eHealth – eCommunication.

A Vision to Overcome the Gap between the Developed and the Underdeveloped World.

Multi-Infrastructure Services for enhanced eHealth delivery Enabling eHealth Applications for Fixed and Wireless Infrastructures.

Hubert Haag

Index. Content.

Setting the scene:

 Socio-demographic challenges and infrastructure prerequisites

Bridging the gap:

How eCommunication enables

Embracing the opportunities:

Enhanced eHealth services by new technology developments

Deutsche Telekom. CSR and sustainability policy.



Setting the Scene.

The gap between high earning – and mid/low earning countries.

- Climate change
- Socio-demographic developments
- Health care provision
- eCommunication
 - Telecom infrastructure
 - PC and Internet availability and usage

The ,digital divide between high- and low/medium earning countries inhibits better eHealth exploitation and standards.

Setting the Scene. Bridging the gap on the 'digital divide'.

- Cell phone infrastructure in sub-Sahara counties is soaring
- SMS Health information services are introduced all over Africa
- Cross border tele-medical support for doctors in Panama

Wireless telecommunication infrastructure will close the ,digital divide', quickly and cost effectively.



Bridging the Gap. From eCommunication to eHealth.

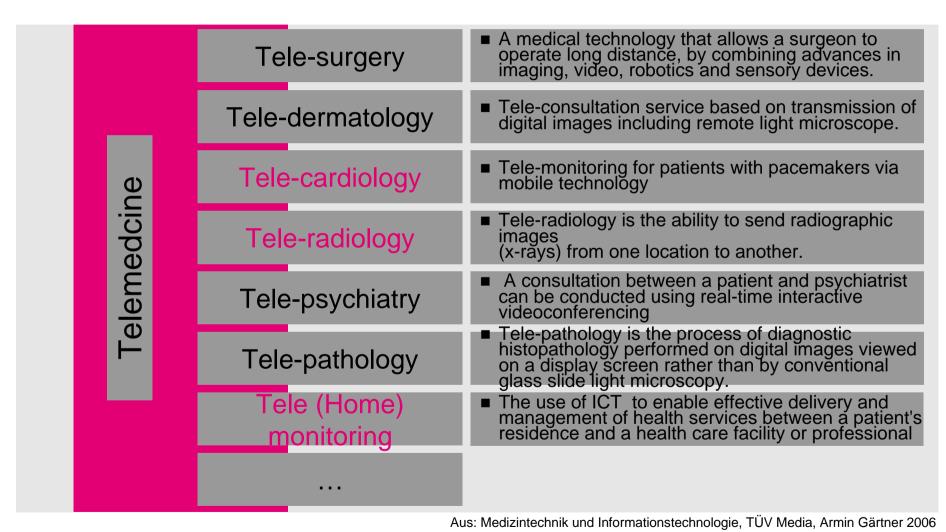
- Healthcare provision in geographically remote areas
- eHealth provides care in low earning countries in the form of:
 - information, advice, interactive communication
- Tele-diagnostic applications from e.g. one country to another country

- Fixed and cellular systems opening new areas for health provision:
 - health maintenance and disease prevention
 - centralized diagnostic services
 - centralized medical data base



From eCommunication to eHealth.

Sample applications – Strategic plan telemedicine by T-Systems.





Trends in eHealth.

Technological platforms for new eHealth applications.

- Combinations of fixed-line, wireless and internet technologies are the basis for new eHealth solutions and applications
- Hybrid infrastructures providing platforms for new eHealth services:
 - Tele-consulting services, such as interactive voice communication
 - Tele-treatment, such as exchange of pictures and large volumes of data
- Area of application and its infrastructure requirements:
 - Tele-consultation → low bandwidth, voice based, mobile and land line
 - Tele-treatment → high bandwidth, normally a land line

Embracing Opportunities. Vision.

- Virtual health care provision helps to improve health standards:
 - access for larger groups of the population
 - wider geographic scope
- Telemedicine is key for health care provisioning in low earning regions

Telecommunication infrastructure and intelligent IT systems provide sustainable eHealth developments.



Thank you.