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# Arab regional Forum on "Future Networks: Regulatory and Policy Aspects in Converged Networks"

(Rabat, Morocco, 19-20 May 2015)

*"Setting the Scene"*

## Overview of Global Eco-System Actors, Drivers & Issues



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## 1- Evolution of Data Communication World



## 2- On-Line Services: Drivers & Issues



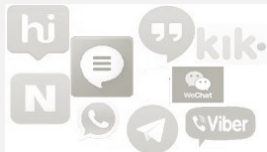
## 3- Challenges for Sustainable Eco-System

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## 1- Evolution of Data Communication World



## 2- On-Line Services: Drivers & Issues



## 3- Challenges for Sustainable Eco-System

# Our World's Continuous CHANGE & EVOLUTION

*It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change !*

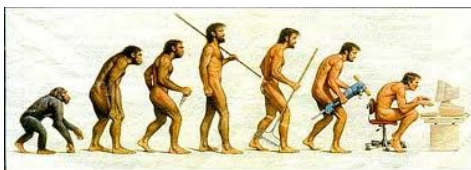


Charles Darwin, 1809

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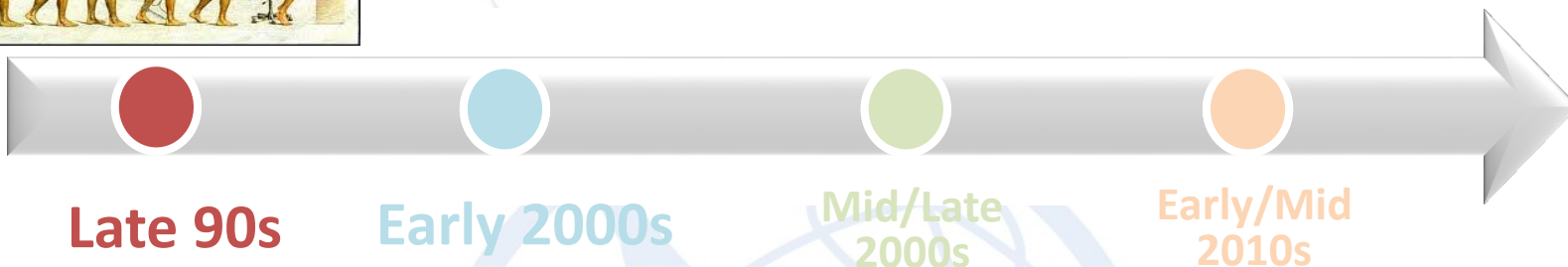
# And so is The Digital World !





# A BIT OF HISTORY

1

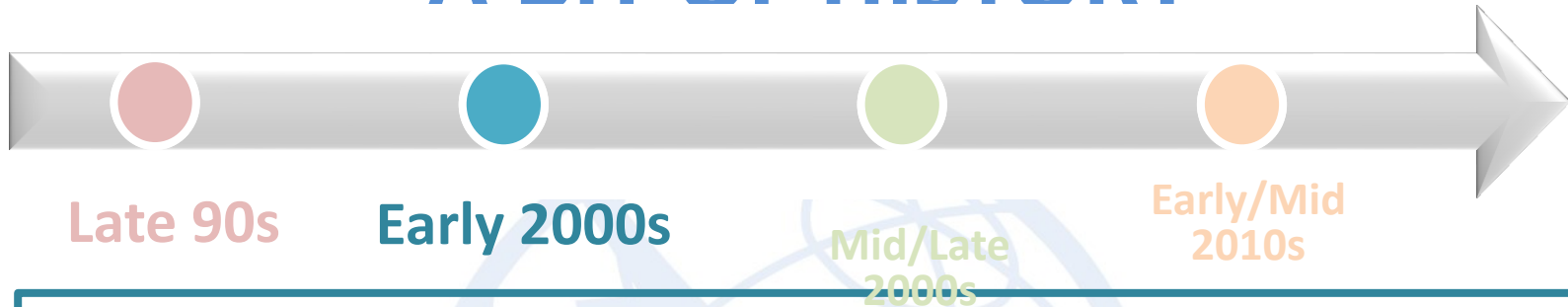


- **2G Networks** were « grown » all around the world allowing developing countries to catch-up for voice telephony (and sms)
- **Data Communications** was limited to “professional” and high end and Investments in Fixed Infrastructure was not prioritised...Internet in the starting phase.
- **3G Technology was full ready** and licensing initiated in Europe (supported by lobbying of Vendors and Cash need of Governments



# A BIT OF HISTORY

2



Late 90s

Early 2000s

Mid/Late  
2000s

Early/Mid  
2010s

- Fixed Internet starts to grow
- 3G Standard was finalized by 3GPP (IMT-2000)
- In Europe almost all major Operators paid B€s to get 3G licenses but were **Reluctant to Invest** in large 3G infrastructure deployment (only Trials)
- 3G was then more considered as a solution to cope with a growing **voice demand** ( e.g. capacity)



3G Business Case was not viable without a «**Killing Application**»

# A BIT OF HISTORY

3



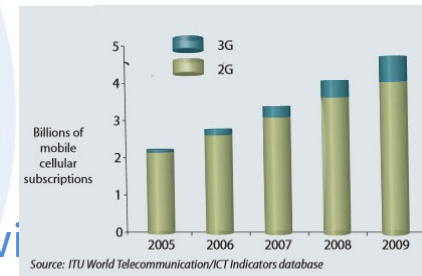
Late 90s

Early 2000s

Mid/Late  
2000s

Early/Mid  
2010s

- “Killing Apps” came with **Smartphones** and **3G dongle for Internet** in **Mid-2000s** and the **development of on-line services** (search, social, music, streaming video....)
- Fast deployment of **3G Networks** to cope with **Communications demand**. **Trials then Commercial LTE Networks** deployed (beginning from 2009)
- And **Investments in Fixed infrastructure** were boosted by Internet usage in many Regions of the World.

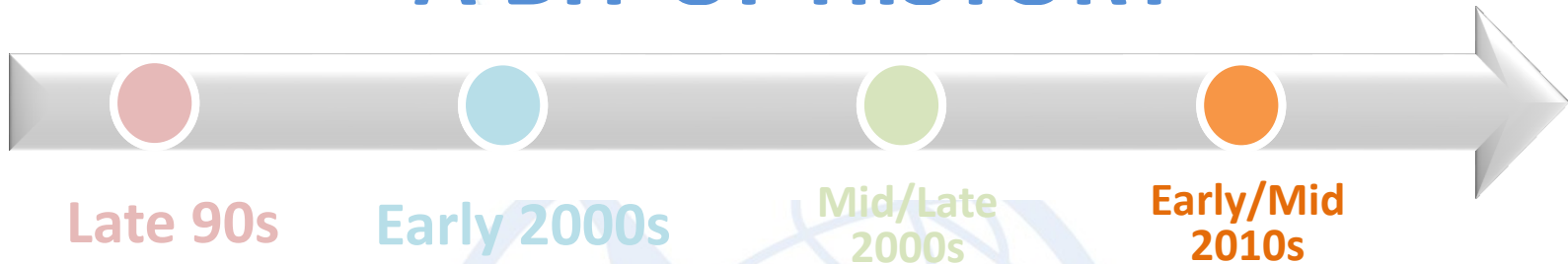


**Operators were Dominating the Communication Industry**

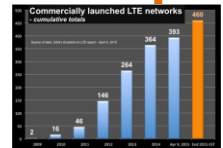


# A BIT OF HISTORY

4



- **Data Traffic** was almost “**doubling**” every year, thanks to **OTT services** and quite **attractive data tariffs(\*)**, maintained low due to competition and efficient Regulation
- **Increased deployment of 3G and LTE Networks** worldwide
- **Investment in Fix : ADSL, FTTx** in developed/ing in some regions
- **But ....**



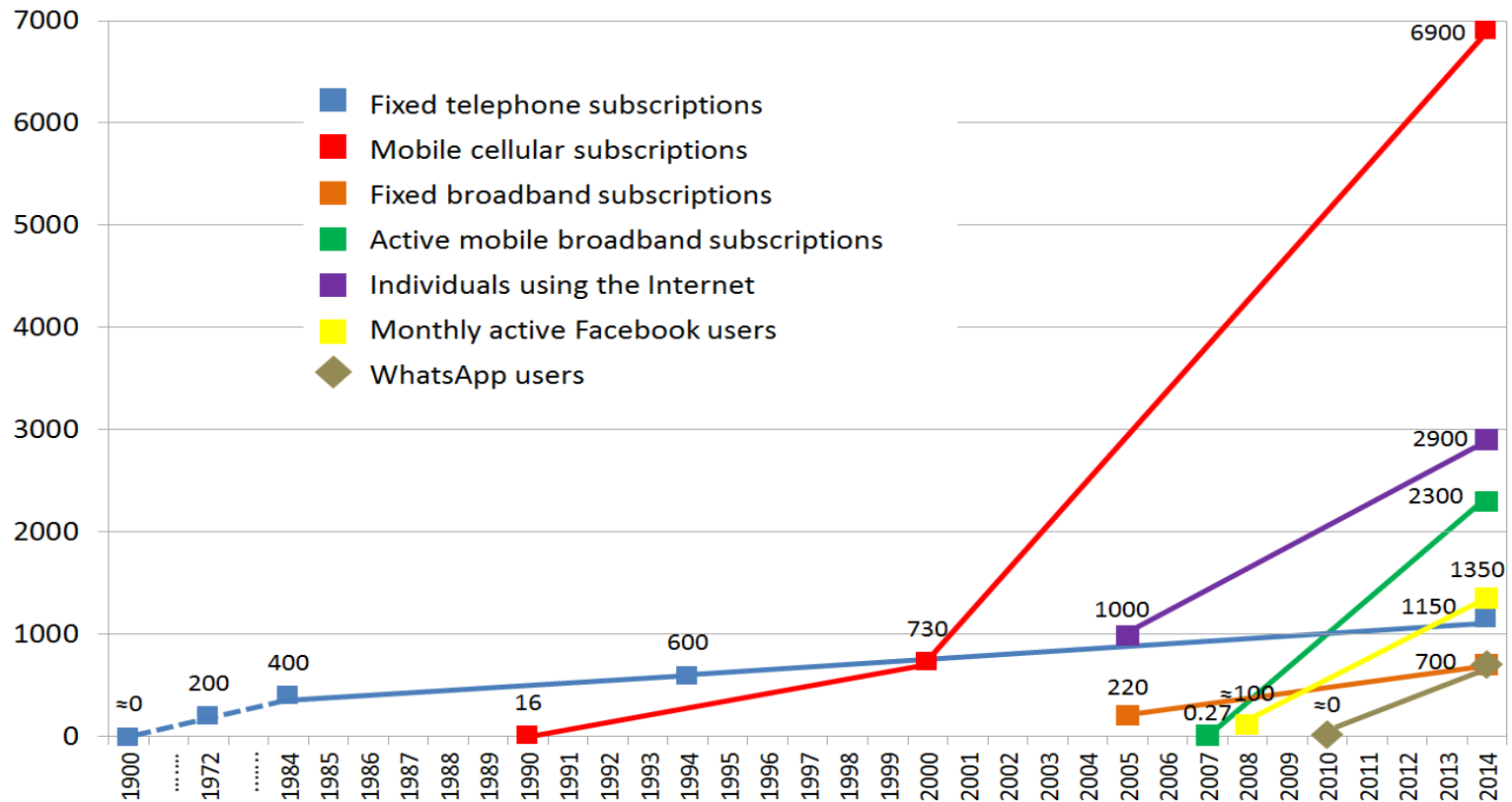
➔ Operators are “Rationalizing” their Investments, as the **business Model** involving **on-line services** has become « **unbalanced** ».

(\*) : Except in Roaming !

# Evolution over the last Decade...

1

## Boost in Mobile/Broadband Subscriptions & Internet Use (mid 2000s – 2014)

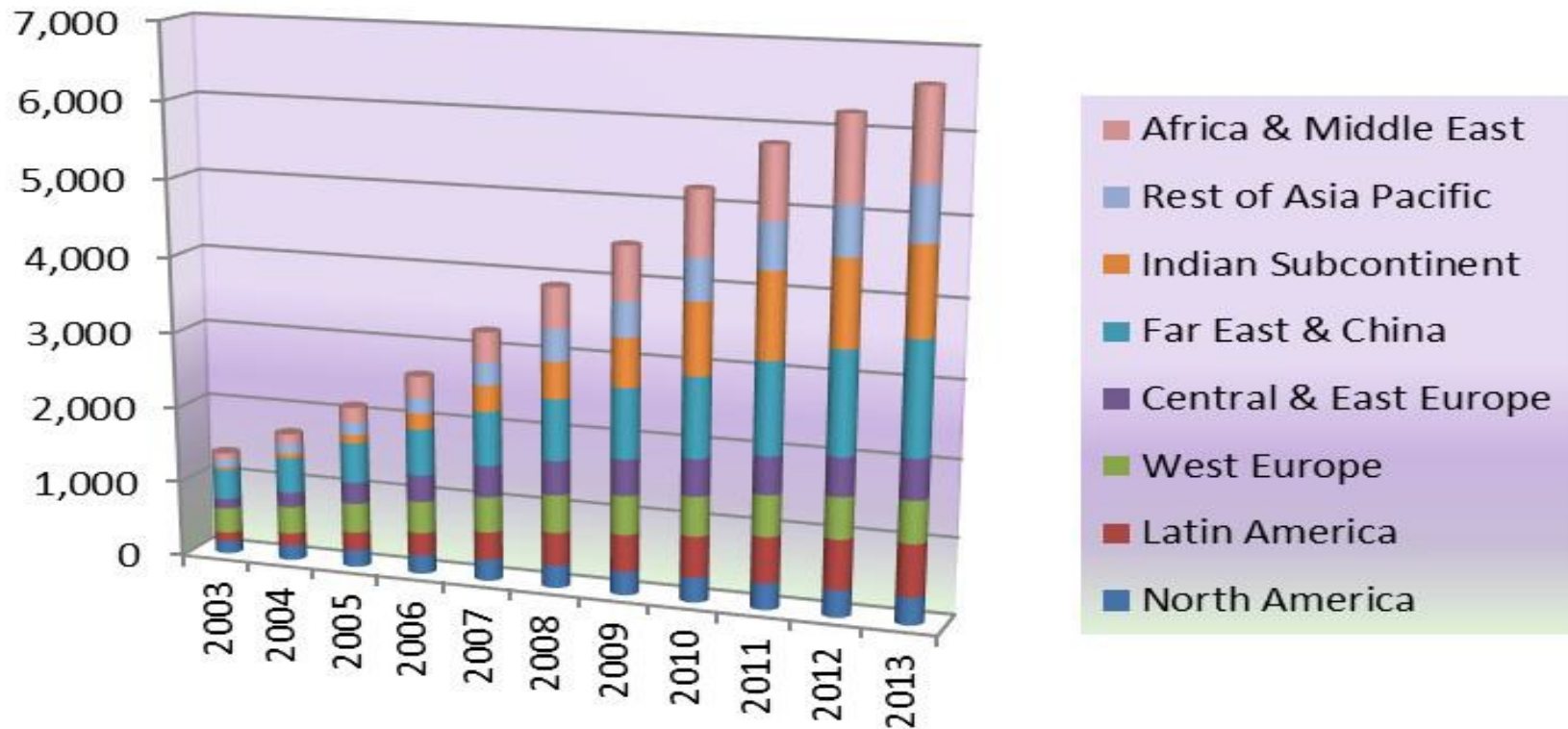


Source : WIK-Consult based on ITU statistics

# Evolution over the last Decade...

1b

## Global Mobile Subscriber Base per Region



Source : Juniper Research

# Evolution over the last Decade...

## Boost in IP Traffic & Apps Downloads

2

Growth in IP traffic, Internet users and apps downloads (1994-2013)

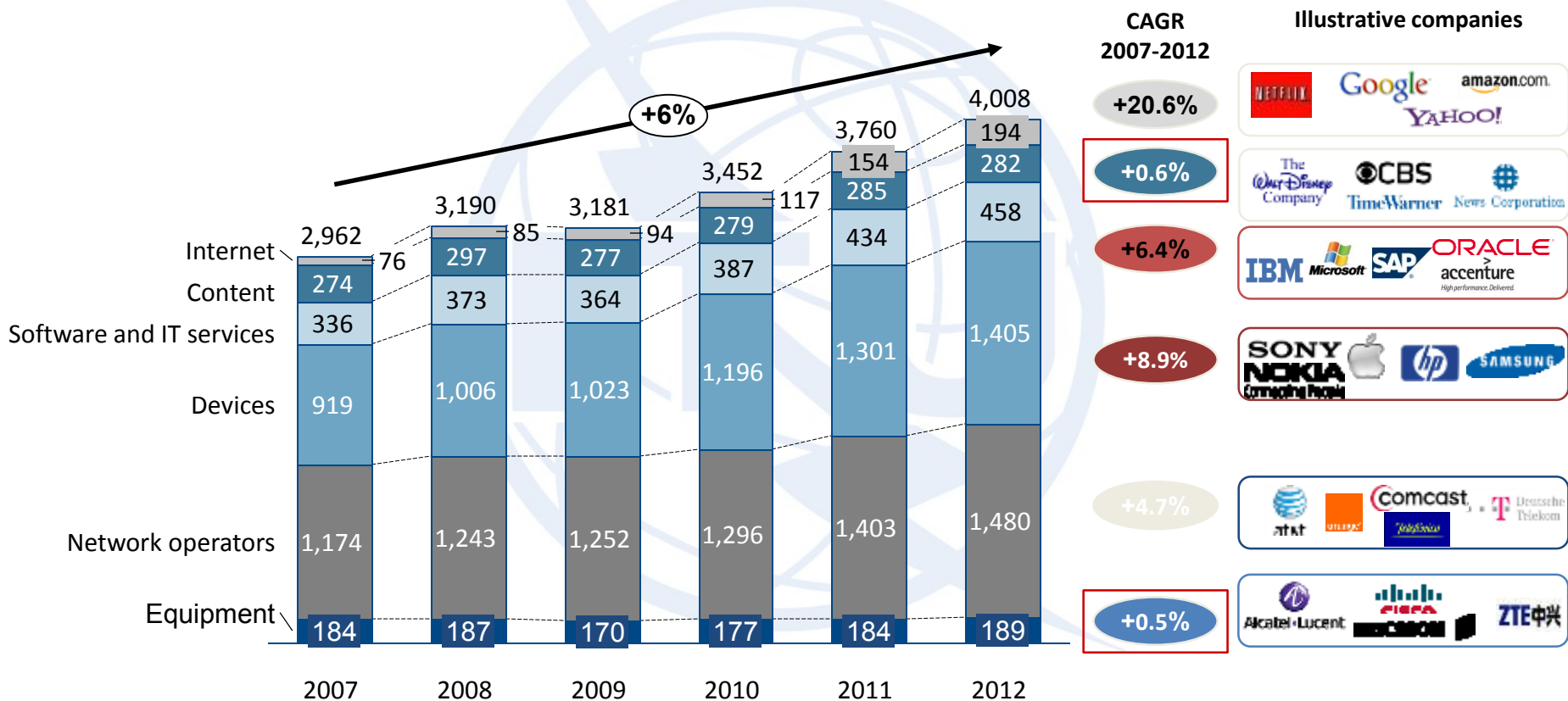


Individuals Internet 8 or 3

Source: Trends in Telecommunication reforms by ITU

# Evolution over the last Decade... 3

## Revenues Growing for Global and OTT Actors ....



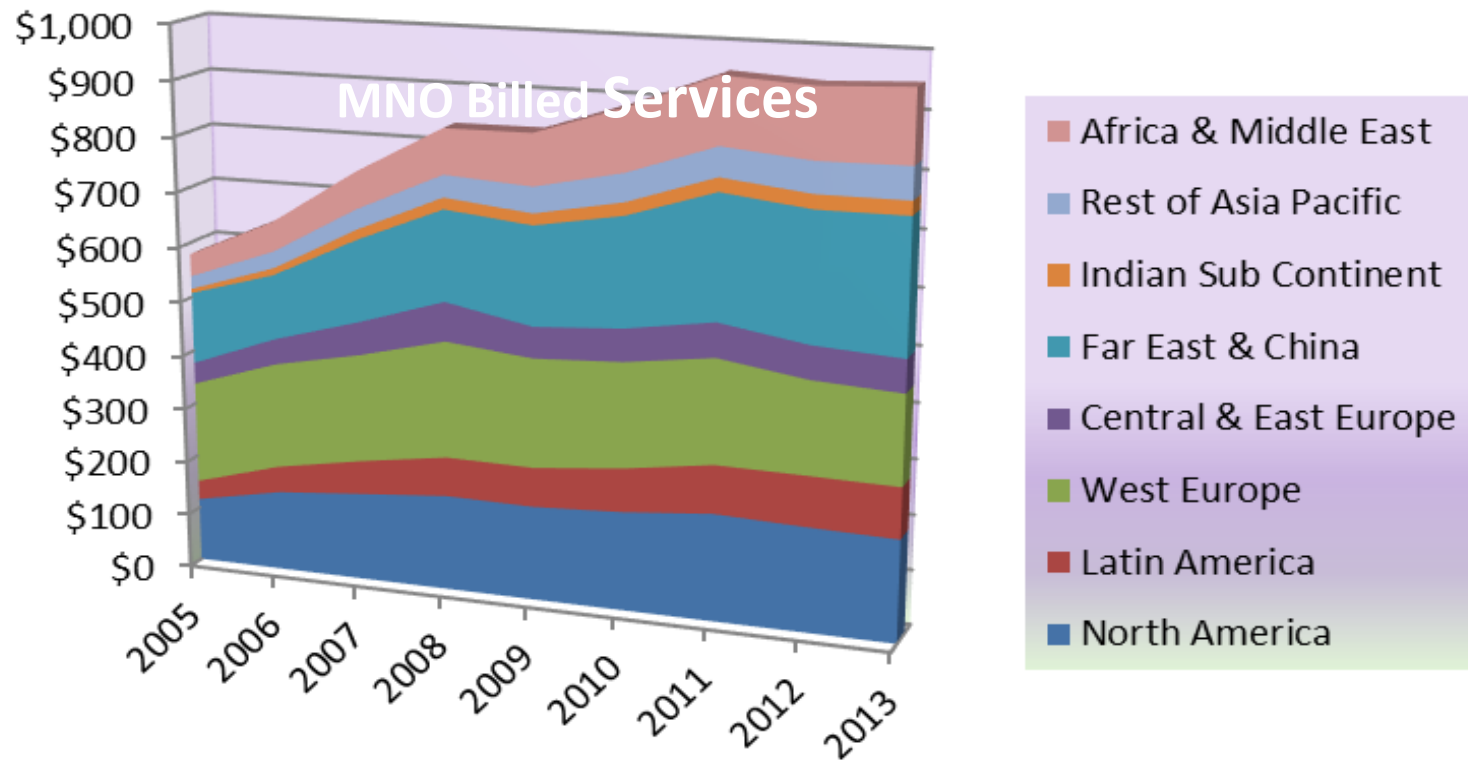
• Source: Thomson Reuters, Arthur D. Little analysis

(1) Top 30 per category by 2012 revenues

# Evolution over the last Decade...

...while Revenues of MNOs ...Declining !

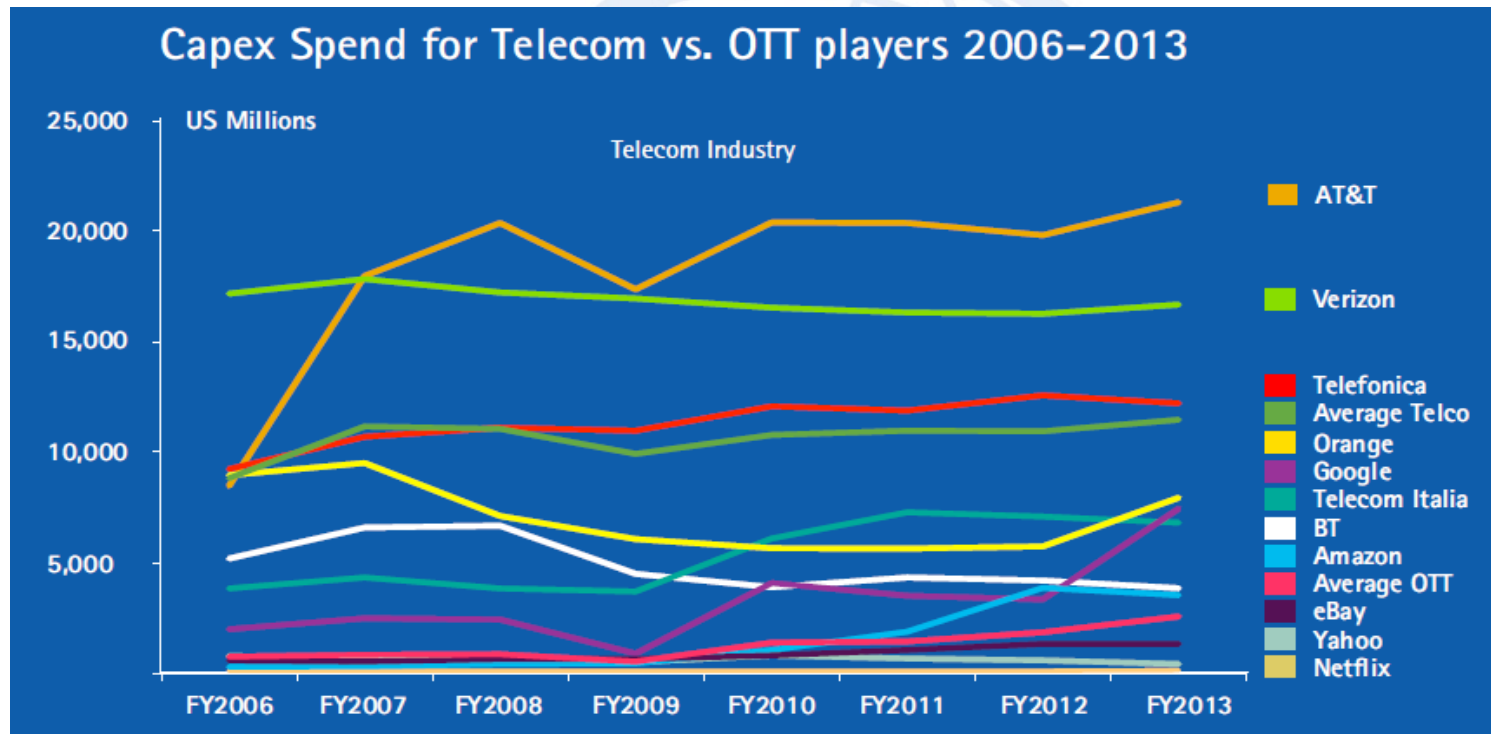
4



• Source: Juniper Research

# Evolution over the last Decade... ....and Investments... yet unbalanced !

4



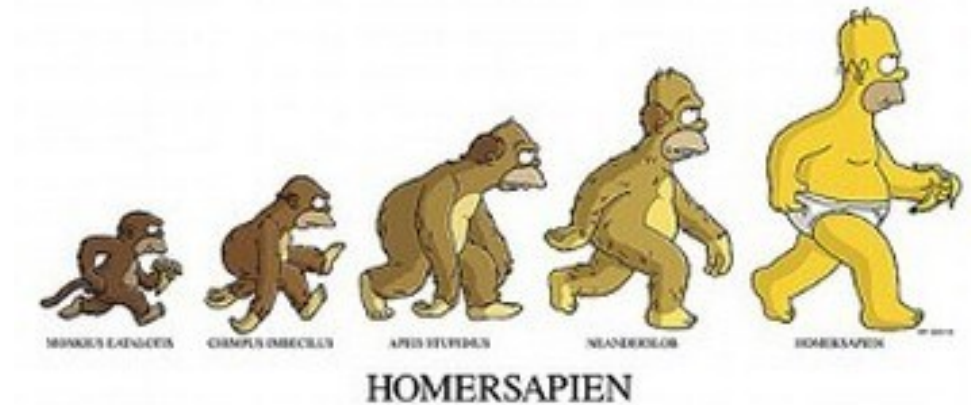
As % of Revenue  
the difference is

Source : Accenture- The new Digital Operator, 2014

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# And the *EVOLUTION* Continues

*.....even with various trends !*

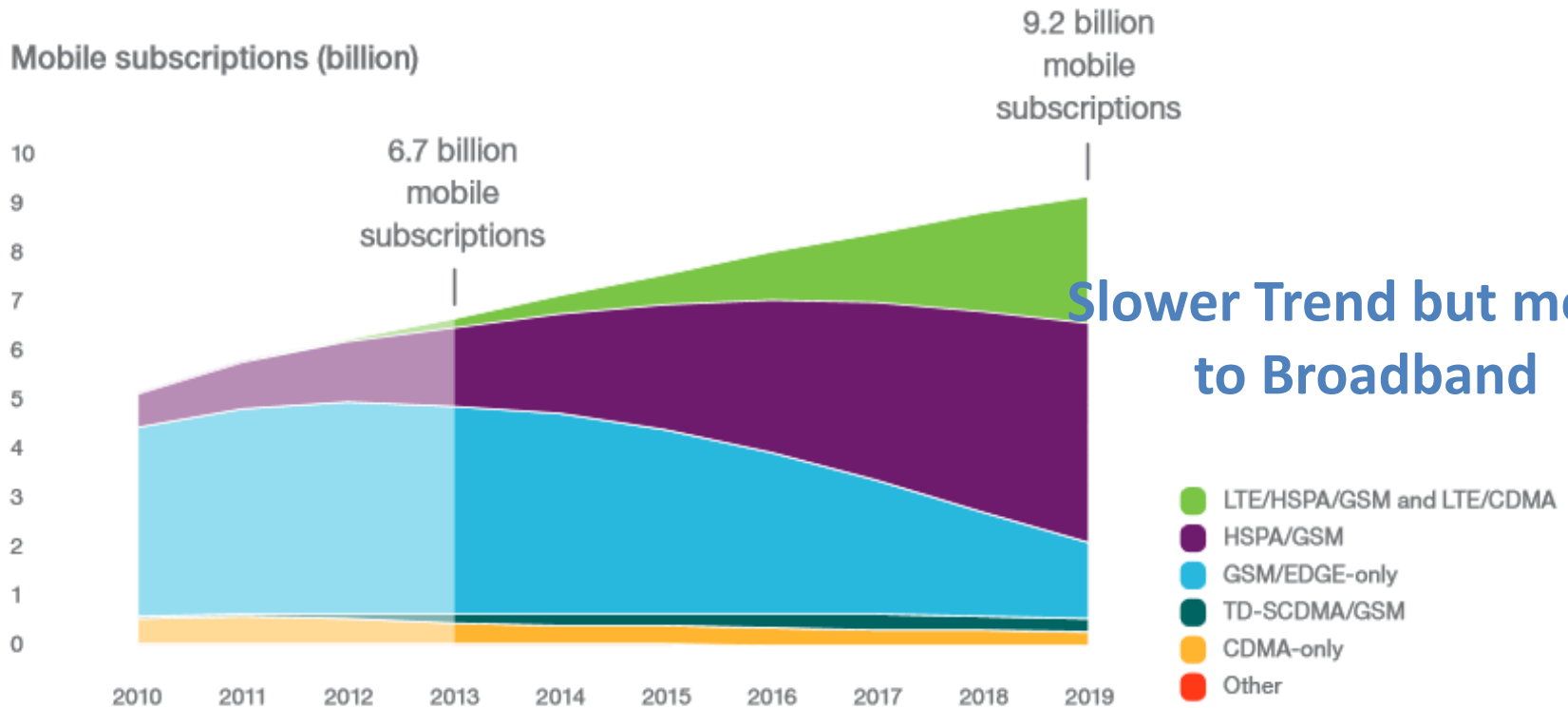


*Since it is Affordable*



# ...and the Evolution Continues : Broadband Mobile Subscriptions

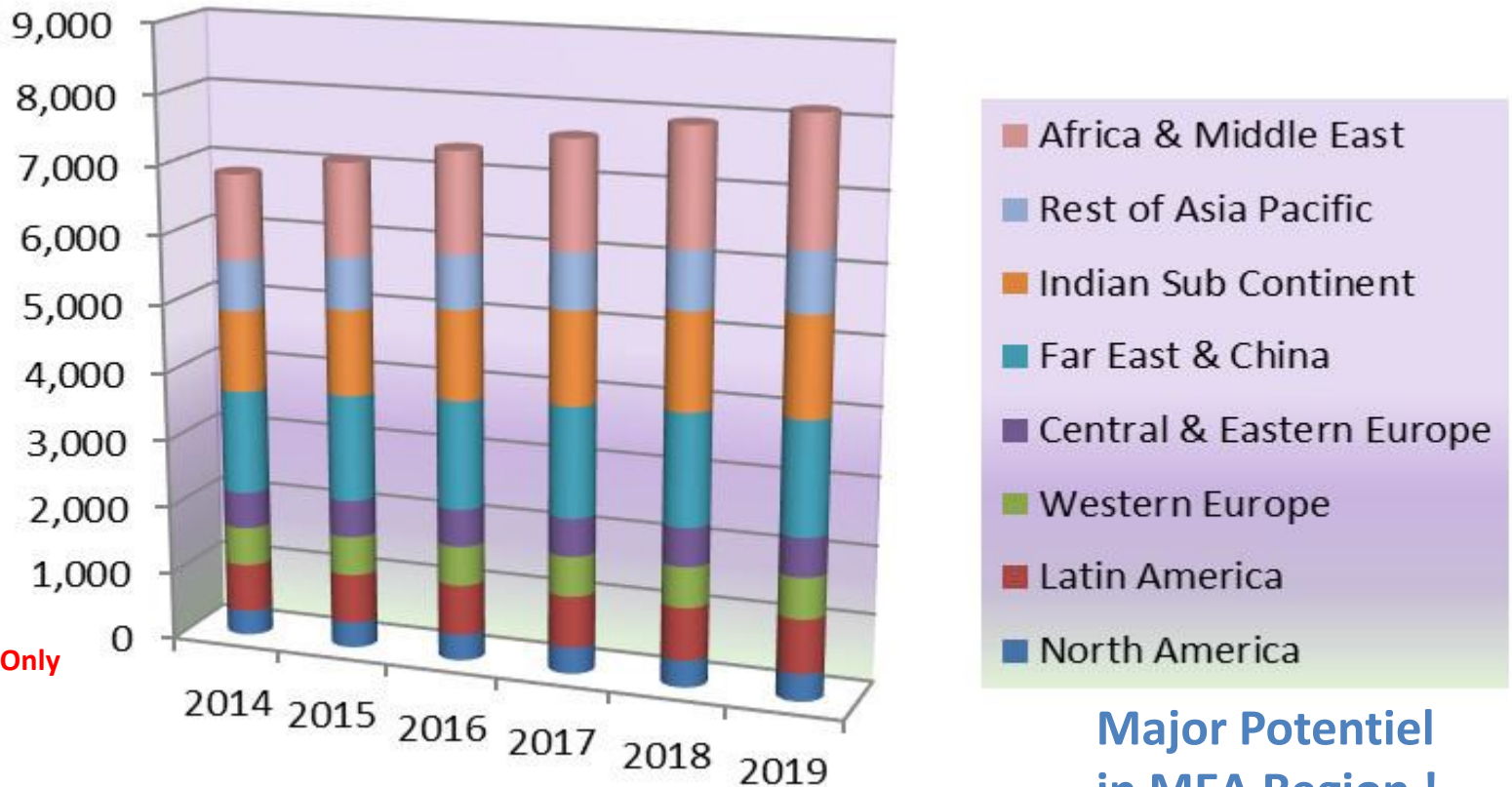
1



Source: ERICSSON MOBILITY REPORT, JUNE 2014

# ...and the Evolution Continues : 1b

## Growth of Mobile Subscriptions (per Region)



Verif Mobile Only

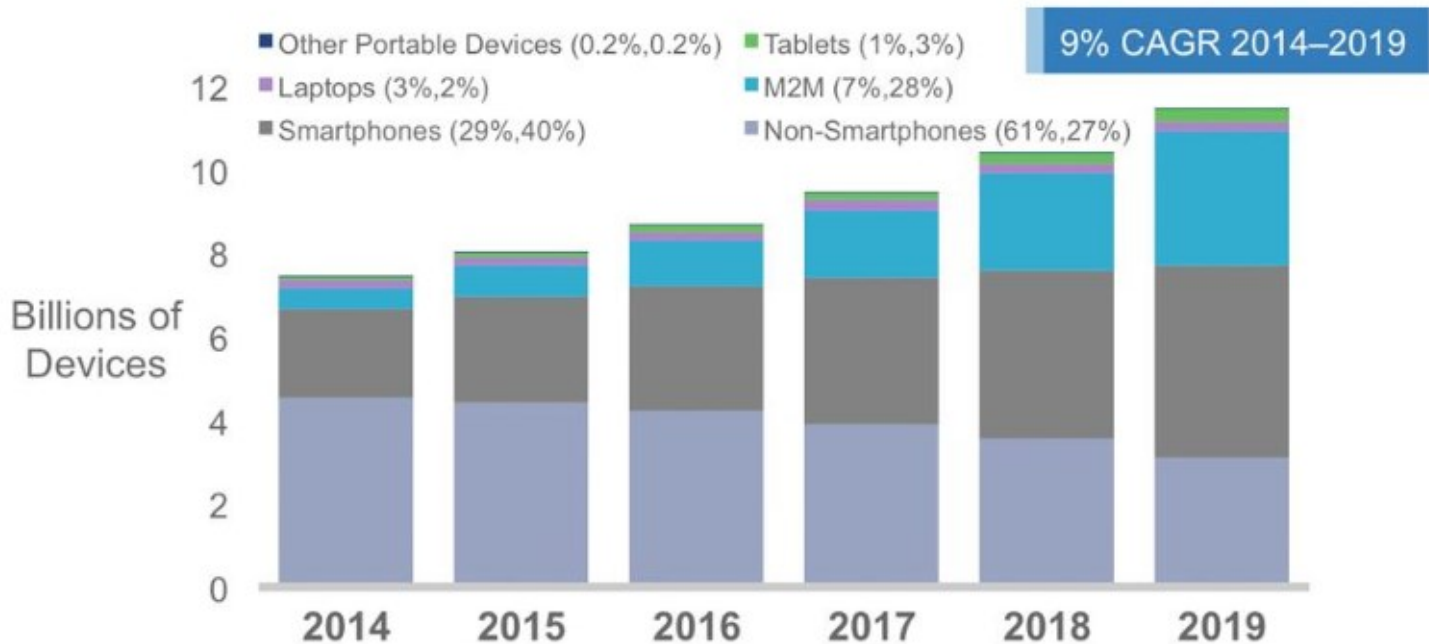
**Major Potential  
in MEA Region !**

Source: Juniper Research, Oct 2014

# ...and the Evolution Continues : 2

## Predominance of Smartphones with M2M take-off !

Global Mobile Devices and Connections Growth



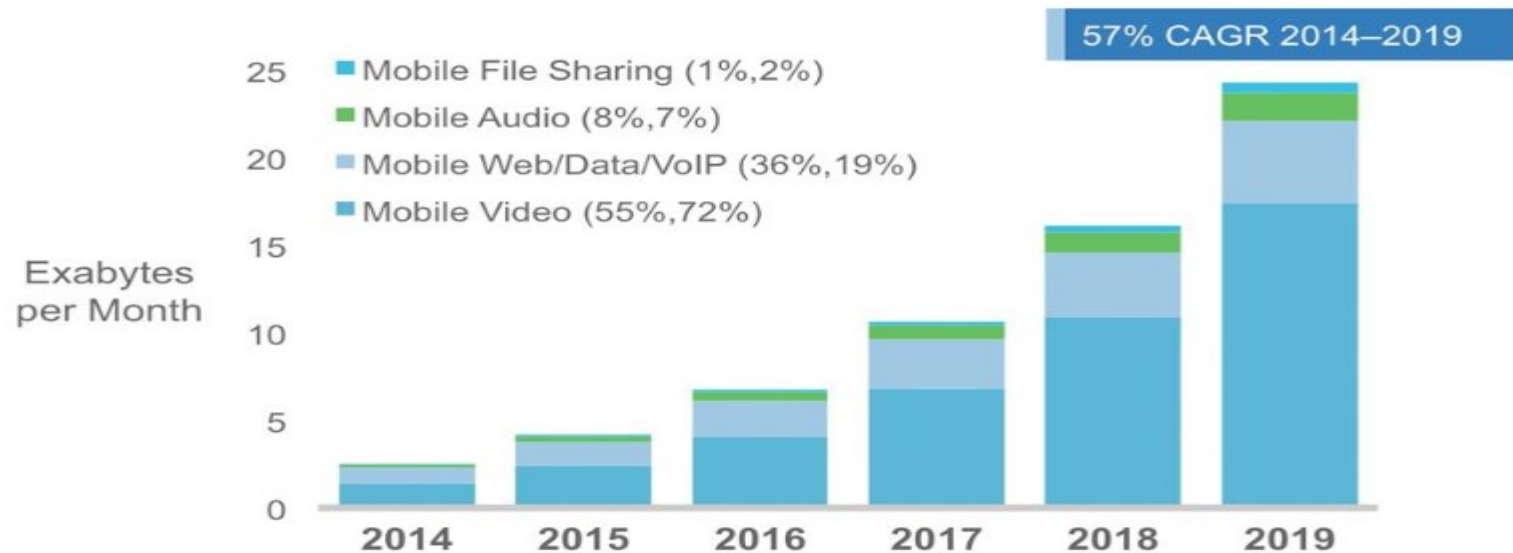
Figures in parentheses refer to 2014, 2019 device share.  
Source: Cisco VNI Mobile, 2015

Will Machines Connectivity “balance “ Traffic of Smartphones ?



# ....and the Evolution Continues : 3

## Traffic: Mobile Data Boosted by Mobile Videos Services



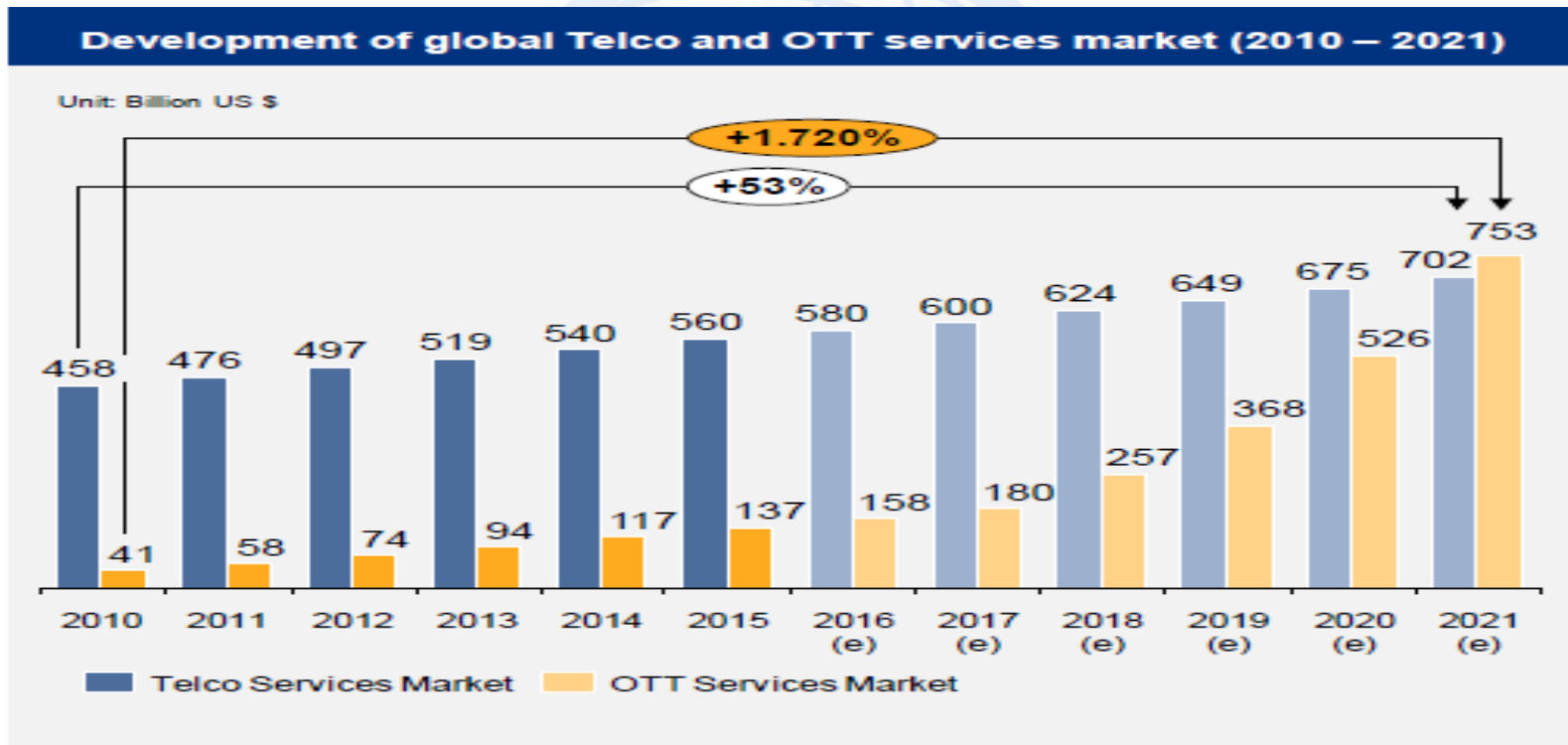
Figures in parentheses refer to 2014, 2019 traffic share.  
Source: Cisco VNI Mobile, 2015

▶ **Video services and fast growing demand will make Mobile Networks “Struggling” to cope with it !**



# ...and the Evolution Continues : 4

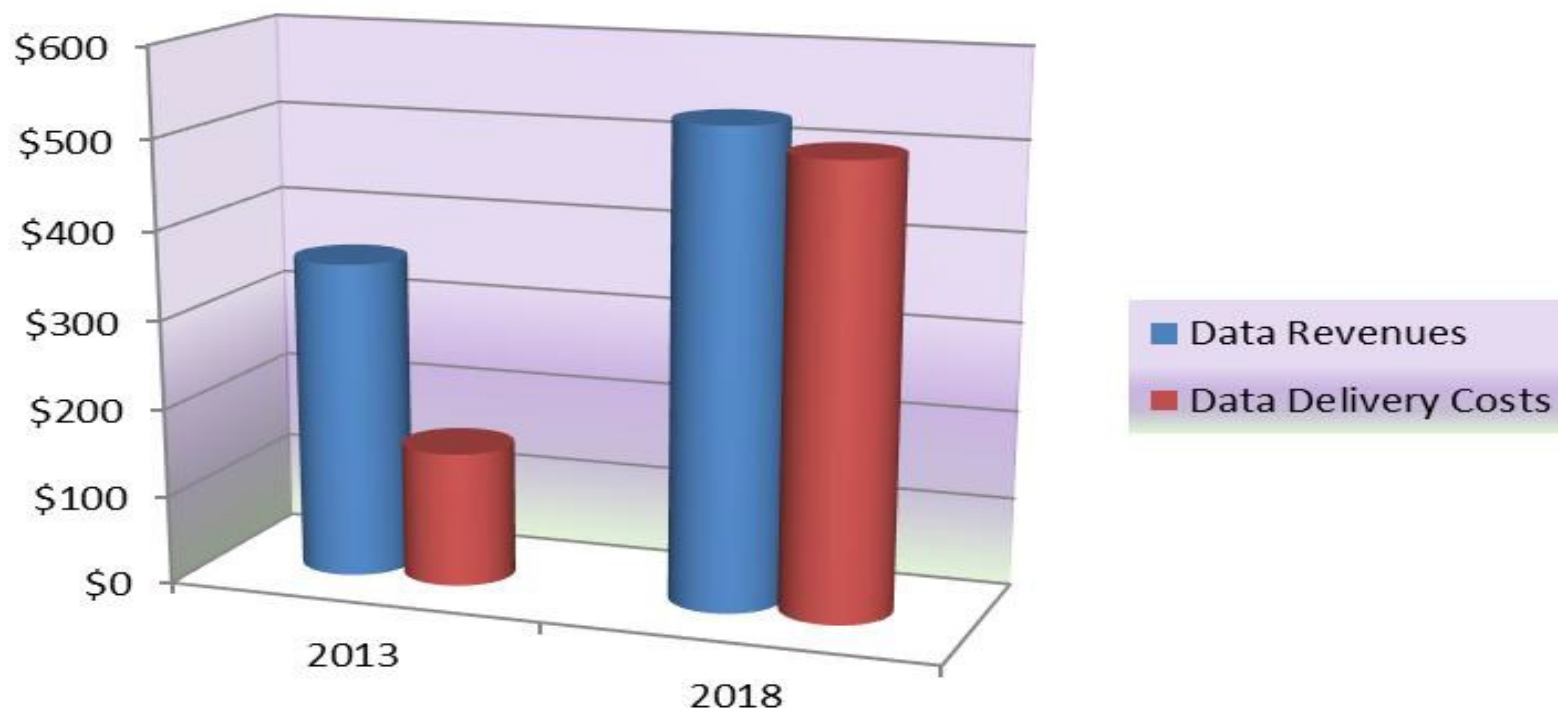
with Growing Revenues for OTT and Stagnation of Telco's !



Source: IDATE - World Internet Services Markets 12/2013 and Detecon Forecast (e)

# ...and the Evolution Continues : 5

..and the « Unbalance » of Costs vs revenue for MNO will continue !



Source : Juniper Research, Oct 2014

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# ...and the Evolution Continues : 5

.....

*Is the Eco-system Sustainable*



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## 2- On-Line Services: Drivers & Issues



## 3- Challenges for Sustainable Eco-System



# On-Line Services

## Who are OTT ?

*“OTT (Over-The-Top) refers to applications and services, which are accessible over the internet and **ride** on Operators’ networks offering internet access services e.g. social networks, search engines, amateur video aggregation sites, etc.”*

**Examples:**



# On-Line Services : Main Actors

## Content Providers

Films, Videos, Music,...

but also

- Individuals
- Publishers
- Governments, ...



## On-line Service Providers

- **Communication** : Skype, Viber, ...
- **Search**: Google, Yahoo, Baidu, ...
- **Social**: Facebook, Twitter,....
- **Video**: Netflix, Youtube , Amazon,
- ...



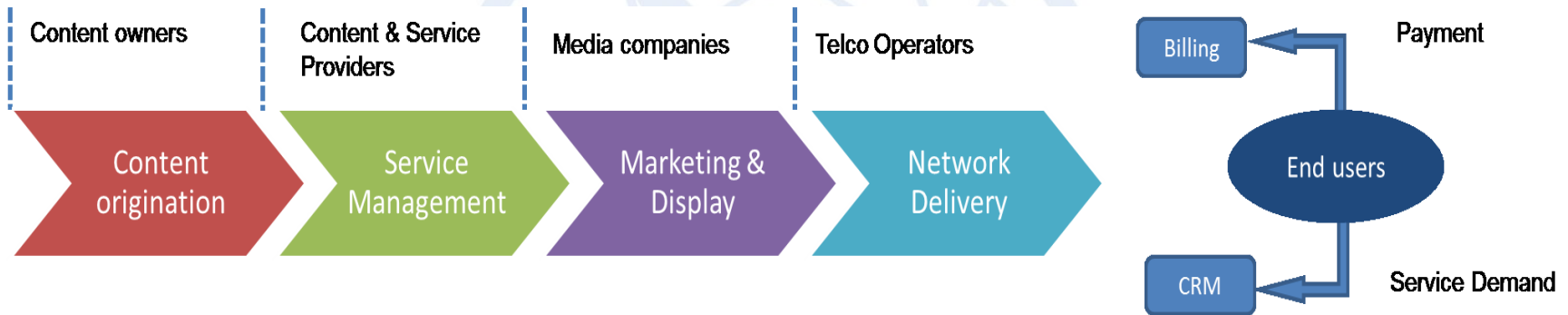
## Connectivity Providers

- Fixed and Mobile Network Operators
- ISP
- VNOs
- Cable operators
- Satellite,...



....and e-Education, Health, Commerce, government, etc....

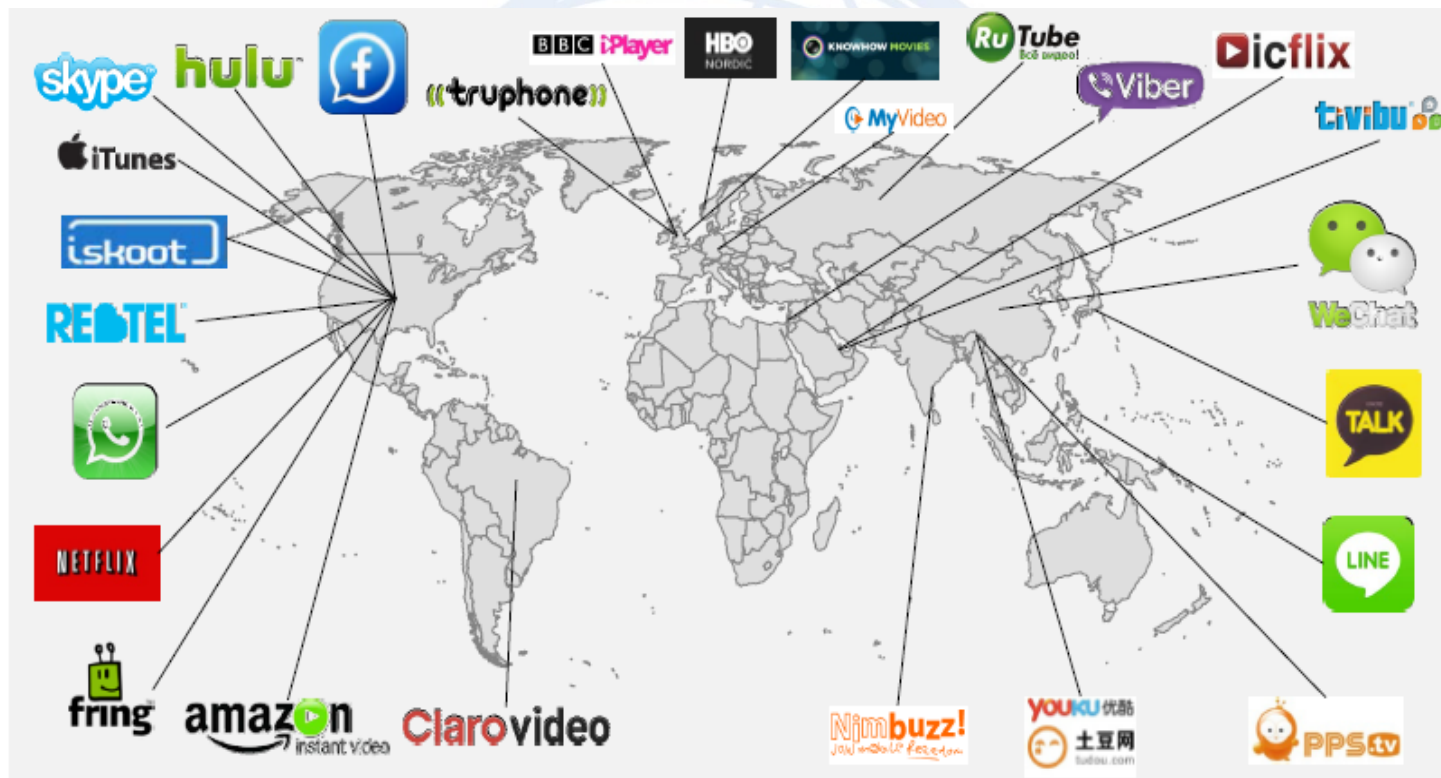
# On-Line Services : Value Chain



# On-Line Services

## Global and .... "located"

3



Source: Delecon Research 2014

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# On-Line Services : Model & Drivers



1. No Regulation (own policy/rules)
2. No service license required, no interco Obligation
3. Disruptive models (free, freemium, Ad based etc)
4. The World as Market Place
5. Low, scalable investment
6. Limited direct employment
7. IP based. Internet based standards (IETF)

# Compared ...to Telco's



1. Subject to National Obligations : Licence, Tax regime
2. Heavy Regulation (SLAs, USO, Control...)
3. High pre-investment required and Local Resources Cost (Frequencies, etc..)
4. Mostly Local Market space and Rules
5. Traditional business models

# ...But Partners in the “Circle”

- Virtuous Circle ( Mutual Interest)

While OTT benefit from presence of broadband networks, those networks also benefit from **increased demand for bandwidth driven by applications. AutoSustainable system !**

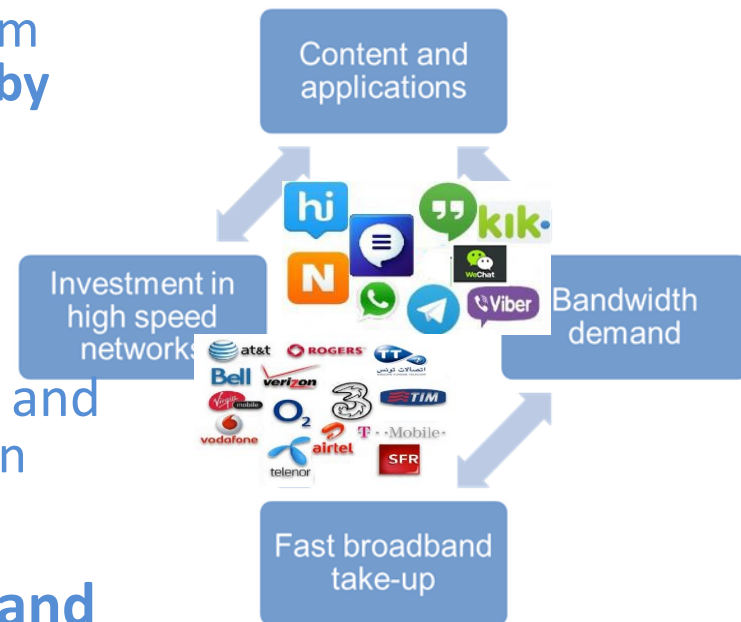
OR

- Vicious Circle

Disconnect between Source of Revenues and Source of Costs) for any Actor in the Chain

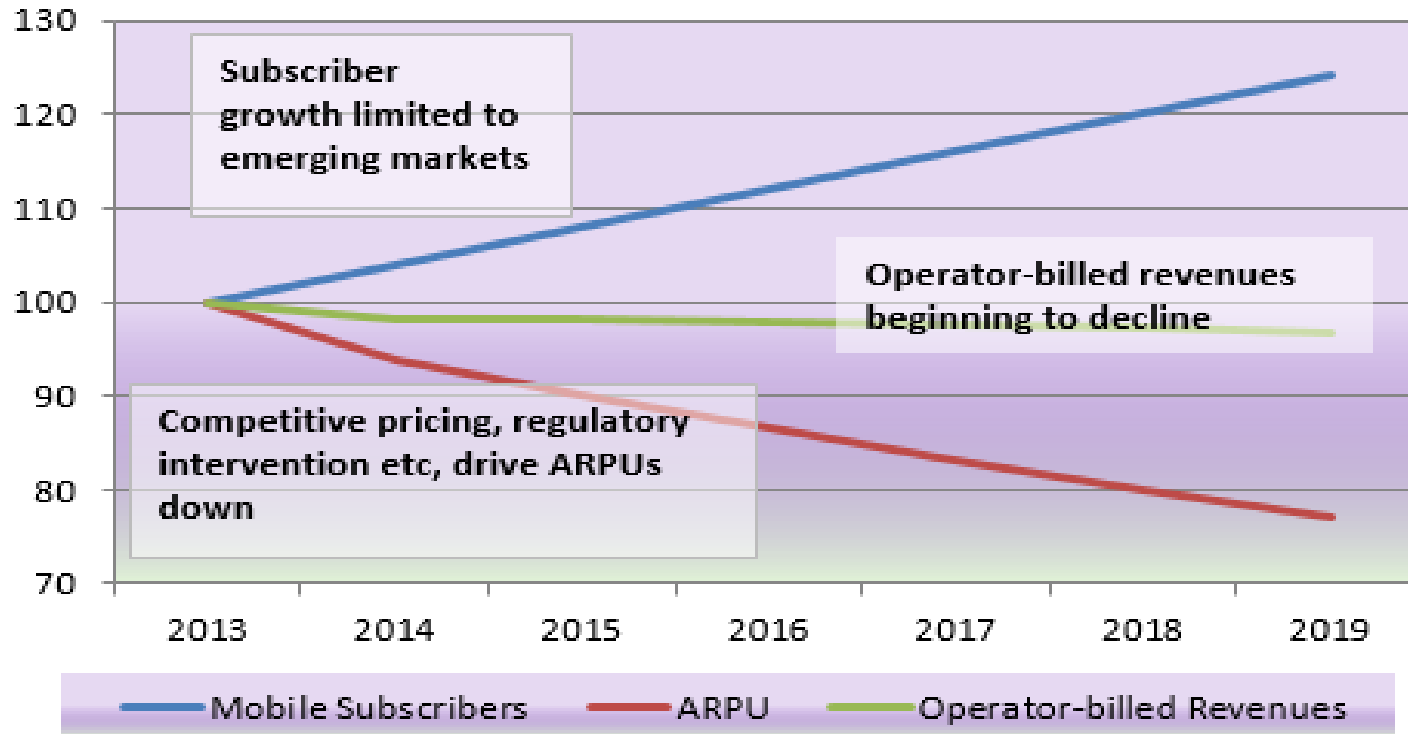
**Profit Crunch → less Investment and then less connectivity/ usage/Revenue:**

**The Chain is Broken**



# Operators Profit Crunch : Lower ARPUs but Higher Traffic

1



Source : Juniper Research, Oct 2014



ARPU decline continues, revenues stagnation

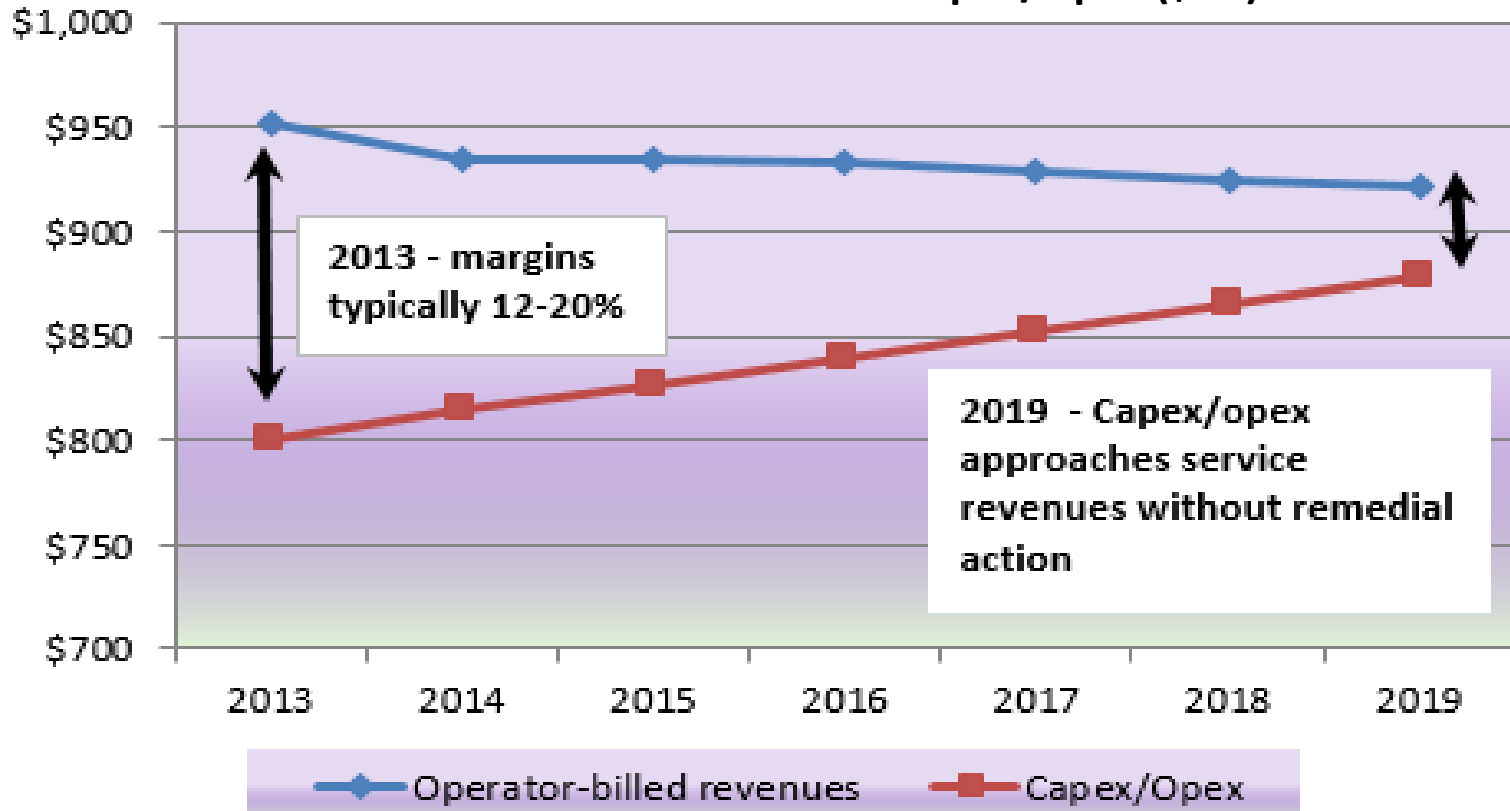




# Operators Profit Crunch : Threat to Investment

2

Global MNO Service Revenues vs Capex/Opex (\$bn)

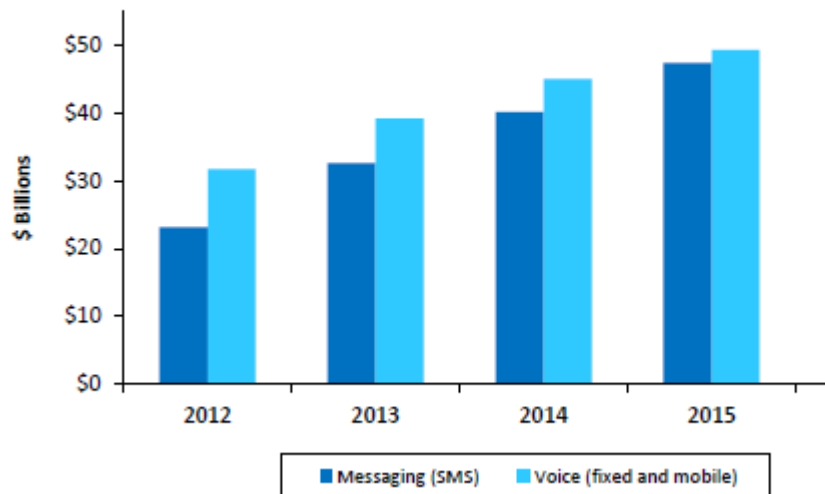


Source : Juniper Research, Oct 2014

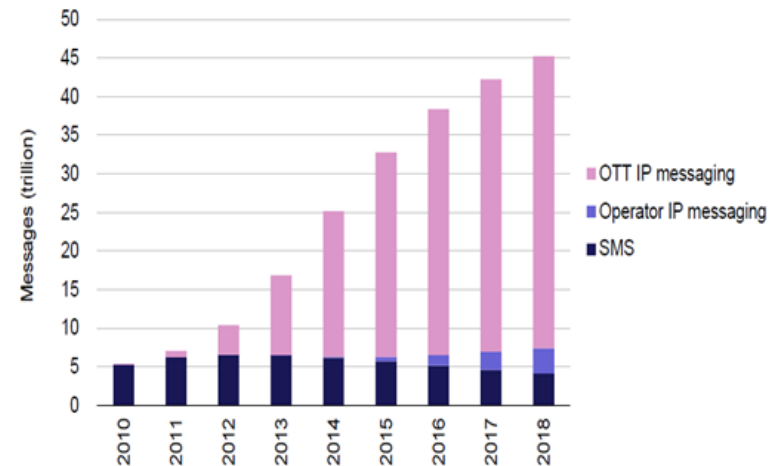
# Operators Profit Crunch : Loss(\*) of Traditional Revenues to OTT

4

Worldwide Operator Voice and Messaging Revenues Lost to OTT



Messages sent via mobile handsets by service type, worldwide, 2010–2018 [Source: Analysys Mason, 2014]



© Analysys Mason Limited 2014

Source: Ovum (2012), Cartesien (2013)

(\*) Some use « Cannibalisation »

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# ...and the Impact on the Global Eco-System



1. Threat to Investment in Infrastructure
2. Risk on Weak Economies : External Competition, Employment, Tax ..
3. Risk on Net Neutrality by National Regulation
4. Economy Protection : Value Destruction vs Creation

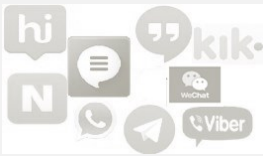


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# Duty of National Regulators



1. People : Security, Development
2. Local Economy development
3. Sovereignty : Applicable Rules, Data Protection
4. Economy Protection : Value Destruction vs Creation



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# Challenges for Regulators



**“We have to :**

- Protect our citizens’ interests,
- provide incentives to the industry,
- attend to national-level needs and issues,
- create and sustain investor confidence, and..
- remain mindful of future needs of the consumers and the industry. “

Dr. Syed Ismail Shah,  
Chairman of Pakistan Telecommunication Authority, April 2015

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# Challenges for Policy Makers.



## Affordable Access Africa

Affordable Access is not just a matter of **connecting people** at the 'Bottom of the Pyramid' with the **cheapest devices** and **lowest price/quality** connectivity. African connectivity is expensive in relation to income and in relation to global 'like for like' price comparisons. Businesses and business people in Africa do not want basic services, they want effective services at affordable rates and many of the answers lie within the Continent. A coordinated and concerted effort by Policy Makers, Service Providers, Investors, Solution Providers and Major End Users will move Africa towards the goal of making Access Affordable, bringing all of the associated Socio Economic benefits

Moto of IAD Summit 2015 Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

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# Conclusion

1. Evolution of **Data communication** is expected to continue at an accelerated pace over the next decade
2. **Operators** have **dominated the communications industry** for more than two decades. Now they are challenged by new players in a reshaped Ecosystem. They must re-think their business models to adapt to a new digital era. Will they focus on connectivity? On providing digital services? On finding new revenue streams?...
3. **Regulators** played an extremely **positive role** in the past decade making the development happen. They are questioned today about ensuring sustainability of the new ecosystem. **Are they ready for that ?**
4. **OTT Players** are taking full benefit of Telco's Infrastructure and Investments to grow their Business. Will they accept to "Contribute " to rebalance Value share and Cost/Revenue vs Net Neutrality Assurance?





[ WAITING FOR PLAYERS ]  
PLAYERS NEEDED

## Telco's who will survive, are those able to Innovate and Transform

- 1. Are all and mainly Incumbent Telcos able to participate in the innovation game ?*
- 2. Are Telcos at risk of becoming the Dinosaurs of Digital World ?*

# WAITING FOR PLAYERS

PLAYERS NEEDED



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**Arab Regional Forum on  
"Future Networks: Regulatory and Policy Aspects in  
Converged Networks".**

**(Rabat, Morocco, 19-20 May 2015)**

**Thank You For Your Attention**

**Mokhtar Mnakri**  
**([moktar.mnakri@gmail.com](mailto:moktar.mnakri@gmail.com))**