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ICT Market and Regulatory Trends

Planning Meeting for the HIPCAR Project
Enhancing Competitiveness in the Caribbean Through the Harmonization of
ICT Policies, Legislation and Regulatory Procedures (HIPCAR)
Grenada, 15-16 December 2008

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Regulatory and Market Environment Division
BDT, International Telecommunication Union



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Agenda



1. Short history of sector reform and its results
2. 1st wave of regulatory reform
3. Leveraging the mobile miracle for broadband and convergence or a need for a 2nd wave of regulatory reform
4. Infrastructure sharing & open access policies
5. New issues in a global market on the move
6. Trends in Telecommunication Reform 2008
7. ITU Regulatory Resources

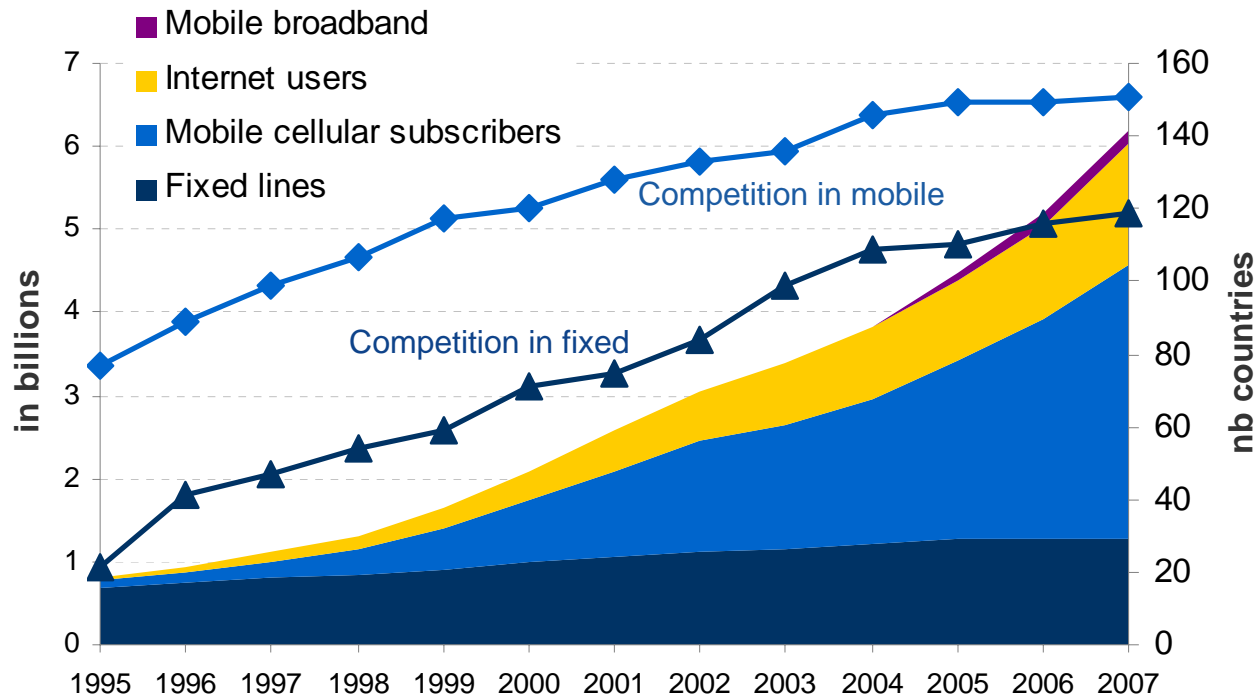
A Brief History of Sector Reform

- 10th Anniversary of WTO Basic Telecom Agreement
- Countries' Strategies
- ITU response
- Results of 1st wave of sector reform



Global telecom market on the move

Growth in fixed lines, mobile cellular subscribers, estimated Internet users and subscribers to mobile broadband networks, in billions, 1995-2007



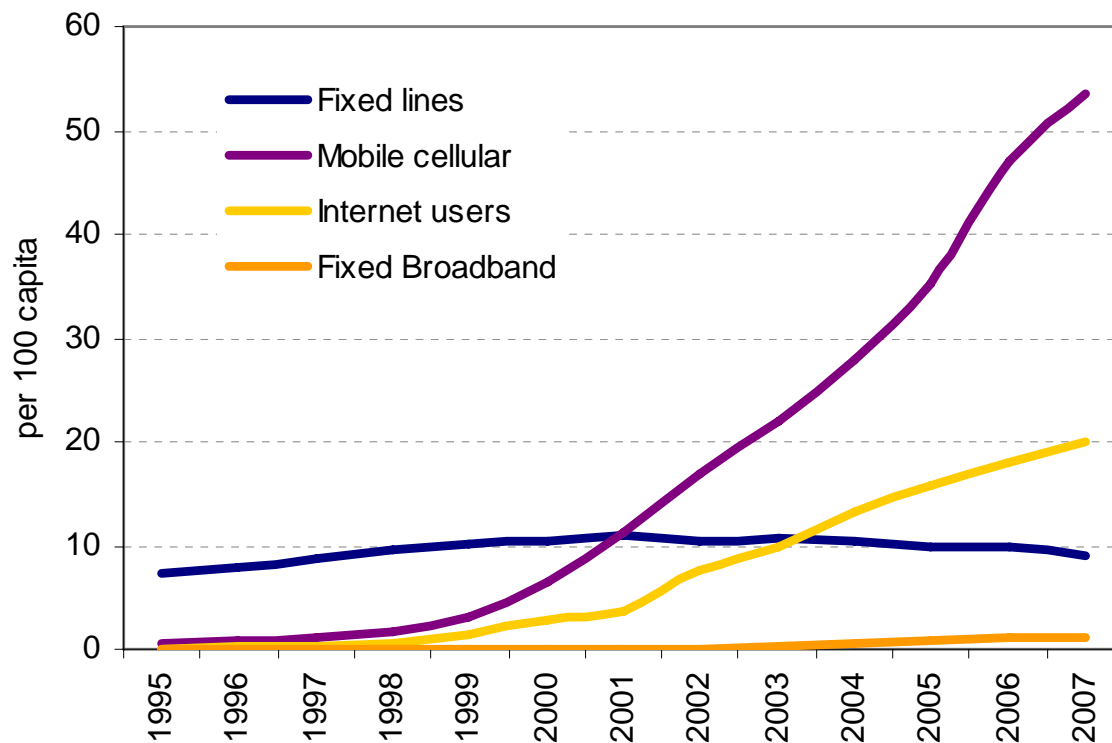
Source: ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database and ITU Telecommunication Regulatory Database



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Snapshot of ICTs in HIPCAR countries

Growth in ICTs, HIPCAR countries



- Mobile is dominant
- Fixed lines decline
- Strong growth in Internet users
- Slow take up of broadband
- Combination of fibre backbone & mobile broadband access networks may provide a viable solution to connectivity problems.

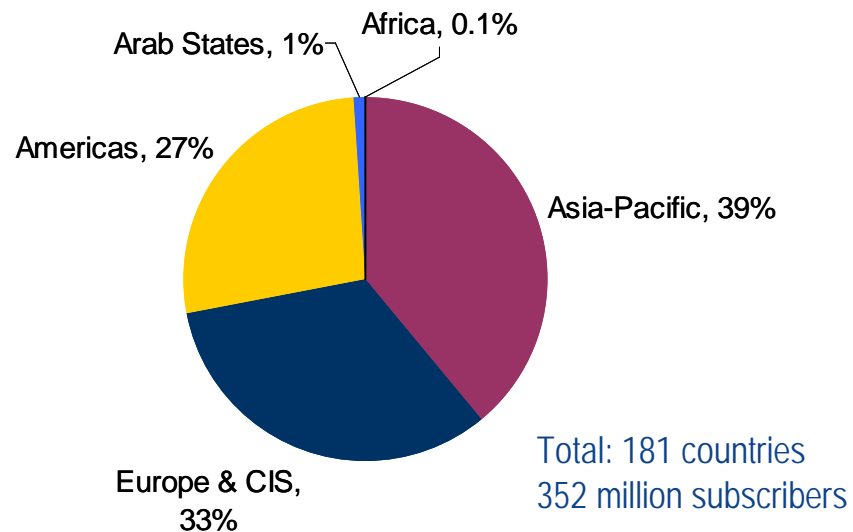
Source: ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database



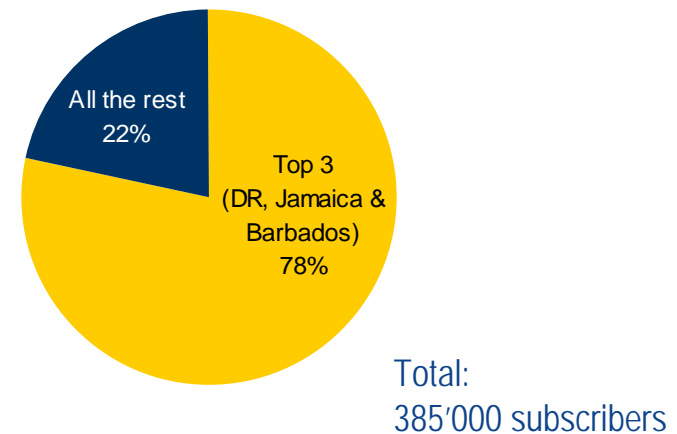
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Broadband market trends

Fixed broadband subscribers, 2007



Fixed Broadband in HIPCAR countries, 2007



- Sustained growth, both of fixed and mobile broadband worldwide
- Important disparities between and within regions
- The world average broadband penetration was only 5.4% at the end of 2007 and it was 1.5 % in HIPCAR (against 11.2% in the Americas)
- Broadband connectivity needs to be extended to enable access to ICT services

Source: ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database



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1st wave of regulatory reform

- Creation of separate regulatory authority
- Opening markets to competition
 - Licensing multiple operators (service-specific licences)
 - Lowering entry barriers
 - Promoting new business models
- Privatization of incumbent operators
- Flexible, accurate, transparent and non-discriminatory interconnection models
- Subsidies to universal access providers for fixed-line services
- Creating a level-playing field for investment (minimizing regulatory risk, tax incentives, etc.)

↳ Allowed the tremendous growth of ICTs in all regions over the past decade



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The **ICT Regulation Toolkit** is a live resource for policy-makers, regulators, the telecom industry, and consumers. It provides a global overview of how telecom policy is best implemented with practical materials highlighting experience and results. [▶ More](#)

TOOLKIT

- [▶ Table of Contents](#)
- [▶ Table of Practice Notes](#)
- [▶ Table of Reference Documents](#)
- [▶ Glossary](#)

Module 1 Overview & Module 6 Executive Summary are also available in French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic and Chinese.

GLOBAL CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVE FOR ICT REGULATORS (GCBI)

The GCBI is a joint infoDev/ITU initiative for regulatory training [▶ more](#)

- [▶ Executive Summary](#)
- [▶ Project Concept Note](#)
- [▶ Needs Analysis](#)
- [▶ Call for Proposals](#)
- [▶ Events](#)

EVENTS

- [▶ Training Workshop for Regulators and Policy](#)

Module 1: Regulating the Telecommunications Sector: Overview

Telecommunications growth and innovation, Telecommunications and economic development, rationale for regulation, Principles for effective regulation, Key success factors and risk of failure, Institutional responsibilities.

- [▶ Table of Contents](#) | Updated: March 2007
- [Overview in French](#) | [in Spanish](#) | [in Russian](#) | [in Chinese](#) | [in Arabic](#)

Module 2: Competition and Price Regulation

Fair competition, Interconnection and access, Prices, Benchmark price regulation, Data requirements, Effective price regulation.

- [▶ Executive Summary](#) | [▶ Table of Contents](#) | Updated: January 2007

Module 3: Authorization of Telecommunication/ICT Services

Introduction, Authorization approaches, Competitive licensing processes, Authorization practices, Special authorization situations.

- [▶ Executive Summary](#) | [▶ Table of Contents](#) | Updated: December 2008

Module 4: Universal Access and Service

Principles and basic concepts, Market shortfalls and development gaps, Roles of the government and the private sector, Scope of support beyond the market, Principles of cost-effective support, Funding sources and mechanisms.

- [▶ Table of Contents](#) | Updated: October 2008

Module 5: Radio Spectrum Management

Current trends, Technical aspects, Scope of spectrum use and issues, International administrative framework, National institutional arrangements, Authorizing spectrum use and Assigning frequency bands to users and technologies, Stakeholders, Spectrum Pricing, Monitoring and enforcement, and Capacity building for regulators

- [▶ Executive Summary](#) | [▶ Table of Contents](#) | Updated: January 2007

Module 6: Legal and Institutional Framework

Laws and regulations, International treaties and agreements, WTO, National legislation and regulations; Institutional arrangements for telecommunications regulation; Regulatory processes, Relationships with judiciary and competition authorities; Governance, Realistic design options, Human resources and capacity building.

- [▶ Executive Summary](#) | [▶ Table of Contents](#) | Updated: November 2006
- [Executive Summary in French](#) | [in Spanish](#) | [in Russian](#) | [in Chinese](#) | [in Arabic](#)



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Homepage

Welcome to ITU's ICT Eye

ITU, the UN specialized agency for telecommunications, has its "eye" on ICTs and is recognized around the globe as the leading provider of timely and comprehensive telecommunication/ICT statistics and trends.

The ICT "eye" website is a one stop-shop for ICT information and provides telecommunication/ICT indicators and statistics, regulatory and policy profiles, national tariff policies and scientific institutions, and much much more...



- ICT Statistics
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Please select a country/economy from the map or select from the following list:



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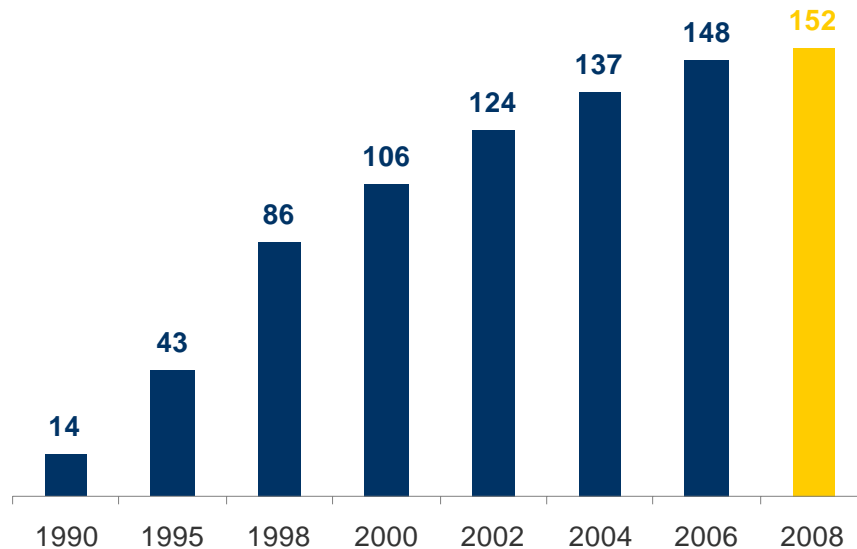
Map used with permission from the [United Nations Cyberschoolbus](#), Outreach Division, DPI.

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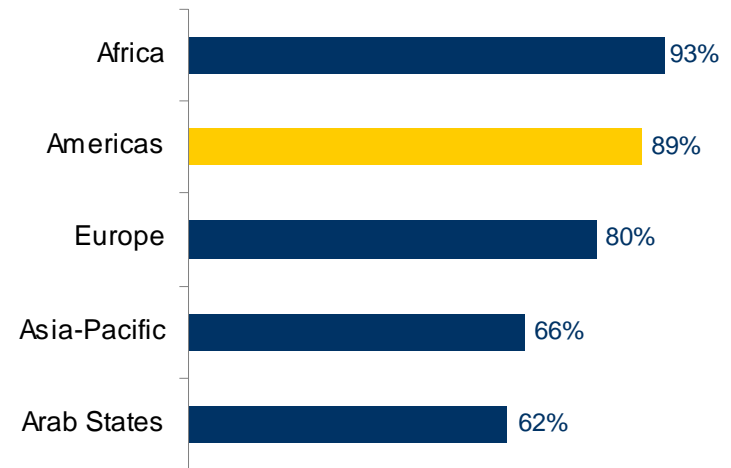
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Creating an independent & efficient regulator

Growth in the number of regulators worldwide



% of regulators per region, 2008



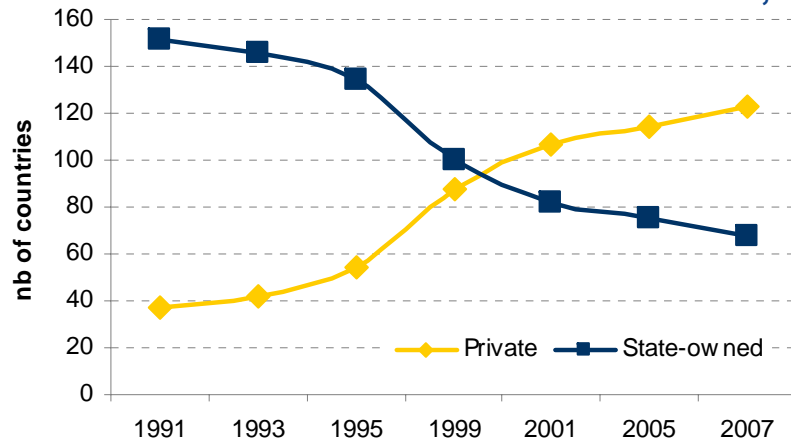
- Regulatory reform has been key to ICT development and enabled the move towards convergence
- Importance of independent and effective regulator
- Extending powers of regulators
- Converged regulators

Source: ITU Telecommunication Regulatory Database

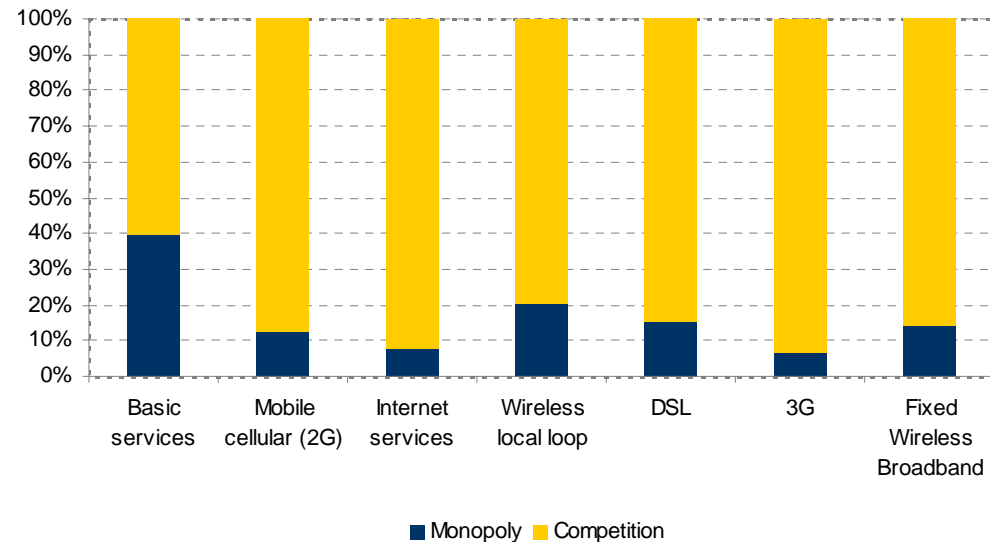


Competition & privatization

Evolution of status of fixed-line incumbents, world



Competition in selected services, 2007



- A competitive market environment is key to promote investment, spur growth and extend connectivity
- Additional reforms could ensure a level-playing field for all market players
- Removing market entry barriers & open access policies may speed up market development and provide a win-win scenario for investors, service providers & consumers

Source: ITU Telecommunication Regulatory Database

Leveraging the Mobile Miracle

- Moving from pervasive voice to widespread broadband Internet access
- Meeting the Information Society dream
- Is history repeating itself?



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2nd wave of regulatory reform

Spurring competition

- Efficient and independent regulator with extended powers
 - From separate telecom & broadcasting regulators towards converged regulators
- Licensing
 - From service-specific licenses towards general authorizations, unified & class licences
 - From technology-specific towards technology-neutral licences
- Spectrum
 - From administrative approach towards flexible spectrum allocation practices (sharing, trading, etc.) to create new access networks that deliver both voice and broadband cost-effectively
- Network & bottleneck facilities
 - From exclusive ownership towards passive & active infrastructure sharing
 - Open access to network and bottleneck facilities (fibre backbones, LLU)
 - International gateway liberalization
- Universal access & services
 - From fixed-line voice towards broadband universal access
- Flexible, transparent & simplified procedures
 - Facilitate market entry
 - Stimulate innovation



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Addressing national backbone bottlenecks

Where backbone operator competes in downstream market for end-user customers

- Backbone operator has incentive to constrain competition:
 - impose excessive access costs / limit availability of bandwidth and QoS supported / impose restrictions on points of interconnection
- Regulatory remedies to facilitate access for competitors:
 - regulate prices for leased lines
 - regulate collocation and connection services as well as terms & conditions for access to interconnection points



Addressing national backbone bottlenecks

Where backbone operator does not compete for end users

- Backbone operator has incentive to sell as much capacity as possible
- Role of regulator and policy maker: encourage new backbone network deployment
 - Foster grant of rights of way, e.g. giving fibre strands to local governments in exchange for rights of way
 - Authorize market entry by greenfield backbone providers that agree to make their infrastructure accessible on an open access/infrastructure sharing basis

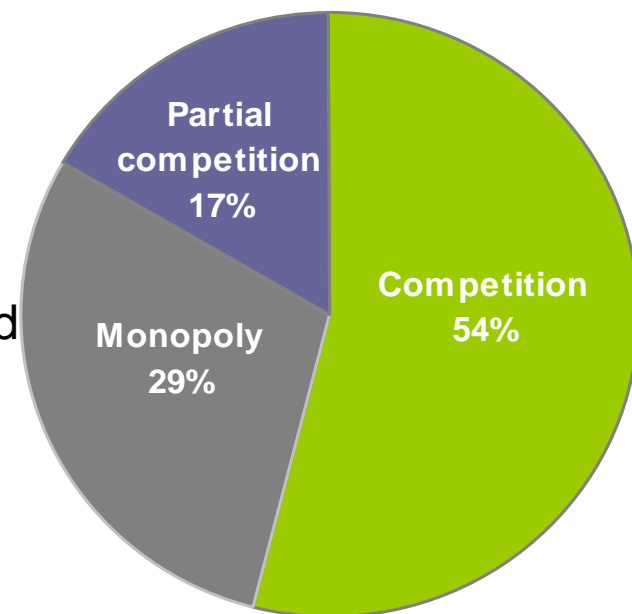
In addition regulators and policy makers can encourage coordination among other potential backbone providers such as power utilities, railways, pipelines and roads



Liberalization of International gateways

- Benefits include decreased tariffs and sector growth
- How to?
- India and Singapore models to open submarine cable landing stations:
 - require incumbent to provide collocation and connection services at SCLS
 - Reference interconnection offer sets prices for connection service
 - RIO sets prices & terms and conditions for collocation, power supply, A/C, access rights and maintenance
 - Enables competitors to provide international service to end-users
 - Result decrease price and increased traffic

Liberalization of the int'l gateway worldwide, 2007

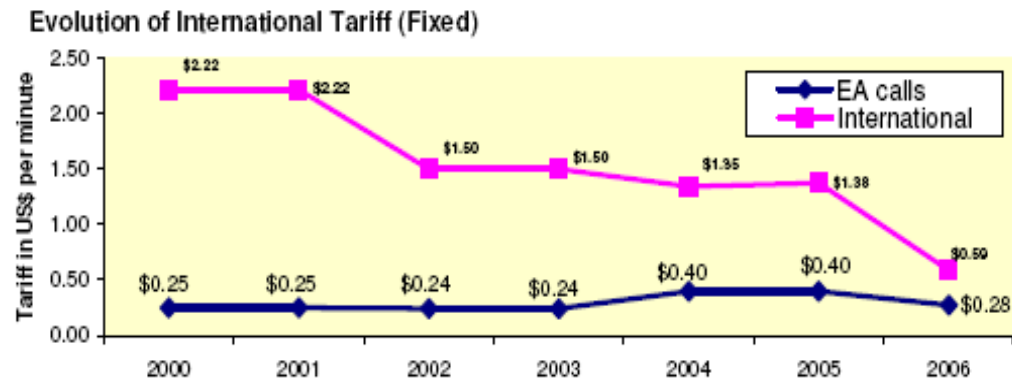


Liberalization of International gateways

Experiences : Tanzania

2005-2006

- Fixed international tariffs decreased by 57 %
- Mobile international tariffs decreased by 68%



Source: Tanzania Communication Regulatory Authority

Singapore:

- IDD tariffs dropped by 90%
- Number of outgoing international telephone minutes per month increased from 64 to 581 million
- Broadband penetration increased from 5% to 77%

See GSR discussion paper on International Gateway Liberalization: the Singapore experience



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Trends in Telecommunication reform 2008: Six Degrees of Sharing

- Chapter 1: Market and regulatory trends in the ICT sector
- Chapter 2: Six degrees of Sharing
- Chapter 3: Extending open access to national fibre backbones in developing countries
- Chapter 4: Mobile network sharing
- Chapter 5: Spectrum sharing
- Chapter 6: International sharing: International gateway liberalization
- Chapter 7: The emergence of functional separation
- Chapter 8: International mobile roaming
- Chapter 9: IPTV and mobile TV: New regulatory challenges for regulators
- Chapter 10: End-user sharing
- Chapter 11: Conclusion:
Looking to the future

www.itu.int/publ/D-REG-TTR.10-2008/en



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Bringing it all together

What regulatory framework to spur connectivity?

- Encourage deployment of a full-range of broadband access technologies (from FTTx to WiMax)
 - Broadband Wireless technologies promise improved access
 - Encourage build-out of backbone networks and regulate access to existing networks
 - Infrastructure sharing can reduce costs
 - Stimulate competition among various technologies through technology neutral regulation
 - Support small-scale deployment in rural areas
 - Creating national and regional Internet Exchange Points (IXPs), as well as VoIP peering exchanges, to keep the local Internet traffic local
 - Design and implement a flexible, non-discriminatory, technology-neutral and service-neutral regulatory framework to create incentives for large and small operators considerations to ensure affordability of services.
-
- » **GSR 2004 Best Practice Guidelines on Promotion of Low-Cost Broadband**
 - » **GSR 2008 Best Practice Guidelines on Infrastructure Sharing**

ICT sector on the move

Market

- from static market environments to dynamic fast-paced innovation
- from narrowband to broadband
- from fixed to mobile + fixed-mobile convergence
- from wired to wireless
- from voice to data
- from distinct to converged
- from sometimes-on to always-on
- from PSTN to IP (NGN)

Regulation

- from heavy-handed regulation to light-touch regulation
- from technology-specific approach towards technology-neutral approach
- from service-specific licences to unified licences
- from regulating multiple services over multiple delivery platforms towards NGN regulation
- from telecom regulation to converged regulation



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Upcoming Regulatory challenges

- **Competition policy**
 - Significant market power will not go away in an NGN environment
 - Open access is key to growth in the sector
- **Investment**
 - Unbundle or share: what impact on investment in ICTs?
- **Pricing**
 - Will NGN offer prices that are significantly lower than those available today?
 - Spectrum pricing, MTR
- **Bundling and billing:**
 - How to distinguish real price of bundled services?
- **Interconnection**
 - Will current interconnection models work in an NGN?
 - To regulate or not IP interconnection?
 - IP & VoIP interconnection: towards cost-based pricing and flat rates?
- **Net neutrality**
 - How to deal with traffic prioritization?
- **New converged services**
 - What level of universal service obligation to impose?
 - To regulate or not content, and how?
- **Security**
 - Cybersecurity threats, privacy and identity management issues



Regulatory and Market Environment - Windows Internet Explorer

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Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR)



- 8th GSR! Pattaya, Thailand, 11-13 March 2008 - Six degrees of sharing: Innovative infrastructure sharing and open access strategies to promote affordable access for all
- GSR Best Practice Guidelines
- Photos from the event
- The History

The ITU ICT Eye



The ICT Eye
a one stop-shop for ICT information
What is the eye?

News

RME Newslog:
News related to ICT Regulations

- Malawi intensifies fibre-optic installation as demand for telecom technology grows
- Tanzania predicting 25% growth in telecoms by mid2009 awards new licences
- Portugal - Fixed service traffic continues to decline
- Canada - CRTC denies CAIP application, but will examine
- EU - Commission requests more market data before concluding on draft regulatory measures in the Slovenian mobile market

More Events

- ITU-EC Project to support harmonization of ICT Policies in Sub Sahara Africa
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 11-12 December 2008
- The Preliminary Planning Meeting for the project on "Enhancing Competitiveness in the Caribbean Through the Harmonization of ICT Policies, Legislation and Regulatory Procedures (HIPCAR)"
Grenada, 15-16 December 2008
- Executive-Level Training for Heads of Regulatory Authorities: Strategic Impact of Cost modeling on ICT development, Geneva, Switzerland, 10-11 November, 2008
- ITU Expert-Level Training for National Regulatory Authorities on cost model development, Geneva, Switzerland, 10-21 November, 2008

ITU Performance Award

- ITU News : September 2007
- ITU News : March 2007

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Announcements

Call for papers!

I Congress "ICTs and its Social & Economic Impact in the Americas"

Mexico City, May 21-22 2009

Deadline for abstracts: 15 January 2009

More information... (in English & Spanish)

G-REX, The Virtual Tool For Regulators

The Global Regulators' Exchange (G-REX) is a password protected website* for national communications regulators, policy makers and regional regulatory organizations.

This exciting initiative, launched by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in May 2001 provides a vehicle for sharing information, views and experiences on pressing regulatory issues. Regulatory information is key to creating an enabling environment to bridge the digital divide.

The most popular feature of G-REX is [the Hotline](#) through which regulators and policy makers can pose any question they wish and seek feedback from their colleagues around the world. G-REX Advisors translate all postings into French, Spanish and English and research regulators' websites to find useful information responsive to Hotline queries.

G-REX also offers virtual conferences on cutting edge regulatory issues. G-REX virtual conferences combine a telephone conference call and a dedicated website through which participants can, in real time, share power point presentations and engage in online chat.

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A collection of resources on ICT Regulation


ITU ICT EYE

[ICT Regulation Toolkit](#)
ITU-infoDev joint programme

Regulatory Newslog

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More Information

- ITU TREG website and ICT Regulation Toolkit
 - www.itu.int/treg/
 - www.ictregulationtoolkit.org
- Telecommunication Development Sector
 - www.itu.int/ITU-D/
- Telecommunication Standardization Sector
 - www.itu.int/ITU-T/
- Radiocommunication Sector
 - www.itu.int/ITU-R/



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