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AfICTA 8th Summit

Session 3: Panel Discussion

IT Infrastructure Deficit: Challenges and Solutions

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The background is a solid dark purple. On the left side, there are three abstract, organic shapes. The top-left shape is a large, rounded blob with a gradient from dark purple to a lighter blue-purple. The middle shape is a large, elongated, kidney-like shape with a similar gradient. The bottom-left shape is a smaller, more rounded blob, also with a gradient. The text 'A Brave New World !' is positioned on the right side of the image, in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

**A Brave New
World !**



59M

Cases

1.25B

Workers are employed in sectors that are facing severe decline

88%

of the organizations, worldwide, made it mandatory or encouraged their employees to work from home after COVID-19 was declared a pandemic

-3%

2020 Global GDP growth forecast



Now **84%** of companies believe that digital transformation is crucial for business performance.

Who led the digital transformation of your company?

A) CEO

B) CTO

C) COVID-19

Challenges

- 
- Accessibility & Availability
 - Data Protection & Cybersecurirty
 - Technology Contracts & Logistics
 - Regulatory Management and Governance

Accessibility & Availability

The Digital Barrier is still there

- Access to the internet: Only **1 in 3** people in the developing world.
- In Africa, only **19%** of the population is online.
- Digital gender gap: **40%** fewer women & girls in Africa are online than men & boys, it is **25%** globally.

Reference:



Meaningful connectivity is a **MUST**

Meaningful connectivity is a **MUST**

-
- # MEANINGFUL CONNECTIVITY.
- The internet that people need to change their lives.*
- Almost half the world cannot get online. The other half, too often, has just a basic connection.
- We must make sure everyone has **Meaningful Connectivity** so they can benefit from all the internet has to offer.
- That means having **regular access, a suitable device, enough data and a fast connection.**
- A4AI
- www.a4ai.org

Data Protection & Cybersecuirty

In Q1 2020

- **907K** total spam messages related to COVID-19
- **737** detected malware related to COVID-19
- **220x** increase in spam from Feb to Mar 2020

Reference:



Data Protection & Cybersecurity



Increased security risk from remote working/learning



Potential delays in cyber-attack detection and response



Exposed physical security



Influx of cyber criminals



Business Continuity Plans (BCP) to feature global pandemics



Post COVID-19 Cyber Security Posture

Deloitte.

COVID-19's Impact on Cybersecurity

Technology Contracts & Logistics

- Major disruption to the global tech supply chain across manufacturing, shipping and delivery.
- Over **200** of the Fortune Global 500 firms have a presence in Wuhan.

Technology Contracts & Logistics

- The focus should be on encouraging clients to look at collaborative rather than hostile contingencies in the first instance
- There is a need for a new generation of ICT contracts.



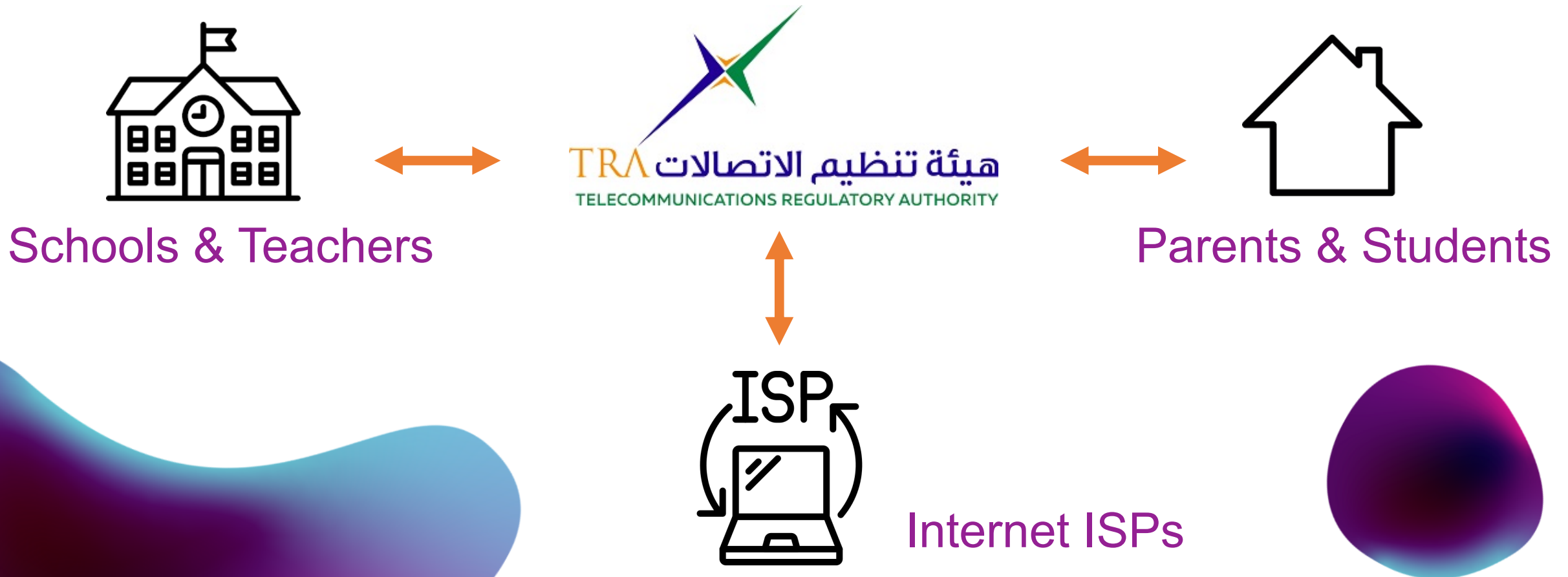
Regulatory Management and Governance

Case Study: **UAE RTA**

Regulatory Management and Governance

- 1.2 Million Students in the UAE.
- How the UAE's robust ICT infrastructure & regulations saved the educational year during COVID-19.

Regulatory Management and Governance



Regulatory Management and Governance



- Suspending the deactivation of mobile services
- Free internet data via mobile to enable distance learning
- Increasing fixed broadband speed to 100 Mbit/s
- Enabling applications to support distance learning
- Network capacity enhancement and re-engineering
- Activating a satellite operations center and satellite-based internet connection for remote areas in the country

Regulatory Management and Governance




Schools & Teachers



Parents & Students

- Enhancing digital skills through free online training
- Promoting security awareness through digital campaigns
- Introducing a platform that allows schools & teachers to share the best practices



ICT Regulators in Africa
have a critical role to play
and that is not only limited
to licensing & competition
policies.



Thank you.