Around the world, and particularly in India, more and more people are using cell phones as costs fall (top and left). These phones could be used to extend loans and savings accounts to the poor families who now lack access to the financial system (bottom).

**Mobile charges in India**
17.5 Rupees/minute

**Mobile-subscribers in India**
300 million

**Mobile-phone penetration in developing nations**

- China: 44%
- India: 26%
- Brazil: 72%
- Pakistan: 52%
- Bangladesh: 27%
- Mexico: 67%
- Philippines: 72%
- Egypt: 48%
- South Africa: 90%
- Kenya: 41%
- Algeria: 87%
- Nicaragua: 46%

**Millions of households lacking bank accounts**

- U.S.: 17
- Western Europe: 18
- Central and Eastern Europe: 19
- Latin America: 28
- Middle East: 20
- Africa: 230
- India: 263
- China: 135
- Commonwealth of Independent States: 14
- Rest of Asia: 162

**Sources:**
- Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (costs and subscribers)
- GSMA’s Wireless Intelligence (mobile penetration)
- Boston Consulting Group (excluded households)