REGULATEL

Connectivity challenges for Latin America

GSR - 17

REGULATEL: Latin American Regulators Forum

- **Regulatel** is a Latin-American forum that promotes the development of telecommunications in the region.

- **Regulatel** is a forum of 20 [1] Latin-American countries plus 3 European members: Italy, Spain, and Portugal

- Annual rotating Presidency among the members of the forum (2017: Chile; 2018: Mexico).

(1) Puerto Rico is also a member, as a a self-governing commonwealth in association with the United States.

How does Regulatel work? (1)

- **Executive Committe**
  - ➢ It is the governing body of the forum.
  - ➢ Coordinated by a member of the presiding country (Executive Secretary).
  - ➢ Online meetings (via Webex), where agreements are made on the administration of the forum, coordination of events.
  - ➢ Follow-up of the working groups.

- **Working Groups**
  - ➢ The groups present an annual work plan which establishes deadlines and desired deliverables.
  - ➢ Groups have a collaborative nature. They benefit from the cooperative relationship with BEREC.
  - ➢ Since December 2016, the follow-up of the Working Groups is associated with the Executive Committee meetings.

- **Agreement with BEREC.**
  - ➢ This agreement provides the Working Groups with the technical support of experts regarding specific topics.

¿How does Regulatel work? (2)

- **Management of Technical Consultations**.

➢ Through the network of correspondents, requests for information from member countries are managed.

➢ It has allowed the establishment of regional benchmarking on specific issues.

➢ Since December 2016: centralized management of consultations, with consolidated reports and repository of information (following BEREC model).

- **MoUs with other entities**.

➢ ICANN, FCC, COMTELCA.

➢ During 2016, a series of Webinars with ICANN, on skills training in DNS and related matters.

Working Groups

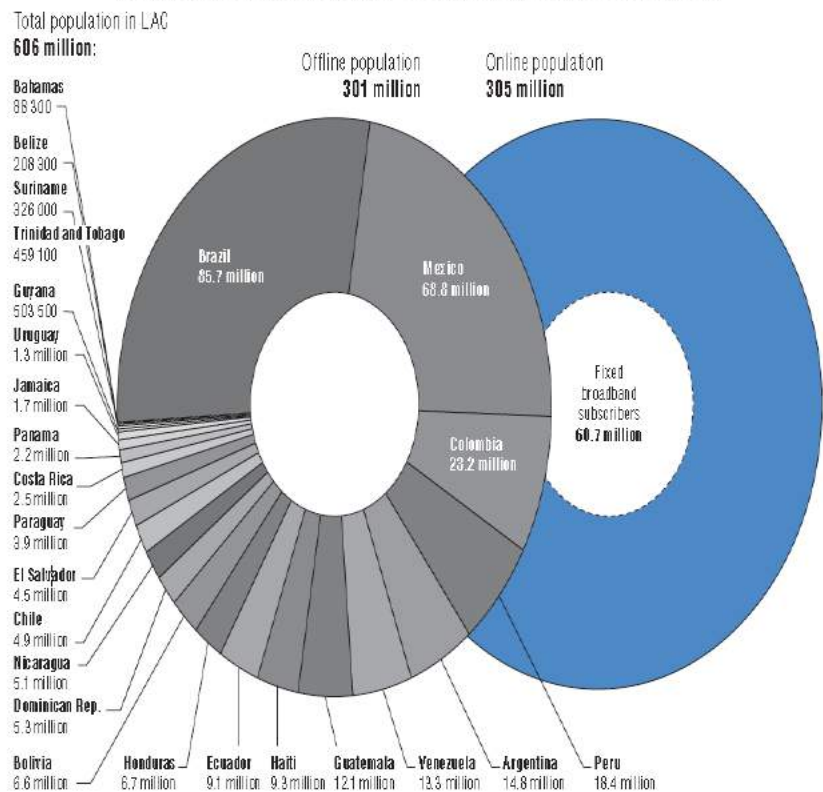|	
Protection and Quality of User's Services	**Perú** (OSIPTEL); **Colombia** (CRC)
Internet issues	**Chile** (Subtel); **Peru** (OSIPTEL); **Brasil** (ANATEL); **Argentina** (ENACOM); **Bolivia** (ATT)
Telecommunications / ICT Indicators	**Rep. Dominicana** (INDOTEL); **México** (IFT); **Costa Rica** (SUTEL); **Chile** (Subtel); **Bolivia** (ATT)
Radio Spectrum Management and Monitoring	**El Salvador** (SIGET); **Colombia** (ANE); **Chile** (Subtel)
Connectivity Initiative	**Transversal Initiative**

REGULATEL – LAC Challenges

- Digital Infrastructure as an essential driver for the Digital Economy.

- Promotion of a Regional Digital Market.

- Extraterritorial character of digital platforms are extensively used in the region, motivating cooperation among countries to develop common strategies.

- Reduction of the digital divide to insure digital inclusion.
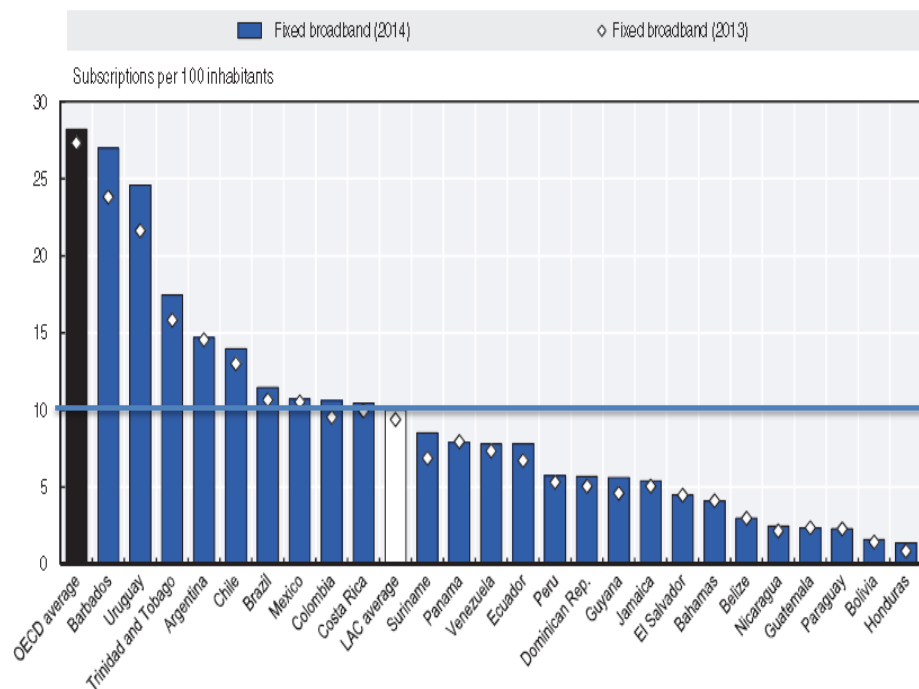
- Strengthen the region's competitiveness.

Connectivity in LAC

Figure 1.4. **An overview of the online and offline population in LAC**

Figure 1.5. **Fixed broadband penetration in LAC (2013-14)**

Half of the population does not have access to the Internet.

Role of Regulators

- Promote investment and digital infrastructure development with a focus on public policy.

- Promote markets that operate in effective competition.

- Ensure stability of legal frameworks, to provide legal certainty and predictability.

- Strengthen regulators with the necessary tools, from the point of view of capabilities as well as attributions.

REGULATEL's initiative for Connectivity

- Countries in the region with different approaches according to institutions, investment models, and public private partnerships.

- Forum examines best practices from countries and benefits from cooperation with other platforms of regulators, especially from european partners.

- Availability of data and statistics on connectivity is key to inform regulation.

- REGULATEL is conducting a both high level and technical dialog to establish a characterization of the region in terms of connectivity and challenges the region faces.

Conclusion

- Given that the countries have different approaches to the telecom issues within their competence, according to their internal norms, regulatory models, public private alliances, and public investment models, among others, Regulatel is as a key player in the telecom sector within the Latin American region.

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Thank you.