU, 2022

The road ahead



What will it take to guarantee equitable and meaningful access to information to all people?

Thank you

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Regional Overview

Choose a region from the drop-down menu at the top of the page to explore its progress. The graphs show the progress on each indicator using data from 2015 as a baseline and comparing it with data from 2022 or the most recent data available.

Connectivity

What is the progress towards improving connectivity between 2015-2022?

Connectivity indicators explore the progress around physical connectivity infrastructure available in the country, and how this infrastructure is used by the population. It includes three categories of indicators: Access, Use, and Affordability.

