

Nations in the world are in a subtle yet rigorous race to superiority in terms of development, a race whose aftermath will determine who calls the shots in the future. Scientific and technological strive coupled with industrialization are some of the major factors fueling this heated battle for world dominance. Industrialization specifically involves development of various manufacturing plants in a country, whose products hit the market hard, fostering social and economic change among the populace of the country. A country's industrial prowess is factored by many aspects, some of which include science and technology, man power, natural resource abundance, security and sociological relations to mention but a few. However, today's industrialization is being heavily fueled by science and technology which is more or less the lynchpin for all other aspects of development in countries. The fact that Africa is lagging behind in science and technology has made it trail the rest of the world as far as industrialization is concerned. In order to foster scientific and technological development in an area, the communication and access to knowledge has to be swift, hence cheap. I envision Africa as an independent, developed, wealthy and receptive heaven blessed with not only scintillating flora, fauna and sceneries but also modern societies. In my opinion, in order to gain mileage in this silent race, African countries should invest in satellites to remedy the communication inadequacy of the continent. Countries that have satellites have a sterling communication system that has helped them develop at a much faster rate than those without. I believe satellite technology is the catalyst that Africa needs to accelerate industrialization because of the following reasons.

It is a given that with faster and more efficient communication comes accelerated development. The inception of satellite technology has boosted the communication sector among many others, fostering better work efficiency and timely productivity in countries that embraced this technology. Time is an invaluable yet non-renewable resource that is often misused. Satellites have helped the countries that use them to put to better use a few more working minutes, or even hours, giving them an exponential head start in this race. With better communication, global business becomes much easier since people in different locations can easily communicate in a timely manner hence work is done much faster. At a smaller scale, news and various updates of what is going on in various places is received by a larger number of people which fuels up industrialization since people are able to spot opportunities easily and act on them immediately. Satellite communication also helps businesses save money that would have been lost in transport of letters, boosting weak signals over long distances, longer cables, more frequent error correction and many other faults that come with the rudimentary means of communication. Once Africa is able to properly use the few minutes that satellites can help save, rate of industrial growth will be uphill in no time.

African soil is blessed with a plethora of natural resources, a few of which are being utilized. The continent's copious mineral deposits have made it prey to already developed countries that not only manage to spot these resources before the natives but also possess the means to mine and process them. Due to wealth, technological prowess and impeccable political gamesmanship, these foreign countries have managed to forge their way into Africa's rich soils, leaving very little of the profits obtained to the continent. If African countries were able to spot these resources in the first place before the foreigners, it would give them a stepping stone towards industrializing the continent. Satellites are equipped with instruments that spot mineral deposits based on various forms of data that can be best obtained from a bird's eye view. Once these minerals are spotted, we would be able to devise means to

utilize them with or without foreign aid, because even though continent is for Africans, the famous platitude 'finders are keepers' seems to dictate who benefits most from these resources.

In today's technological era, knowledge is power. Countries with the best sources of knowledge are leading the race to world domination. Access to information and reliable research avenues are key factors that steer the industrialization of a country. Many countries rely on fast internet for their research. Currently, Africa is still trying to bring about fast and instant internet to the continent through private companies offering broadband internet in a few countries for example the Asta satellite [1] by Coolink which is a company based in Nigeria, doesn't cover the entirety of the country. However, this is nothing compared to the ace that other developed countries possess, which is satellites. Through satellites, countries are able to have internet reaching almost every corner of their borders which improves their research system. Improved research brings about more informed innovations hence faster industrialization. It betters the education sector hence producing truly educated professionals that will improve on the productivity of various industries. Countries will no longer have to bring foreign experts to solve certain problems due to the well-educated man power they already possess. Satellites will also introduce new professions in the aerospace industry that will tone down the heavy competition for the few cliché disciplines coveted by most natives. This will curb the dependence of African industries on foreign experts hence breed a self-reliant industrialized continent.

Managing satellites is not a cheap task, but in the long run, African countries can benefit from the immense merits that come with this technology. The possible contributions of satellites to industrialization in Africa are very many, with some applications having a direct impact on the sector and others indirect. Satellites can revolutionize the military, exploration, employment, education, industrial, entertainment and many other sectors of the African way of life. Nevertheless, I believe satellites will not only just propel the continent forward in the race towards sovereignty but also enable the continent build a more independent industrial sector from which it takes the lion's share of the profits.

References

[1]<https://www.asta.ng/2017/11/01/coolink-ng-launches-asta-satellite-broadband-everywhere/>