

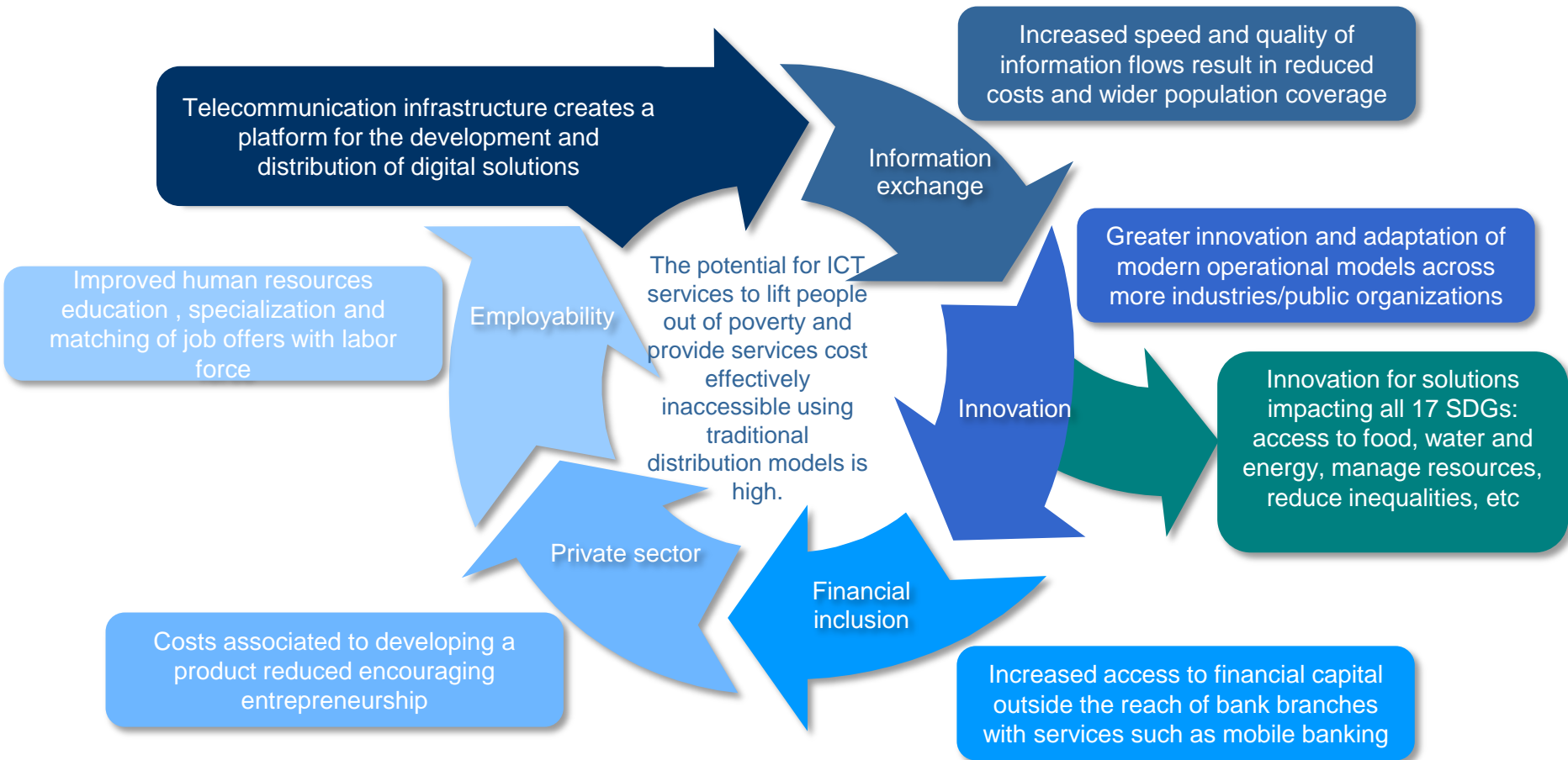


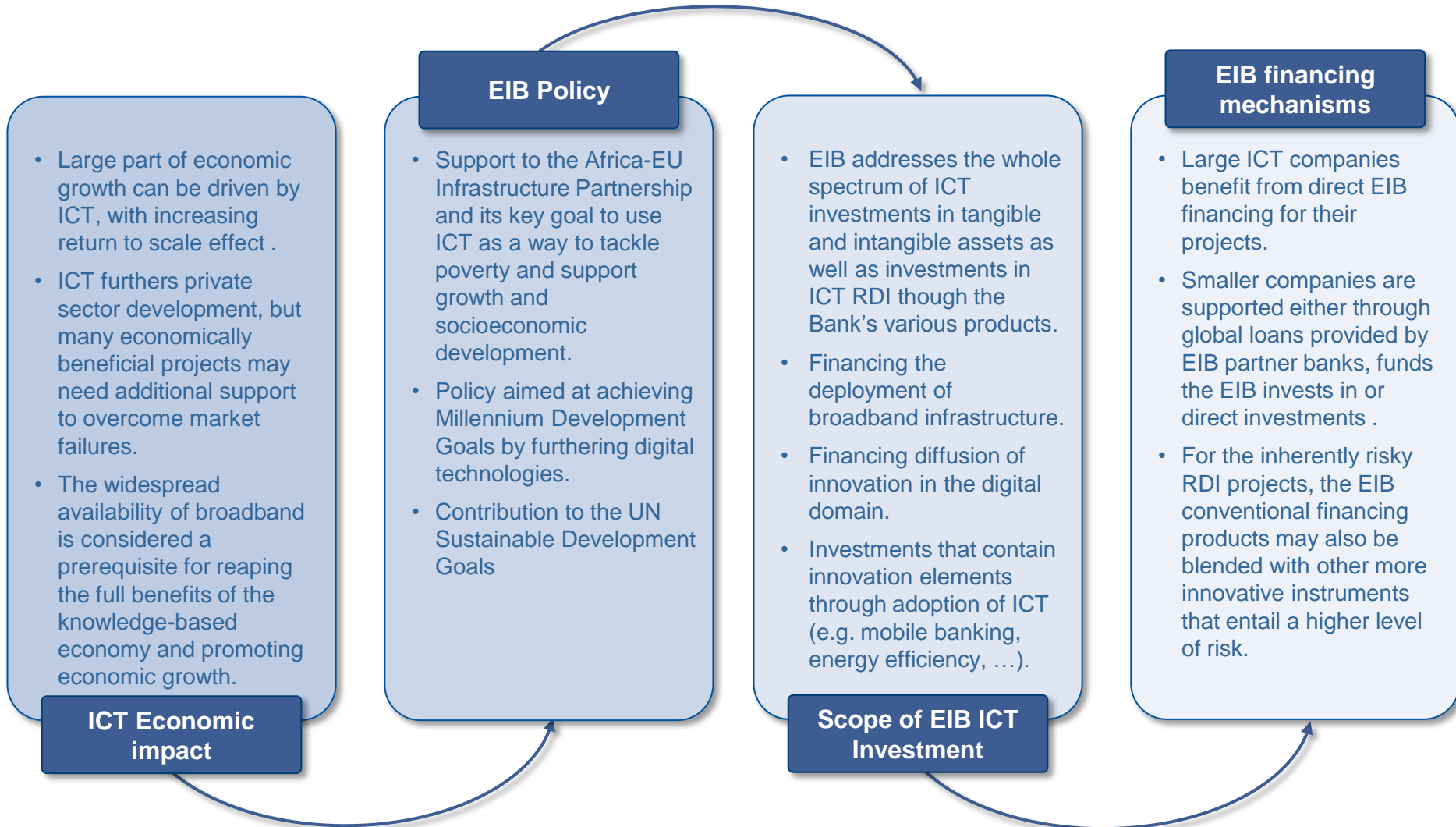
# EIB Investments in Digital Economies outside the European Union

Creating economic growth through the  
evolution to digital

Benoit Denis, Economist, Digital Economy, EIB

# Digital solutions economic impact





# Telecom infrastructure – digital solutions interdependence

## Digital Solutions

- Constraints on the flow of communication have limited these communities to wider markets and to a variety of employment opportunities.
- Access to mobile and digital solutions can extend the range of business services that become available to rural communities.
- The availability of telecom networks is determinant to the profitable commercialization of scalable digital solutions.



## Telecom Infrastructure

- With over 60% of the population in Africa currently located in rural areas, there is a deficit in available infrastructure to connect the unconnected.
- Urban areas are usually covered but require densification to allow for greater quality and more powerful services.
- Improvements in connectivity plays an important role in overcoming the urban-rural divide and stimulating economic growth in rural areas.
- Digital solutions increasing ARPU are a key driver for increasing the reach of telecom networks.

# Sample of EIB ICT Financing



**EUR 100m**

Tunisia Telecom  
(Tunisia)  
Signed in 2016

- Roll-out of mobile next generation access networks, including the related investments in the backbone network and IT systems.
- 1,500 4G stations across the nation, and laying 2,000 km of fibre optic cable.



**EUR Xm**  
TLcom  
(Africa)

Signed in 2016

- Participation in TLcom TIDE Africa Fund, regional venture capital fund focusing on innovative technology-based African SMEs, across all stages of the venture capital cycle.
- Investments from early to growth stage in the USD 500k to USD10m range.



**USD 27m**

Rural mobile  
(Cameroon &  
RDC)  
Signed in 2016

- By the end of 2018 the two networks are planned to provide coverage to over 3.6 m people based on 650 sites.
- The project will extend mobile telecommunication network population coverages from 75% to 80% in the DRC and from 85% to 95% in Cameroon.



**EUR 20m**  
FTTH  
(Angola)

Signed in 2015

- An incremental 83 300 new sites (businesses, institutions and homes) will be passed with Ultra High Speed Broadband access.
- The project will develop advanced telecommunications services and have various social benefits (health, education, administration, ministries and also associations and NGO's).



**EUR 8m**

Submarine  
cable  
(Seychelles)  
Signed in 2010

- Connection of Mauritania to ACE (Africa Coast to Europe), a new fibre optic submarine cable that is planned to connect about 20 countries along the Western Coast of Africa and Europe.









**EUR 8m**  
FTTH  
(Sint-Marteen)

Signed in 2016

- Based on this network the promoter will be able to provide triple play (voice, internet, TV) services to around 14 500 homes.
- The project will take place from 2016 to the end of 2021.

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