

Can Information Communications Technologies be Pro-Poor?

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Outline

- Access to Telephones Increases Incomes
- Telephone Increased Inequality
- Things Might Be Getting Better for the Telephone
- Not So for the Internet?

Teledensity and Growth

Many Studies!

Teledensity and Growth

Canning, D. (1997a) A Database of World Infrastructure Stocks 1950-1995, mimeo, Harvard Institute for International Development. Canning, D. (1997b) Does Infrastructure Cause Economic Growth? International Evidence for Infrastructure Bottlenecks, mimeo, Harvard Institute for International Development. Canning, David and Fay M. 1993. "The Effect of Transportation Networks on Economic Growth." Discussion Paper Series, Columbia University Department of Economics. Cohen R (1992): *The Impact of Broadband Communication on the US Economy and on Competitiveness*, Washington DC; Economic Strategy Institute; DRI (1991): 'The Contribution of Telecommunications Infrastructure to Aggregate and Sectoral Efficiency' New York: McGraw-Hill; Analysis (1995): *The Impact of Advanced Communications on European Growth and Trade*, Final Report of the METIER Project for the European Commission. Easterly, W and S Rebelo (1993) Fiscal Policy and Economic Growth: An Empirical Investigation" *Journal of Monetary Economics*, Vol. 32, pp. 417-458. Easterly, W. and R. Levine (1997) Africa's Growth Tragedy: Policies and Ethnic Divisions. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 112 pp. 1203-50. Hardy, A. 1980. "The Role of the Telephone in Economic Development." *Telecommunications Policy* 4: 278-286. Madden G and Savage S (1998): 'CEE Telecommunications Investment and Economic Growth', *Information Economics and Policy*, Number 10 Norton, S. (1992) Transactions Costs, Telecommunications, and the Microeconomics of Macroeconomic Growth, *Economic Development and Cultural Change* 41, 1175-196. Röllier and Waverman L (1994): *Impact of Telecommunications Infrastructure on Economic Growth and Development*, ICCP Draft Working Paper, Paris OECD 1994

More Reason for Hope?

- Technology Advance
 - Mobile, WLL, etc.
- Policy Reform
 - Privatization, Competition, Regulation
- Public Access
 - Bangladesh, Senegal, India
- Reverse Subsidy
 - Chile

