

Question 20/2: Examination of access technologies for broadband communications

This study should include an economic analysis of the factors affecting the deployment of various broadband access-technologies. The study should also include an examination of the benefits of using broadband technologies taking into account the gender perspective.

1 Statement of problem or situation

During the Study Period 1998-2002, studies have been carried out within Study Group 2 Question 12/2 on the examination of broadband communications over traditional copper wires, and these studies have resulted in a report. Given the rapid advancement of telecommunications technologies during that time, other technologies have become available that provide similar or improved performance. These technologies permit the deployment of applications, such as tele-medicine, distance learning, e-government services, tele-working, public safety, national security, Internet access, and intranet access.

The ITU-D can play a role in assisting Member States and Sector Members in understanding the appropriateness of different technologies available for broadband access communications. The ITU-D can also assist Member States and Sector Members in analyzing the economic issues involved in deploying broadband access technologies, including the integration of these access network solutions with existing or future network infrastructure.

2 Question or issue proposed for study

Identify the technical, economic, and development factors influencing the effective deployment of broadband access technologies and applications.

3 Specification of the expected output

- A report should be published by early 2004, followed by regular updates.
- Analysis of the economic, technical and development factors influencing the effective deployment of broadband access technologies. This will also include an assessment of the demands for these technologies and services in developing countries with reflection to gender issues. .
- A matrix of different broadband access technologies and their attributes.

4 Required timing of the expected output

The course of the next ITU-D study period.

"Proposers/Sponsors"

Developed and developing countries.

6 Input required in carrying out the study

- 1) Collection of related contributions and data from ITU-D Member States, Sector Members and Associates, and those organizations and groups listed below in Part 9 of this document.
- 2) Examination of ITU-T and ITU-R study group Questions related to this issue.
- 3) Discussion of the relevant ITU-D study groups.

7 Target audience for the output

a)

	Developed countries	Developing countries	LDCs
Telecom policy makers	Y	Y	Y
Telecom regulators	Y	Y	Y
Service providers	Y	Y	Y
Manufacturers	Y	Y	Y

b) Target audience - Who specifically will use the output?

Users of the output will be manufacturers, operators, regulatory agencies and service providers worldwide, including those in developing countries and LDCs.

8 Proposed method of handling this question/issue

It is proposed that this Question be handled within a **study group**.

9 Coordination requirements of the study

The ITU-D Rapporteur 's Group dealing with this question should coordinate closely with:

- the relevant study groups in ITU-T and ITU-R;
- other International and Regional Organizations, as appropriate.

Duplication with revised Question 12/2 should be avoided.
