

# “Inclusion in the Information Society” IDRC funded research, 2012-14

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Colombo, Sri Lanka



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Background

**HOW DID WE GET HERE**

# Findings from latest representative sample survey of those at the “bottom of the pyramid - Teleuse@BOP4 , mid 2011

## Sample sizes and margins of error @95% confidence level

	Bangladesh	Pakistan	India	Sri Lanka <sup>[1]</sup>	Java <sup>[2]</sup>	Thailand	Total
BOP teleusers	2,050	1,835	3,181	1,200	1,088	800	10,154
Margin of error @ 95% CL (%)	+ 2% -	+ 2% -	+ 2% -	+ 3% -	+ 2% -	+ 4% -	

## Actual population proportion of BOP

	Bangladesh	Pakistan	India	Sri Lanka	Thailand
SEC D+E (% of population)	73	59	69	44	33
Less than USD2 per day (% of population)	84	80	74	43	25
Year	2000	2004	2002	2003	2002
Source: World Resources Institute					

[1] Sri Lanka: Includes North and East

[2] Java region only; separate sampling procedures and BOP definition used

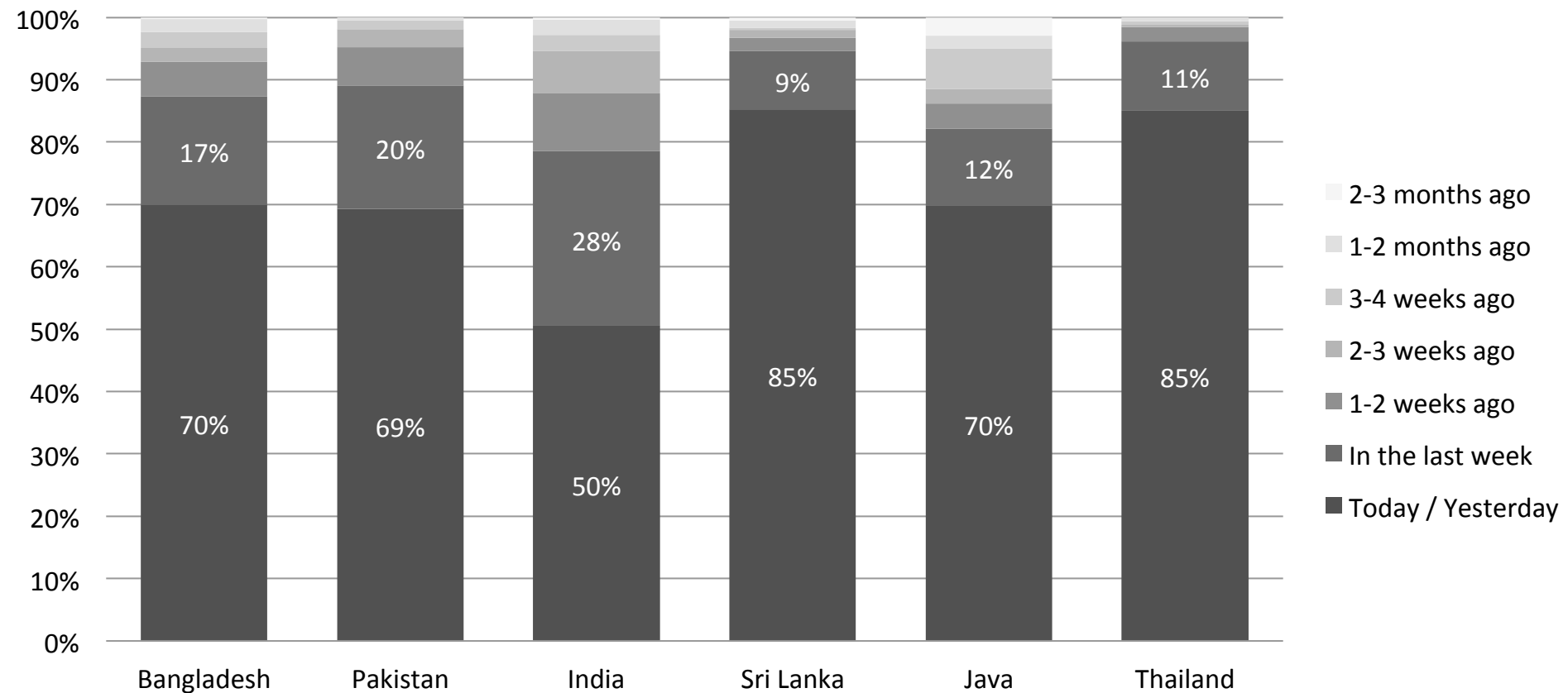
# 89-99% of BOP have used a phone in previous 3 months

Used a phone in the last 3 months (% of BOP)

	Bangladesh	Pakistan	India	Sri Lanka	Java	Thailand
2008	95%	96%	86%	88%	-	77 %
2011	99%	96%	89%	90%	90%	91%

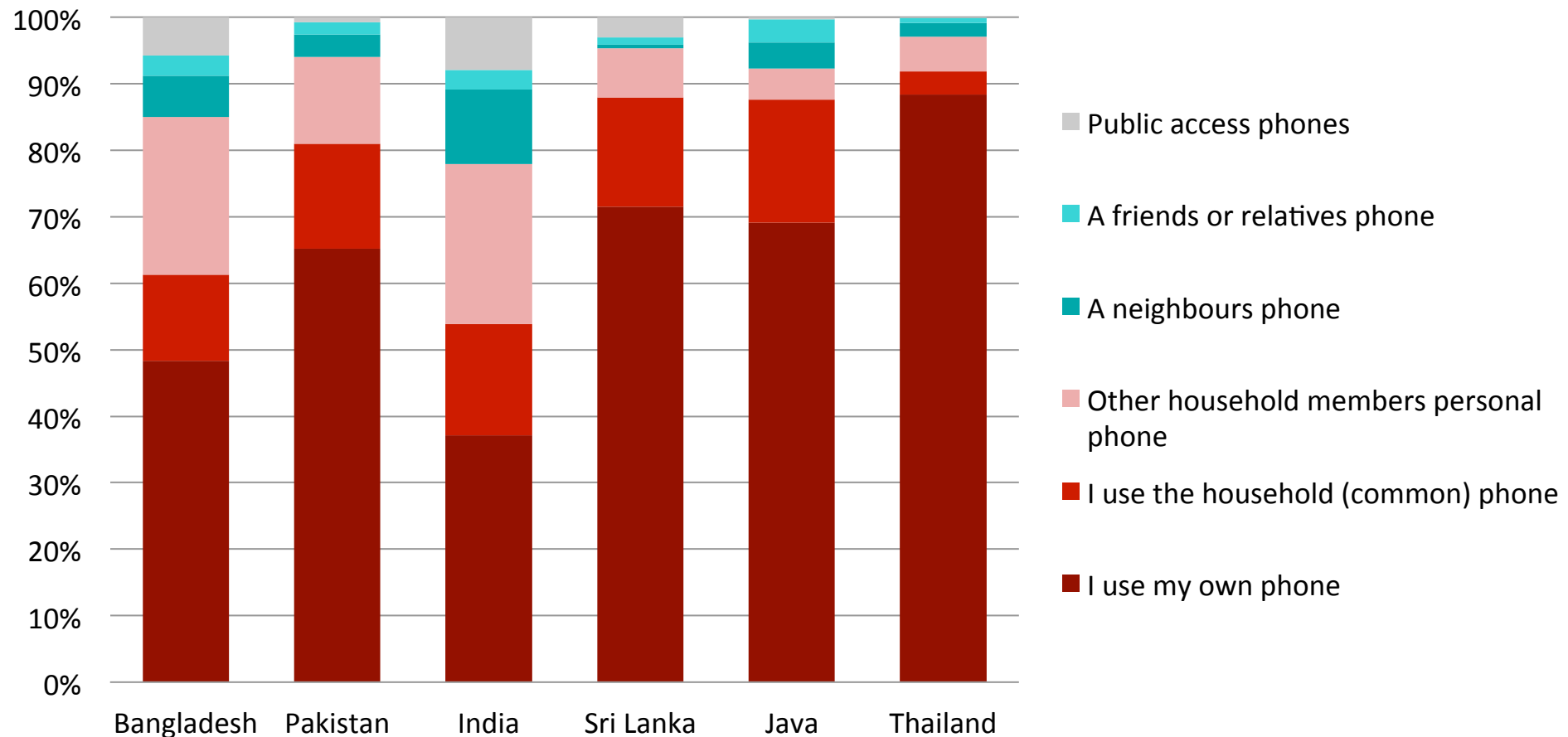
# Over 70% of BOP has made a call during the last week

Last time respondent used a phone (% of BOP teleusers)



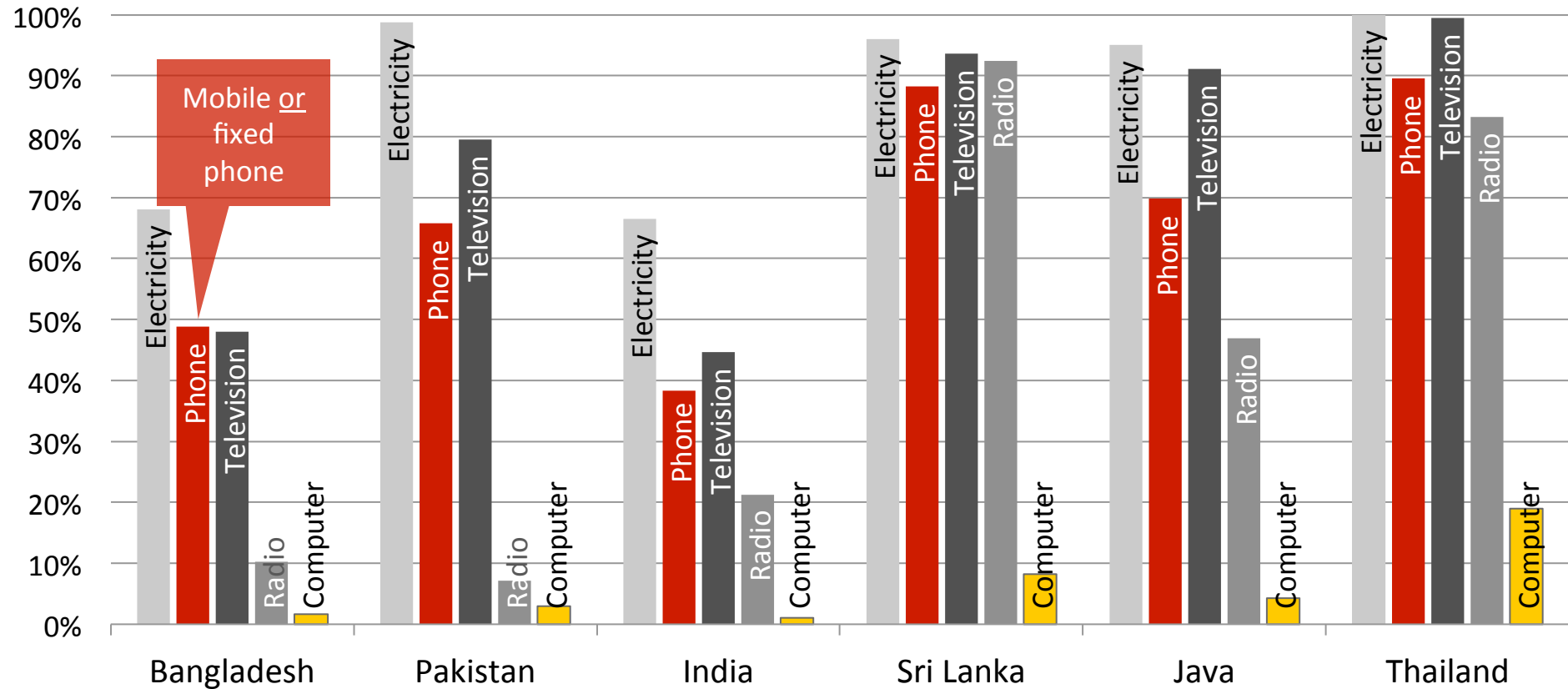
# Over 75 % of BOP have access to a phone within the household

Most frequently used phone (% of BOP teleusers)



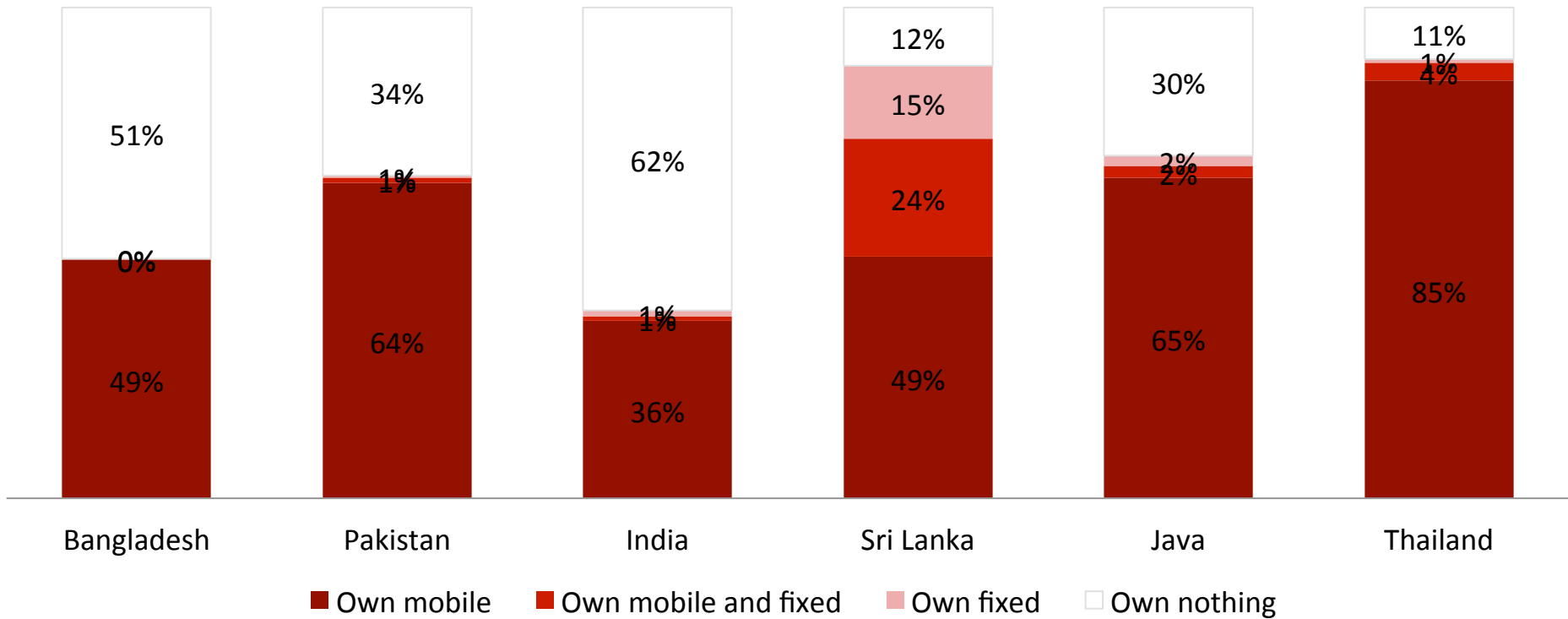
# Phones have overtaken radio at BOP everywhere except Sri Lanka (but some mobiles are used as radios)

Household access (% of BOP teleusers)



# Ownership: Mobile dominates

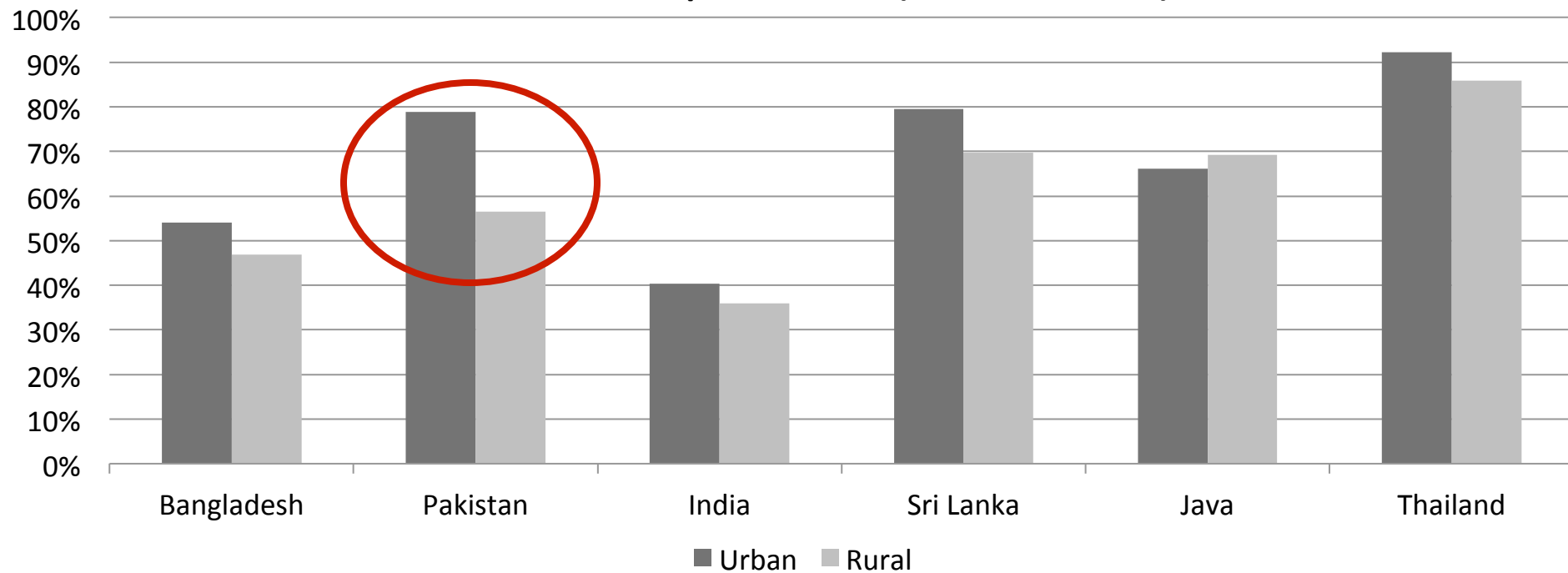
Household phone ownership (% of BOP teleusers' households)





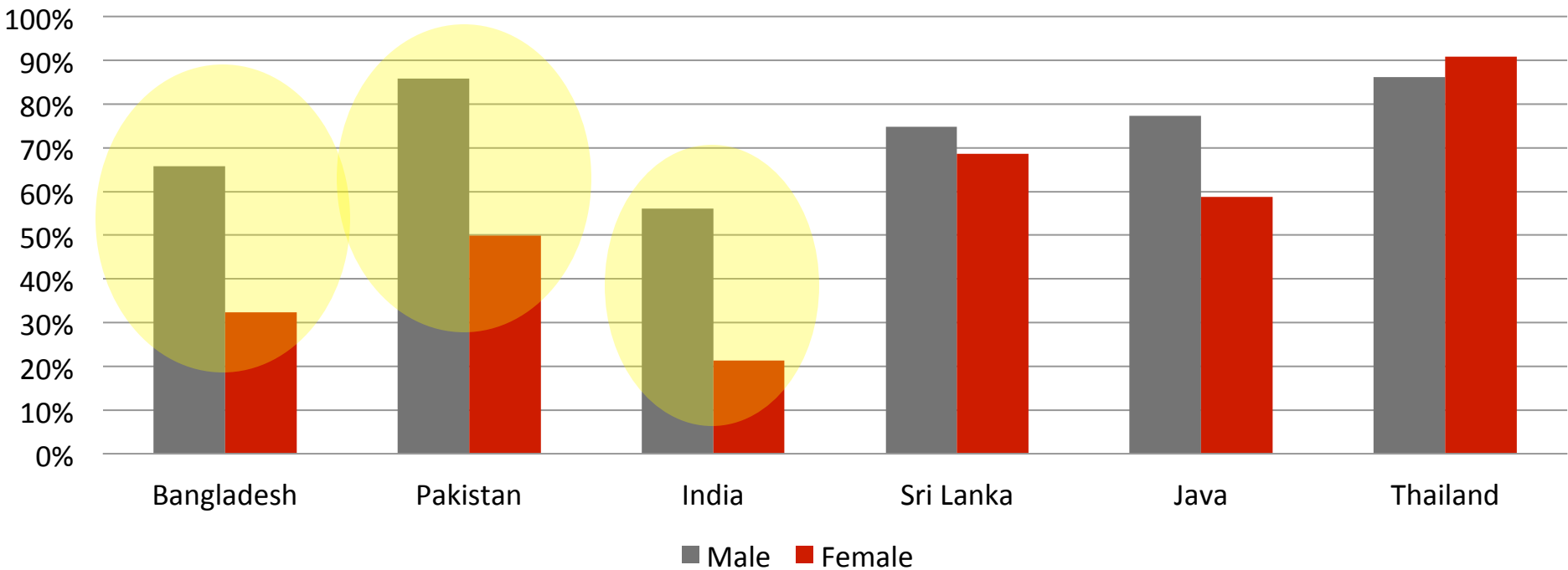
# Urban vs. rural BOP: No major difference between rural & urban mobile ownership by BOP, except in PK

Mobile ownership - individual (% BOP teleusers)



# Male vs. female: Gender gap continues in BOP mobile ownership in South Asia and Indonesia (Java).

Mobile ownership - individual (% of BOP teleusers)

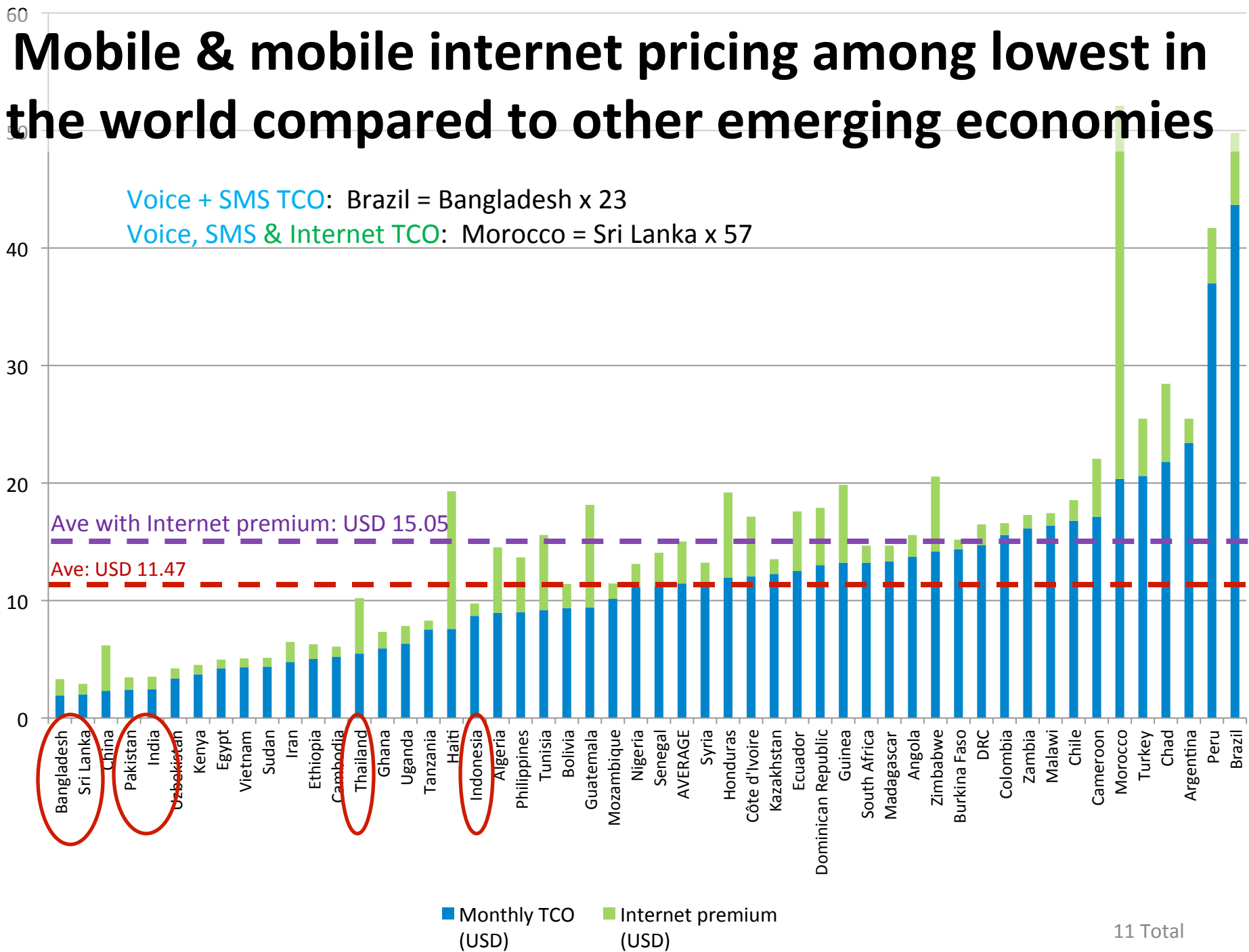


# Mobile & mobile internet pricing among lowest in the world compared to other emerging economies

Voice + SMS TCO: Brazil = Bangladesh x 23

Voice, SMS & Internet TCO: Morocco = Sri Lanka x 57

USD per month

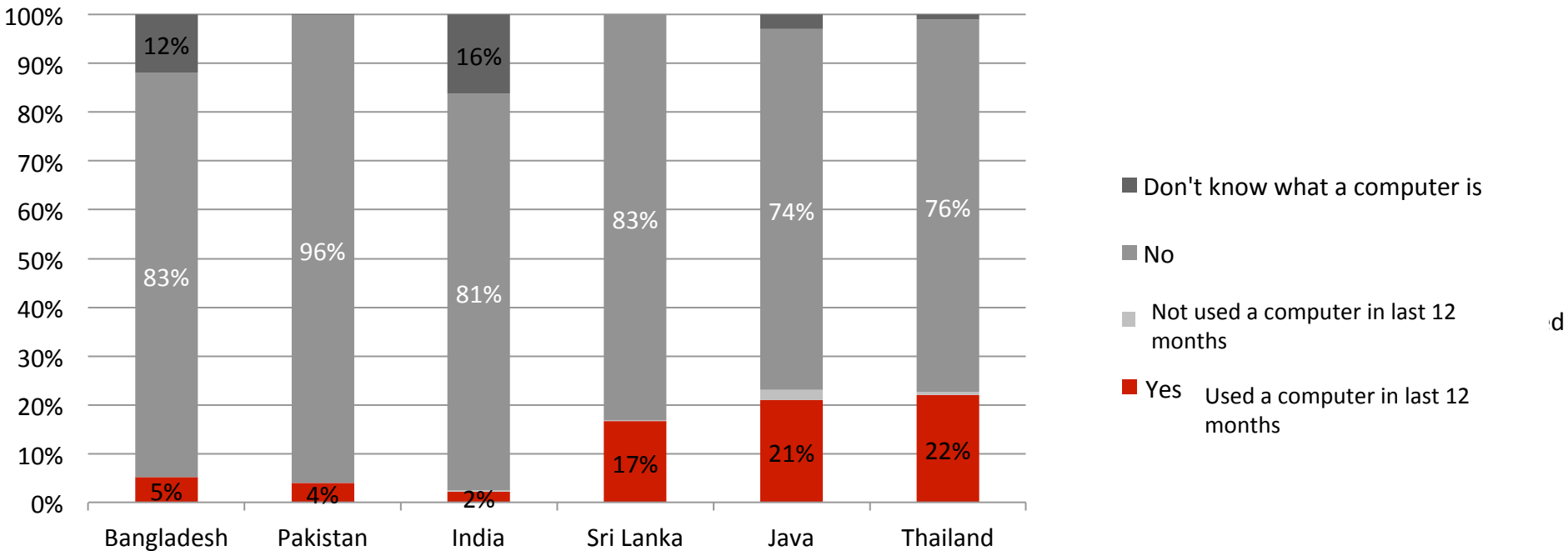


■ Monthly TCO (USD) ■ Internet premium (USD)

11 Total

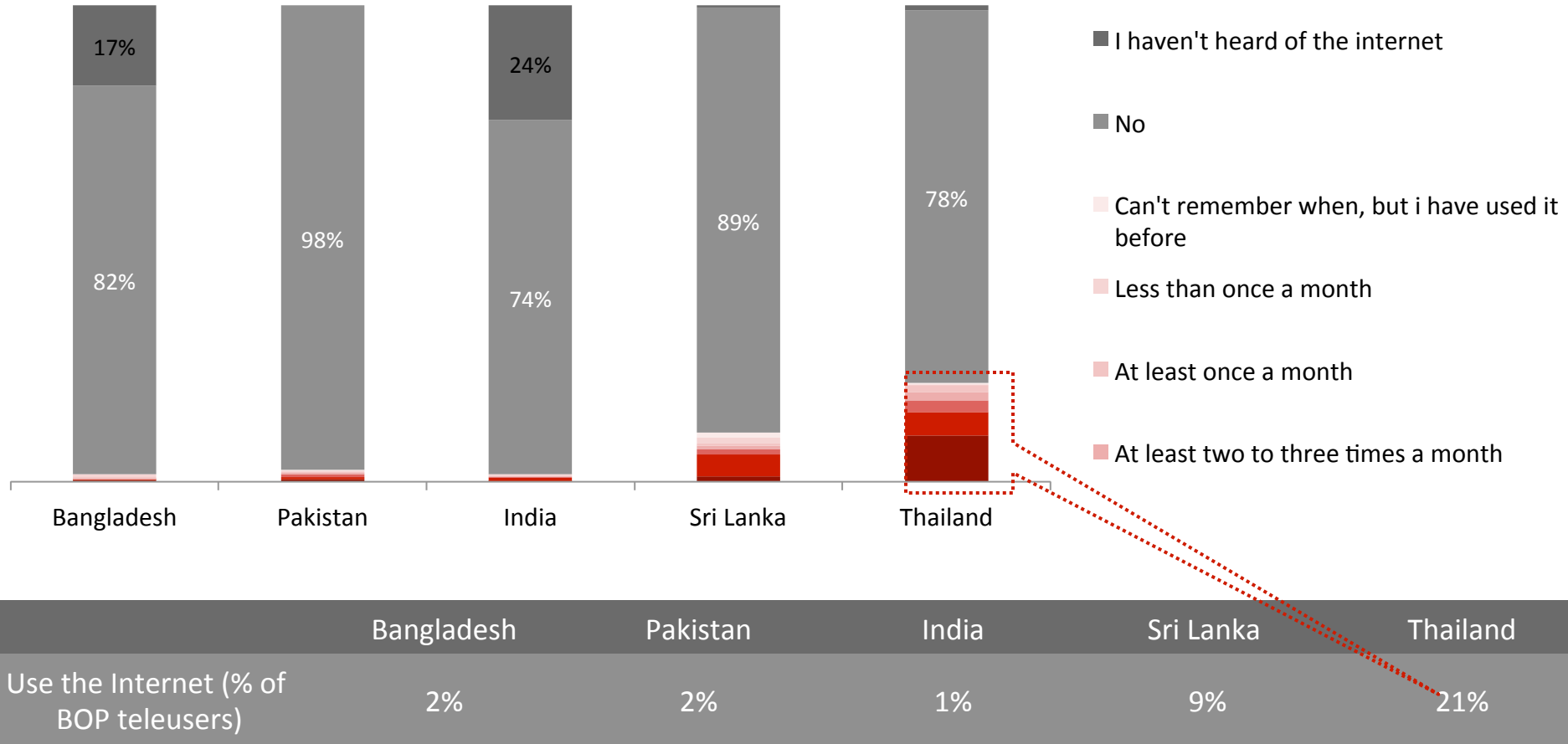
# Computer use at BOP low, at best

## Use of computers (% of BOP teleusers)



# Internet use at BOP even lower

Internet use (% of BOP teleusers)



# Mobile voice is ubiquitous. SMS increasingly popular. But other more-than voice (MTV) use

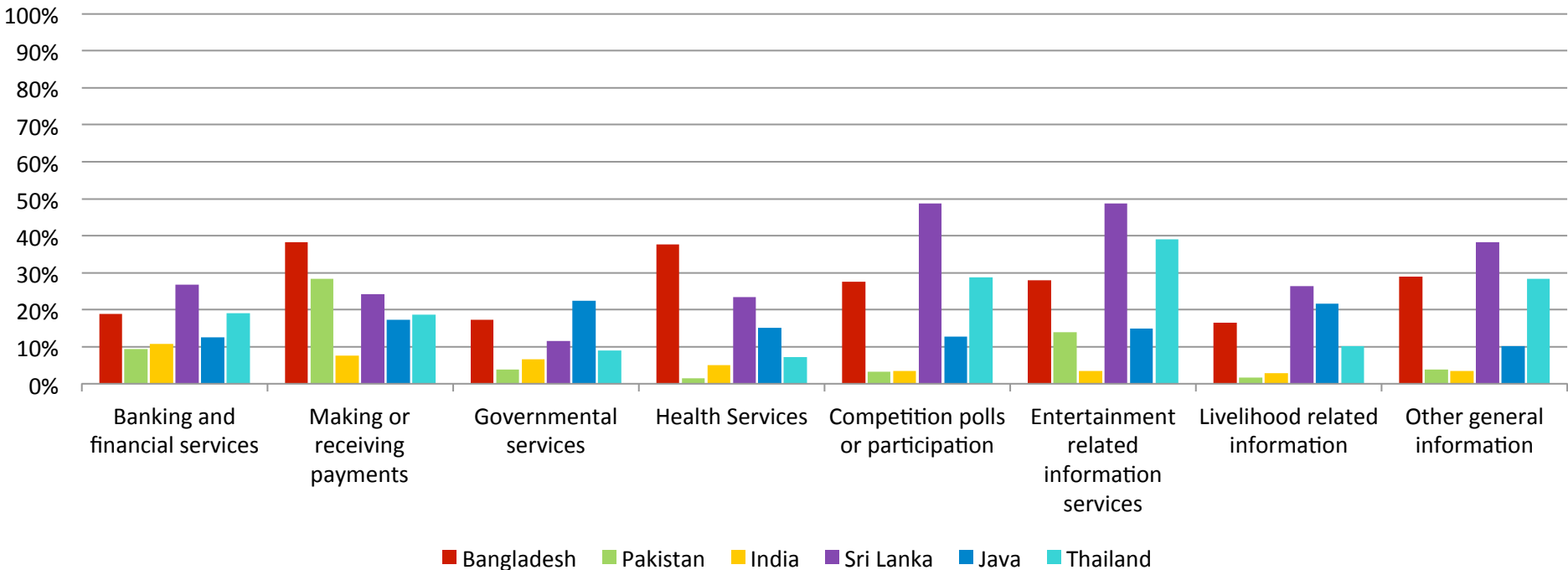
Among BOP mobile owners

% of BOP mobile owners

	B'desh	Pakistan	India	S'Lanka	Java	Thailand
Make phone calls	100	99	100	99	96	100
Receive phone calls	100	95	99	100	94	99
Send/receive missed calls	86	71	78	65	54	24
Send/receive SMS	19	38	23	55	89	37
Send/receive MMS	1	2	3	5	14	8
Send/receive e-mail				1	3	2
Browse the Internet	3		1	1	10	5
Take photos/video	19	7	8	14	26	19
Play games	27	21	18	11	31	16
Listen to radio	13	15	12	17	26	18
Listen to music	25	5	15	8	26	30
Share that you have content created	1	1	3	2	8	3
Send/receive or download/upload other content	1	1	2	2	6	3
Use as an organizer	7	5	8	2	15	8
Check my bill/credit	13	20	11	18	16	3
Send/receive talk time/load	10	5	2	2	35	0
Access facebook	1			1	7	2
Access other social networking or blog applications					2	1

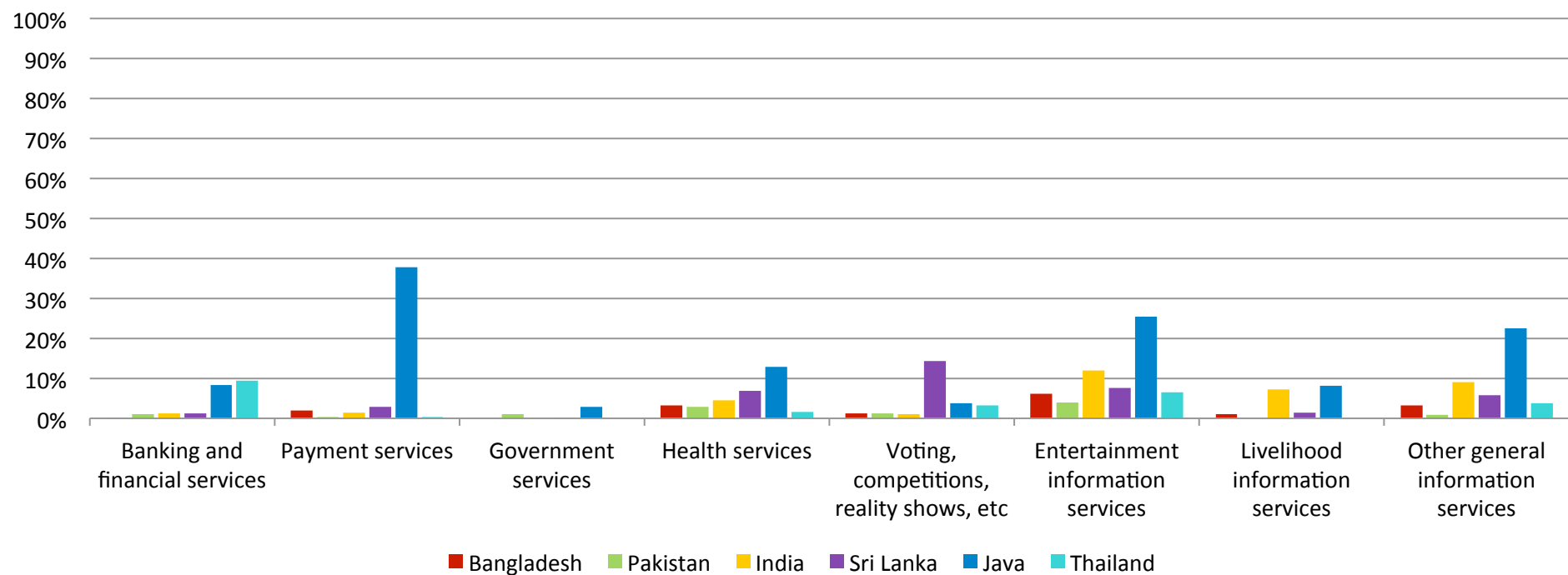
# Current awareness of More than Voice (MTV) services is very limited

Awareness of MTV services that can be accessed through phone or computers (% of BOP teleusers)



# Usage is even lower: do the services really exist? Are they relevant? accurate? affordable?

MTV service usage through phone or computer (% BOP aware of services)



Among BOP who are aware of MTV services



# **HOW DO WE ADDRESS THE PROBLEM OF EXCLUSION? (A.K.A. MODULE 1)**

# “Anchor apps” → motivate more general use of internet

- Hypothesis: greater availability of useful/good services through ubiquitous ICT platforms (i.e. mobile phones) will contribute to greater participation of the BOP in the Internet and MTV services (on mobile phones)
  - ~ Shopping mall – anchor stores attracting foot traffic to mall and other stores
- “Good customer service” delivered via ICT platform(s)/mobile phones
  - By private sector
  - By governments

# Study customer relationship management (CRM) or customer lifecycle management in 3 sectors

## Telecom

- Increasing efficiently provided (more customers, less cost service)
- Private provision
- High competition
- High ICT use

## Electricity

- Mix of public & private provision
- Less or no competition

## Government services

- Government as monopoly supplier
- Interest in increasing ICT use

# Identify good/best-fit practices across sectors, hopefully

## Telecom

- How is CRM done?
- What works?
- What doesn't?
- What levels of ICT use? Can it be improved?

## Electricity

- How is CRM done?
- What works?
- What doesn't?
- What levels of ICT use? Can it be improved?
- Lessons from telecom applicable?

## Government services

- How is "C"RM done?
- What works?
- What doesn't?
- What levels of ICT use? Can it be improved?
- Lessons from telecom and electricity?

# Identify good/best-fit practices across sectors, hopefully

## Telecom

- How is CRM done?
- - Does "exit" guarantee high quality?
- - Can exit substitute for "voice"?
- - "Voice" important for supplier?
- What levels of ICT use? Can it be improved?

## Electricity

- How is CRM done?
- What levels of ICT use? Can it be improved?
- - Is allowing "voice" in - the interest of the monopoly provider?
- - How much voice?
- - Voice - so what?
- Lessons from telecom applicable?

## Government services

- How is CRM done?
- What levels of ICT use? Can it be improved?
- - What doesn't work?
- - Lessons from telecom and electricity?

# **HOW DO WE STUDY THIS? (A.K.A. RESEARCH METHODS FOR MODULE 1)**

# a) CRM, as seen from the suppliers' POV (A.K.A supply-side study)

- Desk research
- Interviews with stakeholders
- Is CRM “good”?
  - How? Why?
  - How do we know it’s “good”?
- What do we NOT know and how can we change that?
  - And what do we need to make that change (e.g. regulation? Better understanding of the user?)
- Team:
  - Telecom: Payal (IN); Roshanthi (LK); Shazna (LK);
  - Electricity: Pial (BD); Usha & Raj Kiran (IN); Nilusha (LK)
  - (Other) Govt. Services: Subhash (IN, BD); Helani & Nirmani (LK)
    - Specific services might be selected for study (e.g. municipality delivered govt. services)

**Challenges:**  
1. to ID best-fit practices across sectors  
2. to synthesize, draw out general principles, not be purely descriptive

## **b) CRM, as seen from the users' POV: Quantitatively (A.K.A. Demand-side study, part 1)**

- Sample survey in BD, IN, LK
- Target: Urban BOP + Urban BOP ME (micro entrepreneur survey)
  - Why urban?: Because “urban” is the new black
  - Why BOP? : Duh!. (we’ve always been about BOP)
  - Why MEs? : Because ME’s are possibly the next group that’s waiting for service provider attention
  - Why BOP MEs? Because they are likely to employ other BOPs
  - Why not SMEs? : because that’s how much money we have
- Identify how ICTs, electricity, govt services are consumed, what problems are faced
- Vignesh, Ranjula



## b) CRM, as seen from the users' POV: Quantitatively (A.K.A. Demand-side study) 1)

- Sample survey in BD, IN, LK
- Target: Urban BOP + Urban SMEs survey
  - Why urban?: Because “urban” is easier to survey
  - Why BOP? : Duh!. (we’ve a lot of BOPs)
  - Why MEs? : Because ME’s are the ones who are waiting for service provider at the moment
  - Why BOP MEs? Because they are the ones who are likely to employ other BOPs
  - Why not SMEs? : because that’s how much money we have
- Identify how ICTs, electricity, govt services are consumed, what problems are faced
- Vignesh, Ranjula

**Challenges:**

1. Who is a ME? How do we know?
2. Can we have representative samples of MEs?
3. Are there enough BOP MEs (as opposed to just SMEs?)

## **c) CRM, as seen from the users' POV, and how it could be done (designed) better: (A.K.A. Demand-side study, part 2)**

- Qualitative Field research protocols
  - FGDs, ethnographic studies, other protocols
- To answer “Why” questions arising from quant survey.
- To understand “pain points”, “failure cases”, scenarios of use for services
  - In-depth study of the user experience, preferences
- Followed by process to re-design services/service elements
  - User-centric design: series of workshops
  - Users represented through research done
  - Experts on design; experts on the 3 sectors
- Namrata & CKS Research

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**Challenge:**  
1. Capturing the country-specificities in (expressed) user preferences  
2. Other?

## d) CRM best practices, as revealed through user behavior (RCTs)

- “Nudges”
  - small changes in service design, based on previous steps
  - Randomized Control Trials
  - Track changes in behavior, as revealed through data on the supplier’s systems
- Expressed preferences (quant, qualit research) vs. revealed preferences
- In telecom only
  - 2 operators given on principle agreement
  - Next research cycle: electricity sector and govt service “nudges”? We live in hope
- Sriganesh (with team)

## d) CRM best practices, as revealed through user behavior (RCTs)

- “Nudges”
  - small changes in service design
  - Randomized Control Trials
  - Track changes in behavior through the supplier’s systems
- Expressed preferences (questionnaires) vs. revealed preferences
- In telecom only
  - 2 operators given on principle agreement
  - Next research cycle: electricity sector and govt service “nudges”? We live in hope
- Sriganesh (with team)

### Challenges:

1. Real time vs. project time - need to pick re-designed service elements that are most likely to give observable changes in behavior, within life-time of project
2. Operators might get cold feet? (questionnaires) vs.

**AFTER WE STUDY ALL OF THIS**

# Research → Policy: Dissemination to stakeholders in the 3 sectors

- Directly, through stakeholder workshops
  - By sector (most likely)
  - By country? (let's see)
- As opportunities present themselves
- Other ways
- Rohan (with team)

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*Challenges (minor ones):*

- 1. "Ha ha ha. LIRNEasia's ICT junkies trying to teach me about electricity? Puhlease!" – Mr. X, CEO, Power DistCo., 2014*
- 2. Convincing audience of making incremental changes to CRM practices, without addressing real structural issues in sector (electricity, specially)*



# **MODULE 2: BIG DATA TO ANSWER SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH QUESTIONS (A.K.A. “THE COOL STUFF”)**

# **An attempt to demonstrate how development questions could be answered using transaction generated (and other) information**

- Demonstrating how development questions could be answered through analysis of big data
  - How integrated are the different parts of cities?
  - Is the integration between parts of cities and suburbs greater than between parts of cities?
  - How far do those who work in cities commute?
  - What are the optimal locations for delivering government services?
  - Etc.
- Sriganesh +

# An attempt to demonstrate how development questions could be answered using transaction generated (and other) information

- Demonstrating how development could be answered through

- How integrated are the
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- What are the optimal locations for delivering government services?
- Etc.

- Challenges:**
1. Data (will "they" give it to us?)
  2. Data (will we get it before we die? Ideally before the project ends?)
  3. Technology (access high end software)
  4. Expertise (we are new to this)

- Sriganesh +

## **..and creating conditions for wider use of big data for development research**

- Study the process of accessing and using big data as case study
- Develop draft guidelines/codes of practice for a possible self-regulatory regime on how user data should be used
  - By development researchers
  - By operators
- Can we think of it before it is imposed?

# ..and creating conditions for wider use of big data for development research

- Study the process of accessing and using data as case study
- Develop draft guidelines for a possible self-regulatory regime on how user data should be used
  - By development researchers
  - By operators
- Can we think of it before it is imposed?

Challenges:

1. Ideological divide: us vs. rights-based privacy advocates

**OTHER RESEARCH WE WON'T  
DISCUSS AT THIS MEETING**

# Several other small modules

- Responding to policy windows in Myanmar
  - Where even basic voice connectivity is NOT available
  - Remember the TRE/SPR studies?
  - Capacity building
  - Rohan
- Broadband quality of service for the BOP
  - Testing quality as experienced by users
  - Policy interventions
  - Shazna
- Rapid response: opportunistic engagement when policy window opens
  - Rohan + all of us

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**THANK YOU**