



Digital World Forum Project

“drafting the future of low-cost broadband access and infrastructure”

Kampala Workshop, May 4-5, 2009

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Content



- Background to DWF
- Objectives
- Agenda



Background to Digital World Forum



- Digital World Forum on Accessible and Inclusive ICT
- FP7 funded project
- Support Action for International Cooperation (International Relations Unit):
 - Project Officer: Thierry Devars
 - Focus on Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America
 - Start date: 2008-01-01
 - End date: 2009-09-30
 - 7 partners from:
 - France
 - Spain
 - Nigeria
 - Ghana
 - South Africa



oneVillage Foundation
Guiding the unity and transformation of the global village



Domain: ICT4D



- ICT and the Information Society: a great opportunity to leverage social and economic development
 - by facilitating the development and deployment of services (finance, health, education, government, agriculture,...) at large scale and low cost
 - by leveraging north-south, and international communication and exchanges
- Required Infrastructure, and investments (global and personal) created the Digital Divide
- Low-Cost technologies and mobile technologies: a new hope for potential solutions to bridge the Digital Divide

Digital World Forum: paving the road from hope to reality



Project's scope and objectives



- 3 technical Work Packages (WP)
 - WP1: Mobile Web applications (Leading Partner: W3C)
 - WP2: Low-Cost Laptops (Leading Partner: CSIR/Meraka)
 - **WP3: Low-cost Broadband Infrastructures (Leading Partner: Orange Labs)**
- Objectives:
 - State of the art
 - Community Building: creating a global forum for all players: industry, research, local communities, NGO...
 - Identification of challenges and roadmap definition
 - Dissemination



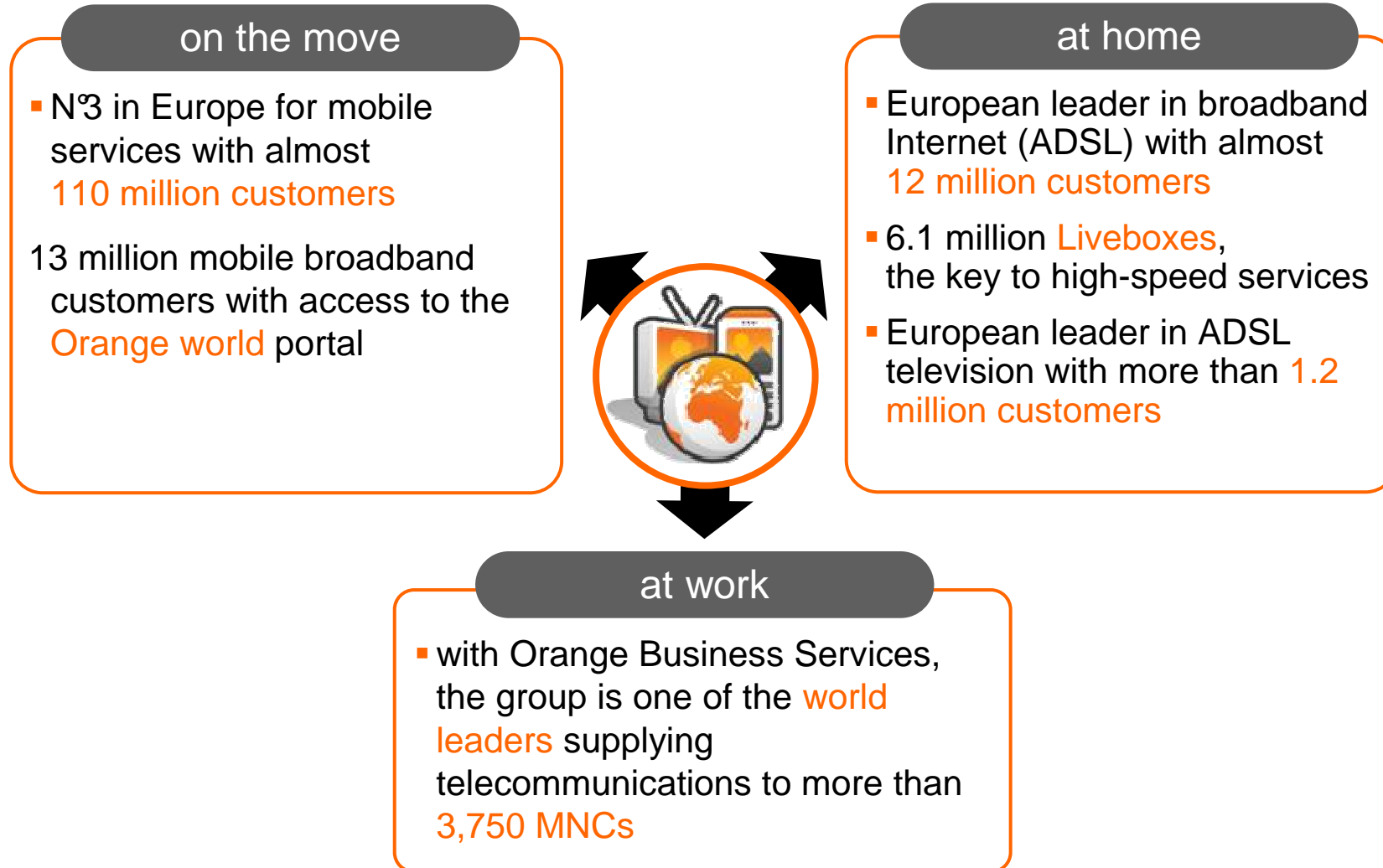
FT-Orange: one of the world's leading telecom operators 1/2



- One of the **main** telecommunications operators in the world
- Providing services to more than **170 million customers** over five continents
- Including **120 million** under the Orange brand



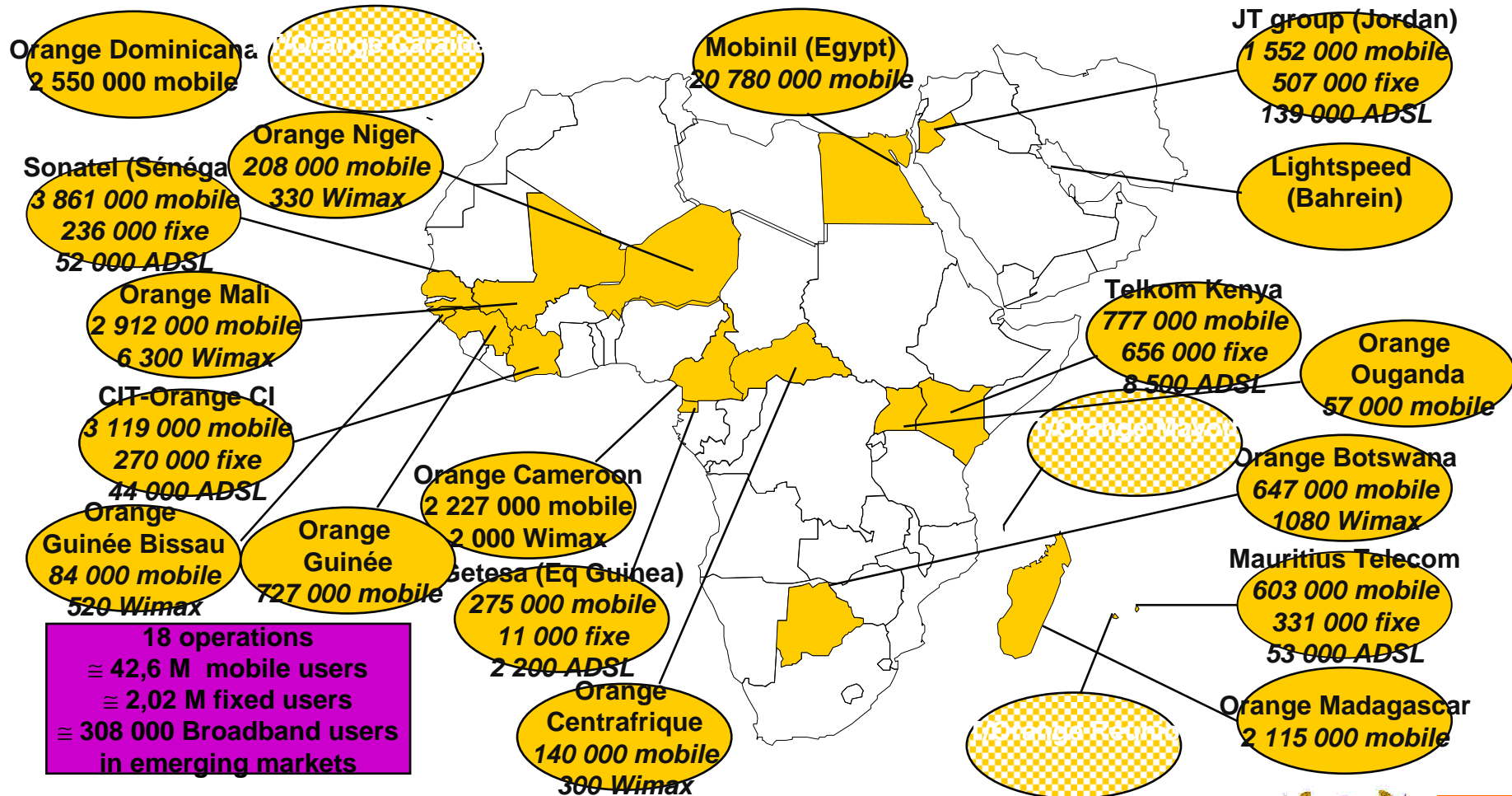
FT-Orange: one of the world's leading telecom operators 2/2



FT-Orange's positions in emerging markets



The Group's footprint is growing steadily, with the ambition of giving our customers access to continuously **enriched services** that leverage **convergence**



Digital World Forum / WP3 Objectives



- The goal of this work package is to devise a generic approach to the "last mile" issue in developing countries, by **thoroughly assessing each key technological solution** in the light of contextual factors.
- The expected outcome is a set of **recommendations** (technological roadmap) for R&D initiatives to be undertaken at EU level to improve existing technologies or promote new ones and further reduce costs.
- The project focuses on wireless, non satellite-based solutions, in order to stay in line with a stringent low-cost approach.
- **Deliverables:**
 - D3.1 State-of-the-art analysis of the broadband access and infrastructure domain (delivered in 2008; downloadable at http://www.digitalworldforum.eu/upload-document/doc_download/52-dwfd31october08fullpdf)
 - D3.2 Workshop on wireless access and infrastructure in Kampala, co-organized with **Makerere University** (May 4-5, 2009)
 - D3.3 Access and infrastructure roadmap (Aug., 2009)



Kampala workshop: objectives



- The workshop aims at **enriching the main findings** generated so far in WP3; it is expected to **strongly contribute** to shaping the final deliverable (technological roadmap).
- More specifically, we expect the workshop to produce the following outputs:
 - **refined view** of existing and emerging technologies and local initiatives;
 - identification and integration of research tracks **previously unexplored**;
 - better understanding of the **user's perspective**;
 - expansion of the Digital World Forum **ecosystem** in the field of access/infrastructure.



Agenda: day 1



- 09:00-09:30 Welcome and presentation, objectives – Jude Lubega (Makerere University), Bruno Conquet (FT Group / Orange Labs), and Thierry Devars (European Commission)
- 09:30-10:15 What is at stake? The general issues we are facing to get cheaper broadband in developing countries, an Indian perspective – Ashok Jhunjunwala (IIT Madras)
- 10:15-11:00 Review of the different technologies available or under preparation – Philippe Mendribil (FT Group / Sofrecom)
- 11:00-11:30 **BREAK**
- 11:30-12:00 An African perspective on broadband: the Wireless Africa project – Chris Morris (Meraka Institute)
- 12:00-12:30 Technological assessment: feedback from the questionnaires – Valérie Peugeot (FT Group / Sofrecom)
- 12:30-14:00 **LUNCH**
- 14:00-17:30 Two parallel sub-workshops focusing on two different topics:
 - Services: introductory presentation by Fisseha Mekuria (CSIR & Makerere University)
 - Policy & regulation: introductory presentation by Christine Mugimba (UCC)



Agenda: day 2



- 08.30-09:00 Welcome coffee
- 09:00-10:30 Presentation of selected papers:
 - Wireless World Research Forum's research agenda for Africa – Max Francisco (FT Group / Orange Labs)
 - Mobile Broadband Technology & Services: Sustainability Factors – Fisseha Mekuria (CSIR & Makerere University)
 - Community Wireless Networks: Low cost broadband access and infrastructure, the CWRC Experience – Dorothy Okello, Julius Butime and Peterson Mwesiga (Makerere University):
 - Research directions for low cost satellite services – Antonio Bove (SES Astra)
- 10:30-11:00 Break
- 11:00-12:00 Presentation of sub-workshops outputs, discussions – spokespersons of each subgroup
- 12:00-12:30 General conclusions and next steps – Jude Lubega, Bruno Conquet and Thierry Devars
- LUNCH
- 15:30-18:30 Optional Site visit to ICT Centre of Excellence, Makerere University, organized by IST Africa.



A close-up photograph of a person with long, wavy blonde hair, seen from the side. They are holding their hands together in a warm, dimly lit environment, possibly during a ceremony or a moment of reflection. The lighting is soft and golden, creating a warm and intimate atmosphere. The background is blurred, showing a bright light source, likely the sun, creating a lens flare effect.

thank you!