



Spectrum Sharing

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African (SSA) spectrum policy needs to reflect this reality



United States
(contiguous)



Europe



India



Japan



China



71,740 km²



1,106 km²

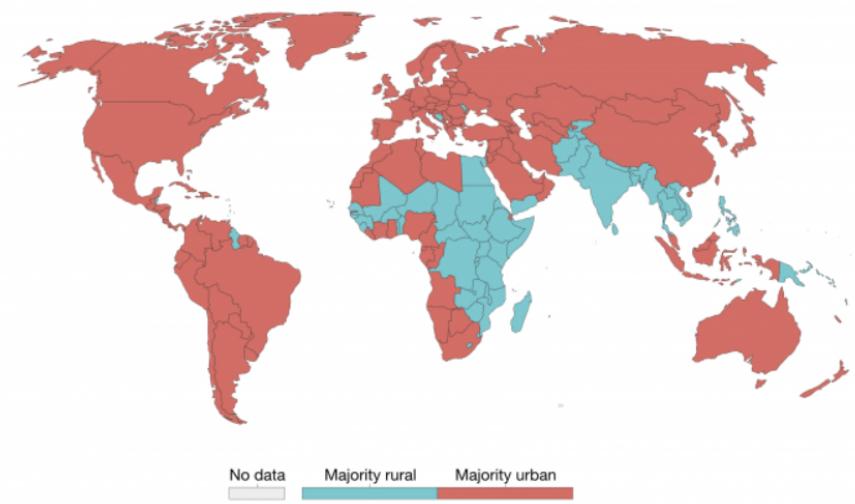
Source:

https://www.google.com/search?q=map+of+the+world+with+actual+sizes&sxsrf=ALeKk02LMq9btFy3CP9b22oX37Omsqc0BA:1592996681446&source=lnms&tbs=isch&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwj0oc2Kp5rqAhVYXRUIhf4FAL4Q_AUoAXoECBHQw&biw=2048&bih=1039#imgrc=nq5kiGZcPdKgqM

Graphic detail**Daily chart**

More than half of sub-Saharan Africans lack access to electricity

Africa will require an unprecedented effort to meet the UN's target of electricity for all by 2030



Source: OWID based on UN World Urbanization Prospects (2018) & Historical Sources (see Sources tab)

SSA spectrum policy must prioritise... *else miss all SDGs 2030!*

1. Power, Fibre & Roads Africa: telcoms in Africa (SSA) despite African Governments!
2. Prioritise sub-1GHz frequencies with both (i) National/Local & (ii) Local Access Licenses
 - I. 900 MHz + 800MHz (re-farm from CDMA if not yet to 3G/4G)
 - II. 700 MHz (and DSO expedition please – just ridiculous)
 - III. 450 MHz (LTE-450 would be key in Africa, re-farm/reassign soon)
 - IV. Sub-694 MHz – TVWS/Wi-Fi sharing or Light licensing or basic database
3. Accelerate shared and unlicensed spectrum availability – current SSA spectrum policy reduce competition, prevent new entrants and unlicensed spectrum is limited
4. Promote license exemption (e.g. Wi-Fi) strongly (FCC release of 6GHz to Wi-Fi; India likely to follow suit) & Low-cost Satellite solutions (C band, Ku & Ka Band)
5. License regionally more (e.g. for High Demand Spectrum like 700MHz/2300MHz) OR
6. Adopt Use it or Share it licensing (TVWS, CBRS, simple database, etc): however, chicken and egg problem for device adoption and conservative regulators not adopting!
7. Can the AU Commission help demonstrate shared spectrum as commercially viable – coordination needed at AU, Regional and National levels. Promote Innovative Solutions
8. Demand side: Forbearance on Taxes/Taxing OTTs – a contagion spreading across Africa
9. In short, a new AU Spectrum Mindset (DSA) – not copying from e.g. HK - nothing like us!

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