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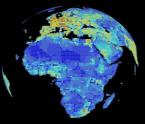
"50% of productivity growth in the EU is a direct result of the use and production of ICTs".

Margaret Hodge, MBE MP UK Minister of State for Industry & the Regions, June 2006. Riga

Economist Intelligence Unit – Reaping the benefits of ICT: Europe's productivity challenge, April 2004

# Government Stimulus on Broadband & IT – a must







- Government stimulus policies on BB & IT can help countries emerge faster and stronger from recession
  - More jobs, better trained, 21st century skills
- Economic leaders are investing –we must too
- Stimulus infrastructure spending on roads, rail, power should include broadband – easily done at same time

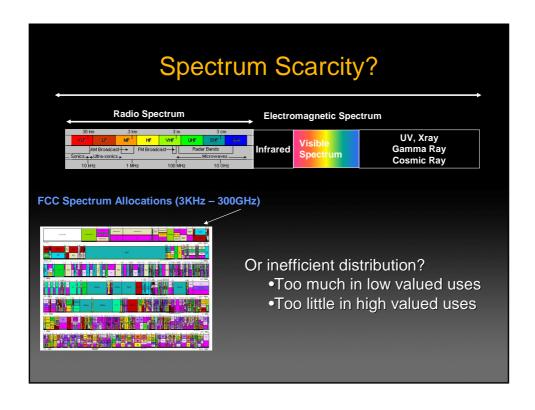
#### How to foster ICT?

- Capital markets are global
- Good government 101
  - -Rule of law
  - Property rights
  - Open, competitive markets
  - Light regulation
  - Sensible taxes
- Targeted, competitively neutral subsidies justified



#### Role of Government

- Support and enable the ICT industry: not lead
  - Encourage ubiquity
- Embrace **new technologies** and role model their uses
- Invest in the <u>Digital Economy</u>
- Invest in **Education**: focused on 21st Century Skills.
  - Curriculums which are relevant to the challenges of today and tomorrow
- Invest in **research and development**: produces smart ideas.
- Create the right <u>environment</u> in which smart people can develop smart ideas.
  - Empower and incentivise businesses and enable them to succeed
  - Ensure access to Internet for all



## Spectrum Reform in a convergence era

- · Spectrum is artificially scarce
- · Rigid "Command and Control" regime since 30's
- Technical innovation is the engine for disruption
- Countries will face this major challenge in the years to come
- Fully embrace tech neutrality
- Flexibility
- · Consumers will benefit enormously

Promote market-oriented mechanisms

#### **Broadband Spectrum Policy**

- Technology Neutrality:
  - Flexibility in regulations to encourage technology growth and adoption
- Flexibility: to allow licensee to choose any appropriate broadband wireless technology
  - Duplexing arrangements: allow TDD in Paired bands
  - Channel arrangements: allow licensee to choose
  - Large block aggregates: (ex: 30 MHz or more)
  - Support secondary markets (spectrum trading)
  - Allow nomadic use in a fixed band (stationary when in use)
    - Support for indoor modems and notebooks

## **Tech Neutrality**

- License holders should be able to deploy the best solution for their market needs
- Regulations should be as technology neutral as possible
  - Does not mean getting rid of fixed/ mobile allocations
  - Different services have different interference requirements
  - But convergence is happening and so should requirements

## Flexibility in Use of Spectrum

- Convergence requires flexibility in the use of spectrum
- Services
  - Strive for as many services as possible over as many transports as possible
  - Allows for rapid rollout of competitive services

# Legal certainty

- •A transparent process benefits all
- Protect licensee rights
  - Clearly delineate rights and obligations
  - -Secondary trading

### **Conclusions**

- Three messages from this presentation:
  - Broadband is about productivity and raising standards of living
  - –Wireless technologies will improve competition and penetration
  - Spectrum management reform is a opportunity to foster innovation, promotes competition and benefit consumers