

Update of the Activities of the South Asian Telecommunication Regulators' Council (SATRC)

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Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) in brief

Asia-Pacific Telecommunity fosters the development of telecommunication services and information infrastructure throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

Find out more about Asia-Pacific Telecommunity



The South Asian Telecommunication Regulators' Council (SATRC)

SATRC was established in 1997 by an initiative of APT and ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific



It is providing a platform for discussion and coordination of the issues that are common to the telecommunication/ICT regulators



SATRC activities are conducted by involvement of the highest level representation of the regulatory bodies.

SATRC Members

Afghanistan:
Afghanistan
Telecommunication
Regulatory Authority
(ATRA)

Bangladesh:
Bangladesh
Telecommunication
Regulatory Commission
(BTRC)

Bhutan: Bhutan
InfoComm and Media
Authority (BICMA)

India: Telecom
Regulatory Authority of
India (TRAI)

**Islamic Republic of
Iran:** Communications
Regulatory Authority
(CRA)

Maldives:
Communications
Authority of Maldives
(CAM)

Nepal: Nepal
Telecommunications
Authority (NTA)

Pakistan: Pakistan
Telecommunications
Authority (PTA)

Sri Lanka:
Telecommunication
Regulatory Commission
of Sri Lanka (TRCSL)

The Context:

With a population of over 1.8 billions, the South Asia represents one of the largest sub-region in terms of telecom and ICT market opportunities

Consists of developing, least developing, land locked and small island developing economies

South Asia sub region is among the top global markets by mobile broadband subscriber growth

Digital transformation policy and strategy has been widely adopted in the region. 5G has been commercialized in several countries

The Challenge:

Only about 35% of the population using broadband whereas Mobile broadband coverage is over 95% of the population!

Nearly 1 billion people in the region yet to use broadband

Significant digital gap exists in rural-urban and gender use

Literacy and skills are biggest barrier

Affordability of terminal devices still a big concern

The Opportunity:

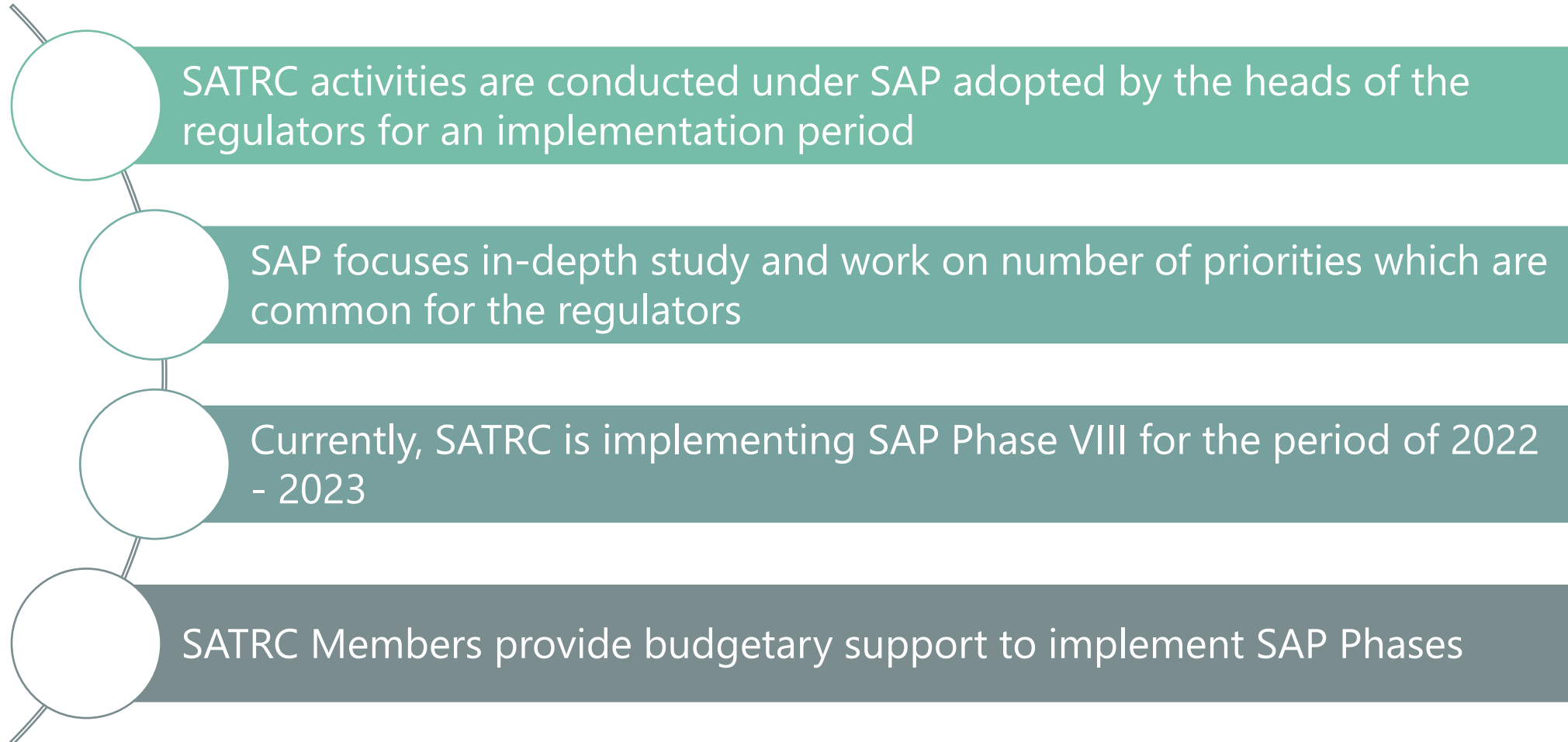
Connecting the billion of population needs innovation and regional cooperation and collaboration

The Effort:

SATRC is continuing to provide the necessary platform for cooperation among the regulators

SATRC Members adopt and implement SATRC Action Plans in phases as part of collaborative effort

Activities of the SATRC: SATRC Action Plan (SAP)



Priorities for the Regulators: The Work Items

Development of enabling policy and regulatory environment to support the ecosystem brought by 5G

- Anticipated use cases and management of 5G ecosystem would require coordinated efforts with cross-sectoral involvement
- Enabling policy and regulatory environments is the key to foster an open and competitive economy in this new ecosystem brought by 5G

Telecom active infrastructure sharing

- Achieving an enabling policy and regulatory framework conducive to active infrastructure sharing
- Identifying existing platform suitable for active infrastructure sharing
- Enabling regulatory instrument to be used for bench marking and dispute resolution

Regulatory issues for OTT services and applications

- Developing a new regulatory framework for addressing the compliance of the OTT services in accordance with national laws and regulation including competition and investment issues

Requirements, challenges and impact of NGSO Constellation

- Establish laws and regulations for NGSO based networks taking into account on various issues such as licensing, international laws and regulation, spectrum requirements, challenges and impact on existing national telecommunication infrastructure

Priorities for the Regulators: The Work Items (cont'd)

Approaches toward the harmonization of spectrum bands for 5G

- How best to meet the increasing demand of spectrum for mobile?
- How best to utilize the spectrum bands for 5G to benefit from international harmonization with better economies of scale?

Evaluation of the spectrum utilization

- Study the efficiency of spectrum utilization used by public agencies as well as other entities
- Study the efficiency of spectrum utilization in mobile networks

Reviewing the regulatory approaches for sharing, trading and leasing of spectrum

- Examination of different techniques of spectrum sharing, trading and leasing and consider a harmonized regulatory approach to ensure the maximum utilization of the spectrum to meet the growing demand

Cross-border coordination for interference mitigation

- Analyze the experiences on managing the cross-border interference and recommend some procedures for bi-lateral and multi-lateral coordination to mitigate the cross-border interference

Action plan for the spectrum management infrastructure, procedure and tools

- To provide a guideline to develop and strengthen the spectrum management procedures, infrastructures and tools

SATRC Events in 2023

Events	When	Where
SATRC Workshop on Spectrum	31 Jan – 2 Feb 2023	New Delhi, India
SATRC Workshop on Policy Regulation and Services	8 – 10 May 2023	Islamabad, Pakistan
Meeting of the SATRC Working Group on Policy, Regulation and Services	4 – 6 July 2023	Maldives
Meeting of the SATRC Working Group on Spectrum	19 – 21 September 2023	Sri Lanka
24 th Meeting of the SATRC	3 – 5 October 2023	Dhaka, Bangladesh

Conclusion

- SATRC is a unique sub regional program of APT for addressing the issues of common interest among the regulators of South-Asian countries
- SATRC Members are committed to cooperate for the implementation of the planned activities
- SATRC encourages mutual cooperation with other regional associations of telecom regulators

SATRC Web Resources and Reports

SATRC Web Portal has been introduced last year to share information and resources of SATRC

Available at:
<https://satrc.aptrc.int/>

SOUTH ASIAN TELECOMMUNICATION REGULATORS' COUNCIL
(APT SATRC WEB PORTAL)

ABOUT SATRC MEMBERS ACTION PLANS PUBLICATIONS EVENTS

Search Login/Register APT Website

Inaugural Ceremony
South Asian Telecommunication
Regulators' Council (SATRC) Workshop
Policy, Regulation and Services

SATRC Workshop on Policy, Regulation and Services, 8-10 May 2023, Islamabad, Pakistan

Latest News

Upcoming Events

July 2023

JUL 04
04 July 2023
The Meeting of the
SATRC Working Group
Policy, Regulation and
Services



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SATRC Website: www.apt.int/APTSATRC

Thank you

