

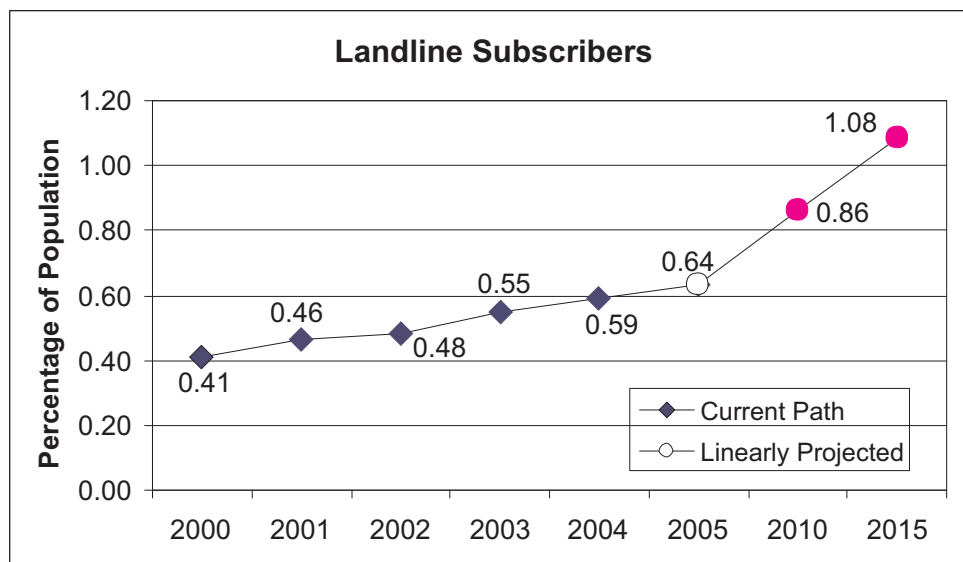
Conclusion

Indicator: Personal Computers in Use and Internet Users per 1000 Population



Internet User

Chart 33: Internet Subscribers



Source: Malawi Communication Regulation Authority and NSO's Projected Population

Chart 33 shows that there has been an increase in the number of subscribers for the internet services from about 0.05 percent in 2002 to about 0.07 percent in 2005. The growth in the internet industry indicates that the country is on the right course of attaining this MDG goal, which is important and necessary for the acceleration of economic growth and development.

Challenges

The challenges that are being faced in the internet industry include: high cost of internet and Information Technology (IT) equipment and poor internet and IT support infrastructure.

Policy Framework and Strategies

- Developing a reliable, fast, adaptive and robust national IT infrastructure;
- Improving IT and Internet access by all communities;
- Enacting an appropriate legislation that promotes and facilitate the country's participation in the information age.

Conclusion

The government of Malawi has been pursuing long-term objective of sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction since independence. However, poverty levels still remain very high. The mid point evaluation on progress made towards the achievement of Millennium Development Goals shows that Malawi has made tremendous progress in some MDG goals while as in others not much progress has been made. The results of the mid-term evaluation show that by 2015 Malawi will be able to reduce child mortality, Combat HIV and AIDS and other diseases, ensure environmental sustainability and develop a global partnership for development. However, by 2015 Malawi will not be able to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, achieve universal primary education, promote gender equality and empowerment of women and improve maternal health. If extra resources are made available in areas of maternal health and household food production, the government will be able to achieve these goals which are lagging behind.