

# E-learning opportunities in the Asian global south

Ayesha Zainudeen & Tharaka Amarasinghe

16 May 2020 | Colombo, Sri Lanka



AfterAccess Asia team: Helani Galpaya, Ayesha Zainudeen, Tharaka Amarasinghe  
Firas Mohamed, Namali Premawardhana, Tahani Iqbal, Shazna Zuhyle



LIRNE*Asia*: a pro-poor, pro-market Asia Pacific think tank;  
focus on infrastructure policy and regulation



***Our Mission:***

*“Catalyzing policy change through research to improve people’s lives in the emerging Asia Pacific by facilitating their use of hard and soft infrastructures through the use of knowledge, information and technology”*

# Findings from AfterAccess survey

# ICT device and internet access among the 15-65 population

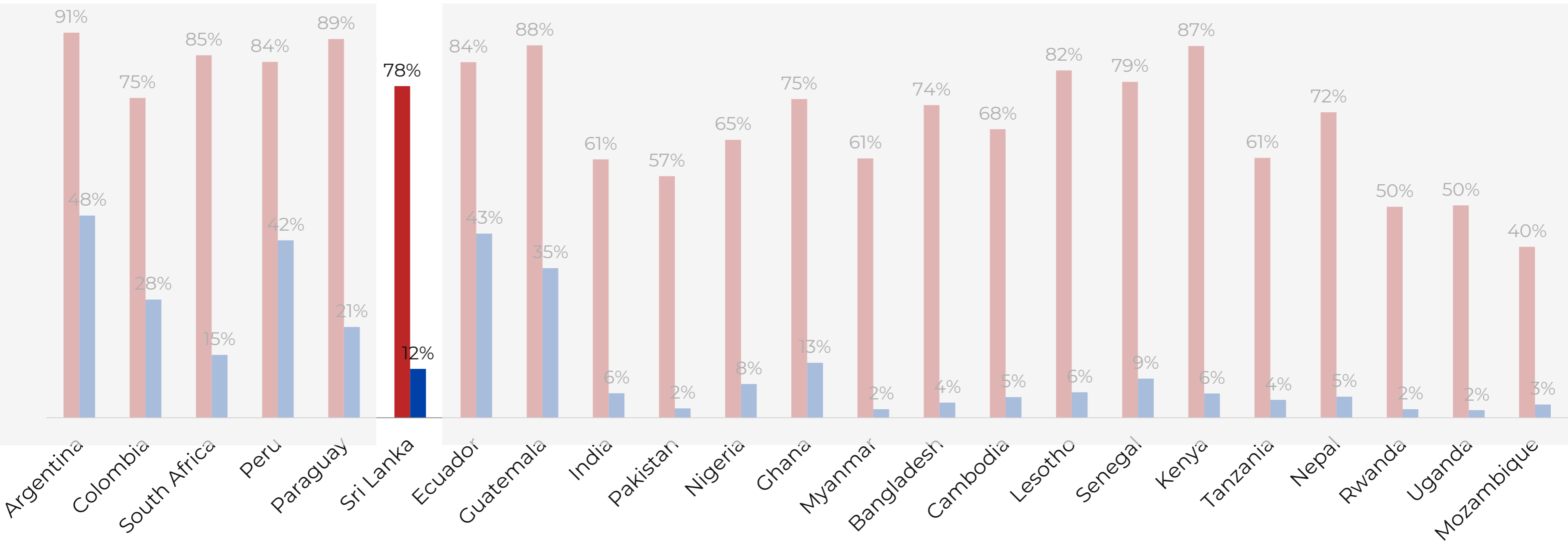
# The bigger picture: What we know

- 78% of Sri Lankans aged 15-65 own a mobile
  - Almost half of those mobiles are still basic phones
- 37% of Sri Lankans (15-65) use “the internet”
  - Mostly via smartphones; mostly social media
  - Gender gaps, rural-urban gaps exist

# Sri Lanka: 78% aged 15-65 population have a mobile phone of some type (individual level)

**Mobile phone, SIM card & desktop or laptop ownership (% of aged 15-65 population)**

■ Mobile phone ■ Desktop/laptop



Q1: Do you own a mobile phone?

Q2: How many active SIM cards do you have, (SIM cards that you used in last 30 days)?

Q3: Do you own a personal Desktop computer or Laptop?

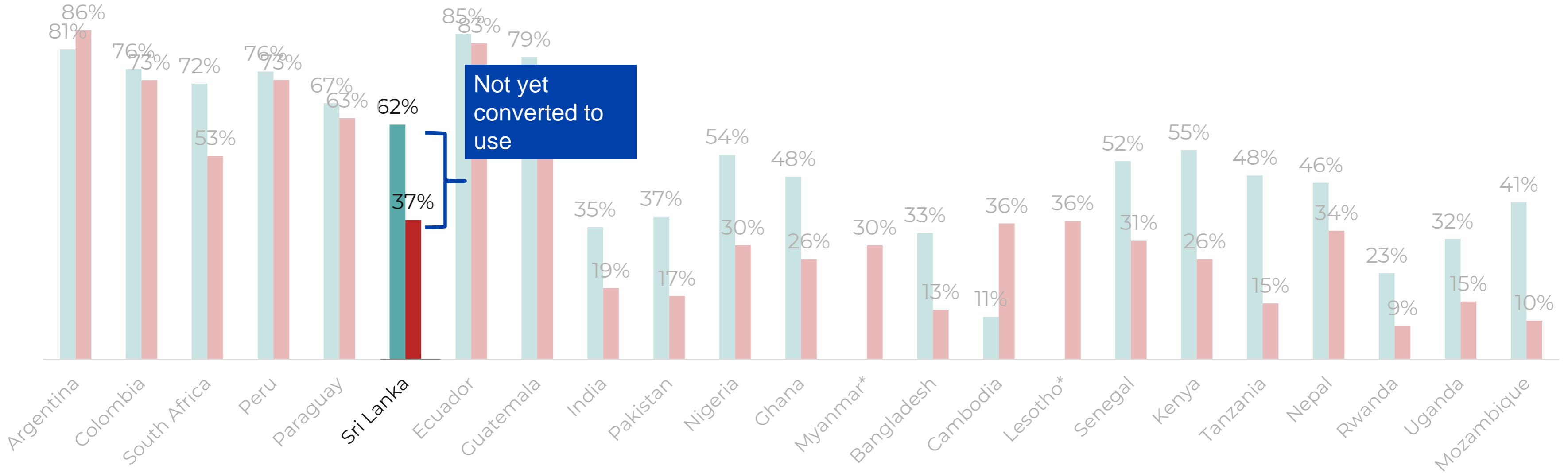
Note: Countries ordered left-right by descending GNI/capita or

Base	Argentina	Colombia	South Africa	Peru	Paraguay	Sri Lanka	Ecuador	Guatemala	India	Pakistan	Nigeria	Ghana	Myanmar	Bangladesh	Cambodia	Lesotho	Senegal	Kenya	Tanzania	Nepal	Rwanda	Uganda	Mozambique
All respondents	1,240	1,425	1,610	1,478	1,357	2,017	1,420	1,407	5,069	2,002	1,706	1,145	7,204	2,020	2,123	1,844	1,181	1,179	1,102	2,008	1,118	1,757	1,091

# Internet awareness among 15-65 population is yet to be converted to actual use (individual level)

## Internet awareness and use (% of aged 15-65 population)

■ Internet awareness ■ Internet use



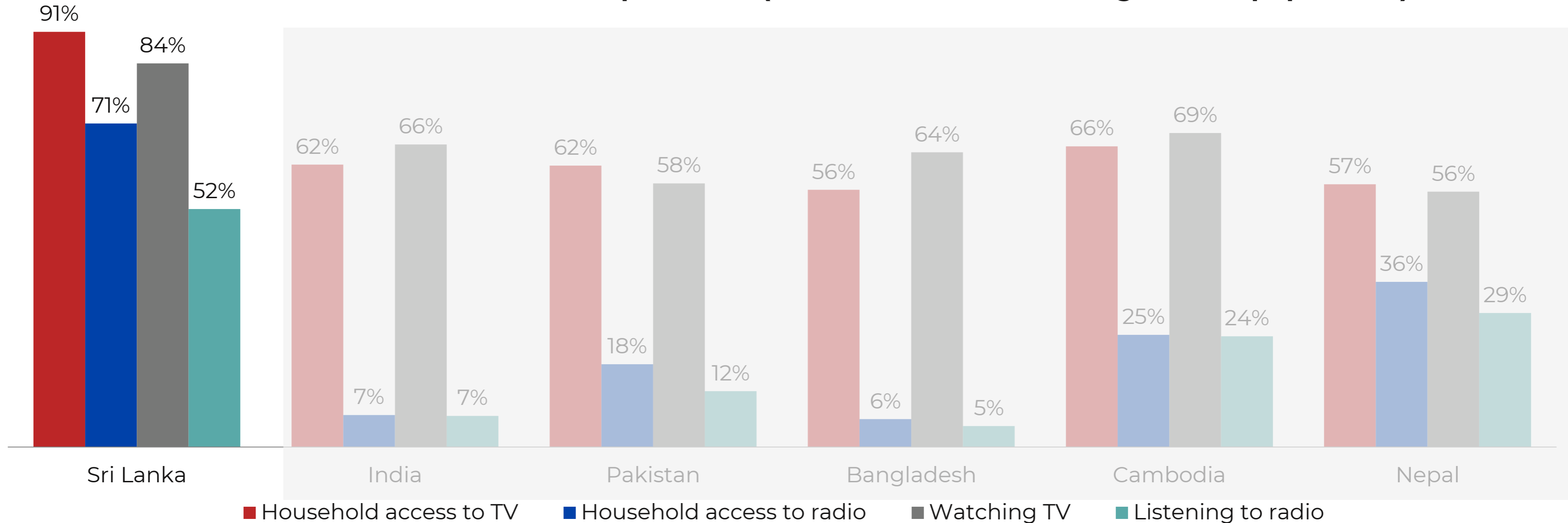
Q1: Do you know what the Internet is?

Q2: Have you ever used the Internet (Gmail, Google, Facebook, email)?

Base	Argentina	Colombia	South Africa	Peru	Paraguay	Sri Lanka	Ecuador	Guatemala	India	Pakistan	Nigeria	Ghana	Myanmar	Bangladesh	Cambodia	Lesotho	Senegal	Kenya	Tanzania	Nepal	Rwanda	Uganda	Mozambique
All respondents	1,240	1,425	1,610	1,478	1,357	2,017	1,420	1,407	5,069	2,002	1,706	1,145	7,204	2,020	2,123	1,844	1,181	1,179	1,102	2,008	1,118	1,757	1,091

# TV and radio are available in ~90% of households

**Household TV and Radio ownership and use (% all households and of aged 15-65 population)**



- Q1: How many working ... Does your household have? Mobile phones
- Q2: Does your household have a working...? Radio
- Q3: How many hours a day do you watch the TV on average?
- Q4: How many hours a day do you listen to radio on average?



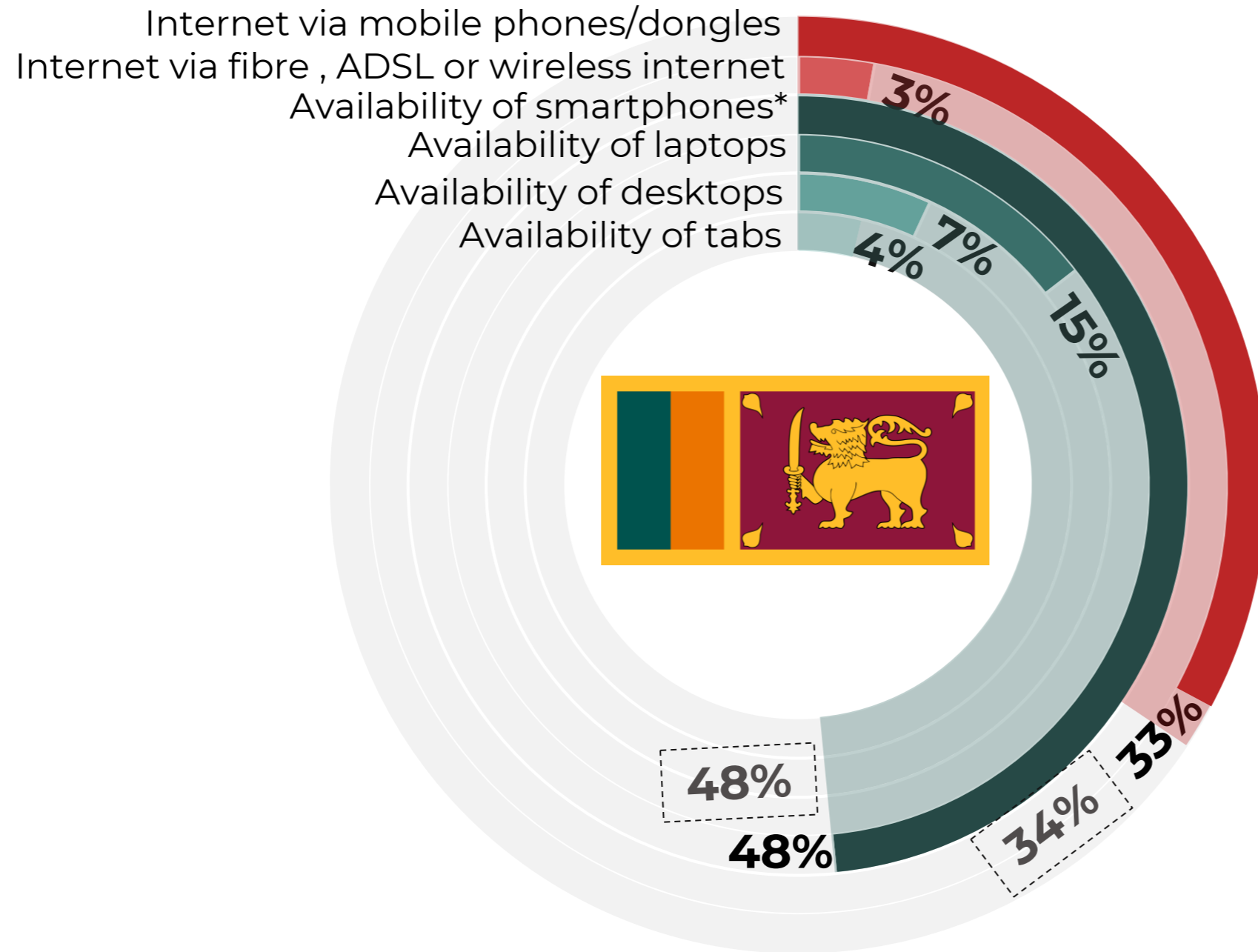
Base	Sri Lanka	India	Bangladesh	Cambodia	Nepal
All respondents	2,017	5,069	2,020	2,123	2,008



# ICT device and internet access among households with children

# Less than half of all households with children in Sri Lanka can avail of e-learning opportunities

## Household availability of internet connection, smartphones & computers (% households with children)



**34%** of households with children (age less than 18) have an internet connection

**48%** of households with children (age less than 18) have a smartphone\* or computer

- Q1: How many working computers (desktops, laptops or tabs) does your household have?
- Q2: What type of mobile phone do you own?
- Q3: Does this household have a working Internet connection, if so what type? (one that is exclusive for the household and is accessible to all household members)

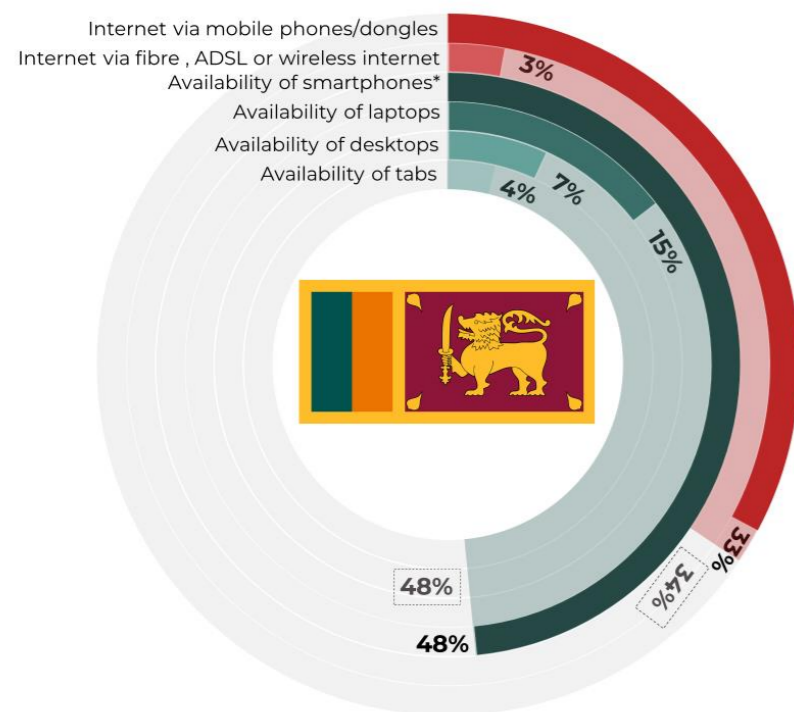


Base:	Sri Lanka
Households with children (18 or below)	1,301

\* Based on statistical modeling of survey data

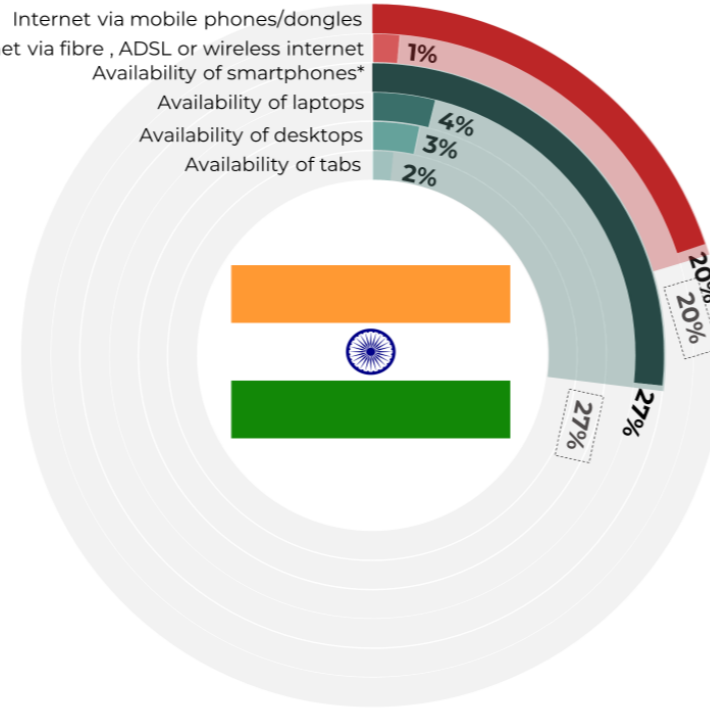
# Nepal (lower GNI/capita) is ahead of Sri Lanka

## Household availability of internet connection, smartphones & computers (% households with children)



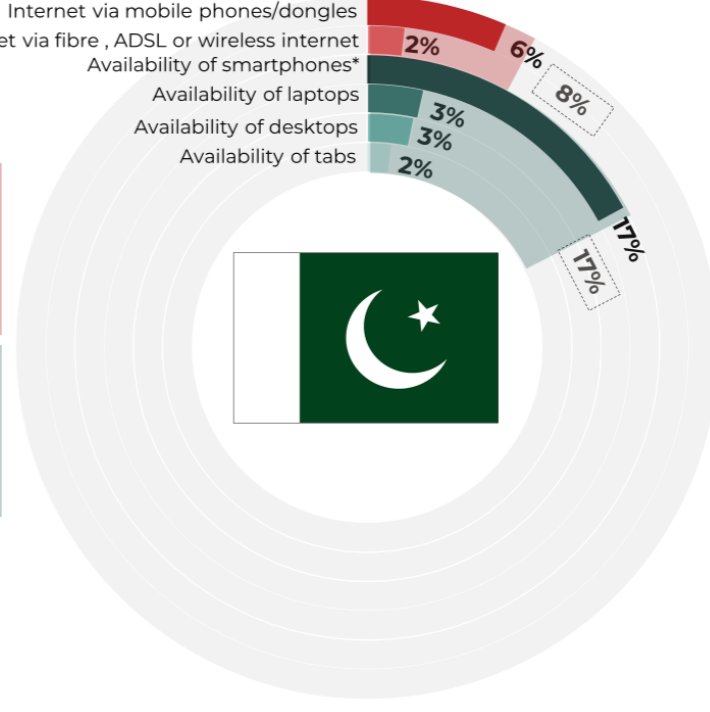
**34%** of households with children (age less than 18) have an internet connection

**48%** of households with children (age less than 18) have a smartphone\* or computer



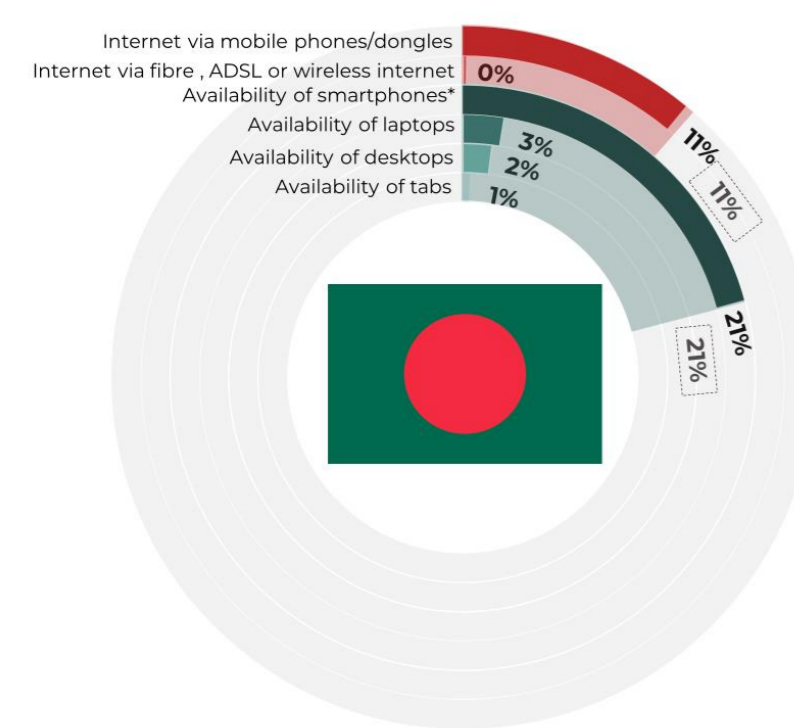
**20%** of households with children (age less than 18) have an internet connection

**27%** of households with children (age less than 18) have a smartphone\* or computer



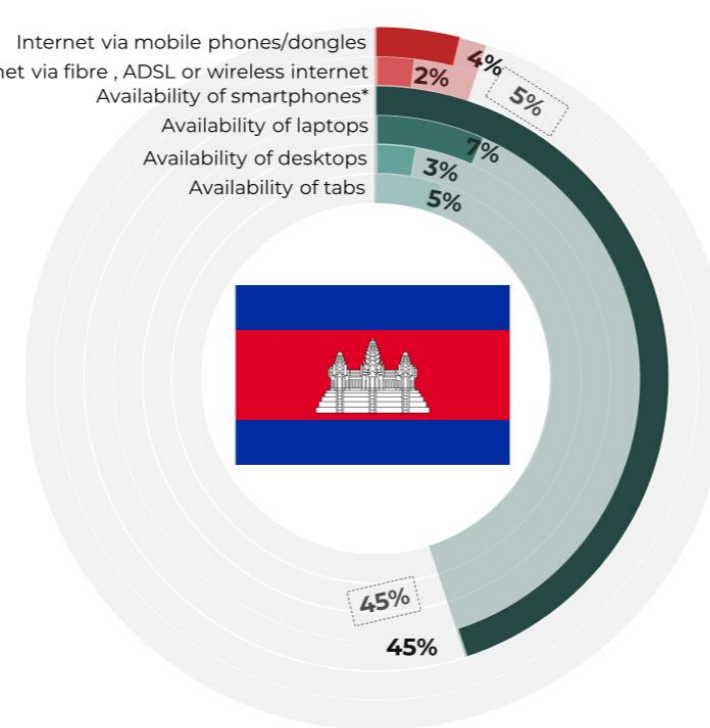
**8%** of households with children (age less than 18) have an internet connection

**17%** of households with children (age less than 18) have a smartphone\* or computer



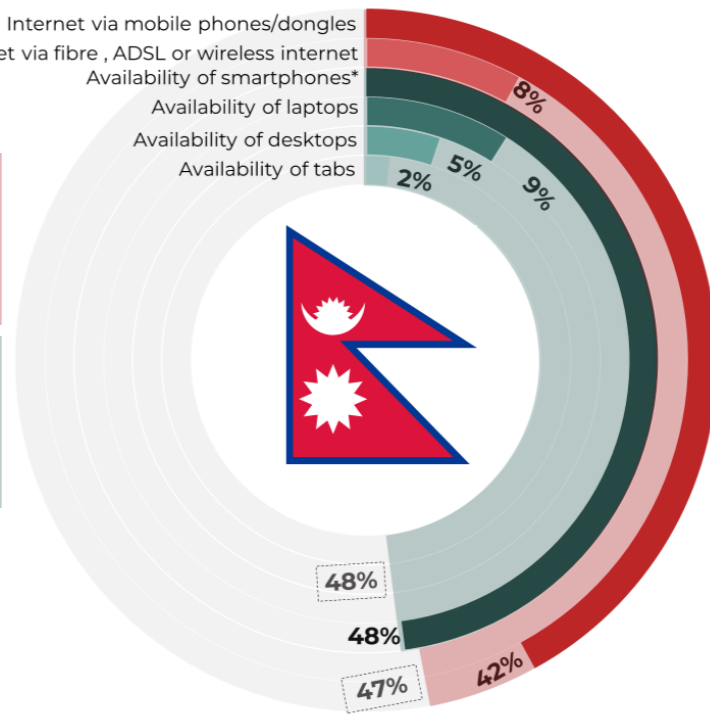
**11%** of households with children (age less than 18) have an internet connection

**21%** of households with children (age less than 18) have a smartphone\* or computer



**5%** of households with children (age less than 18) have an internet connection

**45%** of households with children (age less than 18) have a smartphone\* or computer



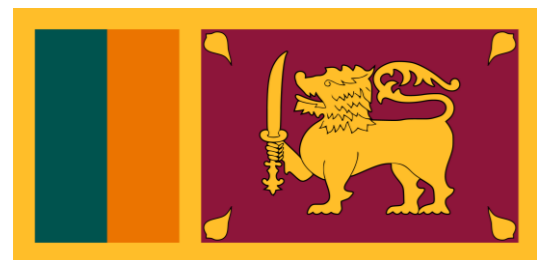
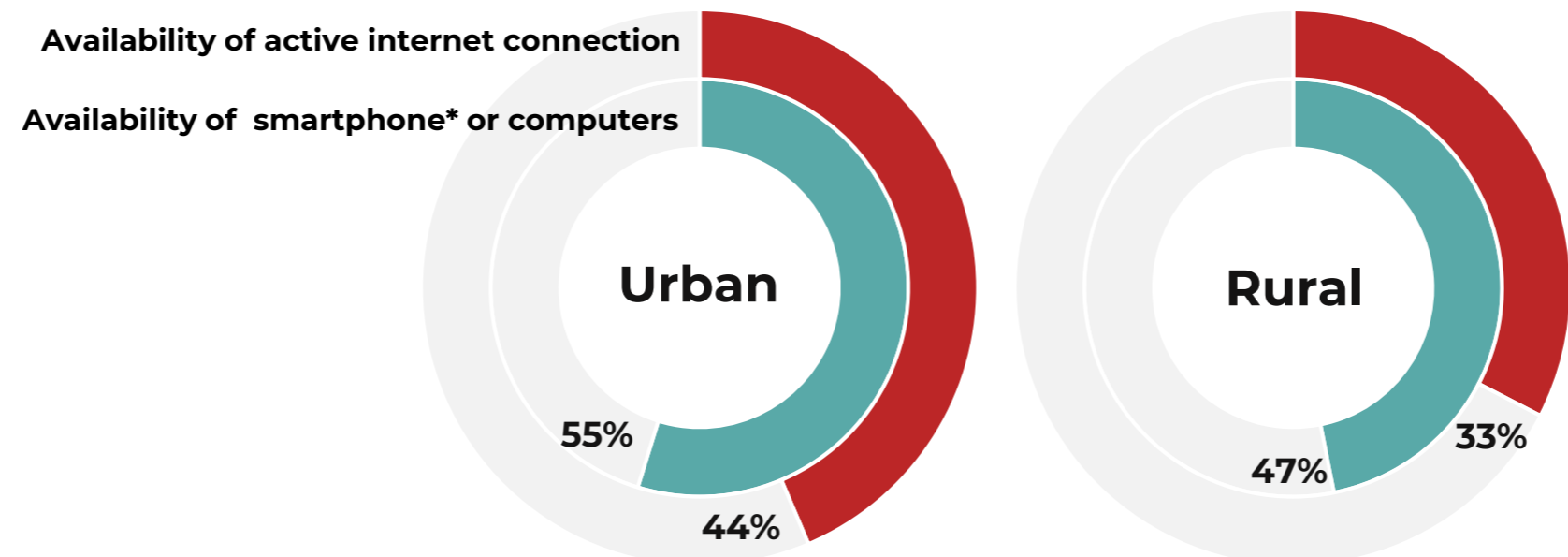
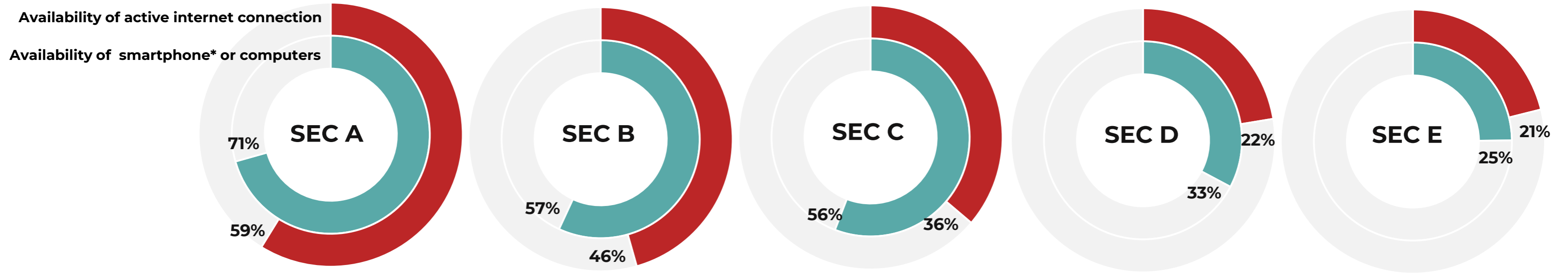
**47%** of households with children (age less than 18) have an internet connection

**48%** of households with children (age less than 18) have a smartphone\* or computer

Base	Sri Lanka	India	Pakistan	Bangladesh	Cambodia	Nepal
Households with children age less than 18	1,301	3,580	1,744	1,606	1,730	1,605

# Large disparity between richer and poorer households

## Household availability of internet connection, smartphones & computers (% households with children)

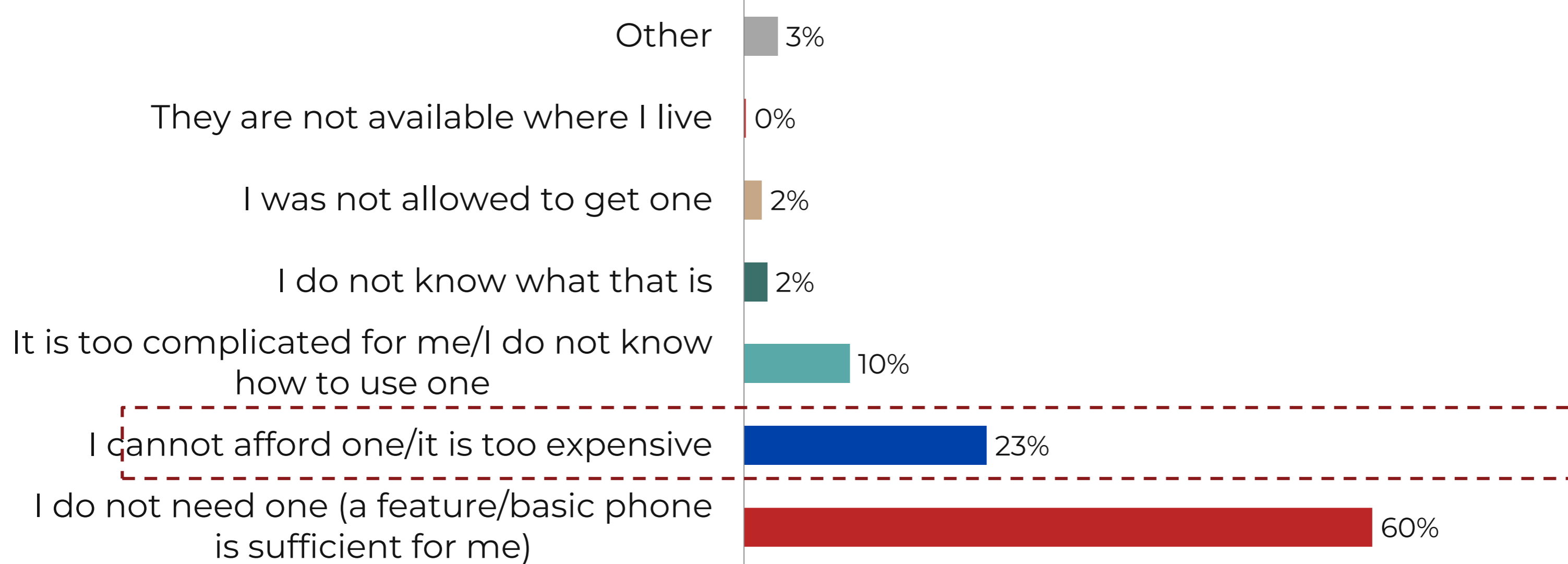


Base	Sri Lanka	India	Pakistan	Bangladesh	Cambodia	Nepal
Households with children age less than 18	1,301	3,580	1,744	1,606	1,730	1,605

**Affordability is a barrier**

# 23% of basic/feature phone owners 'can't afford a smartphone'

## Primary reason for not owning a smartphone (% of aged 15-65 basic or feature phone owners)



Q: Please tell me the primary reason why you have chosen not to obtain a smartphone or touch phone handset?

# Cost of 1GB is not affordable for 60% of the population

- Broadband Commission's affordability target for 2025: **1GB mobile broadband should cost no more than 2% monthly income**
- Sri Lanka meets the target as a country (~0.49% monthly income)
- **BUT, Decile analysis → 1GB not 'affordable' for the poorer 60% of the population**

Income decile group	Mean monthly per capita income by decile USD, 2016	Mobile BB 1 GB, as a % of individual income
Decile 1 (poorest)	23.86	7.5%
Decile 2	39.12	4.6%
Decile 3	50.16	3.6%
Decile 4	60.63	3.0%
Decile 5	71.81	2.5%
Decile 6	84.61	2.1%
Decile 7	101.55	1.8%
Decile 8	125.41	1.4%
Decile 9	169.81	1.1%
Decile 10 (richest)	397.08	0.5%

Sources: ITU ICT Price Baskets, 2018;  
 Department of Census & Statistics, Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2016

**Skills?**

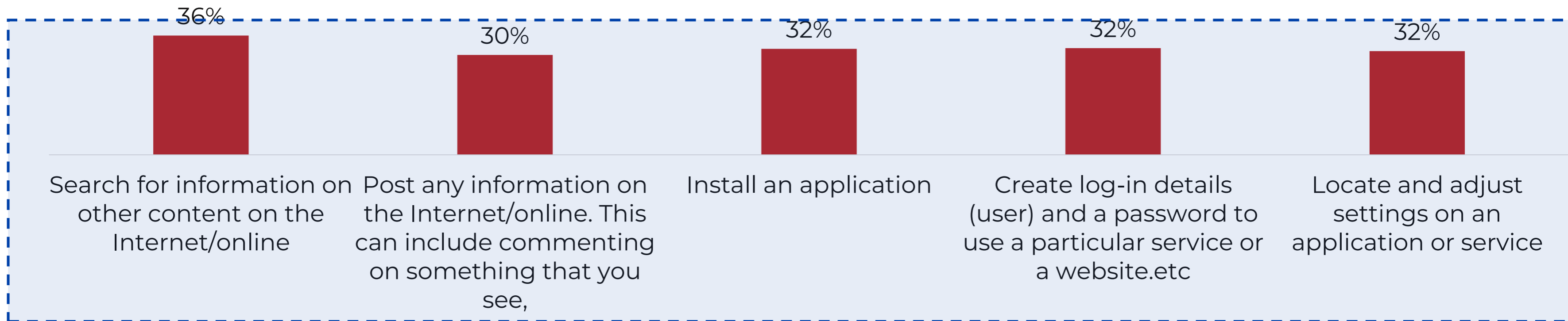
**Are parents and kids equipped  
with skills to learn effectively  
online?**



# Just 40% have done more than search for info online. But basic skills are not the end goal; what about skills for a safe & secure online experience?

## Experience performing the tasks listed (% of aged 15-65 mobile phone owners)

40% of mobile phone owners done at least one of these activities before



Q: Can you please tell me, which of the following activities you have ever done on your mobile or on the internet/online?

# THANK YOU



# Annex: About *AfterAccess*

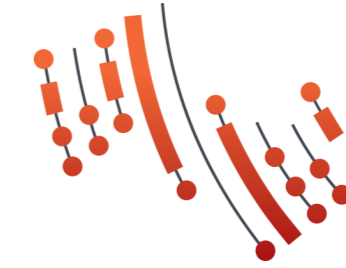
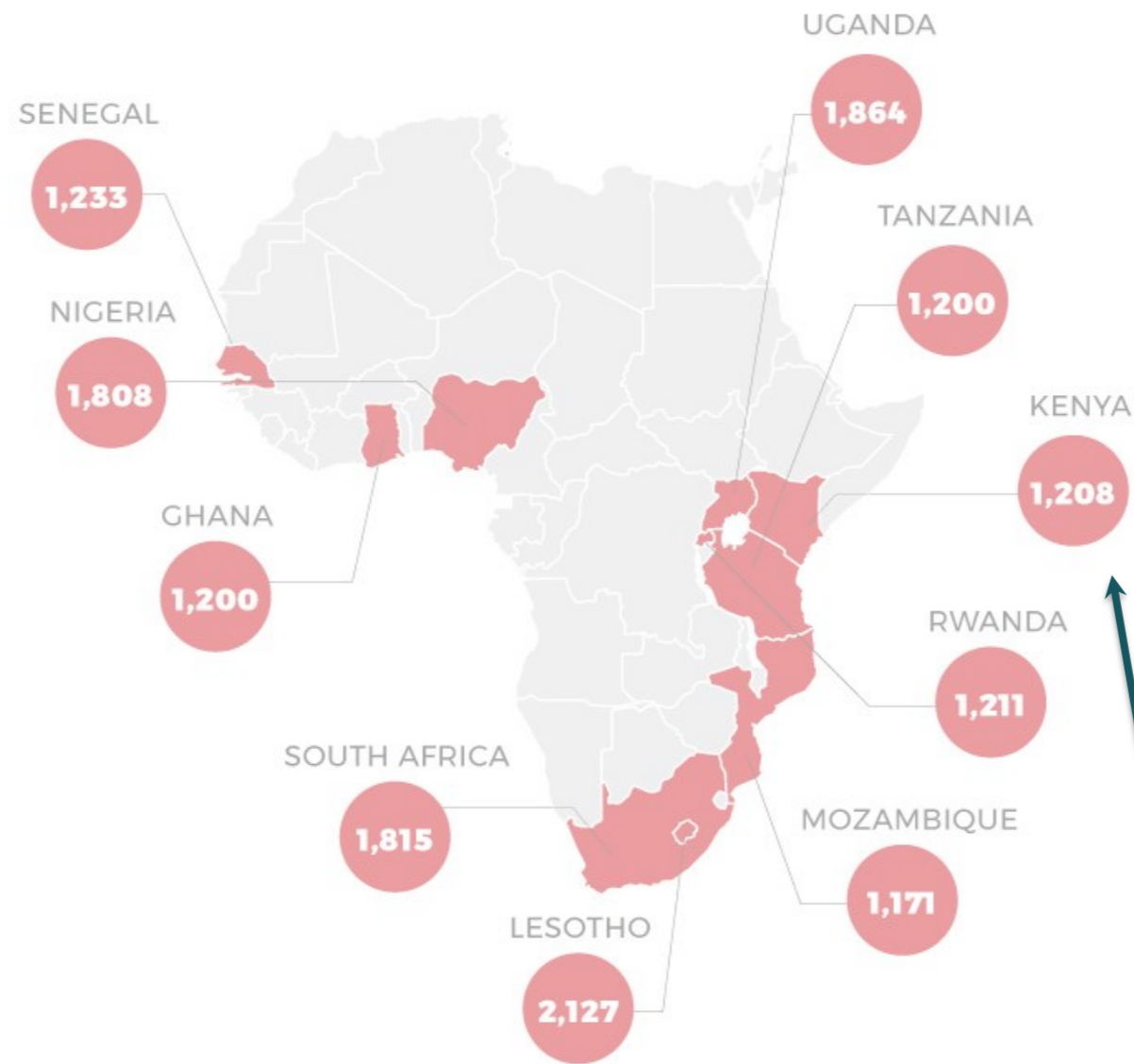
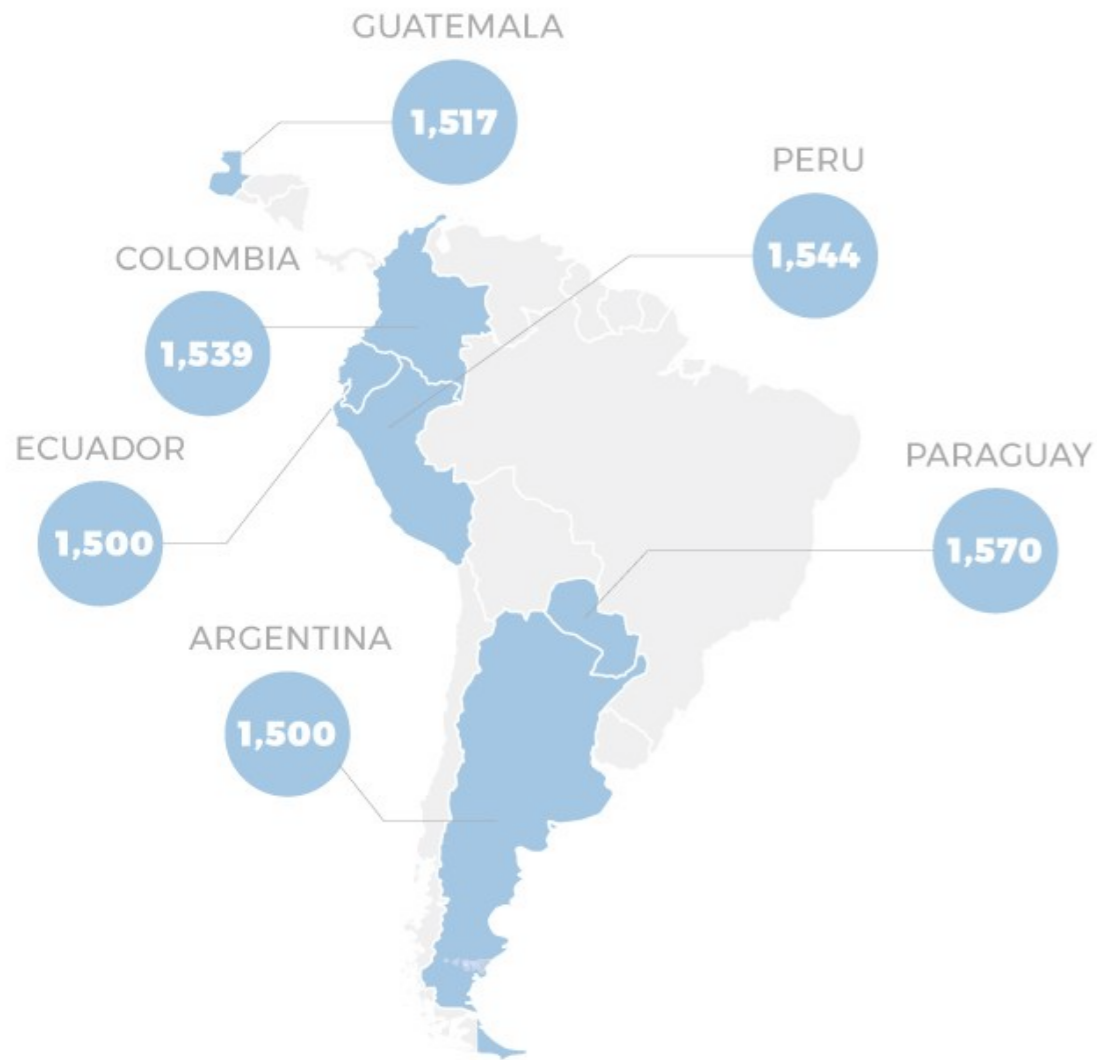
# What we do: digital ++

- “Old fashioned telecom sector stuff”: Evidence based inputs into ICT Sector reforms
  - E.g. India Universal Service Policy, Myanmar Telecom Law, Bangladesh telecom license renewal, Indonesia in-country back-haul pricing, S and S East Asia Broadband quality measurement, assessments of the telecom regulatory environments .....etc.
- ICTs for development, ICTs in non-ICT sectors
  - Agriculture: does more market price/other information through mobiles help agriculture markets work better and give farmers farmers better livelihoods?
  - Disaster Risk Reduction: models for ICT-based early warning systems for natural disasters in Maldives, Sri Lanka
- Other infrastructure: Roads, electricity, health, etc. Often using big data analytics
  - Historical, pseudonymized CDRs from multiple telcos
  - Where will disease spread? Where are traffic congestions spots? Where do people live? Which are commercial areas of a city (vs residential areas)? Proxies for credit ratings for individuals.
- Digital rights: what works in our context?
  - How do we ensure an equitable, human rights-enabling, safe Internet for users in the region?
  - E.g.: how do users in Myanmar deal with online harassment, privacy and security issues?
- Improving lives of marginalized groups
  - E.g. /independent living for Persons with Disabilities: Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, India
  - Other groups - the poor, women, those at th intersections of various forms of marginalizations

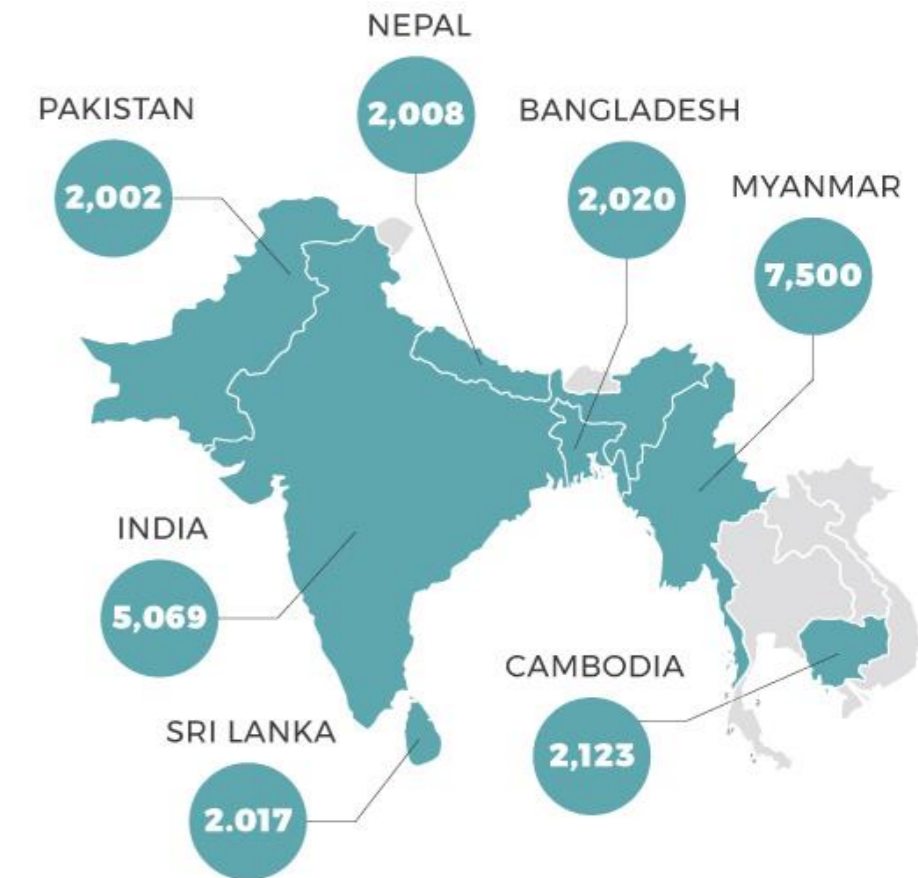
# AfterAccess: Nationally representative surveys of ICT access and use by households & individuals aged 15-65 across Global South

- 3 partners conducting the research: LIRNEasia (in Asia), Research ICT Africa (RIA, in Africa), DIRSI (in Latin America)
- Funded by IDRC (Canada), SIDA (Sweden), the Ford Foundation
- Rigorous sampling method, comparable across countries
- Predominantly common questionnaire with local customization
  - Structured, closed-ended responses administered face-to-face using mobile devices
  - User-based (rather than subscription-based) data allowing for disaggregation by urban-rural, gender, SEC, age, etc.
- Sri Lanka fieldwork – Nielsen Lanka Private Limited (selected through a competitive bidding process)

# To date 23 countries (covering >30% global population); 38,005 face-to-face interviews



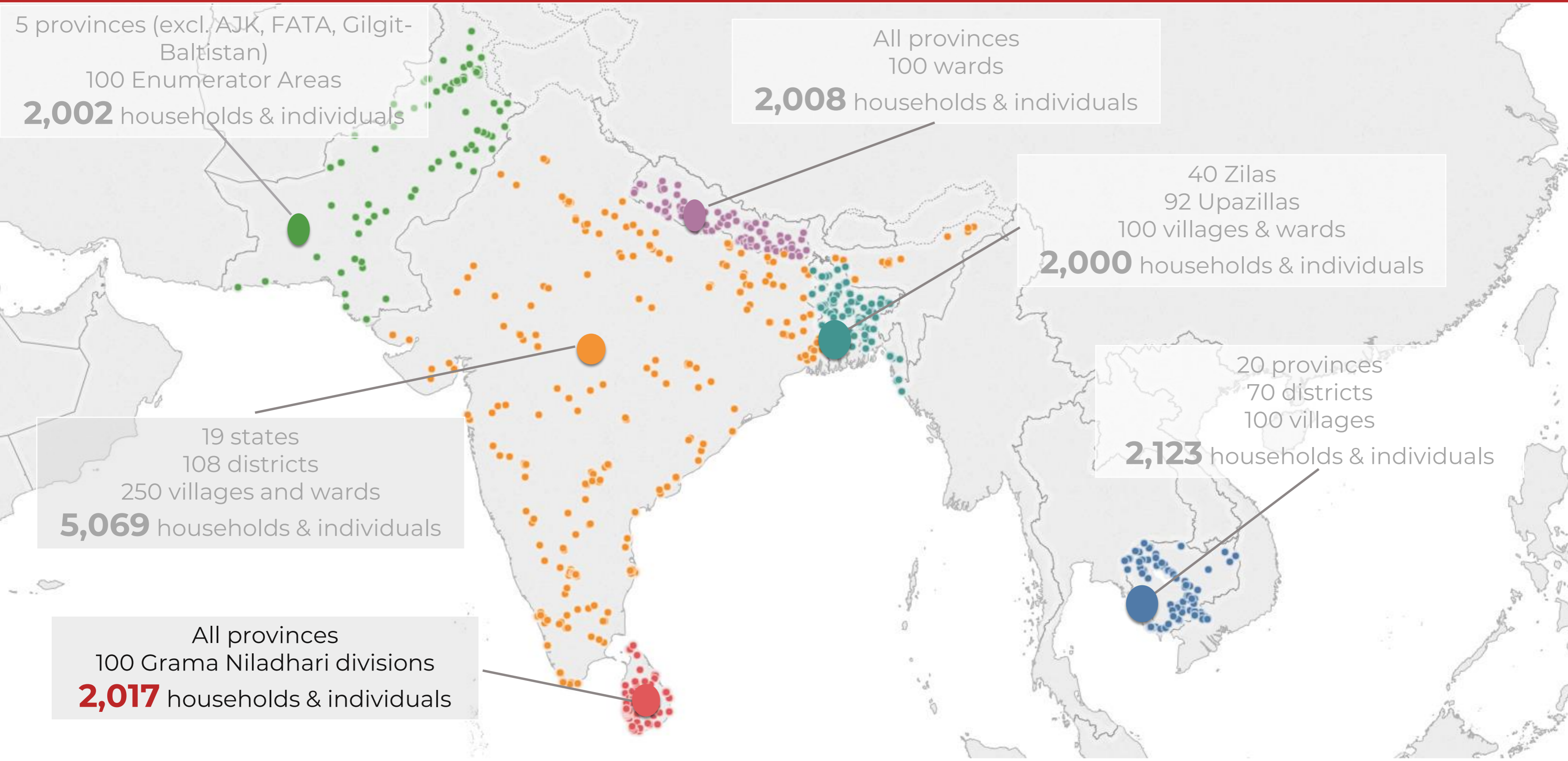
**LIRNEasia**  
Pro-poor. Pro-market.



Sample sizes

Notes: Pakistan excludes AJK, FATA, Gilgit-Baltistan (~2% of population)

# Asian survey country samples ranging from ~2,000-5,000 per country



5 provinces (excl. AJK, FATA, Gilgit-Baltistan)  
100 Enumerator Areas  
**2,002** households & individuals

All provinces  
100 wards  
**2,008** households & individuals

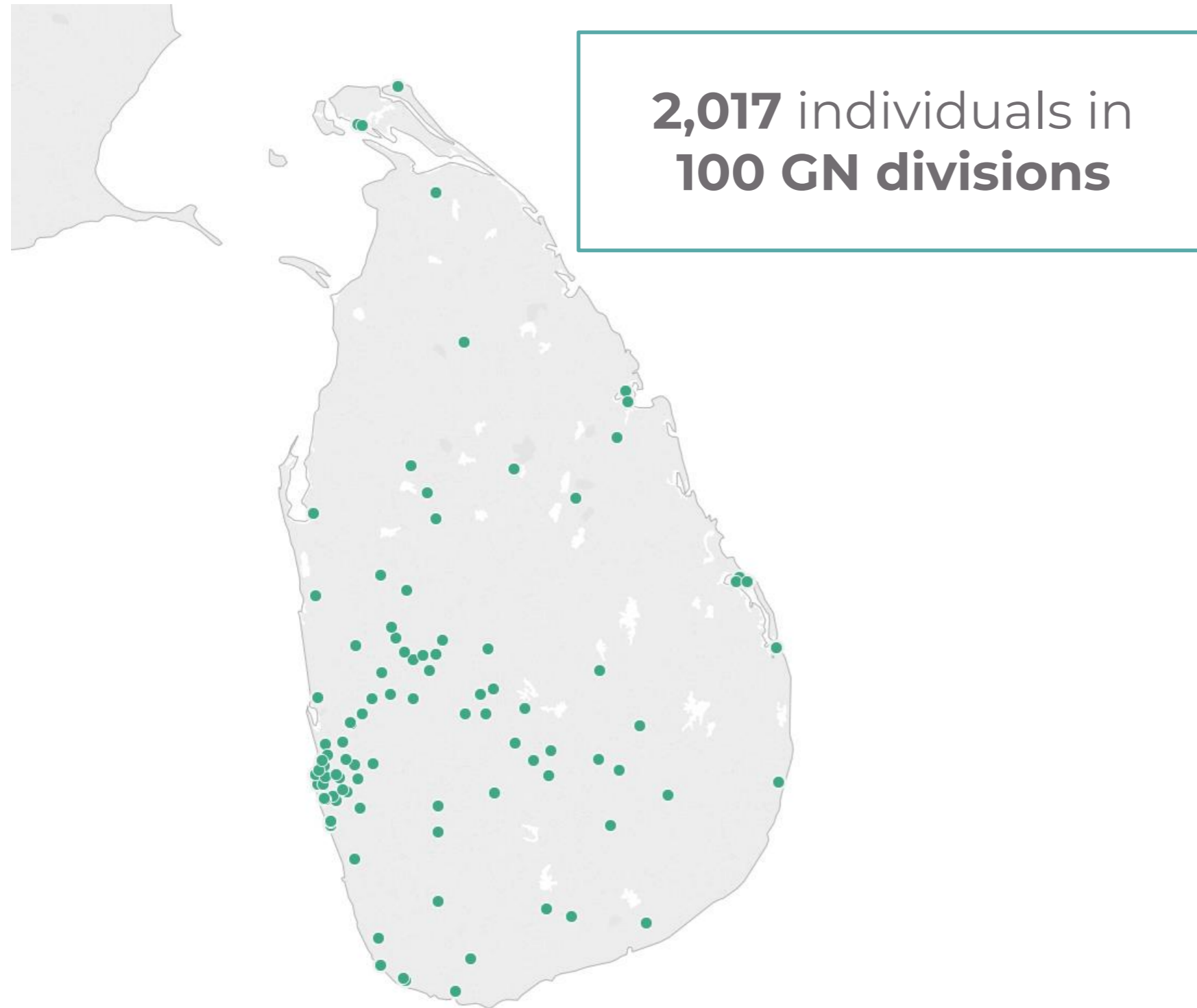
40 Zilas  
92 Upazillas  
100 villages & wards  
**2,000** households & individuals

19 states  
108 districts  
250 villages and wards  
**5,069** households & individuals

20 provinces  
70 districts  
100 villages  
**2,123** households & individuals

All provinces  
100 Grama Niladhari divisions  
**2,017** households & individuals

# Sri Lanka sample representative of 15-65 population (95% confidence interval; +/-3.3 margin of error)



- Sample designed to be representative of 15-65 population at:
  - National level
  - Urban-rural level
  - Men vs. women
  - SEC (Socio-economic classification, a proxy for income)
- The sample is **not** designed to represent at:
  - Province level
  - District
  - other

Sample GPS locations recorded by CAPI device at time of survey



# Sample size of 2,017 adequate to represent population at desired levels of disaggregation

## Sample size calculation

- Desired level of accuracy set to a confidence level of 95% and an absolute precision (relative margin of error) of 5%. The population proportion  $p$  was set conservatively to 0.5 which yields the largest sample size (Lwanga & Lemeshow, 1991). The minimum sample size per tabulation group determined by (Rea & Parker, 1997):

$$n = \left( \frac{Z_a \sqrt{p(1-p)}}{C_p} \right)^2 = \left( \frac{1.96 \sqrt{0.5(1-0.5)}}{0.05} \right)^2 = 384$$

$Z$  = Z value (e.g. 1.96 for 95% confidence level)  
 $p$  = percentage picking a choice  
 $C$  = confidence interval, expressed as decimal (e.g., .05 =  $\pm 5$ )

## Weighting

- Two weights constructed: for households and individuals, based on inverse selection probabilities  $\rightarrow$  data can be extrapolated to national level.

$$\text{Household weight: } HH_w = DW \frac{1}{P_{HH} * P_{EA}}$$

$$\text{Household Selection Probability: } P_{HH} = \frac{n}{HH_{EA}}$$

$$\text{Individual weight: } IND_w = DW \frac{1}{P_{HH} * P_{EA} * P_I}$$

Default value of 1.5 was used as the design effect for Sri Lanka. Actual sample size was increased beyond minimum requirement to compensate for clustering effects allow for urban/rural disaggregation of data, as well as gender-based disaggregation. Therefore, in Sri Lanka the sample size was increased to 2,000.

# Sri Lanka weights (detailed)

## Sri Lanka

Household weight:

$$HH_W = DW \frac{1}{P_{GN} * P_{SEG} * P_{HH}}$$

Individual weight:

$$IND_W = DW \frac{1}{P_{GN} * P_{SEG} * P_{HH} * P_I}$$

GN Selection Probability:

$$P_{GN} = m \frac{HH_{GN}}{HH_{STRATA}}$$

Segment selection Probability:

$$P_{SEG} = e \frac{HH_{SEG}}{HH_{GN}}$$

Household Selection Probability:

$$P_{HH} = \frac{n}{HH_{SEG}}$$

Individual selection Probability:

$$P_I = \frac{1}{HH_{m15-65}}$$

When  $HH_{GN} \leq 250$ ,  $HH_{GN} = HH_{SEG}$ . Thus,  $P_{SEG} = 1$ . (i.e., If a village has less than 250 households, it will be treated as an segment)

**DW** = design weight compensation for over-sampling of urban PSUs and under-sampling of rural PSUs;

**HH<sub>SEG</sub>** = number of households in selected GN segment based on information of last census or updated listing by field team;

**HH<sub>STRATA</sub>** = number of households in strata (urban, rural);

**HH<sub>m15+</sub>** = number of household members or visitors 15 years or older;

m = target number of Villages/Wards for each strata, (urban, rural);

e = target number of segments in a GN;

n = target number of households in a segment;



250 Villages and Wards covering  
19 States  
108 Districts  
Fieldwork time period : October 5 – November 30 (2017)



100 Enumerator Areas of the 2017 National census  
5 Provinces excluding FATA  
28 Divisions  
Fieldwork time period : October 21 – December 26 (2017)



100 Villages and Wards  
40 Zilas  
92 Upazillas  
Fieldwork time period : October 8 – December 1 (2017)



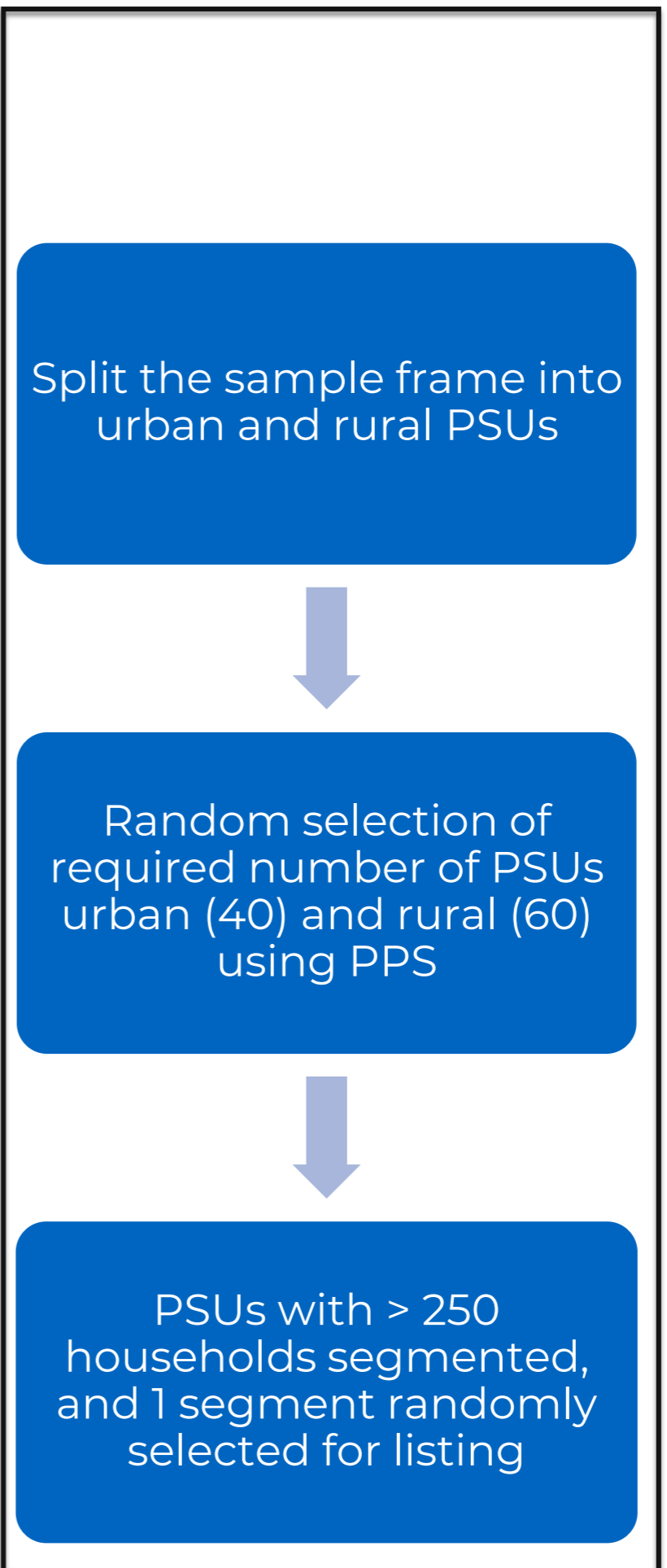
100 Villages covering  
20 Provinces  
70 Districts  
Fieldwork time period :September 23 – October 12 (2017)



100 wards covering  
All Provinces  
48 Districts  
Fieldwork time period : April 23 – June 18 (2018)



100 GN divisions covering  
All Provinces  
Fieldwork time period : December 3 – January 21 (2018-2019)



**Stage 1:**

Stratified random sampling of the primary sample units (PSUs) with probability proportionate to size (PPS) sampling

Obtaining PSU information (boundaries, households, etc.) from key informants (Kis)



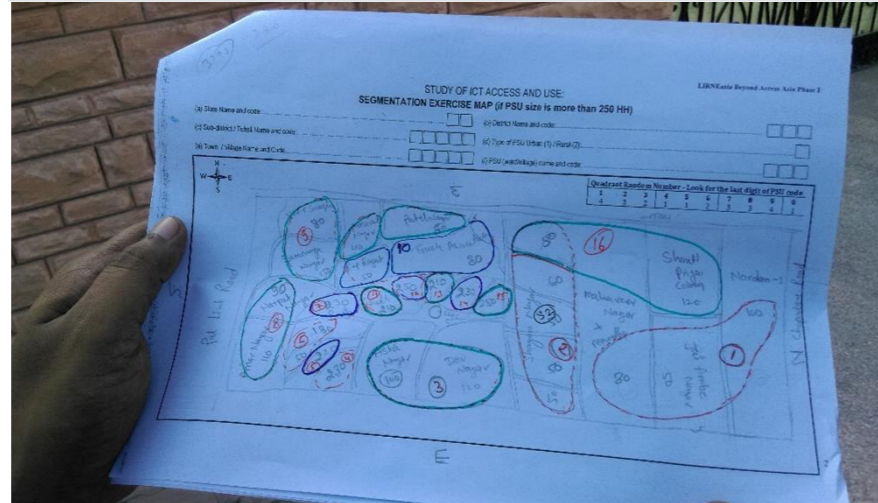
KI Interview in India



KI Interview in Cambodia

- Mapping of randomly selected village with the help of the key informants

Mapping & segmentation



Segmentation Map - India



Segmentation Map - Sri Lanka

- Segmentation villages where the number of households exceeding 250

## Stage 2:

Mapping and listing of selected PSUs

Listing of households



Listing - Nepal



Listing - Pakistan

- List of structures of the entire segment identifying the eligible households

### Stage 3:

Random selection of listed households

Random selection of households conducted systematic random sampling using the household lists collected during the listing

Surveyor	A4	A6	A7	HNO	House status	Address	HH Name	THH	Mem	Latitude	Longitude	Selected House No.
Shabana B	FEROZABAD (440110404)	A	B	6	Successful / Living house	Mahmoodabad - S - H - No - 1336/5 - T - 36	Muhammad Khan	8	24	8572700	87.0817800	
Shabana B	FEROZABAD (440110404)	A	B	7	Successful / Living house	Mahmoodabad - S - H - No - 1336/5 - T - 36	Imran	3	24	8571700	87.0816407	20
Shabana B	FEROZABAD (440110404)	A	B	6	Successful / Living house	Mahmoodabad - HFI1336	Shahood	2	24	8571707	87.0816781	
Shabana B	FEROZABAD (440110404)	A	B	6	Successful / Living house	Mahmoodabad - HFI1336 - B	Muhammad Zubair	7	24	8574333	87.0814200	

Random HH selection in PK

Surveyor	A4	A6	A7	HNO	House status	Address	HH Name	THH	Mem	Latitude	Longitude	Selected House No.
Shabana B	FEROZABAD (440110404)	A	B	6	Successful / Living house	Mahmoodabad - HFI1336 - B	Muhammad Zubair	7	24	8574333	87.0814200	
Shabana B	FEROZABAD (440110404)	A	B	6	Successful / Living house	Mahmoodabad - HFI1336 - B	Javed Qureshi	7	24	8571817	87.0816200	
Shabana B	FEROZABAD (440110404)	A	B	6	Successful / Living house	Mahmoodabad - HFI1336 - B	Gulab Khan	17	24	8571800	87.0816200	
Shabana B	FEROZABAD (440110404)	A	B	7	Successful / Living house	Mahmoodabad - HFI1336	Krishan	3	24	8572683	87.0811183	

Random HH selection in KH

Interviews conducted on mobile devices

- Random selection of 20-25 households for the main survey

### Stage 4:

Household interview (with household representative) and individual interview (with randomly selected individual after listing eligible members in household roster)



- Listing all the household members in the household roster
- Randomly selecting one member from age 15-65 from the list