

ICT Regulation in the Digital Economy

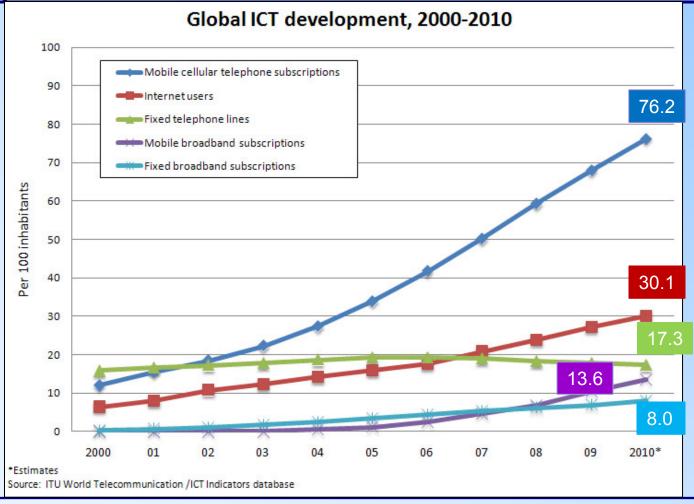
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10th Global Symposium for Regulators "Enabling Tomorrow's Digital World" Dakar, Senegal, 10 November 2010





ICT Trends and Development



GSR10 Discussion Paper: ICT Regulation in the Digital Economy





ICT Trends: Impacts on Regulators

- What does all this mean for Regulators?
 - ICT sector is highly dynamic and rapidly changing, it is difficult to accurately predict or control how the market will develop
 - A deepening path of convergence within the ICT sector, as well as with other sectors of the economy, that promises benefits for citizens, but also poses new regulatory challenges
 - Must find ways to increase competition, encourage innovation and investment and protect consumers
 - An increasing reliance on competition laws in ICT markets, with certain areas requiring forward-looking regulation to prevent or promote certain outcomes
 - Increasing broadband deployment and use has become a key focus to achieving these objectives

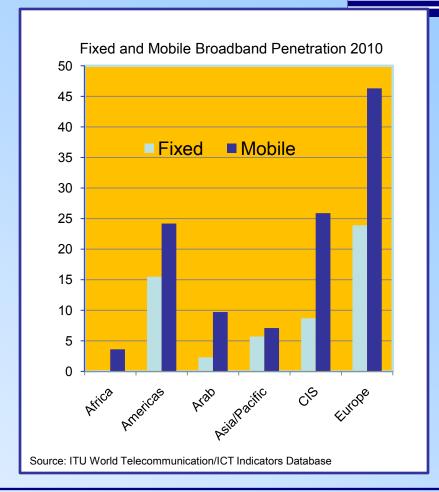
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Broadband: Promises and Challenges

- While broadband use is increasing, a large divide in broadband adoption remains
 - Where wireline infrastructure is not widespread, particularly in developing countries, mobile broadband Is expected to play a crucial role in bridging the digital divide
- Reasons for non-adoption of broadband services
 - Lack of access
 - Costs
 - Digital literacy
 - Perceived relevance





ICTs are Causing Regulatory Approaches to Shift

 As part of the effort to harness dynamic markets, many regulators have begun to transition from ex ante towards an ex post regulatory environment

- To encourage technical innovation, competition and market development, policy makers have increasingly implemented ex post rules, while imposing targeted ex ante rules to account for market failures, particularly regarding access to broadband infrastructure
- Ex post regulation requires competition laws that are effective, enforced and suited to the country's needs

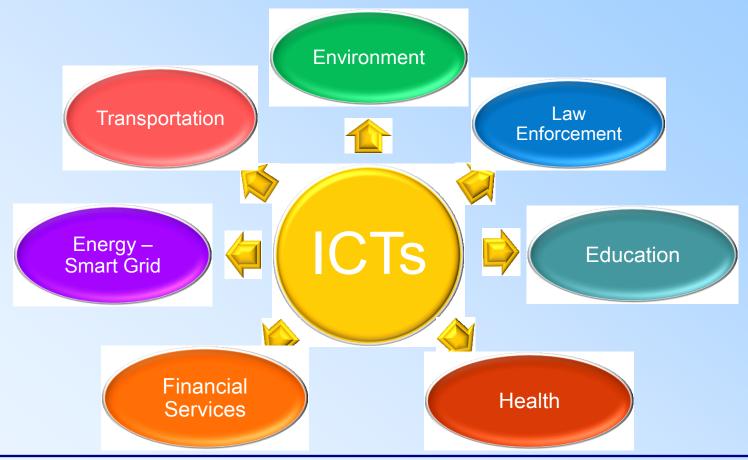
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Changes



ICTs interact with every other sector of the economy



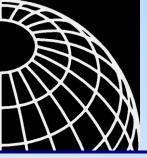




Continued and New ICT Regulatory Challenges







Cooperation among Regulatory Authorities in Different Sectors

- Due to the influence of ICT technology and service convergence on all other sectors,
 - ICT regulators are in a special position to ensure that the benefits of ICTs reach throughout the economy
 - ICT regulators should consider ways to increase cooperation with regulators and policymakers from other sectors



Cooperation among Regulatory Authorities in Different Sectors



Environmental Agencies

Smart grids Reduction of ewaste



Health Agencies

M-health Telemedicine



Education Agencies

Broadband connectivity 1 laptop, 1 child



Finance/ Banking Agencies

M-banking E-money



Law Enforcement Agencies

Digital piracy Lawful interception

Cooperation of ICT regulators with regulatory authorities across sectors



Thank you!

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