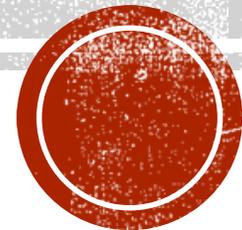


# **ECONOMIC & DEVELOPMENT ASPECT OF INTERNET GOVERNANCE**

Africa and Liberia's Case Studies: How can Liberia  
Maximize its Potential?



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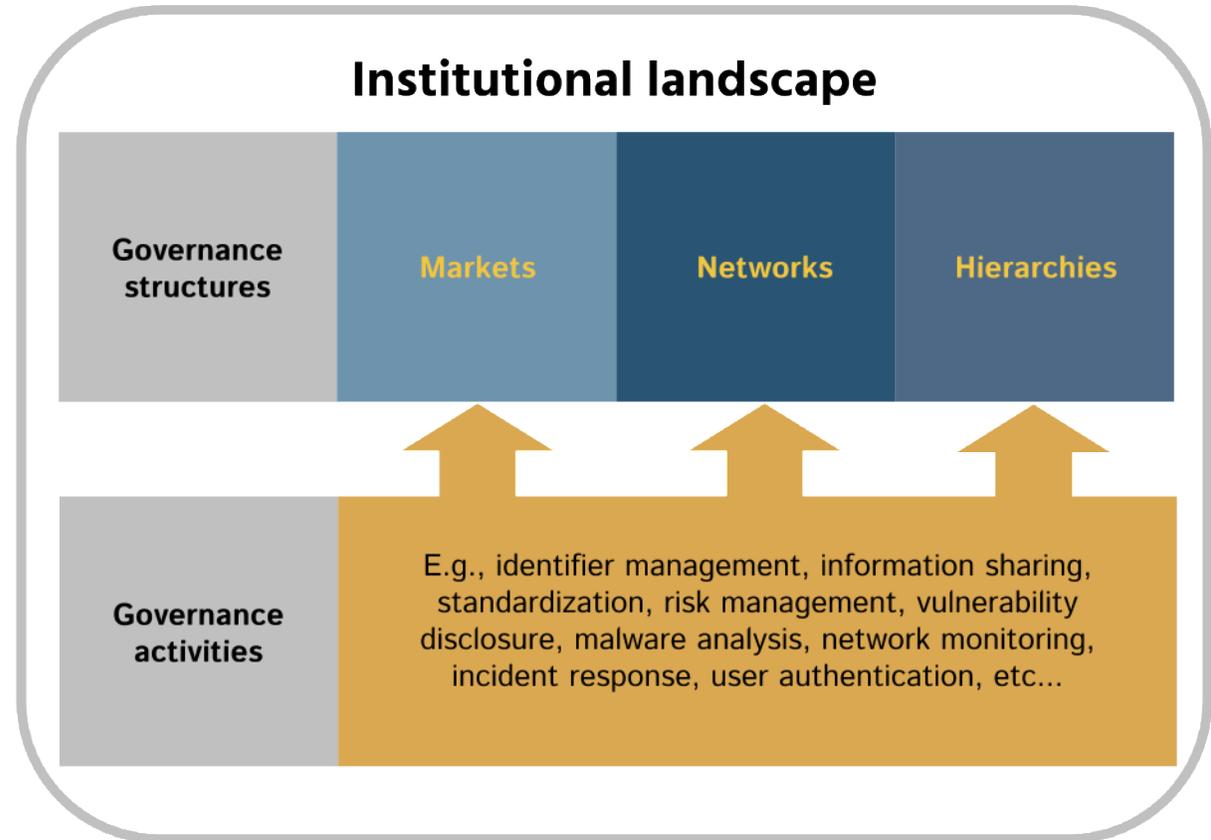
# THE INTERNET

- The Internet is a fundamental infrastructure with a still largely untapped potential to address a wide array of economic and social challenges. Its open and decentralized design means that this potential is accessible to all.
- Bringing evidence-based analysis on the economic dimensions of the open Internet, including its impact on productivity, jobs and growth



# INTERNET GOVERNANCE

- Internet governance refers to the rules, policies, standards and practices that coordinate and shape global cyberspace.



# INTERNET RISKS

- While Internet connectivity generated innovative new services, capabilities and unprecedented forms of sharing and cooperation, it also created new forms of crime, abuse, surveillance and social conflict. Internet governance is the process whereby cyberspace participants resolve conflicts over these problems and develop a workable



# HOW INTERNET GOVERNANCE EMPOWERS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT?

- Today Internet governance refers to more than just Internet domain name and address management or technical decision-making. It stands as a shield behind ICTs. There is an untapped potential to use information and communications technologies (ICTs) to achieve economic development.



# AFRICA – CASE STUDY

- Financial
  - Mobile Money
  - eCommerce
  - eBanking
  - Online Retail



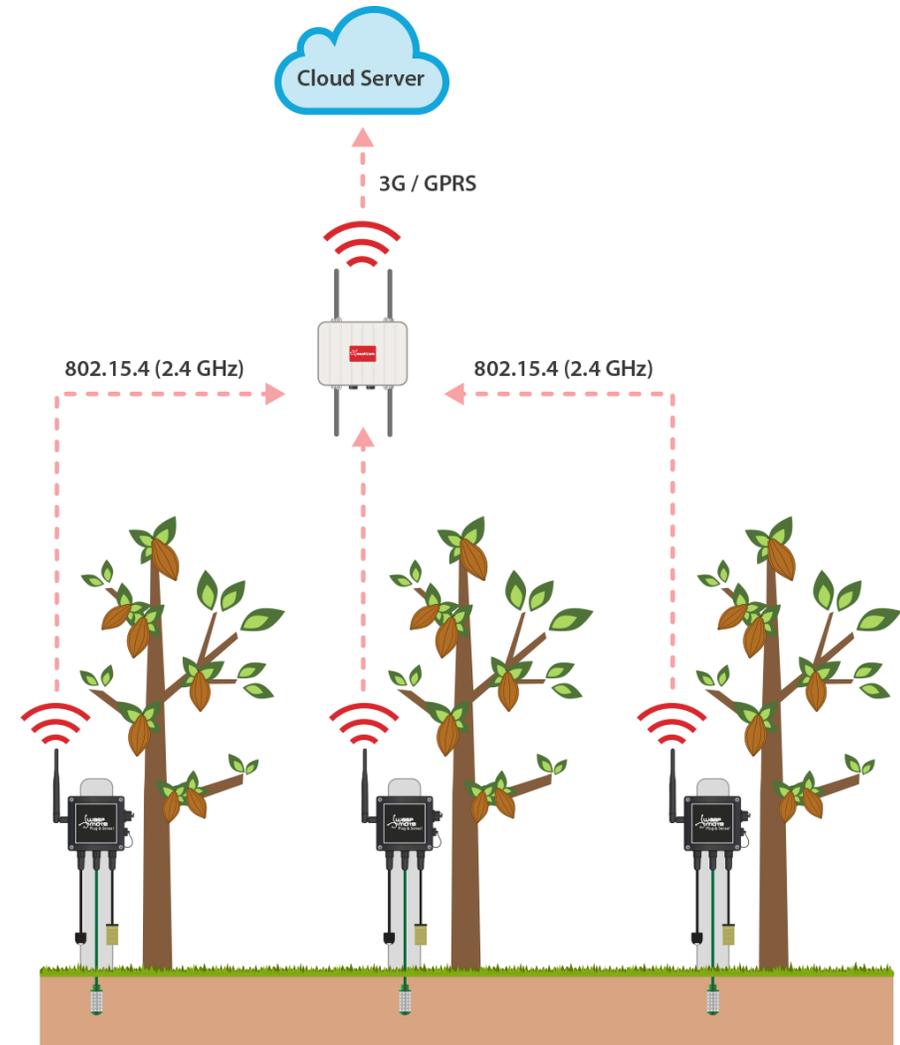
# AFRICA – CASE STUDY

- Education
  - eLearning
  - Distance Learning
  - Blinded Learning



# AFRICA — CASE STUDY

- AgroTech
  - Farm to Market
  - eFarms



# AFRICA – CASE STUDY

- Local Content
  - Social Media
  - Blog
  - Vlog



# HOW CAN LIBERIA MAXIMIZE ITS POTENTIAL – POINT 1

- **Governance Processes** — which examine the emerging multi-stakeholder governance models, tested in both the development arena and in the Internet Governance Forum.



# HOW CAN LIBERIA MAXIMIZE ITS POTENTIAL — POINT 2

- **Economic barriers to development** — which examine the cost of access to the Internet infrastructure as an “indispensable” resource for general development and economic growth, a “vector” for sustainable development that outlines a number of infrastructural, systemic and regulatory impediments to ensuring the spread of information and knowledge, business opportunities, administrative efficiencies, employment and transparency.



# HOW CAN LIBERIA MAXIMIZE ITS POTENTIAL – POINT 3

- **The capacity of developing countries to participate in International Governance.** There are challenges in participation which raises a complex set of issues anywhere. For example in International ICT decision-making have always been challenging environments for developing country participation because of the high levels of technical capacity required for effective participation.



# HOW CAN LIBERIA MAXIMIZE ITS POTENTIAL – POINT 4

- **Access to local knowledge as a critical input to decision-making.** Nowadays knowledge is a central resource in the global economy and as such access to knowledge is an increasingly crucial ingredient for economic development. When considering the issue of access to knowledge it is important to first establish why access to knowledge is fundamental to the widely held vision of the information society.



# HOW CAN LIBERIA MAXIMIZE ITS POTENTIAL – POINT 5

- **Indicators for development.** Development must be private sector driven. Private sector driven development depends in turn on human capital, good governance, an effective use of natural resources and the protection of the environment for future generations ICTs can contribute to improve all these factors.





**THANK YOU VERY MUCH!**

Presentation will be uploaded on my personal blog:

<http://karlrsmith.blogspot.com>

