How is the Internet Transforming Togo?

Cina Lawson

Minister of Digital Economy and Transformation in Togo

A DYNAMIC COUNTRY WITH A GROWTH RATE HIGHER THAN THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION

Solid economic fundamentals..

TOGO

... and a strong willingness to change

8 million inhabitants
with a young, growing, better educated population whose purchasing power is increasing

Territory of 56,785 km²,
rich in natural resources (e.g. phosphate, iron, limestone)

Robust GDP growth
of nearly 6% per year since 2008, which has been maintained despite the Covid-19 and with positive medium-term outlook according to the IMF (5.5%)

Controlled inflation
lower than 1% since 2010

A strong improvement in the business climate
placing Togo No. 1 in West Africa according to *Doing Business* ranking in 2020

A willingness reflected in the National Development Plan 2018-2022 and in the national strategy Togo 2025
placing digital at the center of the strategy

Major infrastructure projects
taking advantage of the privileged geographical location of Togo in the heart of West Africa (e.g., new airport in Lomé, expansion of the port, etc.)

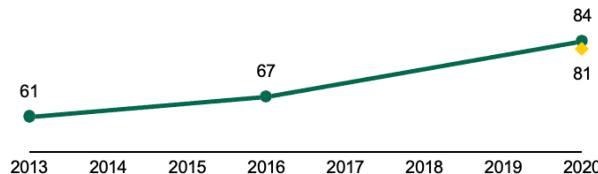TRUE AFRICA UNIVERSITY ✕ MIT Massachusetts Institute of Technology

TOGO ACHIEVED SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN CONNECTIVITY AS A RESULT OF REFORMS AND LAUNCHED PROJECTS

A 3G and 4G coverage among the best in the region and exponentially increasing mobile and internet penetration rates
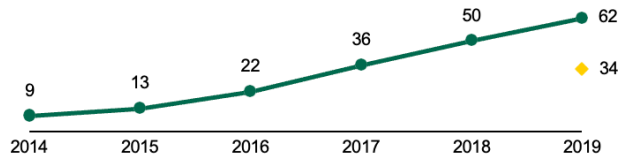
Mobile penetration rate[1], 2013-20

— Togo   ◆ Africa

2013: 61
2016: 67
2020: 84 (Togo), 81 (Africa)

2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020

Internet penetration rate[1], 2014-19

— Togo   ◆ Africa

2014: 9
2015: 13
2016: 22
2017: 36
2018: 50
2019: 62 (Togo), 34 (Africa)

2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019

Network coverage 2G, 3G and 4G, % of the population

— 2G   — 3G   — 4G

2G: 80, 85, 86, 87, 87, **91**
3G: 40, 50, 62, 65, 70, 91
4G: 35, 67

2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019
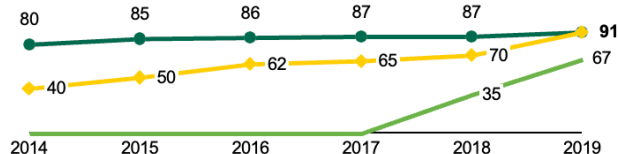
1. Number of connections in respect to the total population
Source : GSMA Mobile Connectivity Index

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A MULTITUDE OF PROJECTS HAVE INITIATED THE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN TOGO

e-Gouv Project

Campus Wifi Project[1]

Attribution of 2 new ISP licenses
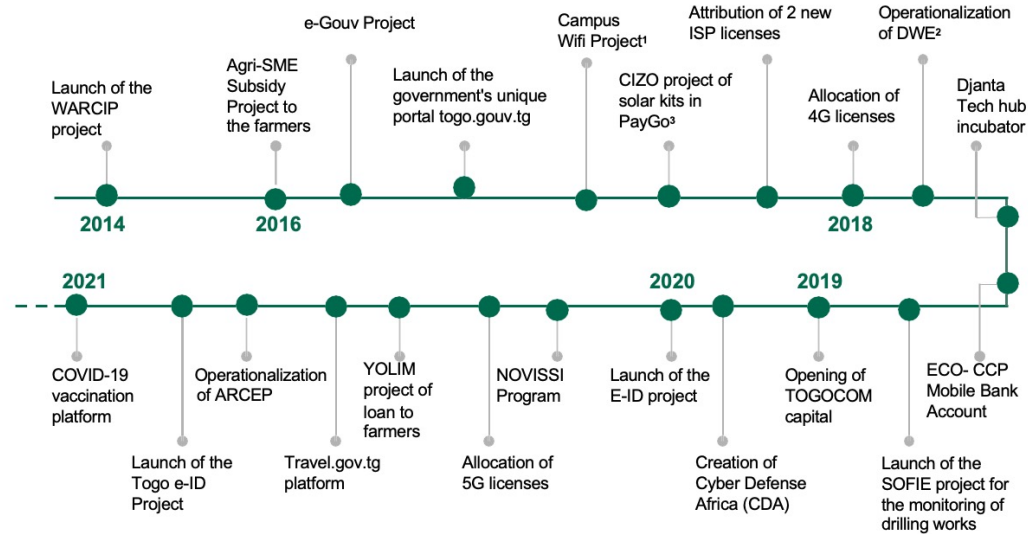
Operationalization of DWE[2]

Launch of the WARCIP project

Agri-SME Subsidy Project to the farmers

Launch of the government's unique portal togo.gouv.tg

CIZO project of solar kits in PayGo[3]

Allocation of 4G licenses

Djanta Tech hub incubator

2014   **2016**   **2018**

2021   **2020**   **2019**

COVID-19 vaccination platform

Operationalization of ARCEP

YOLIM project of loan to farmers

NOVISSI Program

Launch of the E-ID project

Opening of TOGOCOM capital

ECO- CCP Mobile Bank Account

Launch of the Togo e-ID Project

Travel.gov.tg platform

Allocation of 5G licenses

Creation of Cyber Defense Africa (CDA)

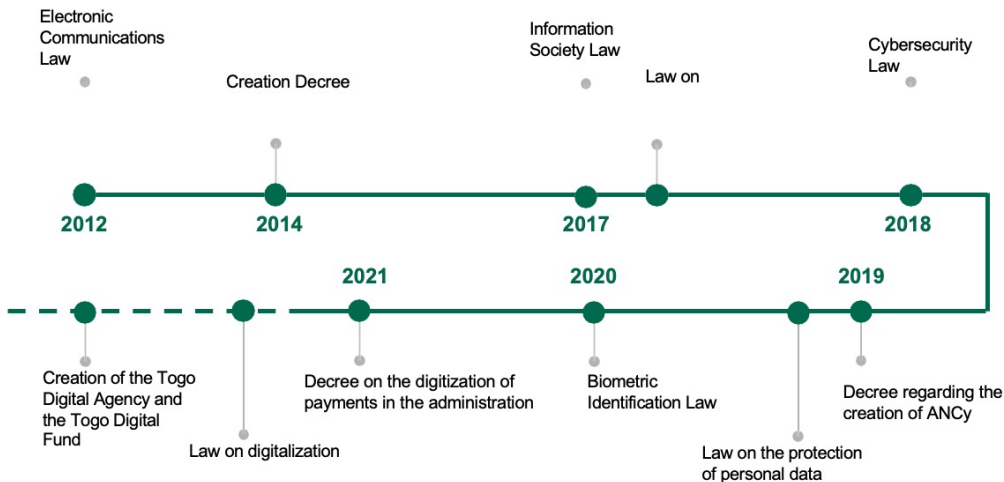Launch of the SOFIE project for the monitoring of drilling works

1. Optical fiber and WIFI in universities and public hospitals   2. Digital Work Environment (DWE)   3. PayGo : Pay as you go

A MULTITUDE OF LAWS AND DECREES HAVE MADE IT POSSIBLE TO LAY THE LEGAL FOUNDATIONS FOR THE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Electronic Communications Law

Creation Decree

Information Society Law

Law on

Cybersecurity Law

2012　**2014**　**2017**　**2018**

2021　**2020**　**2019**

Creation of the Togo Digital Agency and the Togo Digital Fund

Law on digitalization

Decree on the digitization of payments in the administration

Biometric Identification Law

Law on the protection of personal data

Decree regarding the creation of ANCy

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY HAS EFFECTIVELY CONTRIBUTED TO FIGHTING POVERTY AND ACCELERATING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Fundamental bases for digital transformation already in place to facilitate access to public and social services for all citizens, create a favorable environment for businesses and investors, and accelerate the development of an innovation ecosystem

Establishment of a legal framework favorable for digital development, including laws on electronic communications, electronic transactions, information society, cybersecurity and data protection

Creation of entities dedicated to digital, such as the Authority for the Regulation of Electronic Communications and Posts (ARCEP), the National Cybersecurity Agency (ANCy), and the Personal Data Protection Authority (IPDCP)

Opening and extension of the telecommunications market by awarding ISP licenses and 4G and 5G licenses and restructuring and opening of TOGOCOM's capital

Active PPP policy through innovative Joint Ventures in particular, Cyber Defense Africa (CDA) bringing together the Togolese government and ASSECO, the Polish leader in digital technology

Launching of projects to modernize the administration and public services, such as the E-Gouv fiber optic projects or the digitalization of business creation, tax declaration and payment, etc.

Promotion of the accessibility of the populations and the companies to broadband access through the creation of the Société d'Infrastructures Numériques (SIN), the construction of a data center (Lomé data center) and an Internet exchange point (IXP)

Acceleration of the digitalization of economic sectors, such as agriculture, logistics, education and banking

ACCELERATE SOCIAL INCLUSION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH DIGITAL BY 2025

A strategy for social inclusion and economic development

Include all citizens in the society and economy through biometric identification and access to high-speed internet and technological equipment

Digitizing public and social services to bring users closer to the public administration

Accelerate the transformation of the economy and make Togo a digital hub with an ecosystem of innovation and startups

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THE TOGO DIGITAL 2025 STRATEGY INCLUDES 9 STRUCTURING AND COMPLEMENTARY PROGRAMS

3 fundamental programs to identify all individuals, households and accelerate the connectivity in Togo

1 e-ID: national biometric identification and attribution of a unique identification number

2 Social Register of Persons and Households (RSPM)

3 Access to broadband and equipment for all

3 programs to improve the delivery of public and social services through digital technology

4 Digitalized public services

5 Access to basic social services to include all populations

6 Dematerialization of the State's financial flows

3 programs to support and accelerate the digital transformation of of the economy

7 Digitization of key sectors of the economy

8 Creation of an ecosystem of innovation and digital talents

9 Setting up a platform for the valorization of data

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STRATEGY WITH AMBITIOUS INDICATORS FOR 2025

95% of population covered by mobile and fixed Internet by 2025

30 new startups incubated each year in the accredited incubator

300 000 households and businesses connected to FTTH

TOP 10 of African countries in the United Nations EGDI e-government ranking

75% of administrative procedures digitized

3 submarine cables connecting Togo to the global internet

80% of grants facilitated by digital

100% of Togolese and eligible residents with a biometric identity

80% user satisfaction with administrative procedures

100% of administrative buildings connected

800 additional profiles formed each year for digital professions

100% of hospitals and schools connected

THREE PHASES TO IMPLEMENT THE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

The Togo Digital 2025 strategy will bring coherence and accelerate the projects already launched in the last years

Phase 1

Implementation of the execution system and creation of a momentum

Before mid 2022

Setting up of the 3 key elements of the implementation system:
- Law on digitalization
- Togo Digital Agency
- Togo Digital Fund and securing the budget

Development of 3 key projects or digital services (Visa, Passport, Application for electricity connection, residence card, residence certificate), launch of the innovation hub and improvement of connectivity

Acceleration of ongoing projects (e.g. E-gouv, E-ID)

Scoping of programs to be launched in the next phases

Phase 2

Launch of all projects with a focus on the digitalization of public and social services
2022-2023

Acceleration of the extension of connectivity infrastructures to allow administrations and users to access broadband

Launch of large-scale public service and social services digitalization programs

Scoping of digital economy development projects and opportunistic implementation of mature programs

Phase 3

Acceleration of the digital economy development projects

2023-2025

Consolidation of efforts to digitalize public services

Acceleration of programs to support the digitalization of key sectors of the economy and to develop the digital ecosystem

NOVISSI A PLATFORM ENTIRELY DEVELOPED BY THE TOGOLESE STATE

2 programmes
1 programme completed
1 programme completed

Over 920 000 beneficiaries to date

18,9 billion FCFA
33,9 M $
28,8 M €
already disbursed on the platform

Universal Solidarity Income Programme "NOVISSI

Transfers financed by the Togolese State
Refinancing of €3M by the French Development Agency (AFD)

819,972 beneficiaries
63% women
37% men

13.3 billion CFA francs
23.9 M $
20.3 M €

GIVEDIRECT-NOVISSI

Transfers funded by GiveDirectly

138,531 beneficiaries
52% women
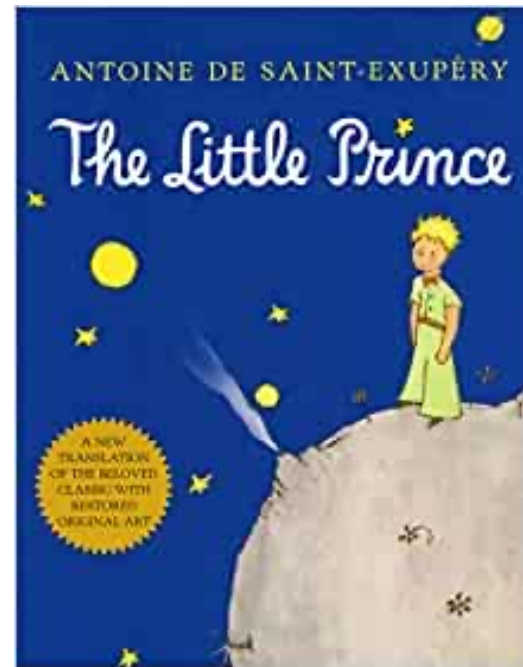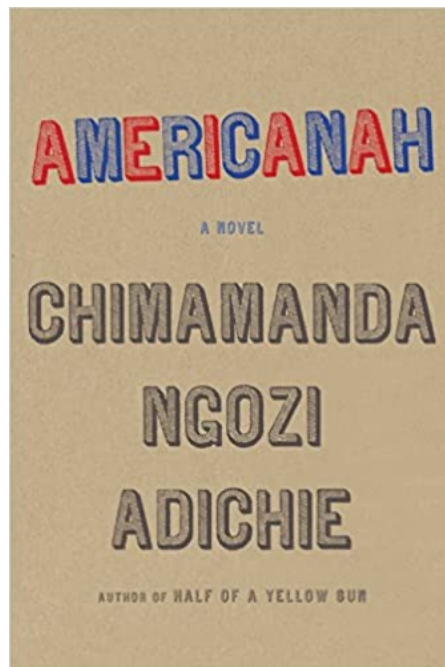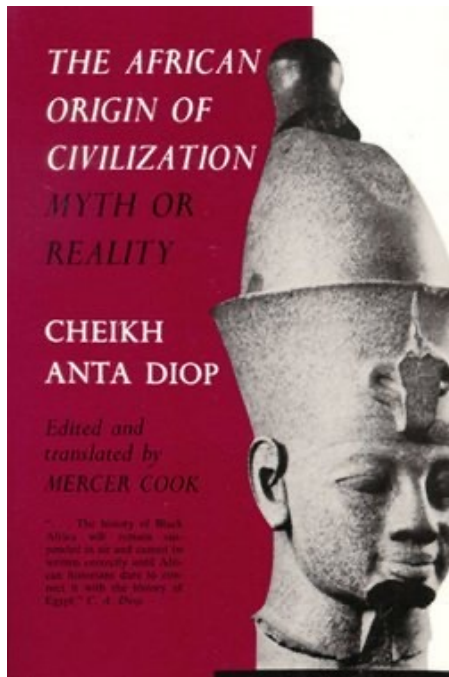48% men

5.6 billion CFA francs
10 M $
8.5 M €

*855#

Novissi

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Three Books I Recommend

Thank you!

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