

# ITU POLICY AND ECONOMICS COLLOQUIUM FOR AMERICAS (IPEC-25)

## REGIONAL ECONOMIC DIALOGUE

Montevideo, Uruguay, 6-10 October 2025

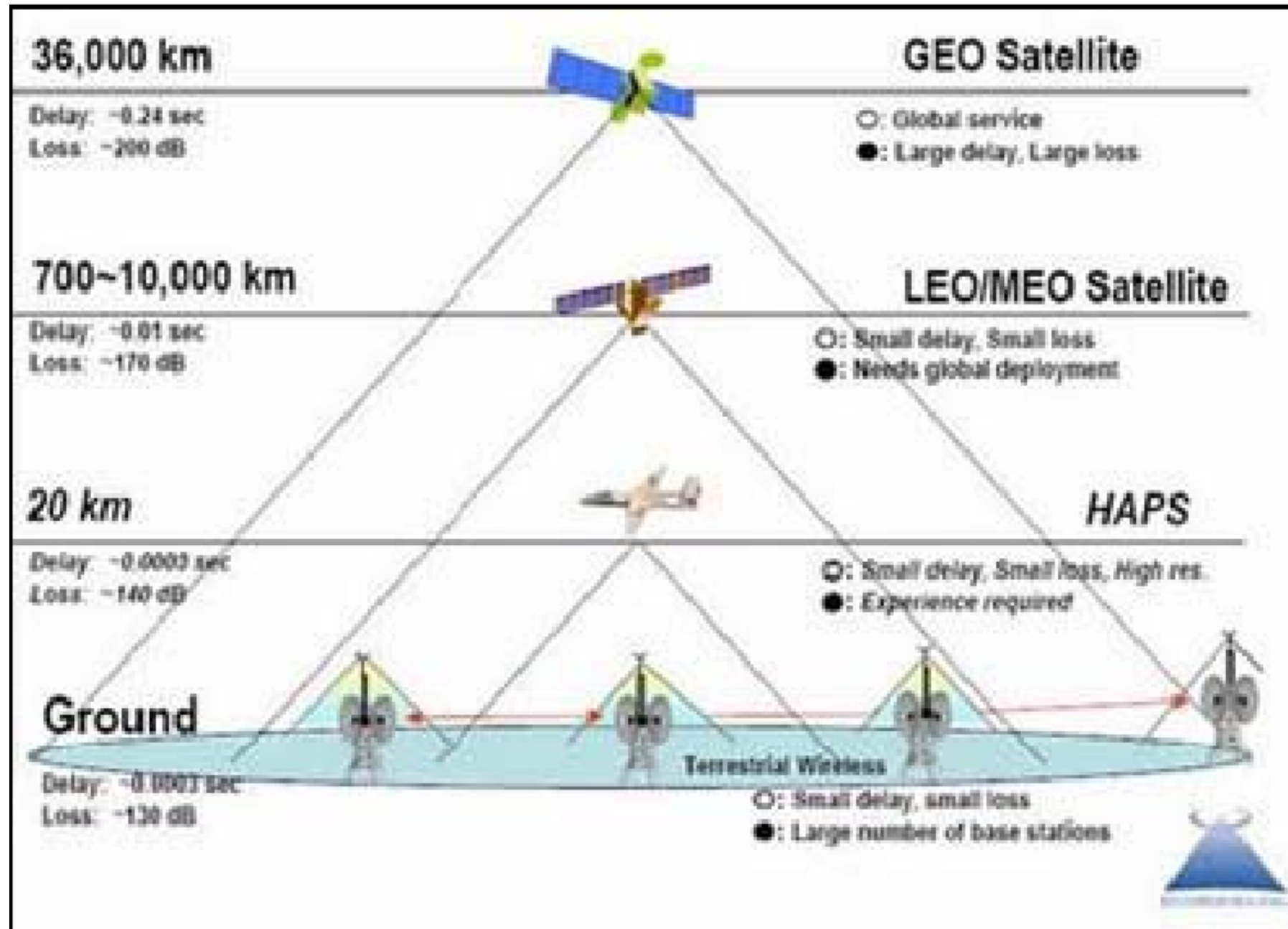
ITU-R: Direct to Device at the ITU-R  
Study Groups and WRC-27

**Joaquin RESTREPO**

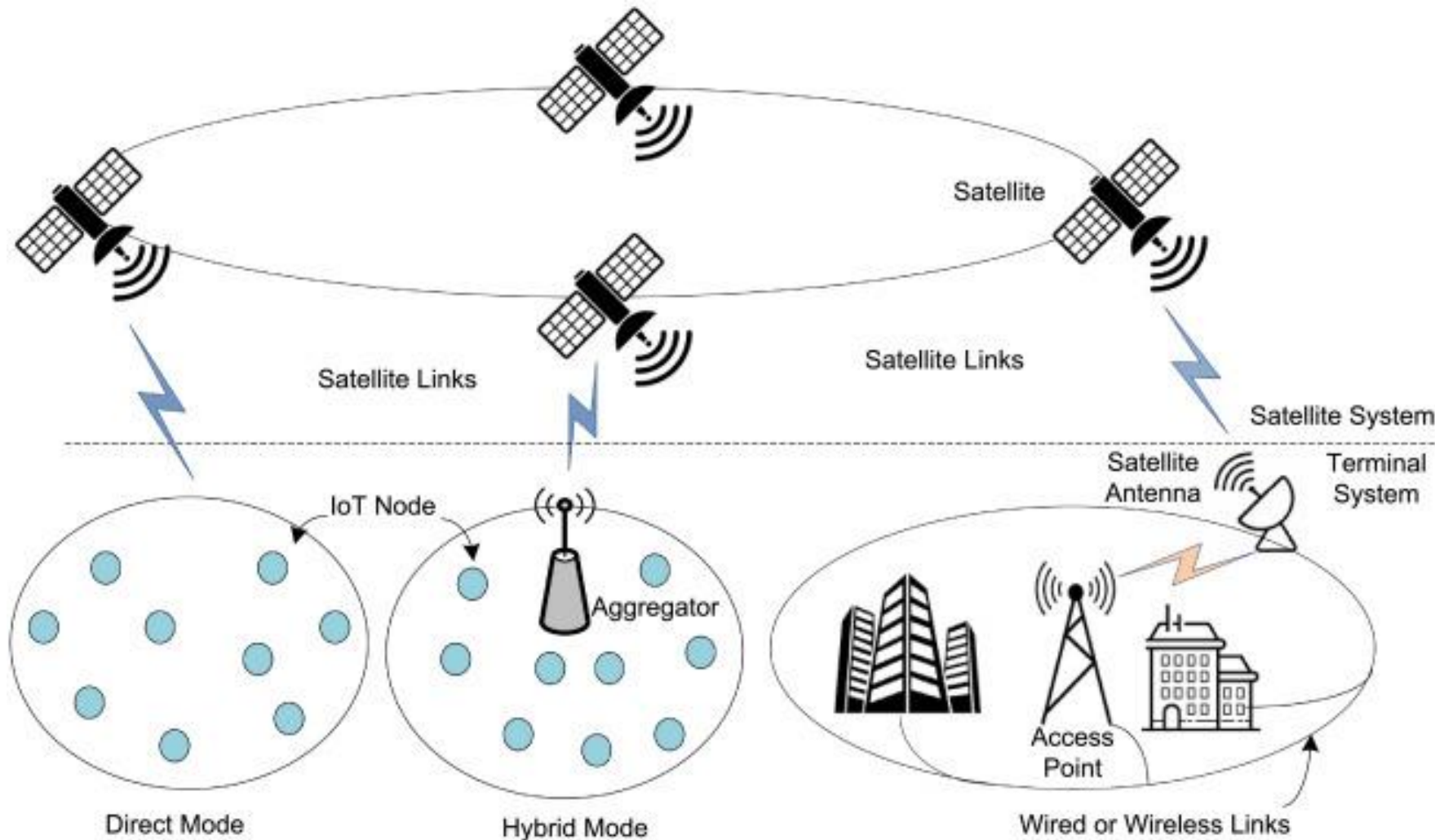
**Capacity Building Coordinator; Study Groups Department (SGD);  
Radiocommunications Bureau (BR); International Telecommunications Union, ITU**



# Broadband Access



# Satellite and Terrestrial Integration



**Direct Mode:** already exists

- **Broadcasting** (DTH)
- **Fixed:**
  - **GSO:** VSAT, USAT
  - **NGSO:** Smart antennas (plug and play)
- **Mobile:**
  - Narrowband
  - Broadband

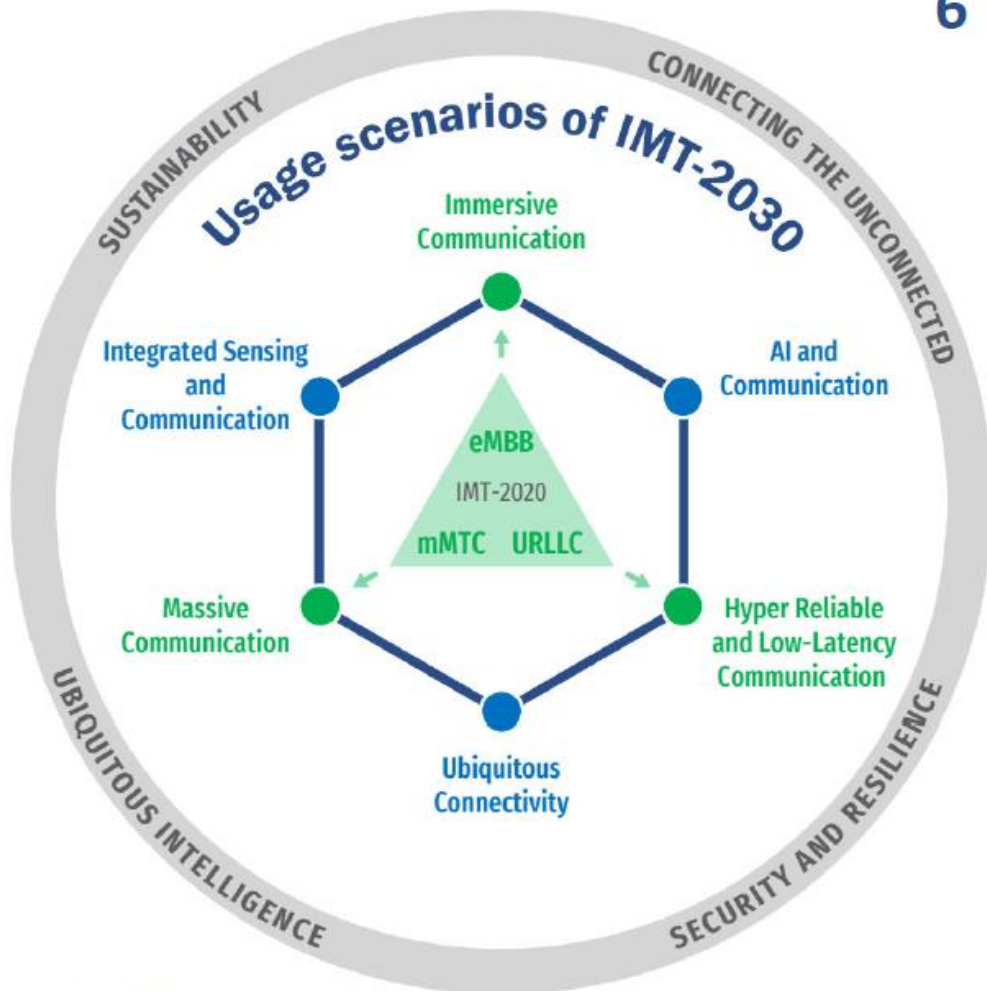
All above user terminals only operating for satellite links (**non compatible with terrestrial networks**)

## Direct to Device:

- seamless connection : from Terrestrial to Space Networks (in direct mode)
- **with a unique terminal**

# IMT-2030 (aka 6G)

## Usage scenarios



So called "Wheel diagram"

## 6 Usage scenarios

Extension from IMT-2020 (5G)

eMBB → Immersive Communication

mMTC → Massive Communication

URLLC → HURLLC (Hyper Reliable & Low-Latency Communication)

New

Ubiquitous Connectivity

AI and Communication

Integrated Sensing and Communication

4 Overarching aspects:

*act as design principles commonly applicable to all usage scenarios*

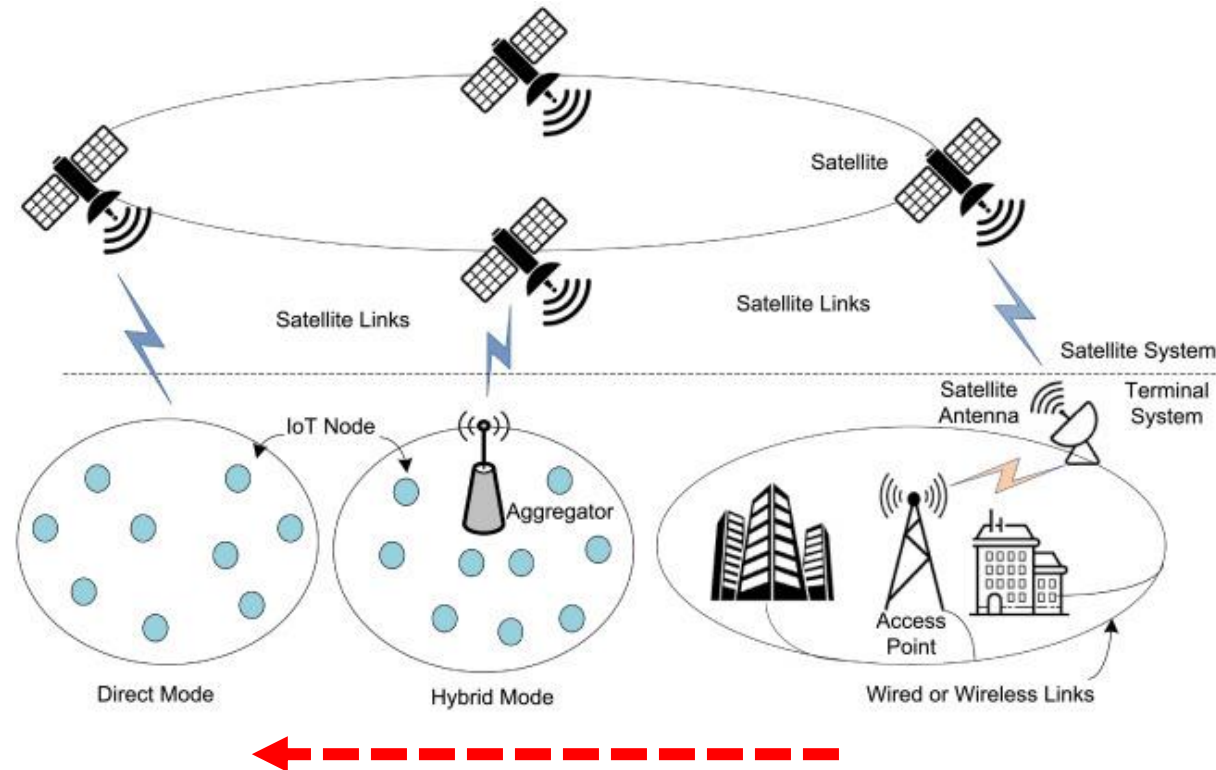
Sustainability, Connecting the unconnected,  
Ubiquitous intelligence, Security/resilience

# Core components of ubiquitous connectivity

1. **Terrestrial-Non-Terrestrial Network (TN-NTN) integration:** IMT-2030 will combine land-based networks with non-terrestrial networks from the sky and space, including **satellites**, High Altitude Platform Stations (**HAPS**), and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (**UAVs**). This will deliver consistent service across land, sea, air, and remote areas that are difficult or uneconomical to serve with traditional mobile networks.
2. **Access to underserved areas:** The primary goal of this integrated network is to **connect currently unserved and underserved communities**, improving connectivity in rural and sparsely populated regions. This promotes digital inclusion and provides affordable access to essential services like education, healthcare, and business opportunities.
3. **Seamless handovers:** The network will be designed to allow for smooth transitions between different access points, such as **moving from a terrestrial cell tower to a satellite connection**. This ensures uninterrupted mobility and a high quality of service for users.
4. **New frequency bands:** To support the vision of global coverage and ultra-fast data rates, IMT-2030 will use a wide range of frequency bands, from **sub-1 GHz** up to **sub-THz** frequencies (100 GHz to 10 THz). These higher frequencies offer greater speeds, though they present new propagation challenges that the network must overcome.
5. **Integration with other access systems:** IMT-2030 is designed to interwork with other technologies like **satellite communication systems**, wireless local area networks (RLAN), and broadcast systems to offer users a comprehensive connectivity experience.



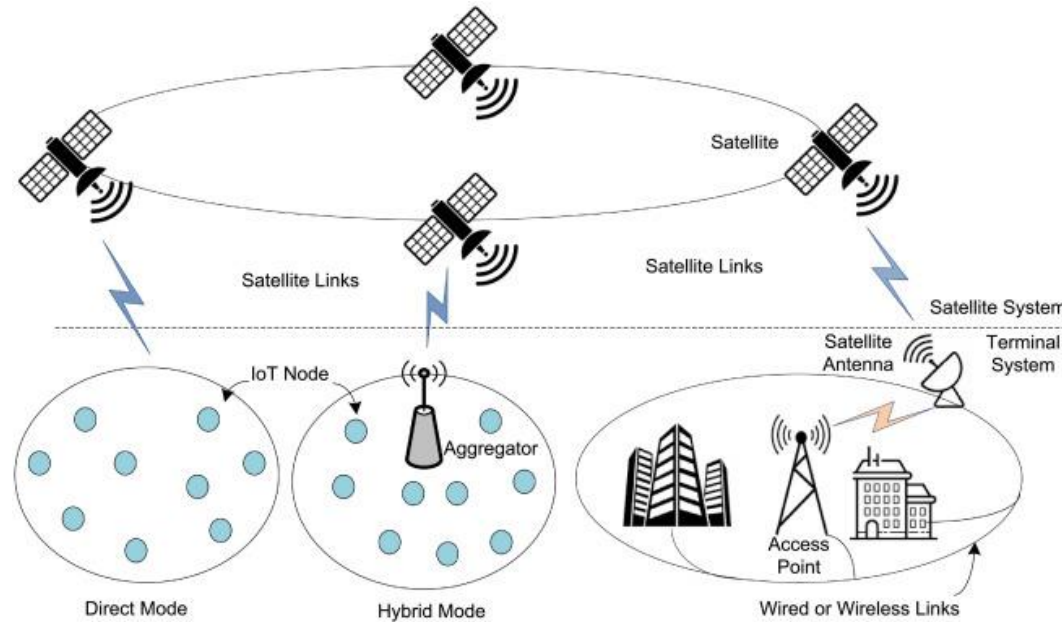
# D2D: What is the Users Profile?



## Mobile Network (Terrestrial) Users:

- They **already have the service** (within the Mobile Network coverage Area)
- They have high itinerancy: frequently traveling: Terrestrial → Hybrid → Direct Mode
- Key Questions:
  - What % of Mobile Users?
  - What % of time?
  - Business case: B2B? High cost? (terminal, service)
  - Excellent for Emergency Communications

# D2D: What is the Users Profile?



## Non-served (Terrestrial) Users:

- They **don't have yet the service** (out of Mobile Network coverage Area)
- They live on those remote/rural and large scattered areas : ~~Terrestrial~~; ~~Hybrid~~; Direct Mode
  - A. Satellite service: Fixed + Mobile
    - Their connectivity needs are firstly fulfilled with a Fixed Terminal (**Domestic Hybrid Mode**)
    - % time they **also need** a mobile access? (**out of coverage of their Domestic Hybrid cell**)
  - B. Satellite service: Only Mobile
    - A Domestic Hybrid cell can be implemented trough a D2D? Propagation challenges (line of sight link)

**Main challenge:** : Why don't they have yet a Satellite service? **-> Low income**

# ITU-R SG 4: Space Services

## D2D publications (before WRC-23)

- **Report ITU-R M.2077-0:** shortfall of spectrum available for the satellite component of IMT and systems beyond IMT-2000 :
  - >144 MHz (space-to-Earth)
  - >19 MHz (Earth-to-space)
- **Report ITU-R M.2218-0:** spectrum requirement in 4-16 GHz for MSS broadband applications: 240 MHz to 355 MHz
- **Report ITU-R M.2514-0:** vision, requirements and evaluation guidelines for satellite radio interfaces of IMT-2020. Minimum technical requirements for satellite systems which can be part of the IMT-2020 ecosystem, including bandwidth requirements
- **Report ITU-R M.2041-0:** sharing and adjacent band compatibility in the 2.5 GHz band between the terrestrial and satellite components of IMT-2000





# ITU-R SG 4: Space Services

## D2D publications (before WRC-23)

- **Recommendation ITU-R M.1182-1** integration of terrestrial and satellite mobile communication systems
- **Recommendation ITU-R M.1036-6:** frequency arrangements for the implementation of the terrestrial component of IMT in the bands identified for IMT in the Radio Regulations
- **Recommendation ITU-R M.1808-1:** also applies for the studies of frequency bands allocated for the mobile service below 960 MHz;

**a.i. 1.13** to consider studies on possible new allocations to the mobile-satellite service for direct connectivity between space stations and International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) user equipment to complement terrestrial IMT network coverage, in accordance with Resolution 253 (WRC-23);

**WRC-23 Res 253:** Studies on possible new allocations to the mobile-satellite service for direct connectivity between space stations and International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) user equipment to complement terrestrial IMT network coverage

THANKS 😊  
GRACIAS 😊

Further info:  
[joaquin.restrepo@itu.int](mailto:joaquin.restrepo@itu.int)