

Rwandan Telcos shun new 4G network

Telecommunications companies in Rwanda have shunned the usage of the new 4G network due to high charges according to a report by the *East African*. Almost three months after the launch of the network, all telcos save for Tigo are yet to launch any products because of the high costs involved.

In February 2015, Tigo unveiled online television services for 4G internet subscribers in partnership with iRokoty, an online entertainment TV channel to provide subscription-based video entertainment for its 4G clients. However, some telcos companies are being cautious to fully embrace the network while others are launching fibre as an alternative network.

By the end of April, Liquid Telecom hopes to launch fibre to the home, FTTH, to provide homes and small businesses in the country with unlimited data packages. Sam Nkusi, the chief executive of Liquid Telecom Rwanda, said FTTH networks are the latest technology, which are according to him, more affordable than any other network method. With FTTH in place and being embraced by one of the biggest data providers in the country, the uptake of the 4G network is likely to suffer a further decline.

Low uptake of 4G was anticipated given that a few months preceding its launch, the telecoms operators and the providers of the network – Korea Telecom and government of Rwanda - were engaged in prolonged discussions regarding the pricing. MTN, the biggest telecoms operator in the country by subscriber numbers, has been pushing the 4G network on the market since its launch albeit with limited uptake. Yvonne Makolo, chief marketing officer of MTN attributed the low uptake of the network to the small area which it covers and the pricing. 4G was rolled out in Kigali city with plans to extend the coverage to other parts of the country over time. “The pricing is still an issue but we hope as more users join the network, the prices will ultimately come down and a growth in uptake will be witnessed,” said Mrs. Makolo.

With limited up take in Kigali which is considered relatively affluent, the roll out by the service providers to other parts of the country may take a cautious path especially if the prices remain high. The pricing problem stems from the 4G network model in the country where Rwanda telcos were locked out from developing and providing the network, which has seen some operators drag their feet in introducing the product. Previously, internet networks such as 3G were provided by the telcos to their retail customers. Local telcos now purchase the universal mobile broadband bandwidth at wholesale prices from the government and Korea Telecom which have the exclusive rights to sell to the operators.

Telcos are expected to purchase from the suppliers with 1 gigabyte being sold for RWF 2,411 with the cost burden transferred to the end users. At MTN for example, the 3G network data at the end of 2014 was being sold to consumers at RWF 800 per GB, which was much lower than the latest 4G retail price where 5GB retails at RWF 18,600 for a one month subscription while Airtel has projected to sell the same for RWF 20,000. Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Authority (Rura) however, has said it will not take any position regarding the pricing of the 4G network. “We are still assessing the impact of the current price and we have sent out questionnaires to all the service providers,” said Jean Baptist Mutabazi, director of communications at Rura. “We are still analysing the data to find out the challenges in adopting the network.”

The move towards 4G technology by Rwanda is commendable. However, consumers may fail to see the benefits of the new technology as long as the prices remain unaffordable and out of reach for most of them with cheaper alternatives such as 3G still available, albeit at slower speeds. Consequently we believe that the regulatory authorities need to move faster to make 4G more ubiquitous within Rwanda.

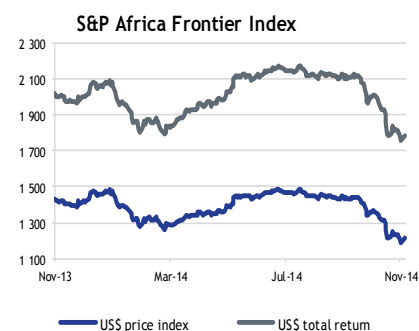
TOP 5 VALUE TRADED	
Country	Value traded (USD m)
Nigeria	31.05
Kenya	5.95
Zimbabwe	1.17
Mauritius	1.01
Tanzania	0.30

TOP 5 VOLUME TRADED	
Country	Volume traded (m)
Nigeria	364.47
Kenya	26.32
Zimbabwe	6.32
Mauritius	3.86
Tanzania	0.86

Source: IAS

Country Performance		
Country	Daily %	YTD% (USD)
Namibia	0.01%	4.46%
Zimbabwe	0.32%	4.02%
Kenya	0.50%	2.90%
Malawi	0.00%	1.90%
Uganda	-0.21%	1.45%
Tanzania	-1.16%	0.96%
Botswana	0.19%	0.49%
Rwanda	0.60%	-0.65%
Zambia	-0.39%	-2.75%
BRVM	0.00%	-7.19%
Mauritius	-0.20%	-7.78%
Ghana	0.29%	-10.43%
Nigeria	-2.08%	-20.28%

Source: IAS/S&P



Source: IAS/S&P



CLOSING MARKET SUMMARIES - 09 FEBRUARY 2015

BOTSWANA				
Index	Today	Previous	Day %	YTD %
BSE DCI	9 475.62	9 457.70	0.19%	-0.27%
Trading Activity	Volume	Daily %	Turnover (USD)	Daily %
9-Feb-15	97 764	-92.54%	115 089	-66.69%
Top Traders	Volume	Turnover (USD)		
BIHL	25 379	70 126		
SECHABA				
Top Gainers	Bottom Losers			
SECHABA	1.35%	CHOPPIES	-0.25%	
SEFALANA	0.94%			
CHOBE	0.45%			
BIHL	0.43%			

BRVM				
Index	Today	Previous	Day %	YTD %
BRVM 10	261.85	261.85	0.00%	-2.12%
BRVM Composite	254.33	254.33	0.00%	-1.45%
Trading Activity	Volume	Daily %	Turnover (USD)	Daily %
9-Feb-15	-	-100.00%	-	-100.00%
Top Traders	Volume	Turnover (USD)		
No Data	-	-		
Top Gainers	Bottom Losers			

GHANA				
Index	Today	Previous	Day %	YTD %
GSECI	2 155.95	2 149.80	0.29%	-4.65%
Trading Activity	Volume	Daily %	Turnover (USD)	Daily %
9-Feb-15	206 220	-18.30%	23 297	-90.16%
Top Traders	Volume	Turnover (USD)		
UTB	126 500	6 687		
Top Gainers	Bottom Losers			
ETI	4.17%	SIC	-15.00%	
BOPP	0.72%	UTB	-5.26%	
GCB	0.40%	TLW	-0.14%	

KENYA				
Index	Today	Previous	Day %	YTD %
NSE All Share	169.03	168.19	0.50%	3.77%
NSE 20	5,296.07	5,280.72	0.29%	3.59%
Trading Activity	Volume	Daily %	Turnover (USD)	Daily %
9-Feb-15	26 316 200	-5.30%	5 945 855	19.73%
Top Traders	Volume	Turnover (USD)		
Safaricom	13 757 300	2 226 685		
Top Gainers	Bottom Losers			
E.A.Portland Cement Co.	9.17%	Mumias Sugar Co.	-3.17%	
Kakuzi	7.44%	Carbacid Investments	-2.78%	
Total Kenya	6.67%	I&M	-1.61%	
Kenya Re Insurance Corp	5.10%	NIC Bank	-1.53%	
Sameer Africa	4.88%	TransCentury	-1.34%	

MALAWI				
Index	Today	Previous	Day %	YTD %
DASI	11 780.30	11 780.30	0.00%	0.51%
MASI	14 961.60	14 961.60	0.00%	0.51%
Trading Activity	Volume	Daily %	Turnover (USD)	Daily %
9-Feb-15	542 816	-74.40%	38 507	46.34%
Top Traders	Volume	Turnover (USD)		
NITL	389 580	35 230		
Top Gainers	Bottom Losers			
There were no gainers		There were no losers		

MAURITIUS				
Index	Today	Previous	Day %	YTD %
Semdex	1 990.82	1 994.83	-0.20%	-4.00%
Sem 7	369.74	370.94	-0.32%	-4.17%
Trading Activity	Volume	Daily %	Turnover (USD)	Daily %
9-Feb-15	3 855 922	-63.22%	1 010 622	-74.4%
Top Traders	Volume	Turnover (USD)		
SBM	3 081 163	533 008		
Top Gainers	Bottom Losers			
ROCKCASTLE(USD)*	13.89%	United Docks	-12.86%	
Fincorp	1.36%	Policy	-9.32%	
MUA	1.32%	NMH	-1.84%	
Lux Island Resorts	0.98%	BLUELIFE LIMITED	-1.03%	
Rogers	0.70%	CIEL LIMITED	-0.86%	

NAMIBIA				
Index	Today	Previous	Day %	YTD %
NSX Local	402.74	402.68	0.01%	3.53%
NSX Overall	1 135.49	1 132.60	0.26%	3.41%
Trading Activity	Volume	Daily %	Turnover (USD)	Daily %
9-Feb-15	10 629	-97.26%	33 711	-97.42%
Top Traders	Volume	Turnover (USD)		
Bank Windhoek Ltd	5 700	22 223		
Oceana				
Top Gainers	Bottom Losers			
Truworths	1.83%	B2Gold Corp	-4.43%	
Anglo-American	1.66%	Paladin Energy	-2.33%	
Trustco	1.61%	Vukile Property	-1.82%	
Barlbworld	1.04%	Shoprite	-1.24%	
Investec	0.68%	PSG Konsult	-1.01%	

NIGERIA				
Index	Today	Previous	Day %	YTD %
NSE All Share	29,360.55	29,985.08	-2.08%	-15.28%
Trading Activity	Volume	Daily %	Turnover (USD)	Daily %
9-Feb-15	364 472 058	-15.67%	31 052 406	24.24%
Top Traders	Volume	Turnover (USD)		
Access	107 361 184	12 461 146		
Nestle				
Top Gainers	Bottom Losers			
Seplat	10.25%	Maybaker	-8.67%	
Dangflour	9.50%	Stanbic	-6.80%	
Vitafoam	4.92%	Nem	-6.78%	
Rtbriscoe	4.88%	Pz	-5.00%	
Eterna	4.76%	Nestle	-5.00%	



CLOSING MARKET SUMMARIES - 09 FEBRUARY 2015

RWANDA				
Index	Today	Previous	Day %	YTD %
RSI	236.48	235.07	0.60%	-0.12%
RSE All Share	136.29	135.43	0.64%	0.32%
Trading Activity				
	Volume	Daily %	Turnover (USD)	Daily %
9-Feb-15	418 500	135.24%	179 824	117.93%
Top Traders				
	Volume	Turnover (USD)		
Bank of Kigali	402 500	170 845		
Top Gainers		Bottom Losers		
Bank of Kigali	1.72%	There were no losers		
Bralirwa	1.30%			

TANZANIA				
Index	Today	Previous	Day %	YTD %
TSI	4 970.62	5 028.96	-1.16%	6.38%
DSEI	2 699.25	2 717.45	-0.67%	7.13%
Trading Activity				
	Volume	Daily %	Turnover (USD)	Daily %
9-Feb-15	859 128	-71.02%	297 775	-93.34%
Top Traders				
	Volume	Turnover (USD)		
CRDB	828 525	225 682		
Top Gainers		Bottom Losers		
NMB	19.35%	SWALA	-7.14%	
JHL	2.12%	ACA	-4.86%	
KCB	1.77%	NMG	-1.16%	
EABL	1.18%	TPCC	-0.51%	
SWISSPORT	0.19%	TCC	-0.18%	

UGANDA				
Index	Today	Previous	Day %	YTD %
USE All Share	2 012.00	2 016.28	-0.21%	4.41%
Trading Activity				
	Volume	Daily %	Turnover (USD)	Daily %
9-Feb-15	576 085	-77.46%	21 554	-91.20%
Top Traders				
	Volume	Turnover (USD)		
SBU	500 000	13 770		
NVL				
Top Gainers		Bottom Losers		
JHL	1.08%	UCHM	-5.90%	
KA	0.88%	EBL	-1.01%	
KCB	0.76%	CENT	-0.85%	
DFCU	0.42%	NMG	-0.47%	
		EABL	-0.42%	

ZAMBIA				
Index	Today	Previous	Day %	YTD %
LuSE All Share	6 158.30	6 182.56	-0.39%	-0.04%
Trading Activity				
	Volume	Daily %	Turnover (USD)	Daily %
9-Feb-15	19 071	-23.38%	2 420	-9.75%
Top Traders				
	Volume	Turnover (USD)		
Zanaco	15 385	796		
ATEL				
Top Gainers		Bottom Losers		
There were no gainers		CEC	-4.69%	
		ATEL	-1.44%	

ZIMBABWE				
Index	Today	Previous	Day %	YTD %
Industrial	169.91	169.37	0.32%	4.02%
Mining	59.93	59.03	1.52%	-12.01%
Trading Activity				
	Volume	Daily %	Turnover (USD)	Daily %
9-Feb-15	6 324 644	94.70%	1 170 539	-43.81%
Top Traders				
	Volume	Turnover (USD)		
ZPIL	3 255 281	800 350		
DELT				
Top Gainers		Bottom Losers		
EDGA	25.00%	TURNAL	-8.33%	
POWE	22.22%	HIPP	-6.25%	
DZLH	12.50%			
ZPIL	9.09%			
BIND	1.96%			

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