



Impact of ICTs in Developing Countries:

Is Socio-Economic Development and Empowerment a Reality - A Gendered Zambian Case Study

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Why this Research?



- Increased and fast use of mobile phones
- Steady growth of Internet use
- Global Consensus e.g WSIS Summits
- National Policy on ICT adoption

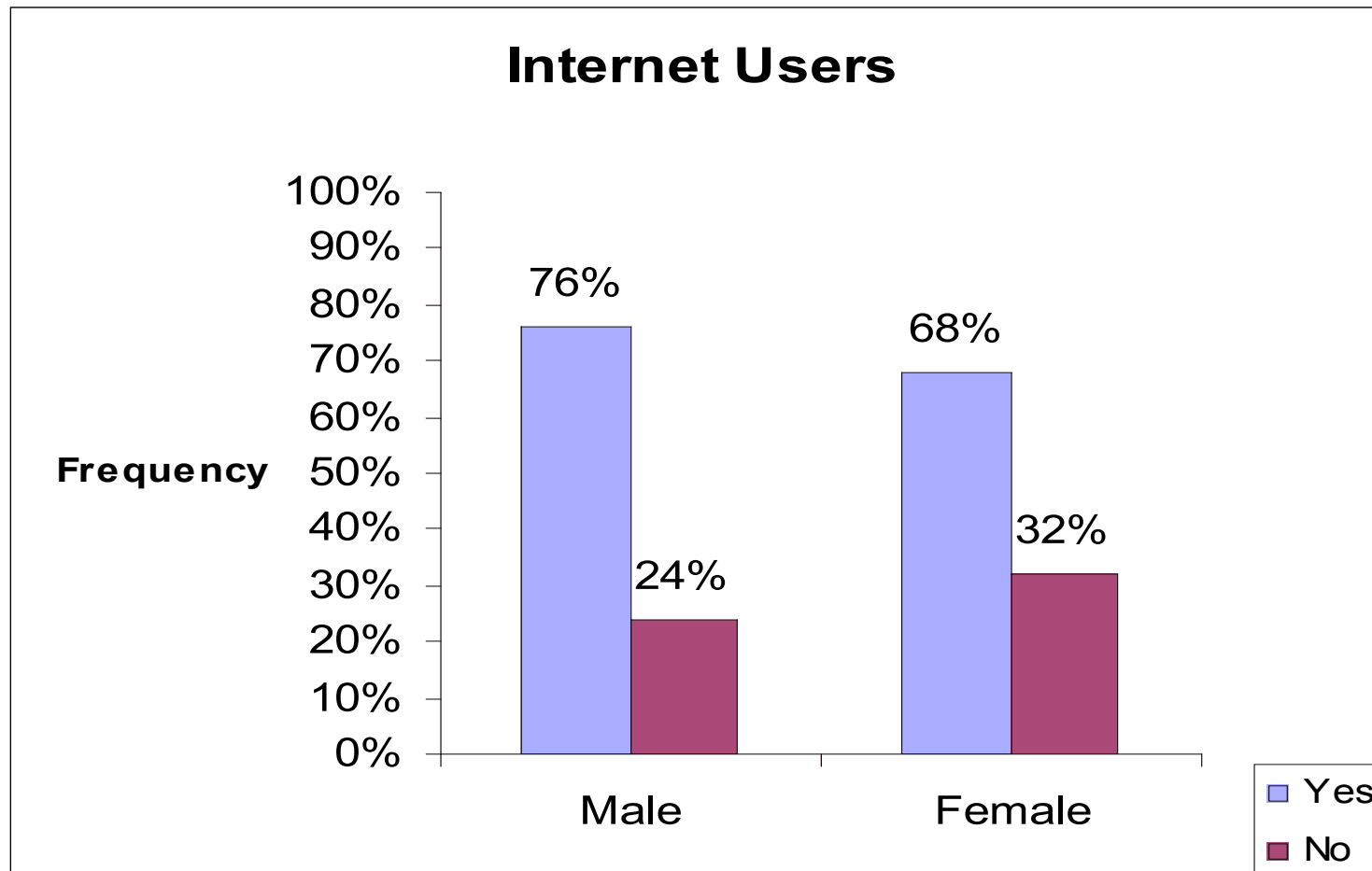


WSIS Declaration of Principles

“Our challenge is to harness the potential of information and communication technology to promote the development goals of the Millennium Declaration, namely the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger; achievement of universal primary education; promotion of ***gender equality and empowerment of women***; ...” (2003)

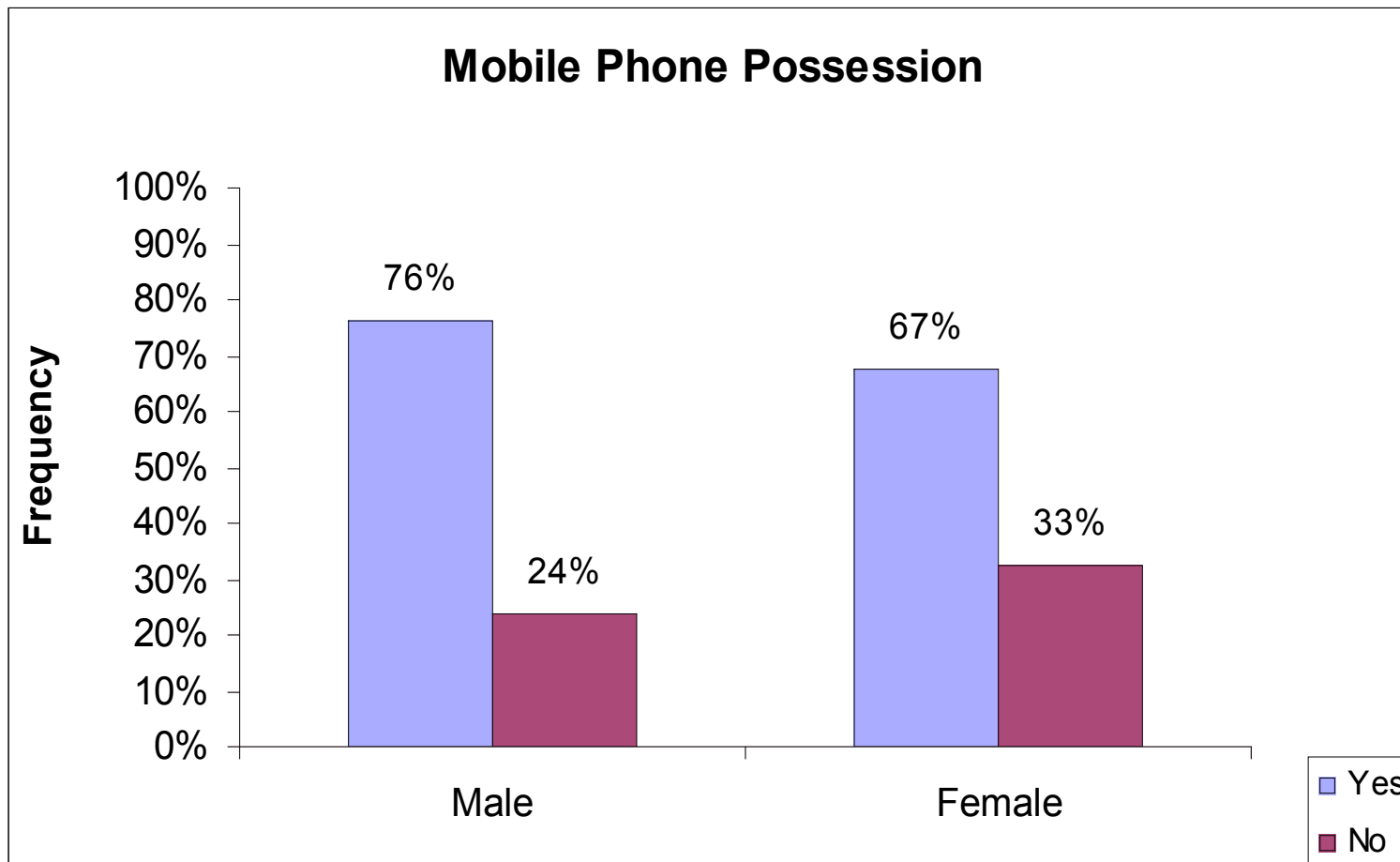


Internet Users





Mobile Phone Possession



Concluding Perspectives



- Mobile enable
 - social contact
 - Small scale business
 - Easier and faster communication e.g births, weddings, funerals, other emergencies
 - Mobilisation
 - Reduced travel costs???
 - Expensive



Internet

- Easy and fast communication
- Wider exposure possibilities
- Potential for knowledge
- Expensive to access
- Evident gender gaps.
- FOR BOTH INTERNET & MOBILE PHONE: EASY & FAST COMMUNICATION.



Some Social and Economic Challenges

- Infrastructure
- Lack of in-depth & innovative ways of using the internet especially
- Maintenance
- Awareness
- Policy (*from formulation to actual implementation*)
- Costs