International Telecommunication Union



Ubiquitous Network Societies

Case Study of the Republic of Korea



Dr Tim Kelly

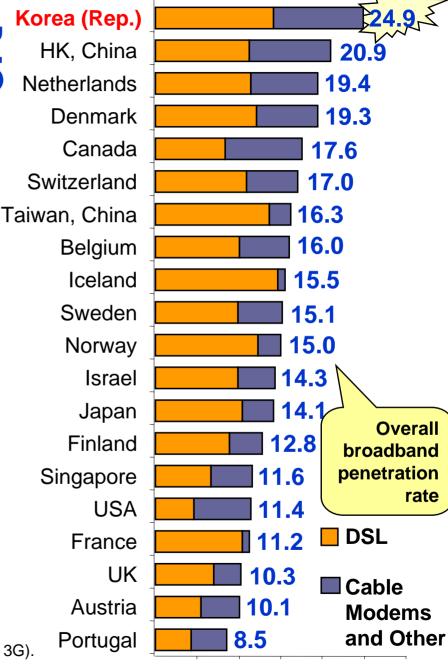
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> New Initiatives Workshop on Ubiquitous Networks Societies

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- Korea is (still) #1 worldwide in broadband penetration
- Around 80% of households subscribe to broadband
- Korea has benefited from platform competition:
 - DSL technologies
 - > Cable Modem
 - > Appartment LANs
 - Wireless LANs, satellite etc
- Very low price per (e.g., <US\$25 per month for 2Mbit/s)



Note: Figures used in slide do NOT include wireless broadband (e.g., 3G). *Source:* ITU World Telecom Indicators Database.

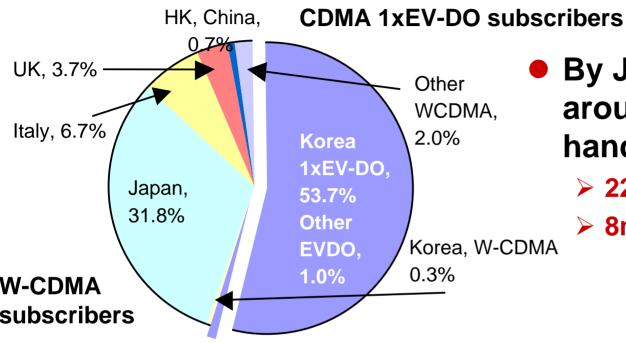
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Korea is also a world leader in 3G mobile



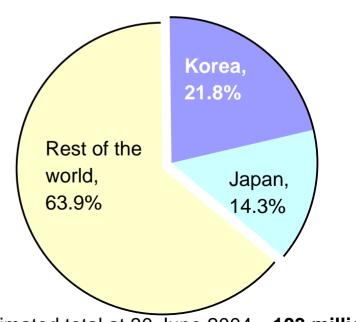
Estimated total at 30 June 2004 = 14.9 million

- In addition to CDMA 2000, W-CDMA and WiBro have been licensed
- Also >360'000 WLAN subscribers at end 2003

By June 2004, there were around 35m mobile handsets, of which:

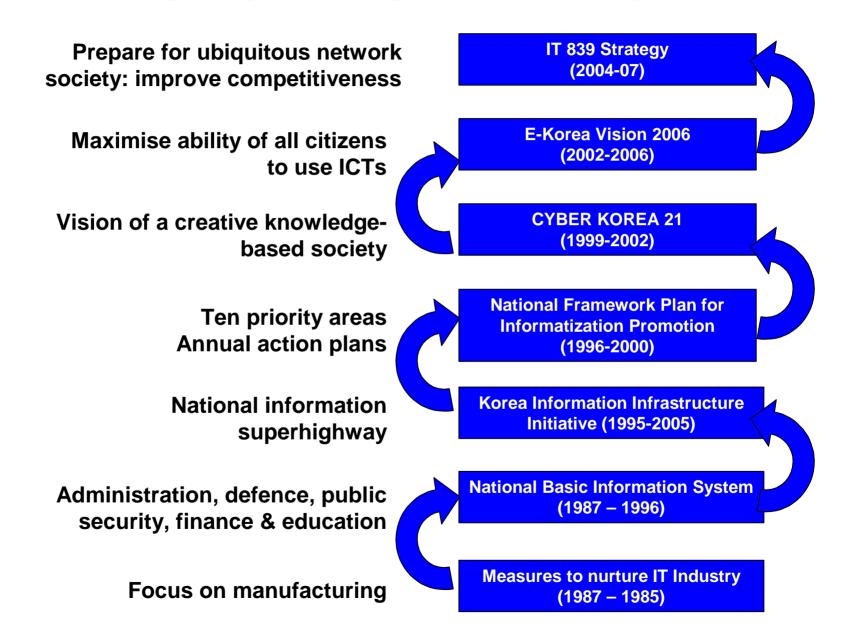
- > 22m CDMA 1x
- > 8m CDMA 1x EVDO

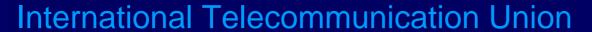
CDMA 1x subscribers



Estimated total at 30 June 2004 = **103 million**

Korea's unique public/private cooperation



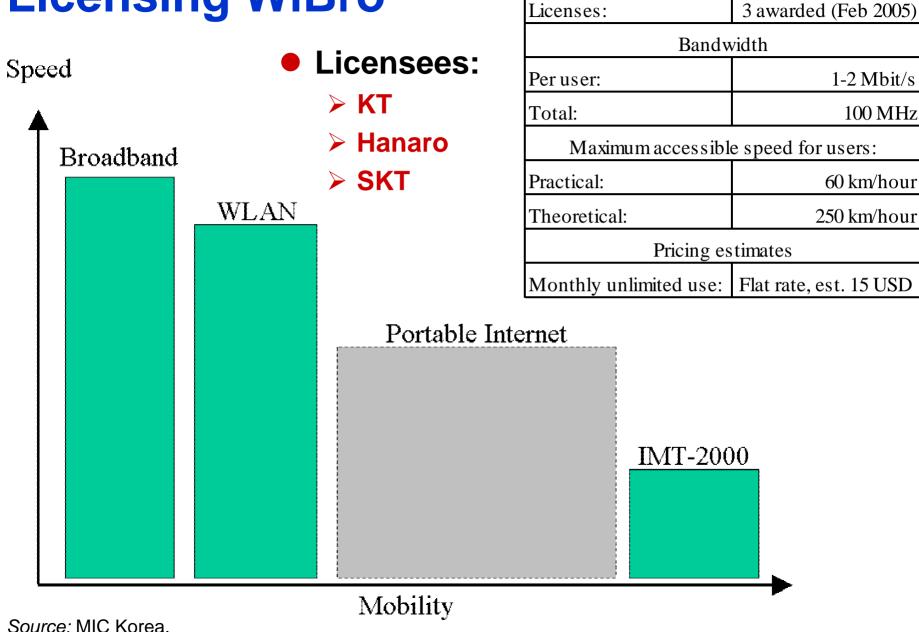




Korea's IT 839 Strategy

8 services	3 infrastructures	9 new growth engines
WiBro Service DMB Service Home Networking Telematics Service RFID based W-CDMA Service Terrest. Digital TV VoIP	Broadband Convergence Network (BcN) Ubiquitous Sensor Network (USN) Next-Generation Internet Protocol (IPv6)	Next-Generation Mobile Communications Digital TV Home Networking IT System on Chip Next-Generation PC Embedded Software Digital Contents Telematics Intelligent Service Robot

Licensing WiBro



Frequency:

2.3 GHz





Selected examples of ubiquitous networks in Korea

- Digital TV delivered to mobiles
 - > DMB service
- Mobile handsets used as wallets
 - > "Moneta" service
- Telematics (automobile/mobile)
 - "Nate Drive"
- Avatars in gaming
 - > Fashion wardrobes for avatars
- Self-adaptive telephones that find the cheapest networks
 - > "Nespot SWING", "One-Phone DU"

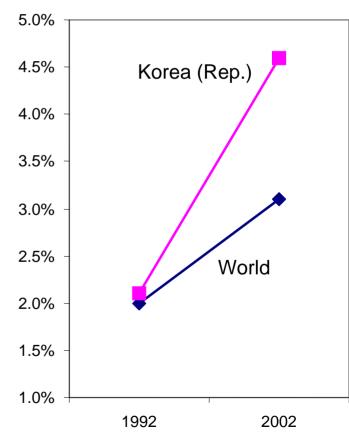






Conclusions

- Korea as a laboratory of the future
 - ~ Three years ahead of Europe in broadband
 - ~ Two years ahead of Europe in 3G mobile
- Korea as an example of public/private policy partnership
 - Strategy of picking technological winners
 - Gov't reinvestment of profits from spectrum auctions
- Korea creating new revenue
 - Twice the global rate of growth in telecom spend as % of GDP



Telecoms revenue as a % of GDP

Source: ITU World Telecom Indicators Database.





Thank you

The full case study (50pp) is available at http://www.itu.int/ubiquitous

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