800 million people across sub-Saharan Africa are not Internet users due to various barriers to connectivity.

### Availability
Broadband networks (e.g. 3G) are only available to 71% of the population.

### Affordability
1GB of monthly data accounts for ~8% of average income (vs 2% UN target).

### Relevance
All but five countries in sub-Saharan Africa rank in the lowest quartile on local and relevant content.

### Readiness
38% of adults lack literacy skills and many are not familiar with digital technologies.

To address these barriers, Facebook is investing in initiatives across the entire connectivity value chain.

**Operator facilitation initiatives**
- **Express Wi-Fi**
- **Rural Access**
- **Other**

**Infrastructure investments**
- **Backhaul**
  - OTNx
  - Points of presence (PoPs)
  - Caches

- **Edge network**
- **International links**
- **Data centres**
  - Submarine cables
  - Data centre facilities

These initiatives generate economic impact in sub-Saharan Africa through improving connectivity outcomes in the region.

### Connectivity impact
- **Express Wi-Fi²**
  - Launched in 7 countries in sub-Saharan Africa
  - 4 million people covered with 3G+ service in Uganda and Nigeria

### Economic impact, 2020-2024¹
- **USD0.3 billion**
- **USD3.9 billion**
- **USD53.4 billion**

**Total 2020-2024 economic impact: USD57.6 billion**

¹ Economic impact denotes cumulative nominal GDP impact of Facebook’s initiatives over 2020-2024; we note that this includes only the effects that could be quantified.
² Express Wi-Fi is an operator facilitation initiative, i.e. infrastructure deployment is carried out by local partners; Facebook does not deploy or operate access networks.