Workshop on challenges and opportunities of the use of universal service fund for bridging the digital divide

Session 1: National economic strategies on expansion of the rural and remote infrastructure to bridge the digital divide using universal service fund mechanisms

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Enhancing Accessibility of ICT Services

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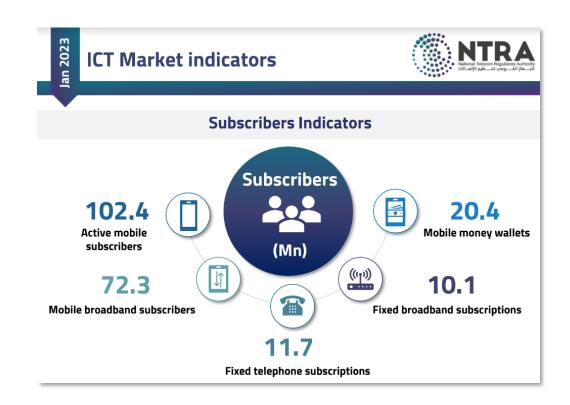
Country Profile



Population: 108 Mn

Area: 1Mn km²

27 Governorates



ICT sector contributions: 5% of GDP

Phases of Enhancing Accessibility of ICT services

Market-Based Reforms



Mandatory Service
Obligations



Universal Service Fund

- Privatization & competition promotes universality.
- Encouraging private capital to fund network expansion.

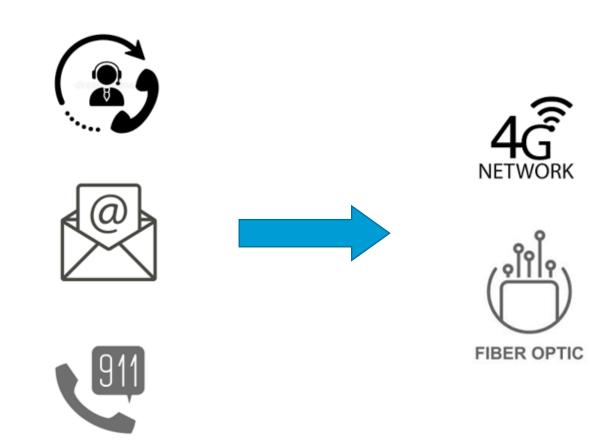
- Reasonable coverage and roll-out plans in licenses.
- Obligation for leasing infrastructure for SMPs.

- To eliminate disparity between rural and urban areas.
- Equal access for rural users to service quality & price

Enhancing Accessibility to ICT services nationwide

Extending accessibility from basic telecom service to 4G and fibre deployment

Scopes of Enhancing Accessibility to ICT **Service Level** Scope



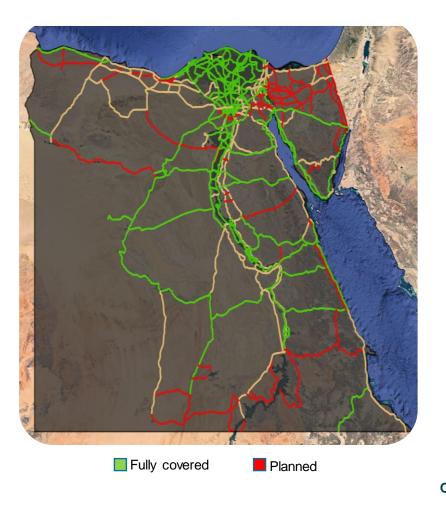
Extending accessibility to include road coverage beside regions and communities.

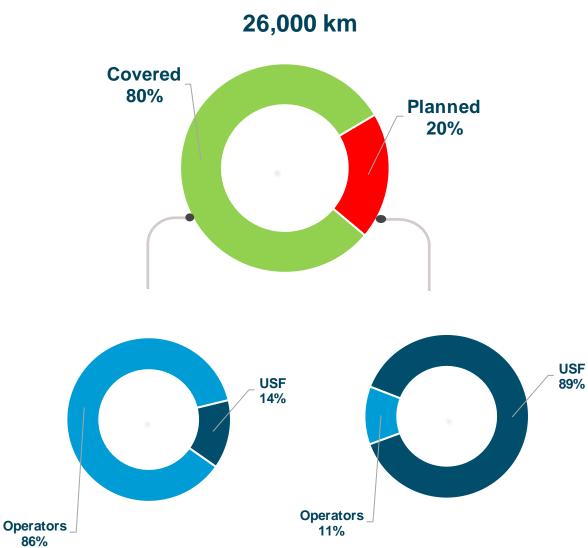
Service Level Scope

Geographical Coverage Scope

Scopes of Enhancing Accessibility to ICT

Demand Side Scope





Extending accessibility for national projects / initiatives.

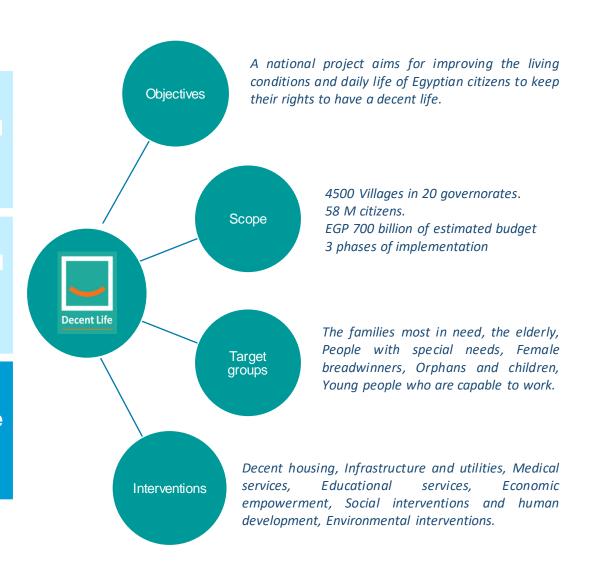
Service Leve Scope

Geographical Coverage Scope

of Enhancing Accessibility to ICT

Scopes

Demand Side Scope





Fiber-optic cable network installation

Covering targeted villages with mobile phone network services

Developing post offices to serve citizens

Promoting human development

ICT sector pillars of work in decent life initiative

USF methodology of implementation & governance rules

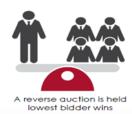
Define underserved areas

Uncovered areas # of population Phased priority lists

Selection Criteria

- Uncovered areas.
- Outside rollout obligation
- Outside operators plans
- Uneconomic service provision
- Social considerations

Bidding mechanism





Monitoring project implementation



Collaboration with other sectors



Monitoring project execution

Governance Rules: independent administration, market-neutral, technology-neutral, competitive bidding process, targeted and transparent funding, etc.

Thank You