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Broadband for Africa 非洲的新宽带

手机的到来已经使非洲发生了决定性变化，现在那里有一半的人都拥有手机，那么下一个飞跃将是什么呢？**BBC** 非洲事务编辑 **Martin Plaut** 报道说，投资商们正在把钱投资到高速宽带网上面。

Just fifteen years ago **hardly anyone** had a mobile phone in Africa. Today they can be seen in almost every market and on almost every street.

But the next big thing, **predicts Moez Daya**, will be cheap, fast **broadband**. This will allow streaming - live access to television, radio and other media via the internet.

Some will come through cables that have been laid around the coast. But Mr Daya, formerly chief executive of one of Africa's largest cell-phone operators, Celtel, and now working with Satya Capital, says broadband can also be **delivered by satellite**.

Local operators will then **redistribute** the product through a**erials** on the roofs of their customers. Mr Daya says this should be **commercially feasible**.

Moez Daya: "I would imagine that a twenty dollar subscription for a **bandwidth** of somewhere around four megabits a second is entirely achievable and feasible, and probably commercially sensible".

Within two years, says Mr Daya, this could mean African children playing internet games, just like their Chinese or American counterparts, while their fathers sit and enjoy football on their mobile phones.

Questions and answers:

1. How many people in Africa had mobile phones 15 years ago?

Answer: Hardly anyone.

2. What do you think the reporter means when he says 'streaming'?

Answer: It means you can watch television, radio or other media live on the internet.

3. True or false? Broadband can only be delivered through cables.

Answer: False. It can also be delivered by satellite.

4. How soon will it be until African children can play internet games just like their Chinese or American counterparts?

Answer: Within two years.

Glossary 词汇表

hardly anyone	几乎没有什么人
to predict	预测
broadband	宽带
live	现场直播
to be delivered	提供
satellite	卫星
to redistribute	重新分配
aerials	天线
feasible	可行的
bandwidth	带宽

Questions and answers:

1. How many people in Africa had mobile phones in Africa 15 years ago?

Answer: Hardly anyone.

2. What does the following phrase mean? ' live access to television via the internet '

Answer: It means you can watch television live on the internet.

3. True or false? Broadband can only be delivered through cables.

Answer: False. It can also be delivered by satellite.

4. How soon will it be when African children can play internet games just like their Chinese or American counterparts.

Answer: Within two years.