

New Innovative USF Projects in Sri Lanka

ITU-USF Pakistan Work shop on Internet Access &
Adoption

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Agenda

- Introduction
- Development of Telecommunications in Sri Lanka
- Universal Service Fund & Projects
- New Innovative USF Projects in Sri Lanka
- Future Trends

Country Profile

Capital	-	Colombo(Sri-jayawerdanapura)
Area	-	62,710 Km2
Population	-	20.9 million
Urban Population	-	22.6%
Rural Population	-	77.4%
GDP	-	US \$ 87.17 Billion
Currency	-	Sri Lankan Rupee

Introduction

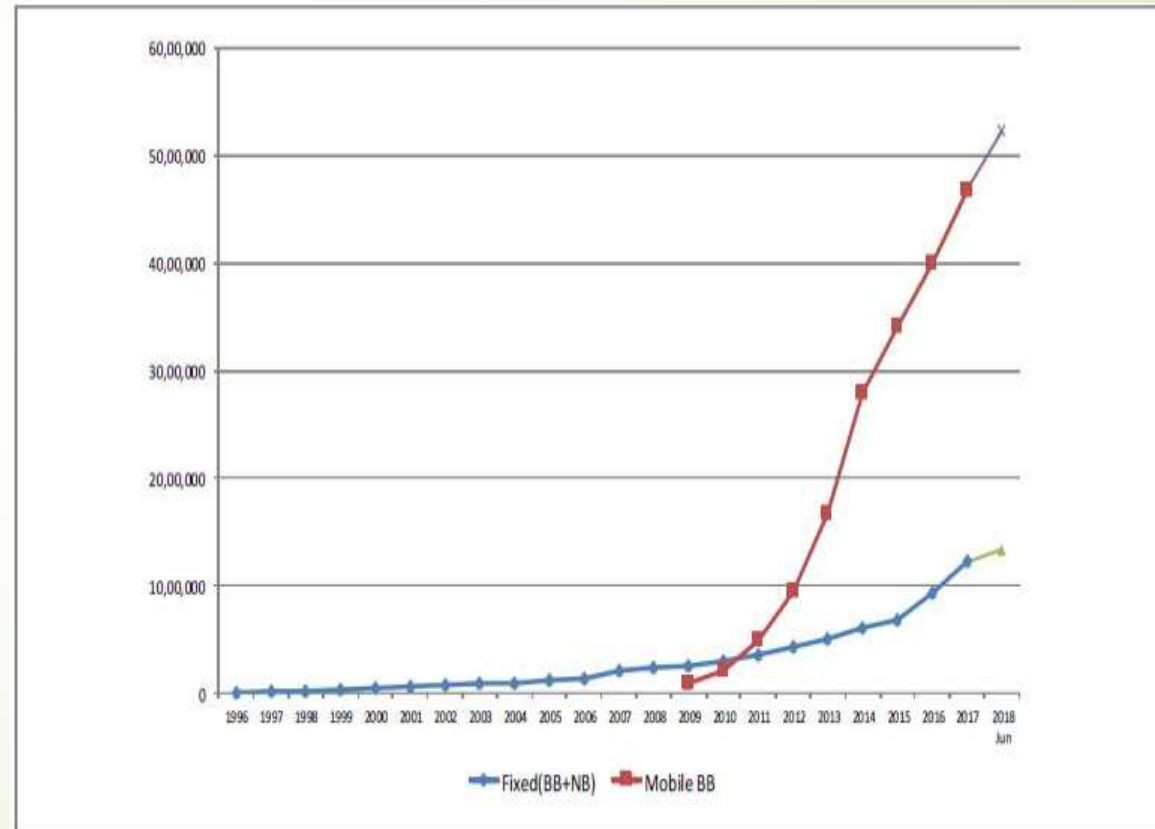
(Summary of the Telecommunication Scenario)

- **3** Fixed Operators ; (SLT, Lanka Bell, Dialog Broadband)
- **5** Mobile Operators ; (Dialog Axiata, Mobitel, Etisalat, Airtel, Hutchison)
- **7** International Telecommunications Operators ; (Dialog Axiata, Mobitel, Etisalat, Airtel, Hutchison, Lanka Bell, TATA)
- **2** Data Communication Operators ; (Lanka Communication Services, SITA)
- **5** Internet Service Providers (Airtel, Dialog Broadband, Etisalat, Lanka Education & Research Network TATA)

Development of the Telecommunications Sector in Sri Lanka

Fixed Broadband Mobile Broadband Subscription (1996-2018 June)

Year	Fixed(BB+NB)	Mobile BB
1996	2,504	
1997	10,195	
1998	18,984	
1999	25,535	
2000	40,497	
2001	61,532	
2002	73,468	
2003	85,500	
2004	93,444	
2005	115,000	
2006	130,000	
2007	202,348	
2008	234,000	
2009	249,756	91,359
2010	302,000	200,000
2011	359,000	485,000
2012	423,194	942,461
2013	507,845	1,664,003
2014	606,100	2,790,195
2015	682,512	3,408,408
2016	929,089	3,991,465
2017	1,221,960	4,682,300
2018 Jun	1,330,981	5,228,734



Universal Service Fund & Project

Telecommunication Development Charge (TDC)

Legal Frame Work ;

TDC Fund was formed under the International Telecommunications Operator Levy by Finance Act No. 11 of 2004 in Sri Lanka.

TDC Fund Regulations Gazette under Extraordinary Gazette No. 1386/24 on 31/03/2005

Collection of Funds stopped in 2014

Funds collected before 2014 currently being used for some projects

Funding Mechanism for TDC;

All International Telecommunications Operators (ITO) were required to pay for per minute for incoming international calls terminated to Sri Lanka.

This Charge rate collected by the Telecommunications Regulatory Commission of Sri Lanka.

2/3 TDC Retained by TRCSL

1/3 for Network development Activities

Projects with TDC (On going)

- Tower Sharing Projects
 - Specially for Rural Area (Subsidy given earlier but not given now)
- “Gamata Sanniwedanaya” (Connectivity for village) Project
 - Broadband availability through a survey
 - Implementation through Operator
- Broadband Connectivity to Computer Labs in Rural Schools.
- Emergency Communication System during Disaster
 - Through DMC

New Innovative USF Projects in Sri Lanka

- ICTs for Promoting Innovation & Entrepreneurship (with ITU Assistance)
- Girls in ICT
- Connect a school Connect a Community (ITU Assistance)
- Korean ICT Volunteer Program (NIA/ ITU/ TRCSL Collaborative Project)
- E-agriculture Strategy & Implementation (ITU/FAO/TRCSL/DOA Collaborative Project)

ICTs for Promoting Innovation & Entrepreneurship ;

- Target Group :Entrepreneurs, Trainers, School Leavers
- Completed several programs by TRCSL
- Objectives : Train the Trainers in the relevant fields (Covering Education & Agricultural Sector)

Girls in ICT ;

- Advance Level Girls Students in Schools
- Completed 09 programs in 09 provinces
- Objectives : Empowering women in the ICT Sector & to provide a boost to the economy

Connect a school Connect a Community ;

- Schools in Rural Areas
- Students / Persons with Disabilities
- Completed an Island wide project
- Objective : To Empower persons with disabilities
School Children with ICT Skills

Korean ICT Volunteer (KIV) Program ;

- Every year since 2010
- Students, Teachers & Persons with Special Needs
- Objectives : Improve ICT Skills of students with
Special Needs
Cultural Exchange

E-agriculture Startegy & Implementation ;


- ITU/FAO/TRCSL/DoA Combined Program Strategy being implemented
- Objective : To promote the usage of ICT facilities by Farmers for Agricultural Activities

Future Trends

“Creating a demand in the Rural Area for ICT Services will create a Business Case for operators to Cover Rural Areas”

Through

1. Developing ICT Knowledge Entrepreneurs Skills
2. Providing Loans for Entrepreneurs
3. Developing Policies for SMEs
4. Special Tariff Plans for SMEs through operators

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- **Government's loan scheme to support entrepreneurs to be launched in March**
2018-01-12
 - **Govt. expects to disburse Rs.60bn through state and private banks to would-be entrepreneurs**
 - **Rs.5bn set aside by the Treasury to reimburse interest subsidy to banks**
 - **Training Opportunities**



Thank you Very much for
your attention