Policy statements from the African Union, the UN, and others acknowledge that strength in the research and education sector is a key to meeting and sustaining Millennium Development Goals for Africa. At the same time, research and education worldwide are becoming increasingly internet-dependent. Measurement of Internet response from African Universities via the PingER project show steady progress, but the rest of the world is advancing more rapidly and the digital divide for Africa is growing. New undersea fibre optic cables are now providing the African seaboard with greatly improved bandwidth capacity, and many countries are investing heavily in fibre infrastructure. This progress is spurring the development of NRENs - National Research and Education (cyber) Networks and regional alliances. But many problems remain, and the oft-stated claim that the information revolution delivers benefits to rich and poor alike is but a dream for many scientists in African institutions. eGY-Africa is a bottom-up initiative by African scientists and their collaborators to get better Internet access in their institutions by a campaign to influence decision makers. The strategy combines establishing national action groups of concerned scientists in each country, gathering information to make the case for investment in better internet facilities, mobilising support from the international scientific community, working with and through other groups and programs seeking to reduce the digital divide, and, finally, engaging with and influencing decision makers and donors.