



# **The African Region Report**

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# **Introduction to regional problems**

- **Chronic instability, bad reputation**
- **Disease and conflict**
- **Corruption**
- **Dependence on commodity exports**

# The brighter side

- Energy resources
- Trade access
- A G O A and Everything But Arms
- Debt relief

# Regional Highlights

- Southern Africa: stable SA and Mozambique; danger in Zimbabwe, Angola and DR C
- East Africa: Kenya? Ethiopia, Tanzania 
- West Africa: Nigeria growth with pains, Ghana stable, others "iffy"
- North Africa: gas to Europe, tourists from Europe, uncertainty
- Central Africa: pick a fight – any fight!

# The Digital Divide

<b>Country</b>	<b>PCs connected to Internet</b>	<b>People using Internet</b>	<b>People using Cell Phones</b>	<b>Cost of 20 hrs Internet access</b>
South Africa	7 %	5.5%	20 %	\$12.5
Zimbabwe	1.4%	0.2%	2.5%	\$23
Nigeria	0.01%	0.09%	0.02%	\$40.7
Mauritius	0.75%	7.5%	10.5%	\$15.5
Australia	18 %	44 %	44.5%	\$18.85

# The Next Big Thing

- **Open Source Software**
  - **Cost effective**
  - **Schools and businesses**
  - **Leapfrog skills**
  - **Support of regional initiatives**

# Africa – the Key Issues

- **Political stability**
- **Economic stability**
- **Access to financial & intellectual capital**
- **Educational capacity, research & innovation facilitation**
- **Power & communications infrastructure**