E-Government & Public Private Partnerships
Challenges, Barriers, Way Forward

Sophia Bekele
BS, MBA, CISA, CCS, CGEIT
CEO, CBS International, Inc
USA/Africa
My passion

"...I am most interested in issues of emerging economies and the use of ICT and the growth of Internet or lack thereof over these environments. Therefore, the policies developed by ICANN over issue governing the global Internet particularly domain names could determine the gap in the digital divide within these economies.... Statement of Interest 2005-2007 - ICANN, Policy Advisor.

UNICT, UNGAID, UNECA

Career with Multinationals

Launch of the '.Africa' continental domain name project within ICANN and the global African community..." - Founder /Executive Director (.AFRICA)

BS.MBA.CISA.CCS. CGEIT,

CEO, CBS International

www.cbsintl.com

Information Society to Internet Society

Computer Science is no more about computers than astronomy is about telescopes.
– E.W. Dijkstra
The global Economy is reforming

- Affordable internet, phone, pc devises, prices, CapEx Vs. OpEx, NGN
- Web 2.0 (social tipping point); Viral; Cloud computing
- Where one has a convergence of 70% of the planet bring universal access and democracy of information
- Interesting business models and consumer reach and increase in productivity

Opportunities expand knowledge, creation capacity, advances in science and health.
The New World Disorder

PPP vs. PPP-free

“Did you know?”

V

The pace of development is such that given the choice between the two environment, there really is no choice.
PPPs and e-Government,

Numbers from WSIS Stocktaking Database of WSIS as of 25 January 2008.
PPPs, e-Government, MDGs in the New Economic Era

Numbers from WSIS Stocktaking Database of WSIS as of 25 January 2008.
“PPP is a generic term for projects involving both the public and private sectors. The involvement can be to varying degrees and the partnership can take different forms.” Web Definition
“I’ve invited in someone from the private sector to help drive up our performance in fighting the private sector.”
Who we are....

California based Technology Service company

Mission: Technology transfer to emerging economies

Core Competency:
- Systems integration services
- Internet Business Solution
- Corporate & Enterprise Governance
- Global Business Development
System Integration – Use PPP implementation Schemes

Large Scale ICT Deployment project
Large Number of Users
Large Investment in IT/Computing Infrastructures:

(Nation-Building projects)

Active in advice in Global Divide

E-Government & Public Private Partnerships, Challenges, Barriers, Way Forward - www.cbsintl.com
Ethiopian Parliament project:

The Requirement
Implement National Scale Information Technology project to support the Parliamentary information System at the Federal Legislative body of the Government of Ethiopia.

Challenges/ Barriers

- Terms of Reference and scope of work
- issues on the tender evaluation process.
- irregular tender evaluation process flawed
- Govt evaluation team did not have the adequate technical capacity to evaluate a complex technical project.
African Union (AU)

The Requirement
Strategic Integrated Information Network Infrastructure to serve all the users located in the General Secretariat and provide them with personal and enterprise-wide ICT capabilities for productivity.

Challenges/ Barriers

- There was no Terms of Reference for the project
- Supply of computers and installation vs. a Campus-wide Area Network
- This two different views based on different conceptual framework left UNOPS handicapped by their lack of understanding of the intricate OAU project requirements, and CBS, our company caught in the middle.
- lack of adequate planning on execution of projects particularly understanding of the technical and project requirement.
- Provision for training was not included in the scope of work that left the beneficiary short of early realization of the benefit of the system.
Continental Integrated Information Network (CIIN)

A NEW Private –Public Partnership initiative based on the principles of Regional Cooperation

**Requirement**
To strengthen the knowledge sharing of the Regional Economic

**Challenges/Barriers:**
- The Political will for regional consensus.

**11. Funding!**

Google us @ ciin4africa
The dots projects of the emerging economies
Continental generic Top Level Domain Name

Constrains/Barriers
• The Political will for regional consensus and endorsement
• Perceived competition of ccTLDs
• Early Commitment of Stakeholders
• Selection of Tested Technologies
• Multidisciplinary talent

Requirement
Continental Generic Top Level Domain Name

.EU
.ASIA
.Africa
.LAC

E-Government & Public Private Partnerships, Challenges, Barriers, Way Forward - www.cbsintl.com
Conclusion

- Business is conducted under HARSH political & economic circumstances in Africa.

- E-Government private sector is a critical stakeholder in the development process of Africa. Local entrepreneurs are engines of growth.

- Given the proper environment, PPP schemes will definitely aid the development agendas.

- For Africa, the formation of initiatives such as the AU and the NEPAD have given endorsement to the Private sector participation and involvement. The continent should consolidate on its gains and win a new space in the global arena.

- However, what drives development in the continent will always be governments setting the policy frameworks for an open market to create market opportunities the private sector organizations that could make use of to the maximum.
**Summary - Constraints/Barriers**

*Capacity Building Comprises of the most challenging of projects.*

*We have to build indigenous skills as we enhance institutional capacities*

*Sophia Bekele, CEO, CBS International*

“Partnerships can be built up where each retains its core strength on one side and leverages on the experience and strength of the other partners, thus accelerating the pace of e-governance”

---- UNESCO: e-government tool kit

“The current global financial and economic crisis highlights the fundamental need and urgency with which this integration must be achieved,”

--- Maxwell Mkwezalamba, the African Union's Commissioner for Economic Affairs, May 04, 2009, Yaounde

*Reuters News, 'Africa must speed up integration*

**PPP is not privatization**

*PPPs enable the delivery of infrastructure and ancillary services without privatization*

---PPP Western Australia

“The profit motive does not necessarily force a reduction in the quality of public services.

The private sector can become more accountable to the public through a PPP, in part because of the level of government control over a project or service being performed by the private sector.”

--- UNESCO: e-government tool kit
Way Forward

Important Considerations for Successful PPPs and other Contracts

• Political Leadership
• Planning:
• Legal Framework
• Private Partner Compensation and Commitments:
• Public Sector Oversight
• Consultation with Stakeholders
• Selecting the Right Partner:
• Intellectual Property Rights
• Security and Privacy
• Contracting Method

Educating opinion leaders on the value and necessity of PPPs remains an unfinished task.
Conclusion

CBS International and its affiliates are committed to development of African Internet Infrastructure and Capacity building and have the experience of spearheading and delivering such initiatives.
We look forward to being your Private Partner in your Public Endeavours!!

Thank You for listening

CBS International
USA/Africa

Email: cbs@cbsintl.com