## ITU Regional Workshop on ICT Statistics

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## ICT prices

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## ITU price data collection

- Price data collected (in advertised currency) for:
- Fixed telephone
- Mobile cellular (voice and SMS)
- Fixed broadband
- Mobile broadband (data) - full data collection since 2012
- Prices for each service are combined into a basket
- Monthly prices for each basket are presented in:
- US\$
- PPP\$
- As a \% pf GNI p.c.


## Why a price basket approach?

- "Average revenue per minute/SMS/MB" not meaningful for international benchmarks:
- With bundling, impossible to separate revenues per source
- Each country different usage patterns
$\Rightarrow$ Comparing apples and oranges
- Price basket approach

| USD 10 | $\begin{aligned} & ? \\ & \geqslant \end{aligned}$ | USD 15 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 100 SMS |  | 80 SMS |
| 50 calls |  | Unl. calls |
| 500 MB |  | 400 MB |

- Ensures that the same services are compared across countries
- Results are sensitive to the composition of the baskets


## Revision of the mobile baskets



* No data for Comoros, Somalia \& Haiti - the only economies from the Arab States and the Americas in this group


## Mobile Cellular - revised baskets




$70 \mathrm{~min}+20 \mathrm{SMS}+500 \mathrm{MB}$
(3G and above)

$140 \mathrm{~min}+70 \mathrm{SMS}+1.5 \mathrm{~GB}$ (3G and above)

## Report data based on the most common contract type per country

\(\left.$$
\begin{array}{|l|l|l|l|}\hline & \text { Previous ITU Basket } & \text { Revision } & \text { Rationale } \\
\hline \begin{array}{l}\text { Type of } \\
\text { subscription }\end{array} & \text { Prepaid } & \begin{array}{l}\text { Prepaid if prepaid subscription } \\
\text { base }>50 \% ;\end{array} & \begin{array}{l}\text { Countries ought } \\
\text { to report on the } \\
\text { type of service } \\
\text { that represents } \\
\text { the majority in } \\
\text { Postpaid if prepaid } \\
\text { subscription base < } \\
2 \% \\
\text { (e.g. Japan) }\end{array}\end{array}
$$ \begin{array}{l}Postpaid if postpaid subscription respective <br>

base > 50\%\end{array}\right]\)| Exception: If no data are |
| :--- |
| available on subscriptions, select |
| prepaid by default |$\quad$| Prepaid is the |
| :--- |
| predominant |
| contract type |
| worldwide |
| (default selected |
| if data are not |
| available) |

## From one to two consumption baskets

|  | Current ITU Basket | Proposed revision | Rationale |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Voice | 30 calls equating to <br> approximately 50.9 <br> mins | Low consumption basket: 70 <br> mins <br> High consumption basket: 140 <br> mins | The disparity in <br> consumption <br> patterns across <br> countries was <br> evident. |
| SMS | 100 SMS | Low consumption basket: 20 <br> SMS | With the <br> availability of <br> data, the natural <br> trend from the <br> evidence is a <br> decline in SMS <br> use. |

- A bundled offer may be selected if least-cost criteria is met.
- If bundles are selected the minimum consumption as above must be included.


## Data added to voice and SMS

| Data | Current ITU Basket | Proposed revision | Rationale |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | N/A | The least expensive data add-on with <br> the following data caps at minimum: | As per the evidence <br> gathered on data <br> consumption it is <br> recommended that <br> data is included in <br> the sub-basket. |
| High consumption basket: 1.5 GB | However, unlike <br> voice and SMS it is a <br> service that has a <br> steep upward trend. <br> As such the <br> consumption <br> baskets need to be <br> revised periodically. |  |  |
|  |  | Internet. Any zero-rated plans or <br> those with geographic limitations <br> must not be selected, even if cheaper. |  |

## Mobile broadband: from two to one basket




Source: ITU

New sub-basket


## Fixed broadband as a standalone basket but with increased data cap

## Summary: new price baskets

## From October 2018



## IPB data collection



## Mobile-cellular prices

Prepaid mobile-cellular prices, end 2016


## Mobile-cellular prices

Prepaid mobile-cellular prices, end 2016


## Fixed-broadband prices

Fixed-broadband prices, end 2016


## Fixed-broadband prices

Fixed-broadband prices, end 2016


## Mobile-broadband prices

Mobile-broadband prices, handset-based, 500 MB , prepaid, end 2016


## Mobile-broadband prices

Mobile-broadband prices, handset-based, 500 MB, prepaid, end 2016


## Affordability of broadband services in view of income inequalities

$\square$ Data on household disposable income and expenditure:
$\square$ Reflect people's economic welfare

- Provide insights into differences in affordability within countries

Distribution of household disposable income (left) and household consumption (right)


Source: Data for the United States and Sweden are sourced from the OECD Database on Income Distribution and refer to 2011. Data for South Africa and Viet Nam are sourced from the World Bank's PovcalNet and refer to 2008.

# Households income inequalities greatly influence the affordability of mobile broadband 

Prepaid handset-based mobile-broadband prices, $500 \mathrm{MB} /$ month, as \% of household expenditure (2013)


## ITU IPB questionnaire (online)



## Information collected

- Name of the operator/ISP
- Name of price plan used
- Website/link of the plan
- Tax rate applied
- Price data


## Fixed-broadband prices

- Fixed-broadband connection charge
- Fixed-broadband monthly subscription charge
- Fixed-broadband speed, in Mbit/s
- Fixed-broadband cap, in GB
- Fixed-broadband - price of excess usage


## Rules applied in collecting fixedbroadband Internet prices (i)

1. Prices of the largest operator (in terms of fixedbroadband subscriptions).
2. Prices in advertised currency, including taxes.
3. Only residential, single user prices should be collected.
4. If prices vary in regions, prices of largest city (in population) should be provided.

## Rules applied in collecting fixedbroadband Internet prices (ii)

5. Cheapest plan based on a 5GB monthly usage and an advertised download speed of at least $256 \mathrm{kbit} / \mathrm{s}$
6. 12-month plan (or the one closest to this commitment period)
7. Most subscriptions in the country (DSL, cable, fixed WiMAX, etc.).
8. Same price plan for monthly subscription, to the price of the excess charge, the volume of data that can be downloaded, etc.

## Rules applied in collecting fixedbroadband Internet prices (iii)

9. Prices should be collected for a regular (nonpromotional) plan. If there is a discount for the first months of contract, the price after the discount period should be selected
10. Bundled services - preferable to use prices for a specific service; otherwise, note the additional services
11. Plans with limited hours of use will not be considered

## Example fixed-broadband prices

Superfast Fibre Packages Fast Packages Special Packages

| Fast <br> Packages | Monthly $\text { во } 10$ | Monthly $\text { BD } 12$ | Monthly $\text { BD } 15$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Package Speed | 10 Mbps | 10Mlops | 14Mbps |
| Upload Speed | 1.5Mbps | 2 Mbps | 2Mbps |
| Double-up Download Speed | 20 Mbps | 201. ${ }^{\text {aps }}$ | 30 Mbps |
| Double-up Upload Speed | 1.5Mops | 1.5 Mbps | 2Mbps |
| Double-up Monthly Rentat | BD5 | B05 | BD5 |
| Threshold (GB) | 70GB | 100GB | 140GB |
| Bahrain WiFi access** | FREE | FREE | FREE |

## Mobile-cellular indicators - rules

## (i)

1. Operator with the largest market share [...] If prices vary between different regions of the country, prices refer to those applied in the largest city [...]
2. Collected in advertised currency, including taxes
3. Prices refer to prepaid plans [...] the one that comes closest to each usage (e.g. 70 min and 20 SMS) [...]
4. If per-minute prices are only advertised in internal units [...] the price of the [cheapest \& closest to 30 day validity] topup/refill charge is used

## Mobile-cellular indicators - rules

## (ii)

5. regular (non-promotional) plans and exclude special or promotional offers, limited discounts
6. "favourite" numbers (for family, friends, etc.) with a special price [...] will not be taken into consideration
7. Prices refer to outgoing local calls
8. If prices vary between minutes ( $1^{\text {st }}$ minute $=$ price $A, 2^{\text {nd }}$ minute $=$ price $B, 3^{\text {rd }}$ minute $=$ price $\left.C\right)[\ldots]$ price per minute $=$ $(A+B+C) / 3$

## Mobile-cellular indicators - rules (iii)

10. If there is a connection cost per call, then this is taken into consideration based on the total number of calls
11. [...] off-peak prices [...] cheapest before midnight is used
12. [...] peak prices, the most expensive one during the daytime is used
13. [...] weekend prices, the price that applies Sundays during the daytime is used

## Mobile-cellular indicators - rules

## (iv)

14. If [...] no weekend price, the average peak and off-peak price valid during the week is used
15. If peak and off-peak SMS prices exist, the average of both is used
16. If calls are charged by call or by hour (and not by the minute) [...] formula will be calculated on the basis of the total number of calls and minutes
17. Where monthly, recurring charges exist, they are added

## Example mobile-cellular prices



## Mobile-broadband indicators rules (i)

1. technologies: UMTS, HSPA family, LTE family, CDMA EV-DO family and mobile WiMAX. Prices applying to WiFi or hotspots excluded
2. Collected in advertised currency, including taxes
3. residential, single-user prices [...] If prices vary between regions, prices applying to the largest city

## Mobile-broadband indicators - <br> rules (ii)

5. from the operator with the largest number of mobilebroadband subscriptions. If not available, from the mobilecellular operator with the largest market share
6. commitment period (postapid): the closest to 12 months

## Mobile-broadband indicators rules (iii)

9. The selected plan should not be the one with the cap closest to 1.5 GB , but the cheapest for that monthly consumption E.g. if an operator offers a 1 GB and a 3 GB plan, the cheapest taken: 3 GB plan or twice the 1 GB plan
10. Price data should be collected for a validity period of 30 days
11. packages (including a certain data volume) or Pay-as-you-go offers should be used when they are the cheapest option for a given basket or the only option available

## Mobile-broadband indicators rules (iv)

12. Careful read of the fine print: 'unlimited' seldom so
13. non-recurrent fees, such as installation/set-up fees, not considered
14. Preference given to cheapest packages, even if bundled. If bundled, indicate in a note

## Mobile-broadband indicators -

## rules (v)

15. non-promotional plans and exclude promotional offers and limited discounts or special user groups (e.g. existing clients)
excl. prices that apply to a certain type of device (iPhone/Blackberry, iPad)
excl. allowances during the night

## Example mobile-broadband prices

Personal Business Vodafone Egypt


You are here: Home Page / Internet Bundles

Extreme Bundles
Weekly Bundles

Content Bundles
Daily Bundles

Main Bundles
Add-Ons
Choose the Extreme internet bundle for your phone,tablet that suits you best.

| Price | Quota | Code | Subscribe |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 5 LE | 150 MB | *2000*5\# | Subscribe Now |
| 10 LE | 500 MB | *2000*10\# | Subscribe Now |
| 20 LE | 1,100 MB | *2000*20\# | Subscribe Now |
| 30 LE | 1,800 MB | *2000*30\# | Subscribe Now |
| 40 LE | 2,500 MB | *2000*40\# | Subscribe Now |



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