

Digital Connectivity Webinar Series

European Commission's Directorate-General for International Partnership (DG INTPA) Unit F5

22, 25, 26, and 27 April 2022



Webinar 2: Implementation of Digital Connectivity

Part 1: Foundations of Digital Connectivity: technologies and trends

•Fundamentals of the digital network architecture and ecosystem: network elements and trends on digital technology development

- Concepts and importance of data transmission, performance, and the technologies to carry data flows
- Most used telecommunication mediums (fibre cables, submarine, satellite, microwave, copper) and differences between them (latency and bandwidth)
- Basics on installation and design of backbone, back-up route, trenching, branching unit, landing station, antennas, etc
- o Operation and maintenance of data transmission infrastructures to guarantee quality of service
- Concepts and roles of Internet exchange points (IXPs) and data storage solutions (data centres), and how to protect data transmission links (cybersecurity)

•Quiz: Are fixed and mobile broadband services complements or substitutes?



Webinar 2: Implementation of Digital Connectivity

Part 2: Foundations of Digital Connectivity: financial aspects of digital infrastructure development

- •Financing the digital connectivity: public budget shortage, the universalization strategies, and the social relevant appeal projects
 - o Doing Business in developing countries: opportunities and threats
 - Exploring the architecture of cost of capital in developing nations (opportunity cost of financing digital infrastructure, and basics on WACC calculation)

•Fundamentals of the financial aspects of digital infrastructure development

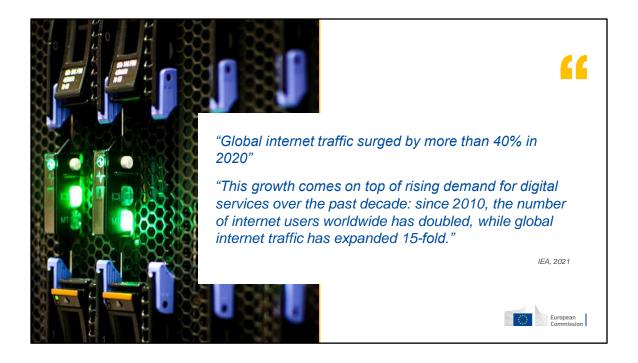
- Overview on the costs of telecommunication infrastructures
- o Business models for retail and wholesale digital connectivity services
- o Case study: Ella link and how it works to finance and develop a submarine cable
- o Financial tools (grants, guarantees, digital bonds, the role of development banks, etc
- Different actors involved and the private sector role: telecom operators, promoters, suppliers, etc
- •Quiz: What are the main challenges and alternatives to attract private investment to bridge digital connectivity gaps in developing countries?

Learning outcomes:

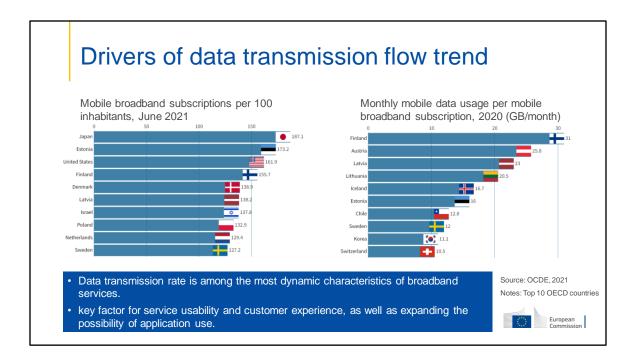
- learn the foundations of the digital network architecture and ecosystem
- get knowledge about main concepts and importance of data transmission, performance, and the technologies to carry data flows, the most used telecommunication and differences between them, basics on installation and design of network connectivity infrastructure, its operation and maintenance to guarantee quality of service
- Understand the main concepts and roles of Internet exchange points (IXPs) and data storage solutions (data centres), and how to protect data transmission links (cybersecurity)
- understand the financial aspects of digital infrastructure development, like the costs of telecommunication infrastructures, the common business models for retail and wholesale digital connectivity services, financial tools available to enable investment, and the different actors involved in the development of digital ecosystem (telecom operators, promoters, suppliers, etc.).





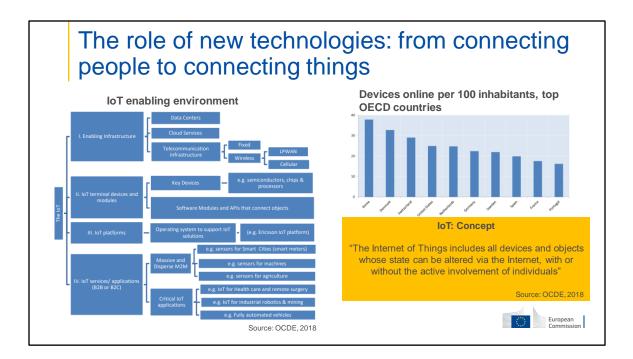


https://www.iea.org/reports/data-centres-and-data-transmission-networks

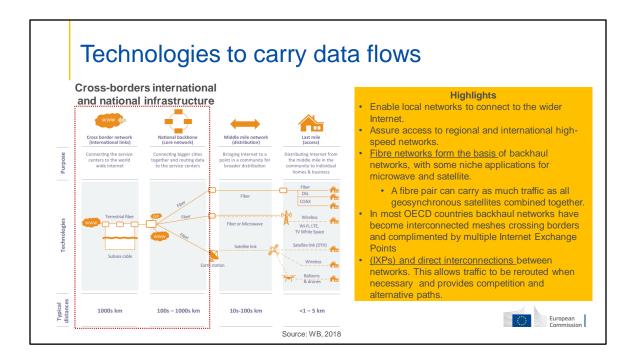


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https://www.oecd.org/digital/broadband/broadband-statistics/



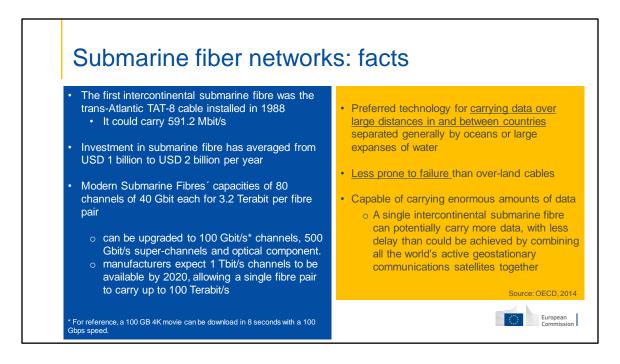
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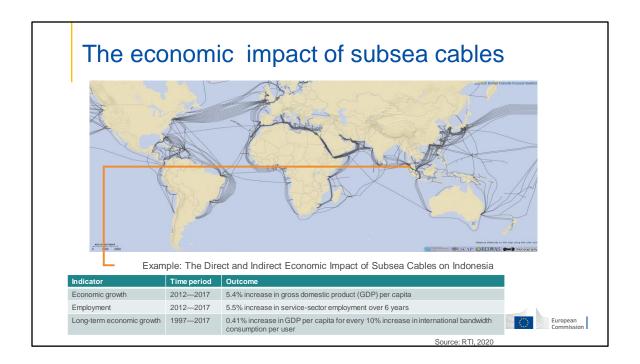
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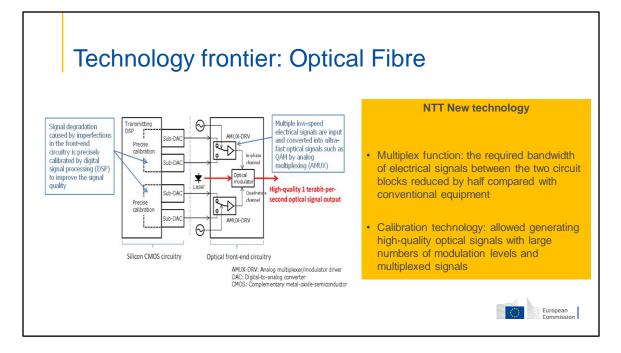


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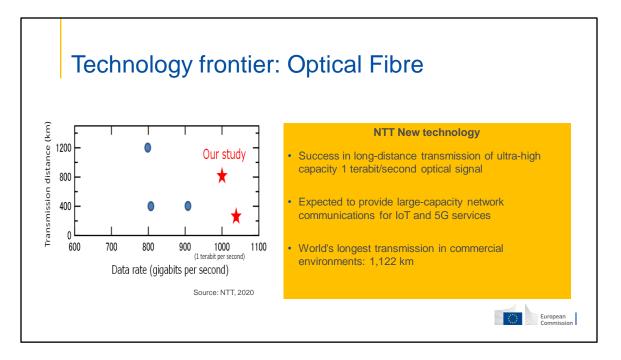
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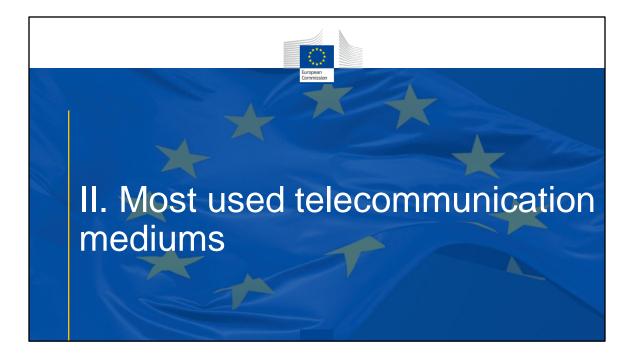
https://www.rti.org/publication/economic-impacts-submarine-fiber-optic-cablesand-broadband-connectivity-indonesia/fulltext.pdf

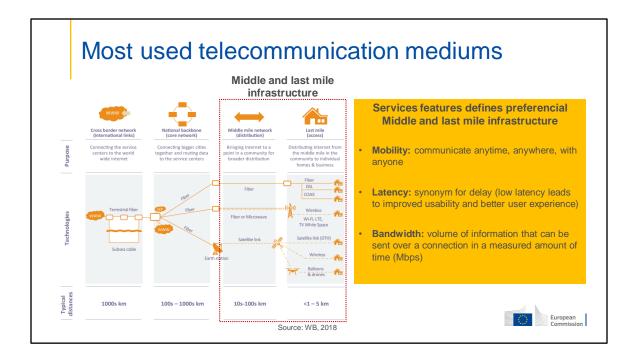


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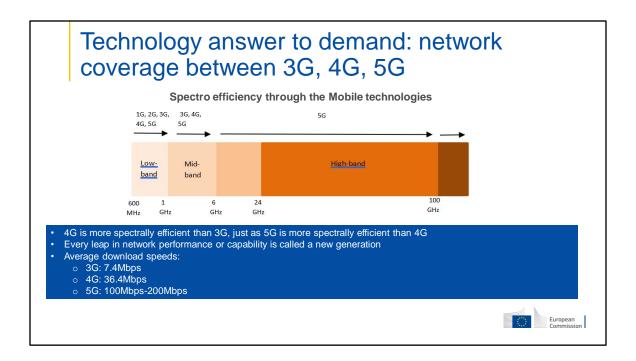


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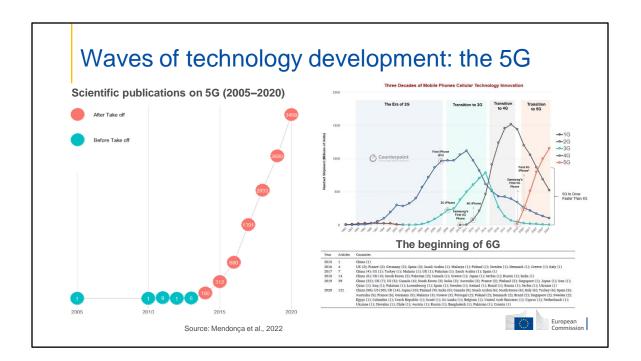


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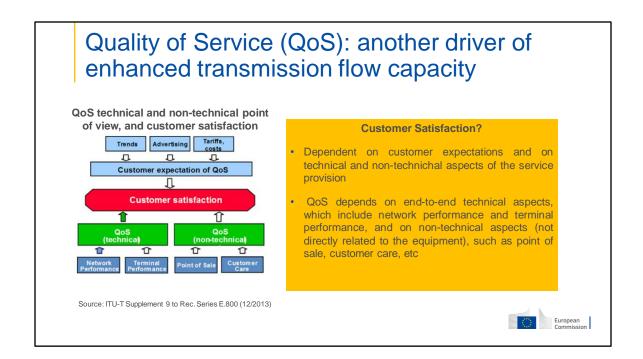


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5g/#:~:text=4G%20is%20more%20spectrally%20efficient,lot%20of%20hype%20arou nd%205G.



https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0308596122000301



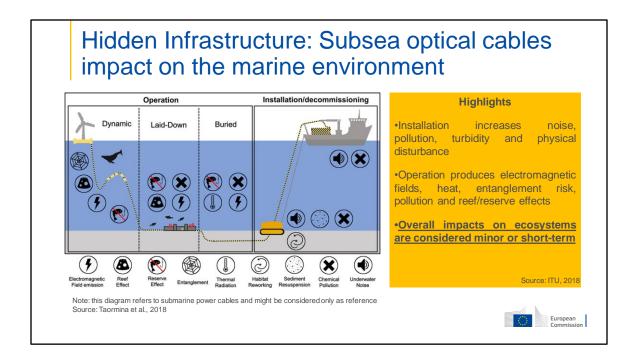
https://www.fortinet.com/resources/cyberglossary/qos-quality-of-service

Discussion (5+5 min)

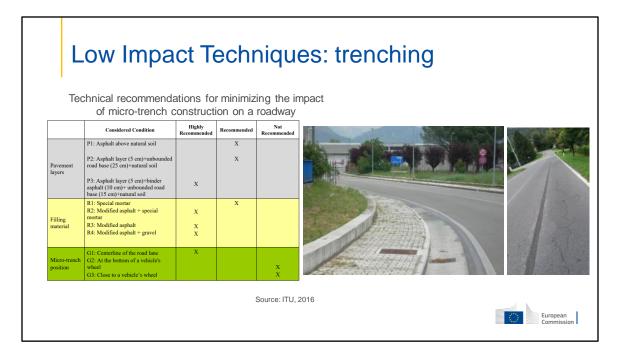
- Consider that a certain developing country has 500 poorly populated cities lacking digital connectivity (no optic fibre reaching the cities, 3G mobile networks, and old, cooper infrastructure). The total population of these cities counts approx. 10% of the entire population of the country, and all of them are far from big cities and have no more than 30,000 inhabitants. 5% of the cities are in the middle of an area of preservation with strict environmental rules.
- · The government has started discussing a broadband policy aimed at:
 - o Increase high-speed (fiber) fixed broadband penetration from 5% to 60% in 5 years
 - $_{\odot}\,$ Increase wireless broadband penetration from 10% to 95% in 3 years
 - o Designed measures should focus on promoting adoption (demand-side) and investment (supply-side)
- Question for discussion:
 - What are the most suitable technologies to be deployed in this cities, both in middle-mile and last-mile, to achieve the aims of this policy?
 - Should the government provide incentives for certain technological solutions, or should the policy be technology neutral?



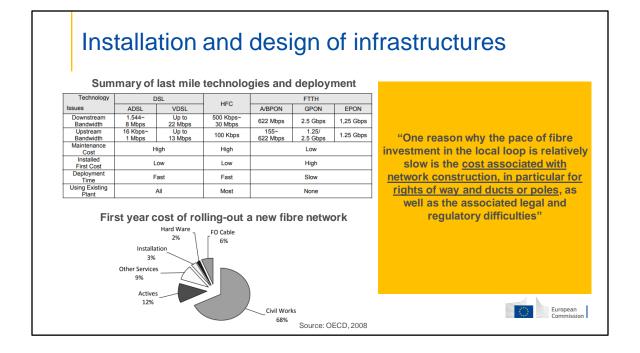




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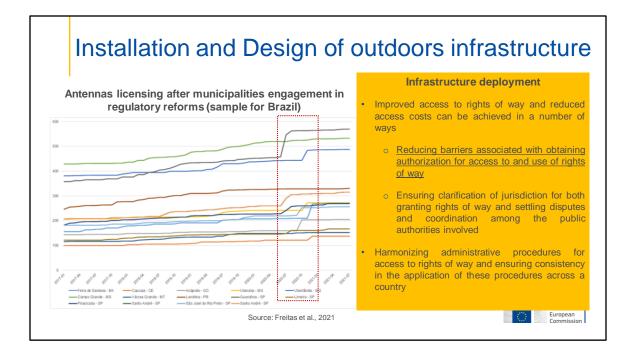


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Notes:

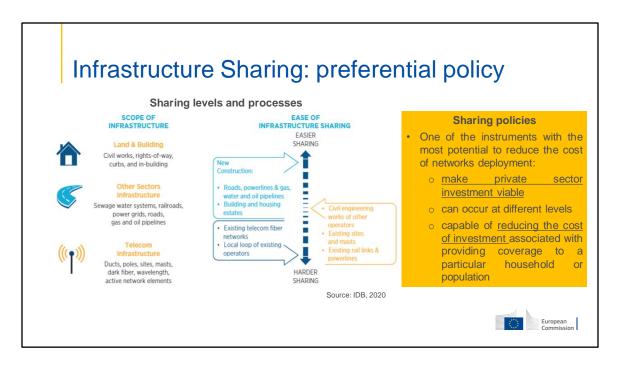
From the perspective of costs for maintenance and installation, both Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) and Hybrid Fibre Coax (HFC) solutions have high lifetime maintenance and service costs, while featuring fairly low installation costs by using existing facilities. Even though fibre in the last mile has low maintenance and service costs, the typical fibre solution has fairly high installation costs, in particular where existing ducts or poles cannot be used. The main access architectures for fibre to end user premises are: • FTTC or FTTN (fibre to the curb or node) ñ fibre is deployed to a street cabinet or node and from there the existing copper loop (usually upgraded) is used to access the home. • FTTB (fibre to the building) ñ fibre is deployed up to the building from where copper or Ethernet can be used to connect end user premises. • FTTH (fibre to the home) ñ the local loop would simply be constituted by optical fibre from the optical distribution frame (ODF) of the service provider up to the end user's home.



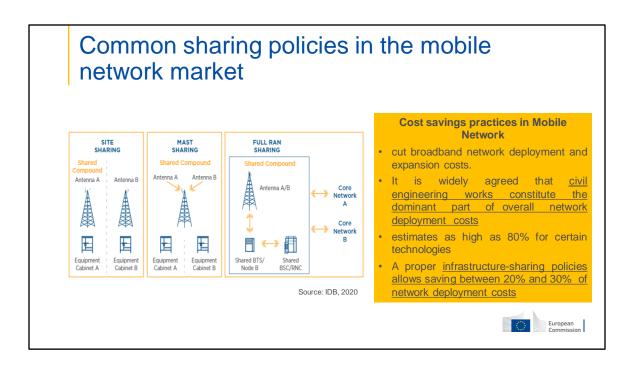
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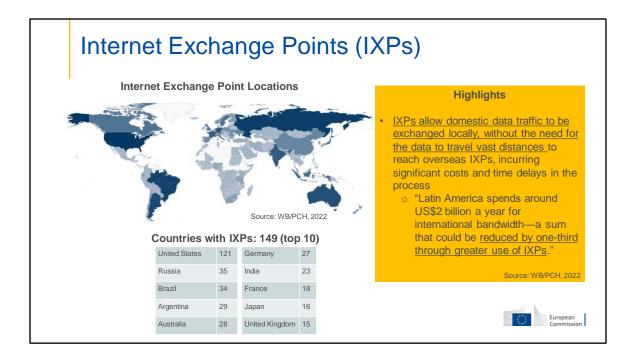
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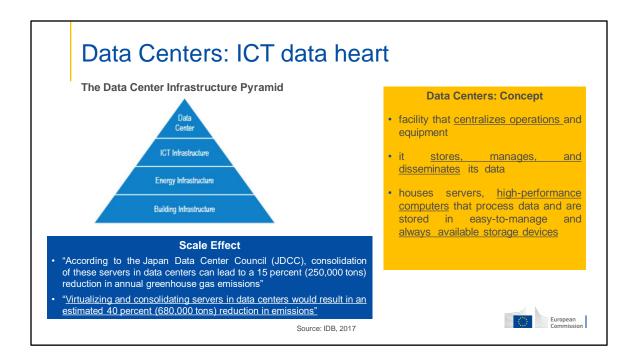
https://publications.iadb.org/publications/english/document/Digital-Transformation-Infrastructure-Sharing-in-Latin-America-and-the-Caribbean.pdf







https://blogs.worldbank.org/opendata/improving-data-infrastructure-helps-ensure-equitable-access-poor-people-poor-countries



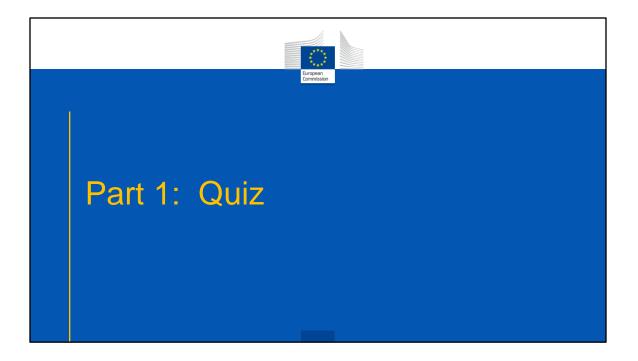
Cybersecurity: fundan Global Cybersecurity Index 2020 Top Ranked Bottom Ranked						Cybersecurity: concept and strategies		
Country Name	Score	Rank	Country Name	Score	Rank			
United States of America** United Kingdom	100	1	Belize Mali** Guinea-Bissau	10.29 10.14 9.85	159 160 161	 Encompasses multiple different governance, policioperational, technical and legal aspects Cibersecurity strategies cover tools, policies, guideline risk management approaches, actions, trainings, be practices, assurance, and technologies that can be used protect the availability, integrity, and confidentiality assets in the connected infrastructures pertaining government, private organizations, and citizens these assets include connected computing device personnel, infrastructure, applications, digital service telecommunications systems, and data in the digit environment. 		
Saudi Arabia	99.54	2	Liberia	9.72	162			
Estonia	99.48	3	Grenada	9.41	163			
Korea (Rep. of)	98.52	4	Lesotho	9.08	164			
Singapore	98.52	4	Nicaragua**	9	165			
Spain	98.52	4	Solomon Islands	7.08	166			
Russian Federation	98.06	5	Haiti	6.4	167			
United Arab Emirates	98.06	5	Tuvalu**	5.78	168			
Malaysia	98.06	5	South Sudan**	5.75	169			
Lithuania	97.93	6	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	5.3	170			
Japan	97.82	7	Afghanistan	5.2	171			
Canada**	97.67	8	Marshall Islands**	4.9	172			
France	97.6	9	Timor-Leste**	4.26	173			
India	97.5	10	Dominica	4.2	174			
Turkey	97.49	11	Comoros**	3.72	175			
Australia	97.47	12	Central African Rep.**	3.24	176			
Luxembourg	97.41	13	Maldives**	2.95	177			
Germany	97.41	13	Honduras**	2.2	178			
Portugal	97.32	14	Djibouti	1.73	179			
Latvia	97.28	15	Burundi Eritrea**	1.73	179 179			
Netherlands**	97.05	16	Eritrea** Equatorial Guinea**	1.73	179			
Norway**	96.89	17	Dem. People's Rep. of	1.46	180			
Mauritius	96.89	17	Korea**	1.35	181	C Europear Commiss		
Brazil	96.6	18	Micronesia*	0	182			
Belgium	96.25	19	Vatican*	0	182			
Italy	96.13	20	Yemen*	0	182	Source: ITU, 2021		

https://ncsguide.org/the-guide/introduction/ https://www.itu.int/dms_pub/itu-d/opb/str/D-STR-GCI.01-2021-PDF-E.pdf

Discussion (10+10 min)

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 - o Designed measures should focus on promoting adoption (demand-side) and investment (supply-side)
- <u>Question for discussion:</u>
 - What should be the main elements of this broadband policy? Please discuss and detail what kind of
 public incentives should be offered to promote deployment of transport networks, as well as access
 networks on these cities.



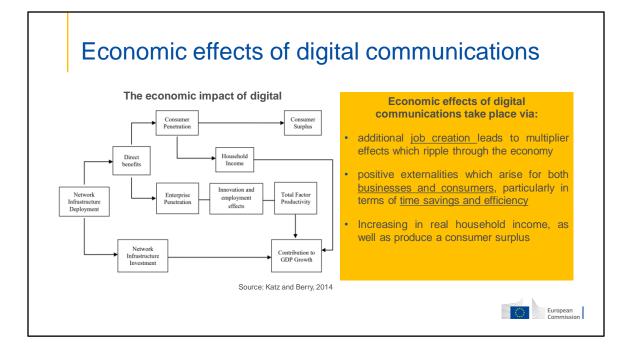




Part 2 - Implementation of Digital Connectivity

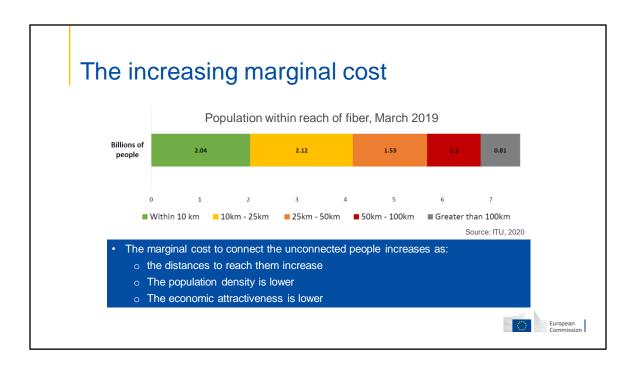
Financing the digital connectivity

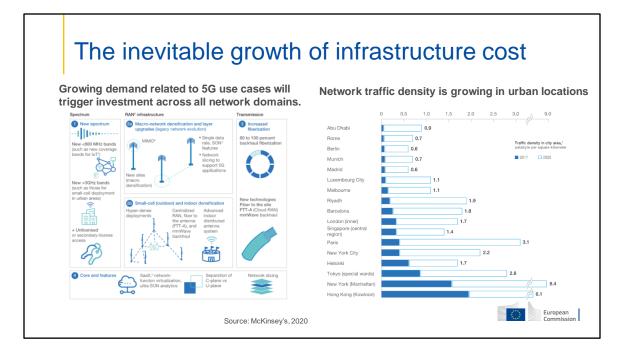




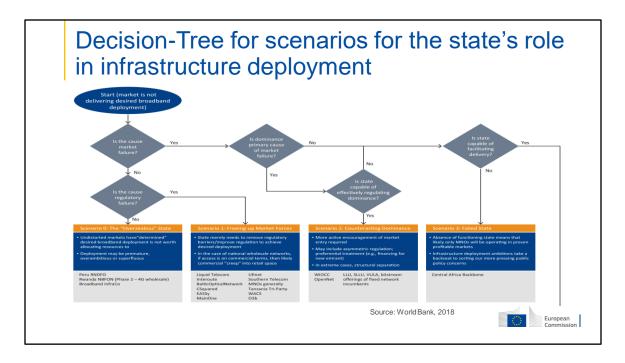


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https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/technology-media-andtelecommunications/our-insights/the-road-to-5g-the-inevitable-growth-ofinfrastructure-cost



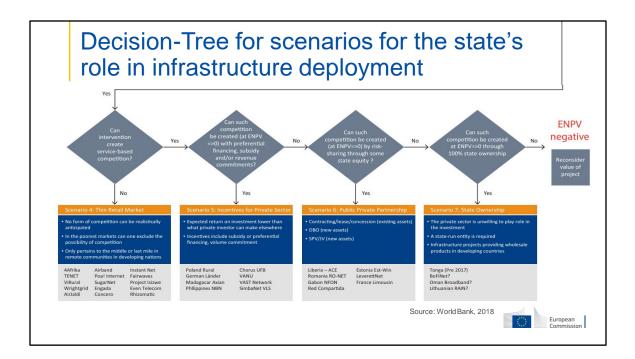
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Notes:

- lessons for policy makers seeking to intervene to deploy in underserved areas.
- Decision-making tool (seven scenarios plus a "null" scenario):
 - Null Scenario:
 - the state should reconsider any proposed intervention. Where there
 is no demonstrable market or regulatory failure to address, state
 action is generally not justified. There are at least three examples in
 the list of reviewed projects where the state may have been
 unnecessarily ambitious in its objectives—the second phase of
 Rwanda NBFON (involving the pursuit of a single wholesale mobile
 network for 4G), Peru RNDOFO, and South Africa's Broadband
 InfraCo. In the latter two, state investment was made in national
 backbones in markets in which the private sector was capable of
 delivering infrastructure on its own.
 - Scenario 1:
 - results when there is no inherent market failure, but

counterproductive regulation, unnecessary legal constraints, or unduly burdensome financial obligations are imposed by the state. In this scenario, the state's role is simply to eliminate or minimize the self-created cause of infrastructure inadequacy. In most cases, this amounts to improving licensing—simply authorizing the entry of new players, ensuring spectrum is available, and so on.

- Scenario 2:
 - is the case of market failure primarily arising from dominance in the market. Here more active regulatory intervention may be required. This may take the form of more active encouragement of private sector competitors, for example, the creation of WIOCC in the crossborder market of East Africa, mandated access of dominant player networks, or more radical solutions such as structural separation. Before addressing other, more interventionist, roles that the state may play in infrastructure development, the state has to answer the question of whether it is capable of taking on such a role to create missing markets or infrastructure. The vast majority of states are in some way capable of playing a constructive role;
- Scenario 3:
 - states that have severe institutional issues, or an inability to commit to required policy or provide appropriate leadership.
 - deals with fundamental governance weaknesses must be a central part of any development program implemented. Consistent with the principle of promoting competition, the next question is whether a more active role for the state can be used to create service-based competition.



ENPV Economic net present value

SPV (Special purpose vehicle) and JV (Joint ventures) are types of PPP.

The SPV allows for the segregation of all assets and liabilities linked to the private provision of services.

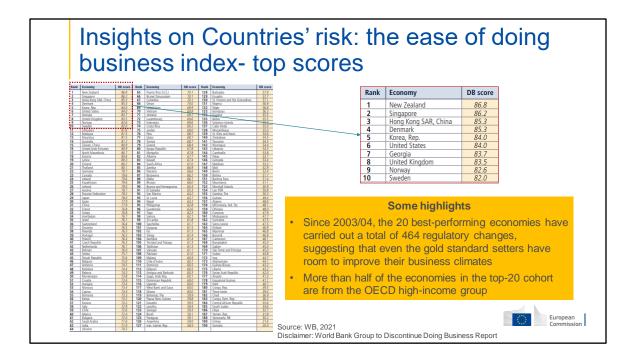
Joint ventures between the public and private sectors in PPP arise when a contracting authority may require to have an equity stake ("shares") in the project company

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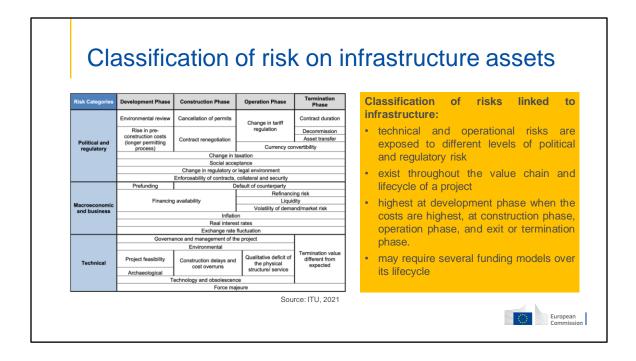
Notes:

- Scenario 4:
 - the market cannot even support service-based competition

- it is probably very thin. These cases tend to be remote local markets. There are a number of innovative technologies and business models discussed in this report that address these particular circumstances.
- [Scenario 5, 6, and 7 address state action that is progressively more interventionist:
 - In each case, the state's financial commitments should be justified on the basis of a robust cost-benefit analysis.]
- Scenario 5:
 - is the case where the state can limit its intervention to subsidy, preferential financing, or sales commitments, which offset low or uncertain nonstate revenues. In this case, the state can stay out of the management or ownership of the entity undertaking the project. Ideally, incentives would be competed for through an appropriately structured tender process.
- Scenario 6:
 - represents those cases in which the subsidy required to interest the private sector in taking up the opportunity is too high for the state to afford. In these cases, the state must take on more of the project risk in order to attract the private sector.
- Scenario 7:
 - is limited to those instances in which the state cannot build a sufficiently attractive offer of financial incentives and risk-sharing to interest the private sector. This would be a very small set of cases indeed. Of all the projects reviewed in this report, arguably, only one may have met this criterion.







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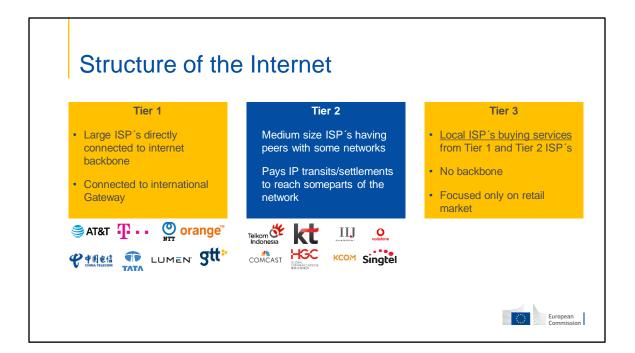
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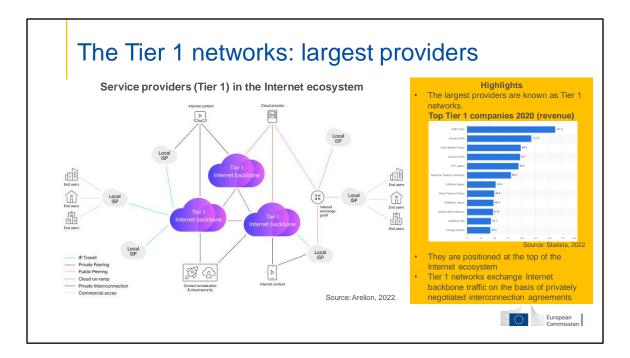
Discussion (5+5 min)

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 - o Designed measures should focus on promoting adoption (demand-side) and investment (supply-side)
- Question for discussion:
 - Re-visit your policy design in light of the decision-tree for governmental intervention. Please, draw some
 assumptions and discuss which scenario(s) and interventions should be more suitable to achieve the
 policy goals described above.



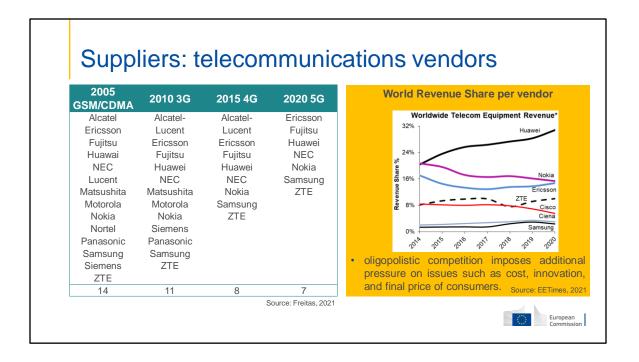




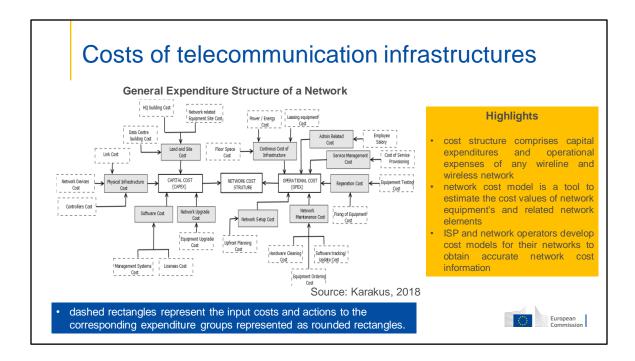


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https://www.statista.com/statistics/221382/revenue-of-top-30-global-telecommunication-operators/et-backbone.html



https://www.eetasia.com/huawei-maintains-lead-in-global-communications-equipment-market/



Business models: attributes and success measures

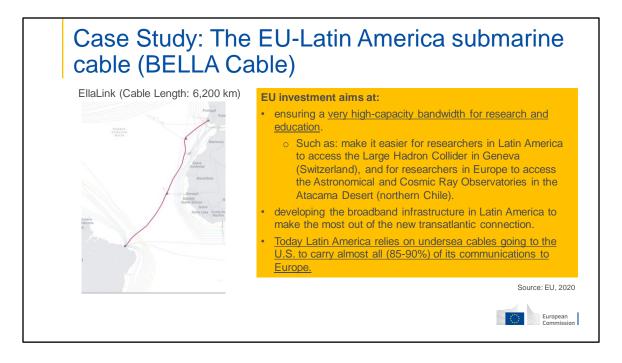
 The <u>market structure in which</u> the deployment operates The <u>economic context (for</u> example, strength of demand). The regulatory and policy efficacy, that is, how well policy, regulation and enforcement align with objectives of the deployment. The degree and nature of infrastructure-sharing. The business model, which may include one of a number of approaches Entromarket and unit investment into the structure is provided and the	Primary attributes	Success measures	General recommendations
	 the deployment operates The economic context (for example, strength of demand) The regulatory and policy efficacy, that is, how well policy, regulation and enforcement align with objectives of the deployment The degree and nature of infrastructure-sharing The business model, which may include one of a number 	 Increase in installed <u>bandwidth</u>; <u>Volume</u> of national traffic <u>Utilization of network</u> relative to legacy network(s) replaced <u>Prices</u> of network services relative to legacy prices and affordability Investment and <u>unit investment</u> (for example, per fiber kilometer) 	 intervention Private investment first Minimize regulatory failure Consensus on a coherent vision, political will, and leadership. Governments should take a <u>sober view of what activity it</u> can credibly and reliably carry <u>out.</u>
		Source: WB, 2018	

https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/bitstream/handle/10986/31072/132845-7-12-2018-17-20-11-InnovativeBusinessModels.pdf

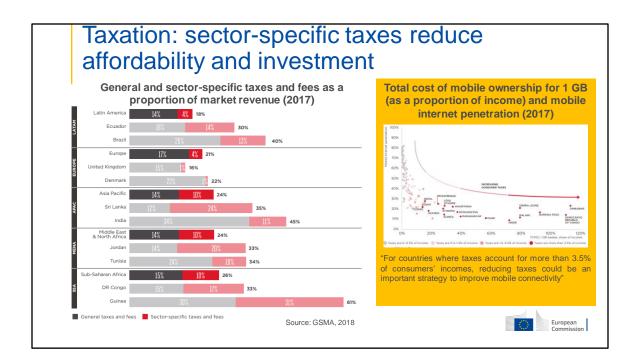
Notes:

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS There are five key principles that should form the basis of any policy for promoting broadband deployment: • Limited, incremental state intervention. Governments should intervene only in cases of clear market failure and only to the extent necessary to overcome market failure and complement private investment. In such cases, the government should attempt to achieve its objectives through the least disruptive means possible and should only increase the scale or degree of intervention if the market failure proves persistent. • Minimize regulatory failure. Governments can take many actions to encourage infrastructure deployment that do not require any direct intervention in the market. The state should first consider the result of measures to obviate or minimize regulatory failure before it concludes that market failure exists. • Consensus on a coherent vision, political will, and leadership. Intervention should be based on clear policy objectives for the sector, be conducted with commitment on the part of leadership, and flow through to

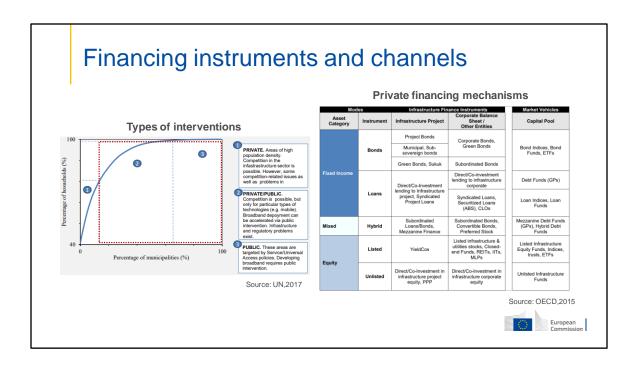
regulation consistent with the policy objectives. • Governments should take a sober view of what activity it can credibly and reliably carry out. All states will have limits as to the skill sets, finances, and legal authority, among others, available to actively participate in infrastructure deployment. Governments should assess these capabilities and craft their participation accordingly. • Promoting competition. Government intervention should be directed at increasing competition, through service-based competition when infrastructure competition is not viable. When infrastructure competition is not feasible, governments should generally support open access wholesale arrangements.



https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news/eu-latin-america-submarine-cable-boosting-connection-between-our-continents



https://www.gsma.com/mobilefordevelopment/wpcontent/uploads/2018/02/Enabling_Rural_Coverage_English_February_2018.pdf



https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/Universal%20Access%20and%20Service %20Funds.pdf

https://www.oecd.org/finance/private-pensions/Infrastructure-Financing-Instruments-and-Incentives.pdf

Notes:

- From an investor's perspective, the instruments and pooling mechanisms selected for investment will depend on the nature of the asset (debt, equity, listed or unlisted), regulatory and tax considerations, and on how the investors have defined and allocated infrastructure in their portfolios, based on their asset/liability framework. Other considerations are diversification and level of investor sophistication: small investors with limited resources and small amounts of capital allocated to infrastructure are limited to capital pool channels and corporate investments while large funds may be able to commit capital directly to projects.
- The instrument column divides the asset categories into the principal modes fixed income into bonds and loans, equity into listed and unlisted shares, and

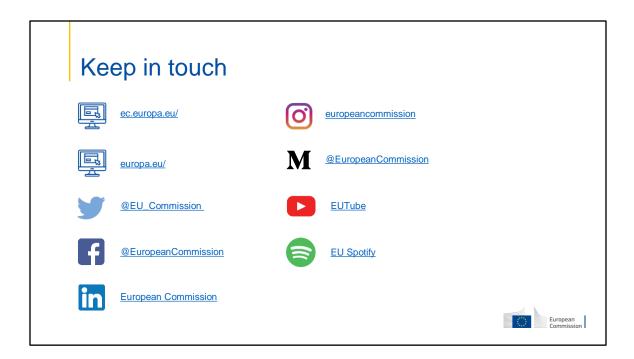
hybrids being combinations of both. These instruments can further define the level of control in an investment, liquidity and the types of contractual claims on cash flows.

- Together, loans and bonds form the largest categories of infrastructure finance, mirroring the broader fixed income markets: global debt markets are the deepest capital markets in the world. Debt instruments can be structured to have longterm maturities that extend over the life of long-term assets. Debt financing can be provided through multiple instruments; debt instruments can take the form of direct loans held on the balance sheets of financial institutions or may be structured for resale to investors or distribution in markets, be it private markets (such as private-placement debt) or public markets through registered corporate and government bonds. Furthermore, financiers of infrastructure projects can take advantage of clientele effects8 in debt markets: issues can be tailored to fit the demands and preferences of certain investors such as pension funds and insurance companies thereby broadening the appeal of infrastructure finance to a larger potential pool of capital.
- Hybrid instruments such as mezzanine finance are debt instruments with equitylike participation, thus forming a bridge between debt and equity instruments.
- Equity finance refers to all financial resources that are provided to firms in return for an ownership interest. Investors may sell their shares in the firm/project, if a market exists, or they may get a share of the proceeds if the asset is sold. They are crucial in the financing of infrastructure investments as the providers of risk capital to initiate a project or refinancing. Listed shares are indirect participation rights in corporations, projects and other entities; investors hold minority positions with limited ability to influence management. Unlisted shares often confer direct ownership, control, and operation of the corporate entity or project asset due to concentrated shareholder positions and closer ties to managers.
- Equity investors are interested in maximizing total return on equity in the case of infrastructure, these objectives can be met through maximizing dividend yield since many projects lack a strong growth component. Other investor requirements (private equity) such as exit strategy are an important consideration.

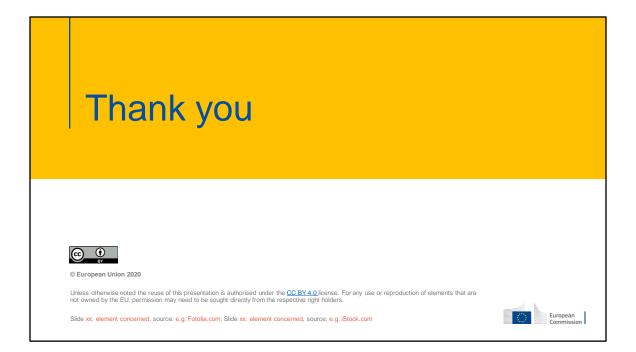
Discussion (10 + 10 min)

- Consider that a certain developing country has 500 poorly populated cities lacking digital connectivity (no optic fibre reaching the cities, 3G mobile networks, and old, cooper infrastructure). The total population of these cities counts approx. 10% of the entire population of the country, and all of them are far from big cities and have no more than 30,000 inhabitants. 5% of the cities are in the middle of an area of preservation with strict environmental rules.
- · The government has started discussing a broadband policy aimed at:
 - o Increase high-speed (fiber) fixed broadband penetration from 5% to 60% in 5 years
 - $\,\circ\,$ Increase wireless broadband penetration from 10% to 95% in 3 years
 - o Designed measures should focus on promoting adoption (demand-side) and investment (supply-side)
- Question for discussion:
 - How could European Commission delegation in the country contribute to the design and implementation
 of this national broadband policy?
 - Detail the current EU initiatives and programs that could be supportive, as well as others that could be created.





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