ITU REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FORUM

Pre Forum Session:

Inclusive Connectivity

3 November 2020

1000-1100 (BKK/JKT GMT+7)

Supporting ICT connectivity planning

Aamir Riaz - International Telecommunication Union – Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

itu.int/go/RDF-ASP2020

#RDFASP2020

ITURDF ASIA-PACIFIC REGION ONLINE 2020

Scope

01
Defining the situation in ASP

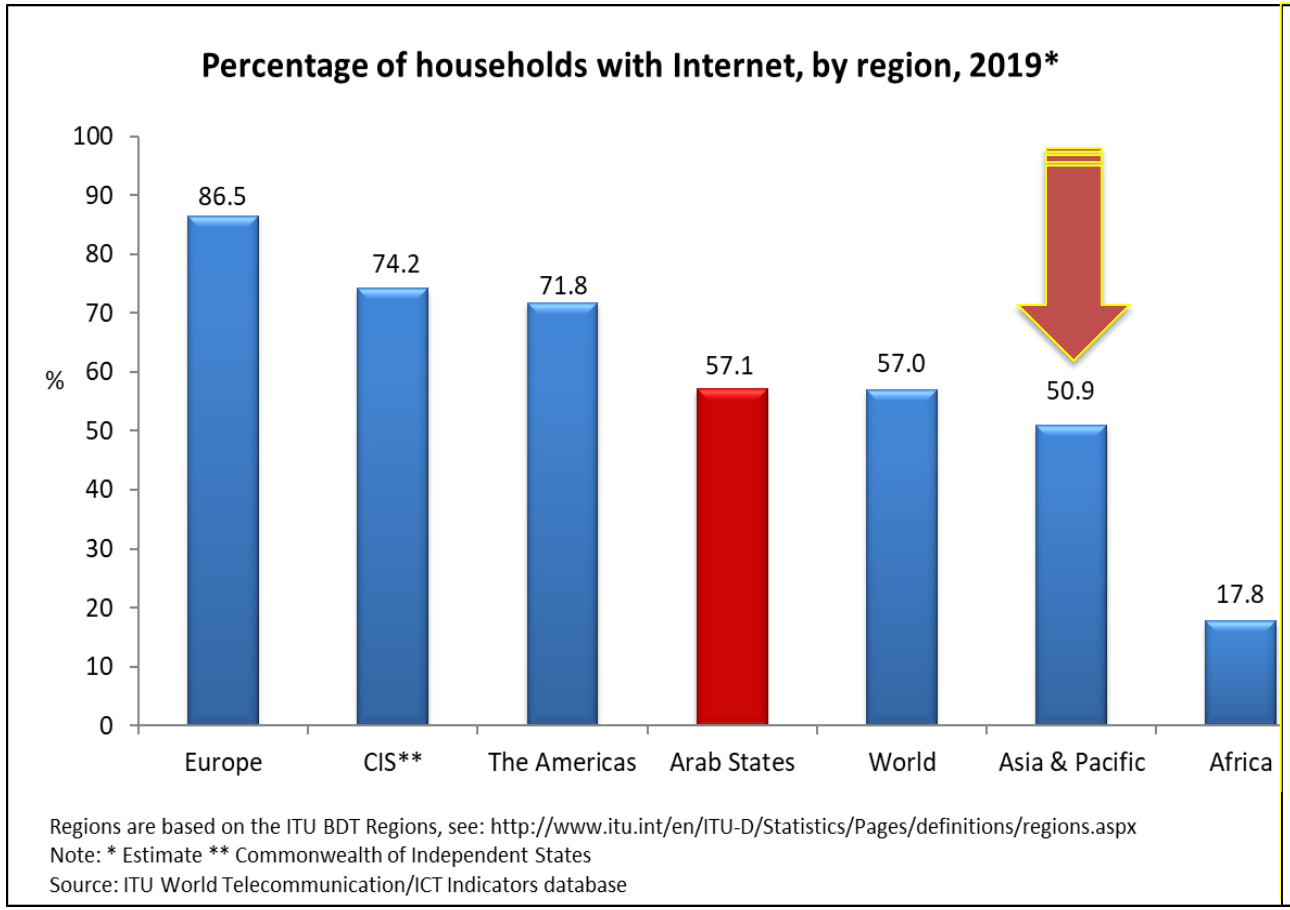
02
Areas of Intervention

03
Tools & Initiatives

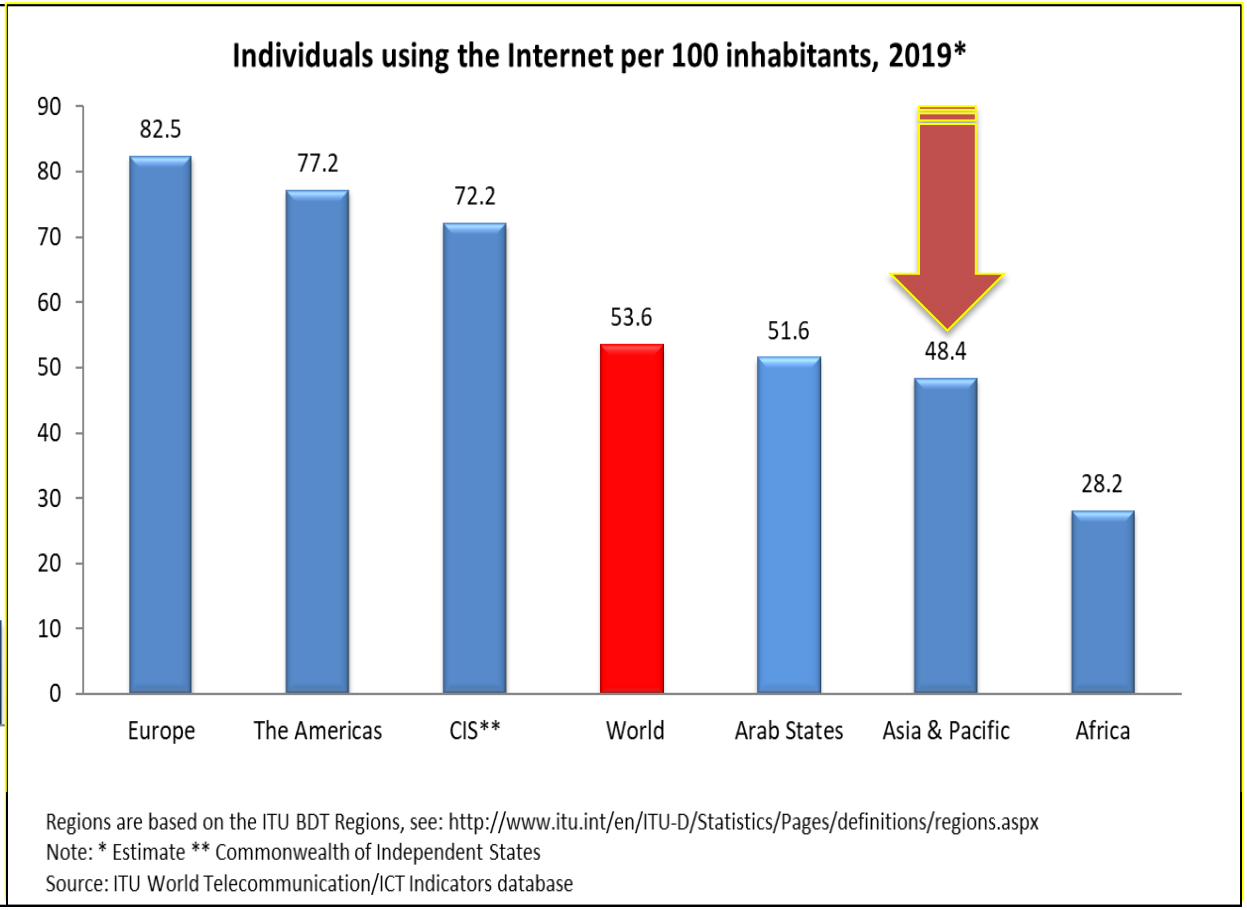
04
Impactful Partnerships: Example

05
Conclusion

Our Problem Graphically: Connectivity



Regions are based on the ITU BDT Regions, see: http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/definitions/regions.aspx
Note: * Estimate ** Commonwealth of Independent States
Source: ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators database



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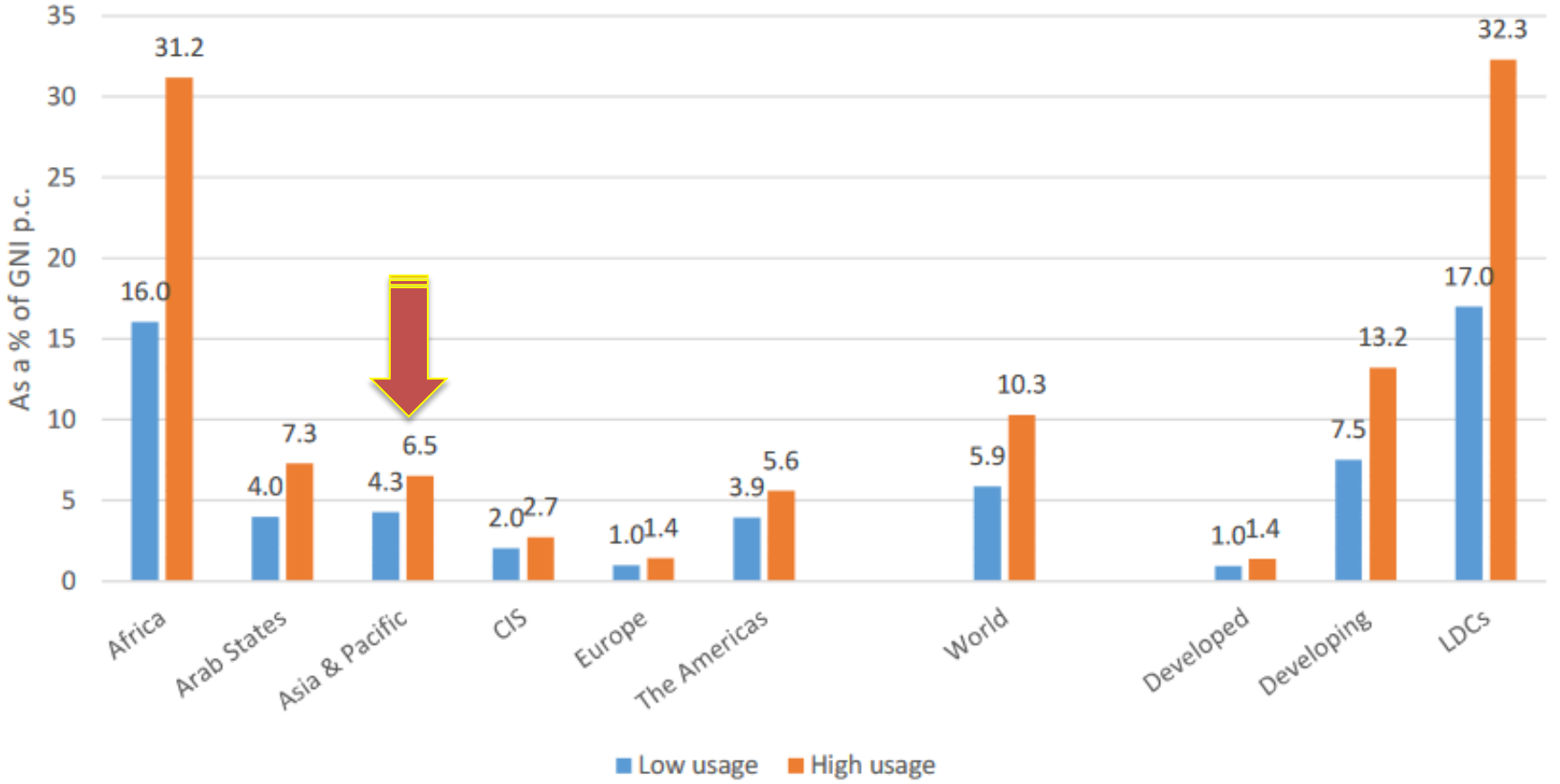
Our Problem Graphically: Affordability

Mobile-data-and-voice baskets as a % of GNI, 2019



Note: Simple averages. Based on 182 economies for high-usage data and voice baskets and 179 economies for low-usage data-and-voice baskets for which data on prices of mobile-data-and-voice baskets in PPP$ are available for the year 2019.
Source: ITU. GNI p.c. data are from the World Bank.

https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Documents/publications/prices2019/ITU_ICTpriceTrends_2019.pdf

Possible interventions for Solutions

Resilient Infrastructure

- Where to achieve most Impact?
- How Capex and which technology?
- Roll out issues
- Spectrum availability?

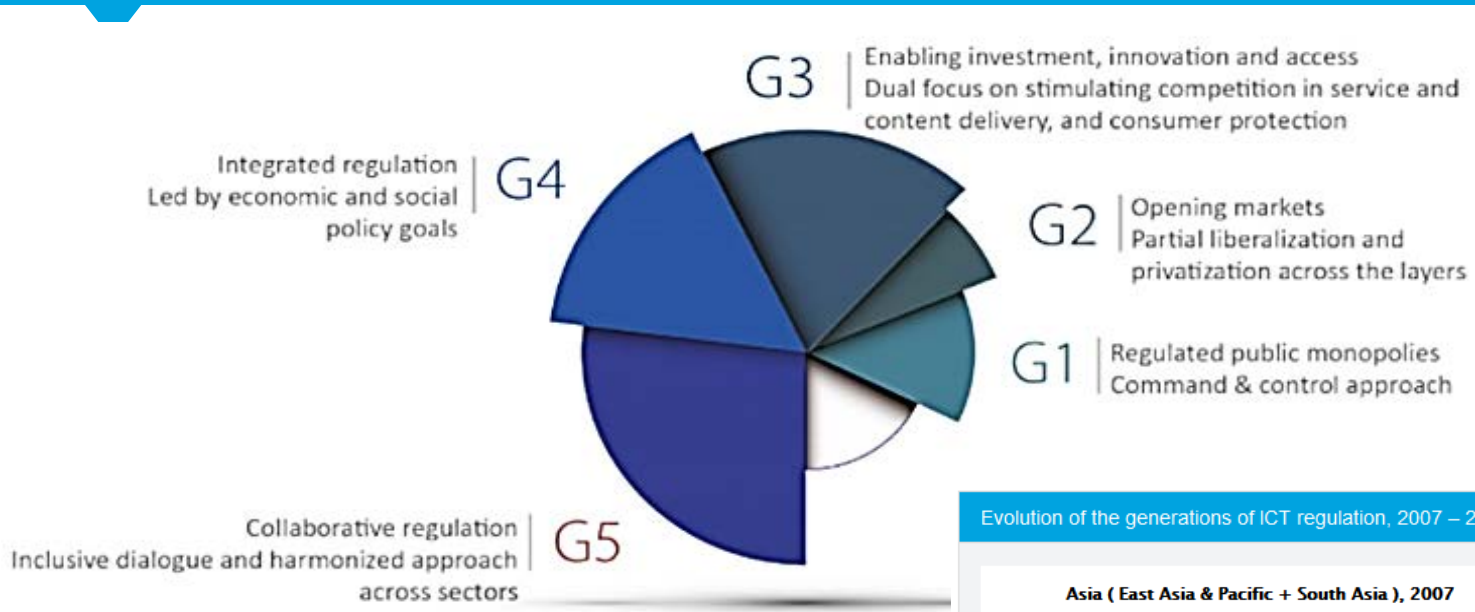
- **Tools**
- **Partnerships**
- **Spectrum harmonization**
- **Regulatory regime**
- **Policy Interventions**

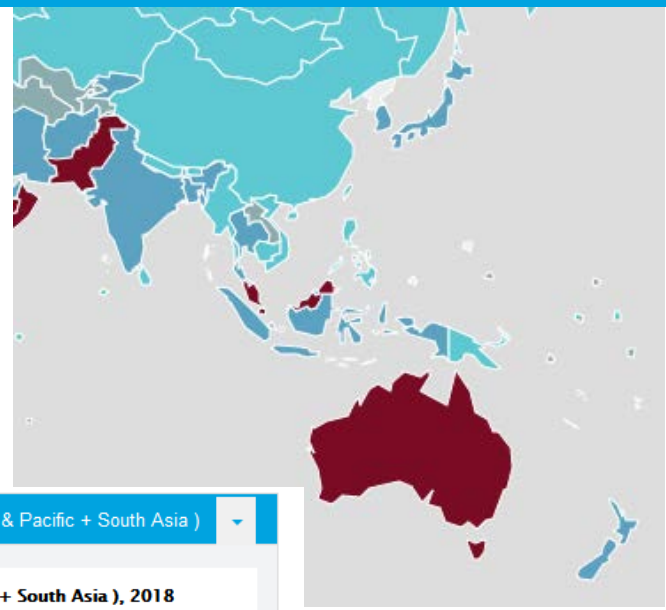
Affordability

- Competition and market of scales
- Taxation, affordable devices
- Rural connectivity
- Best practices

- **Policy Interventions**
- **Regulatory regime**
- **USOF**
- **Guidelines**
- **Capacity building**

Current situation Asia-Pacific: ICT Regulatory tracker





Nb of countries in G4 in 2018

- Australia
- Malaysia
- Pakistan
- Singapore

4 out of **38** (or 10%)

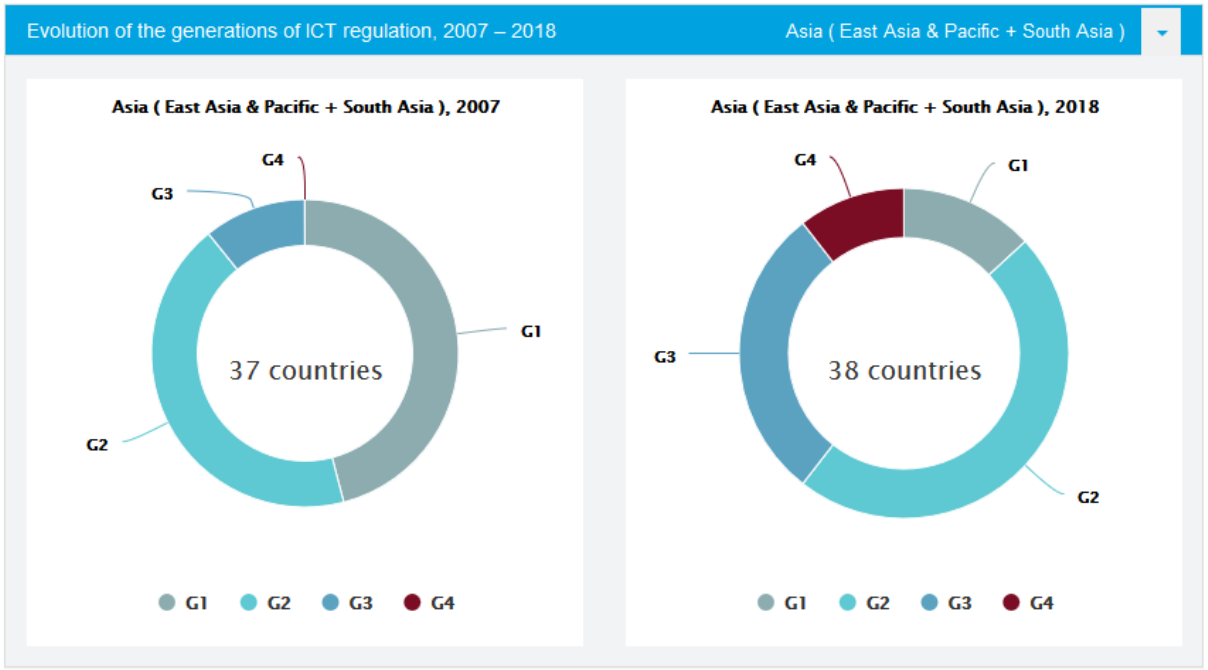
First country to reach G4

Australia, 2008

Gap between the highest and lowest scoring country

Lowest:
Micronesia, 8

Highest:
Australia, 94.5



Source: ITU (https://www.itu.int/net4/itu-d/irt/#/generations-of-regulation)

Possible interventions for Solutions

ONE SIZE FITS ALL SOLUTION?

Targeted interventions needed

based on

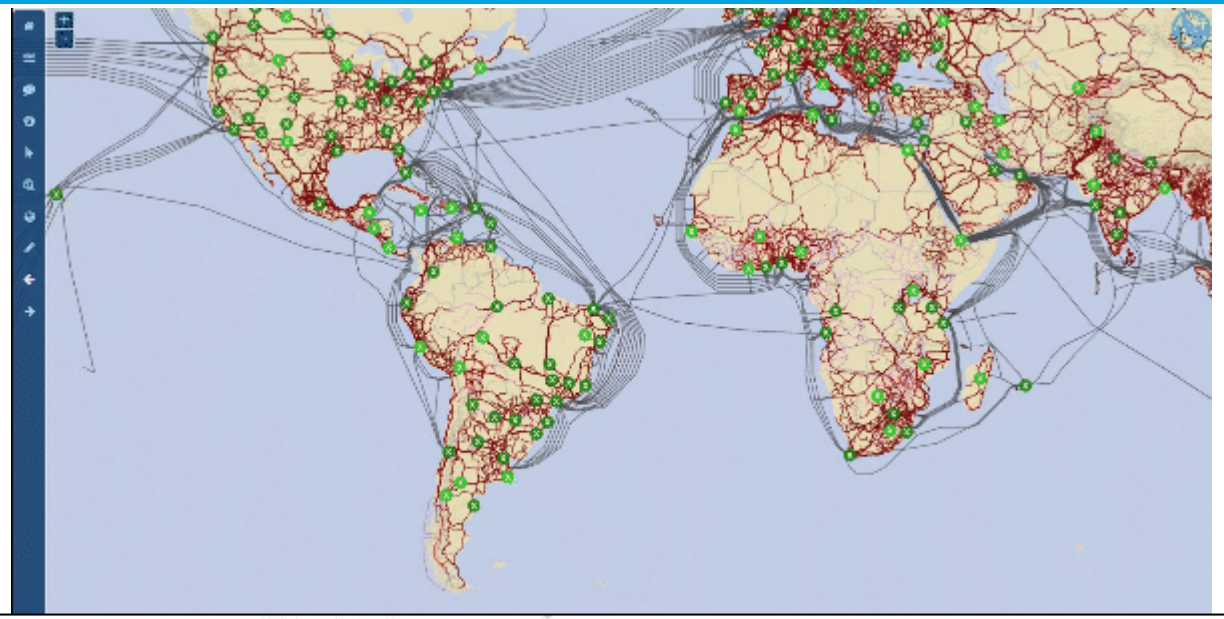
Best Practices/Guidelines

ITU Broadband Transmission Maps

In partnership with ESCAP,

National backbone connectivity, including: Optical fibres

- **Microwaves**
- **Satellite Earth Stations**
- **Mobile Coverage**
- **IXPs**
- **Other key metrics**



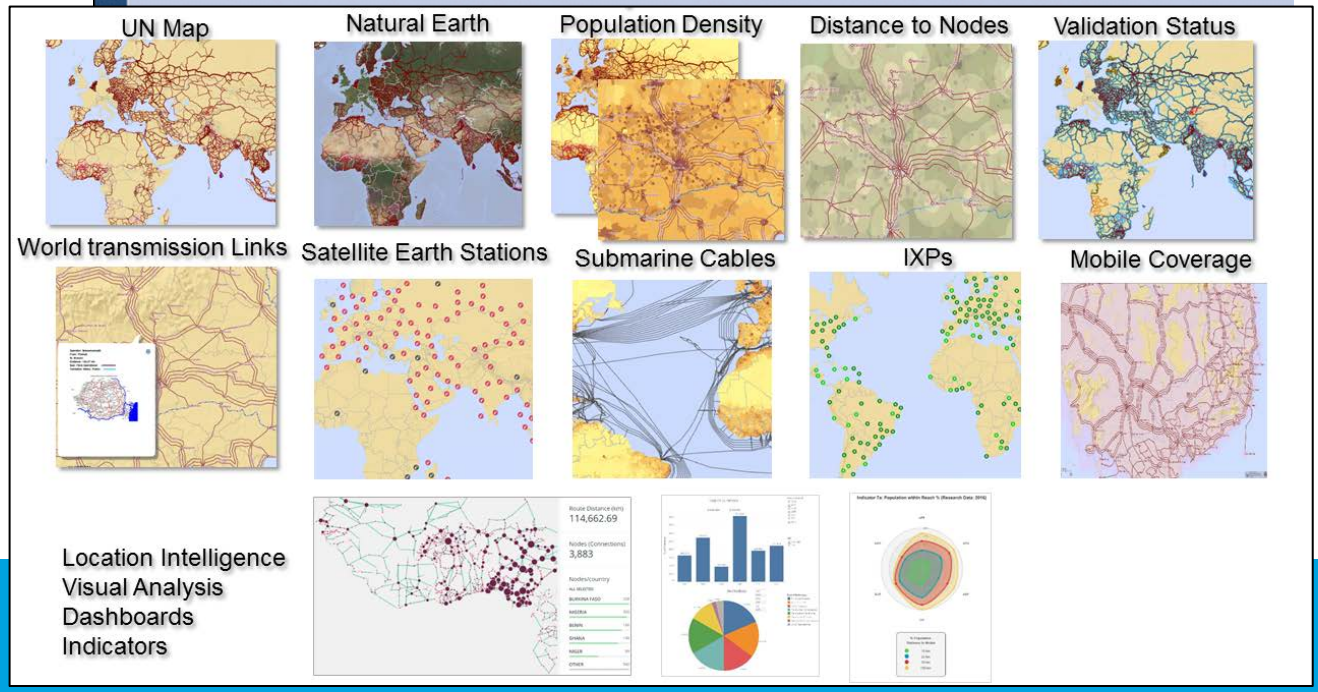
Location Intelligence - Data Visualization

Business Plan for ICT network deployment

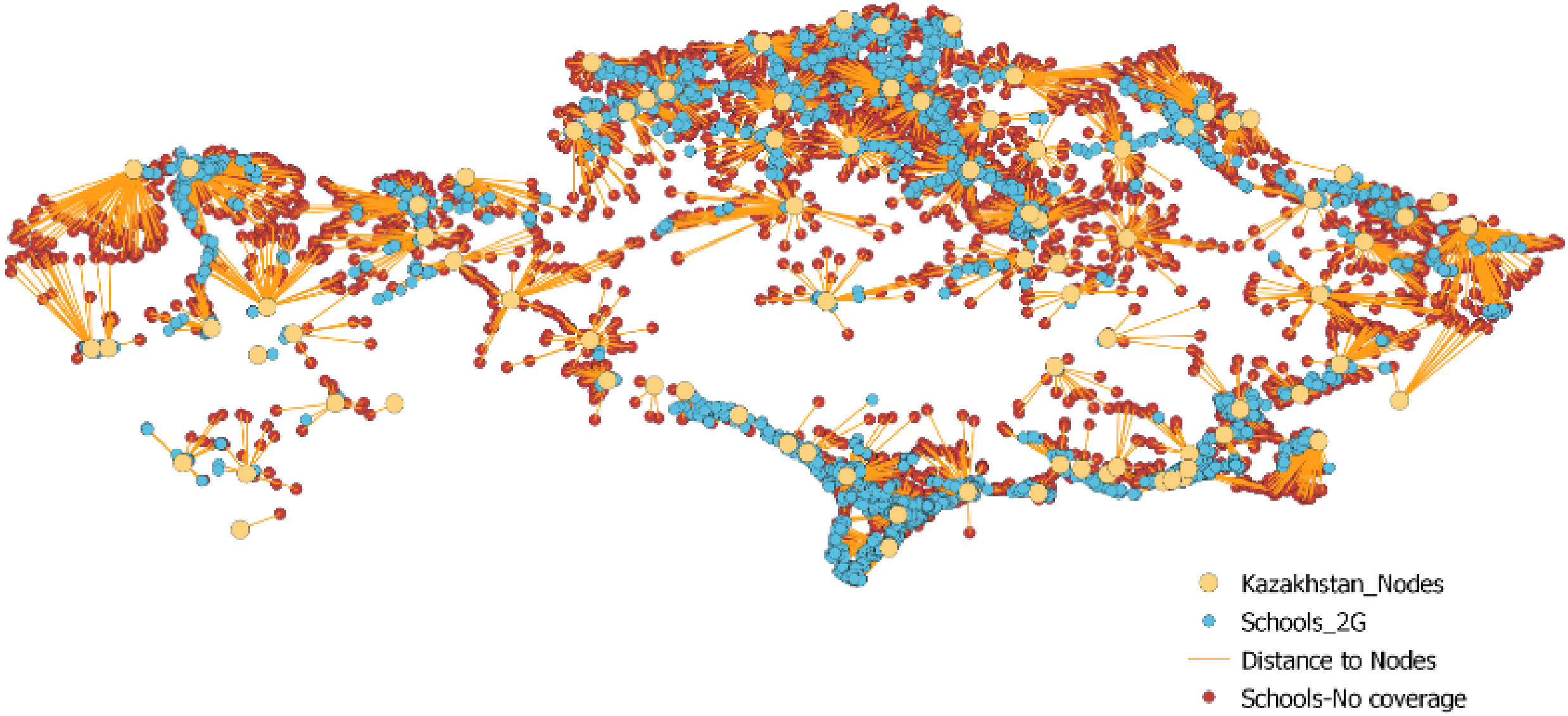
- **GIS tools for ICT Development**
- **Infrastructure cost estimation***

Public access to the Maps

– https://itu.int/go/map-public



Mobile Coverage - Distance to Nodes - Kazakhstan



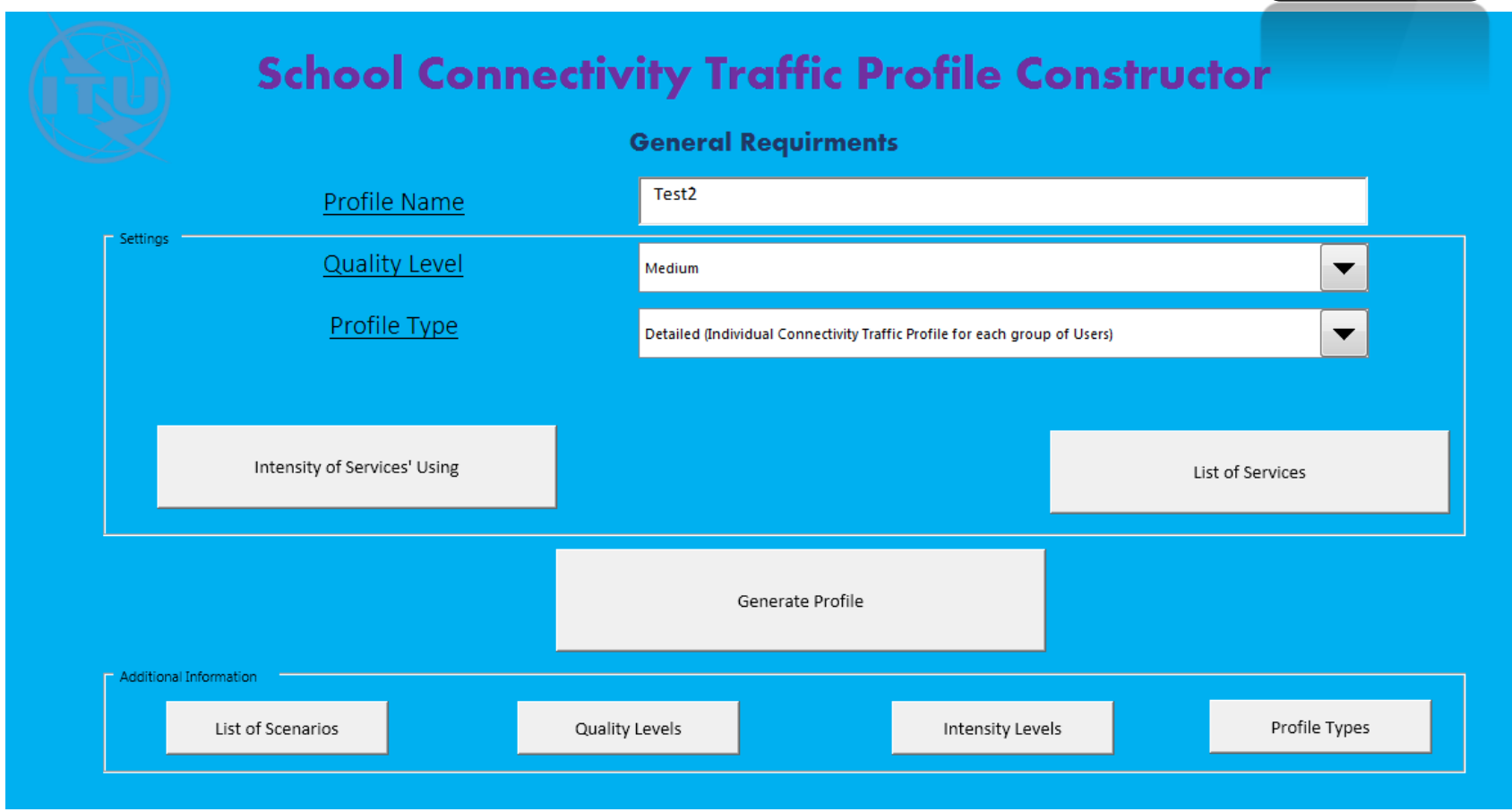
Last Mile connectivity Toolkit

ITU Last Mile connectivity Toolkit

An umbrella for various Last Mile Connectivity resources including:

- ITU Last Mile Internet Solutions Guide (October 2020)
- ITU Broadband Diagnostic Tools (October-December 2020)
- ITU courses on building, maintaining and monitoring a Last Mile network (Q2 2021)
- Additional resources on last mile connectivity from ITU and from various partners (December 2020)

Coordination and collaboration on Last Mile Connectivity resources, projects and initiatives (Q1 2021)



Supporting Giga in ASP through ITU OP and RIs

Map schools to identify connectivity gaps

Build affordable and sustainable **Finance** models

Implement fit-for-purpose infrastructure to **Connect** schools and ultimately every community and every citizen

Empower learning and other skills and services via appropriate Digital Public Goods

Working with partners to mobilise funds

More Information at : https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Initiatives/GIGA/Pages/default.aspx

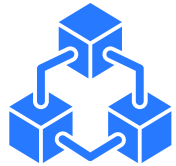
Giga in ASP: Moving Forward

Member States Review Country Level Giga requirements

Request to conduct National Level Information Session with key stakeholders from:

ICT, Education and Financial Ministry, Regulator and Private Sector

Member States Formalises Expression of interest by completing the Letter of Intent



Giga Pilot Project Country Partnership

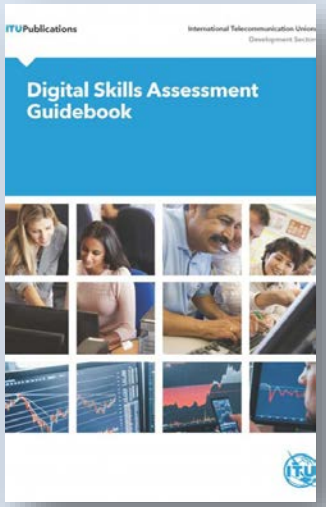
For more information:
ITU HQ: Alex Wong alex.wong@itu.int;
ASP: Sean Doral- sean.doral@itu.int;

Interested countries In ASP
Pakistan, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Mongolia, Vanuatu, Philippines, PNG.

Supporting Giga through ITU Tools and Publications

The 2020 Child Online Protection Guideline

The new guidelines propose a response to the global challenge of Child Online Protection



Digital Skills Assessment Guidebook

Comprehensive and practical step-by-step tool for national digital skills assessments

Building Smart Villages: A Blueprint

A comprehensive Whole-of-Government approach for Rural Digital Transformation

ITU Last Mile Connectivity Toolkit (Launching Soon)

Identifying specific solutions for localities identified as unserved and underserved in terms of telecommunications service.

Conclusions

- ✓ **Improving connectivity in Asia-Pacific is a challenge but real solution is Affordable connectivity**
- ✓ **Tools, best practices and guidelines help in planning and strategizing investments to create the biggest impact**
- ✓ **Partnerships are needed to deliver**

ITU REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FORUM

ITU RDF
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ONLINE 2020

2- 5 NOVEMBER

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