



TELECOMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Modern information and communication technologies make it easier for the poor to obtain access to services and resources. They expand opportunity and make markets and institutions more efficient.

IFC works to extend the availability of such technologies to promote sustainable economic growth and good governance, enhance social inclusion, and reduce poverty. We channel investments toward private companies that build modern communications infrastructure and information-technology businesses, and develop climate-friendly technologies.

IFC increasingly helps clients move beyond their own national borders and into other developing markets. In FY12, our new commitments in this sector totaled \$412 million, including funds mobilized from other investors.



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2,458

2,542

TELECOMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY / KEY DATA FOR FY12



Project Financing and Portfolio, by Indu	stry	
Telecommunications and Information Technology		
\$ millions, for the years ended June 30	FY12	FY11
IFC commitments	247	337
Loans	159	279
Equity	89	58
Guarantees and risk management	NA	0
Core Mobilization Commitments*	165	592
Total commitments	412	929
Committed portfolio for IFC's account	1,520	1,635
Committed portfolio for Loan Syndications**	938	907

[&]quot;Including Loan Syndications (B-Loans, Parallel Loans and ALPS), IFC Initiatives, AMC, and Other Mobilization by Decision, as applicable for this Industry.

Total portfolio

Telecommunications and Information Technology	Portfolio		New Business
	CY10	CY11	FY12
Employment	88,333	88,979	7,991
Female Employment	26,640	29,784	3,024
Phone Connections (Million Customers)*	180	172	1.43
Payments to Government (\$ million)	1,917	1,948	326

^{**}Including B-Loans and Agented Parallel Loans.



BRINGING MOBILE PHONE SERVICES TO THE RURAL POOR

Mobile phones can transform lives—unless you are one of the 1.6 billion people living in the remote areas where they don't work.

Most mobile-phone companies inevitably reach a spot in a country's geography where it is simply not commercially viable to operate. Some entrepreneurs, however, see opportunity in bringing phone services to people in these remote areas.

Last year, IFC made an early-stage \$5 million equity investment in Altobridge, alongside Silicon Valley giant Intel's venture capital arm. Altobridge specializes in developing technology that cuts the cost of delivering mobile telecommunications connectivity to remote communities in developing and emerging markets.

One of Indonesia's largest carriers, Indosat, used Altobridge's system to find new subscribers in Mambi, a remote village on Sulawesi, 15 hours by car from the nearest airport. Until recently, its residents had almost no communications options, having to travel three hours to make a call—or five hours to the nearest hospital. Now the hospital can text them health updates, and they can make calls on their Indosat phones, which helps improve the efficiency of their small, family-owned businesses.

Since it began selling its products in Malaysia in 2007, Altobridge has sold more than 1,000 systems, benefiting Mongolia, Niger, and numerous other countries as well as Indonesia. Altobridge sees rural Africa becoming its biggest market.

A few months after IFC's investment, the World Economic Forum named Altobridge a Technology Pioneer—one of 25 global firms it felt had the potential to transform business and society, just like a previous winner named Twitter.