

ITUEGTI

ITU Expert Group on Telecommunication/ICT Indicators

12th Meeting

13-15 September 2021 | 13:00-16:00 (CET)

Summary and Conclusions



- EGTI Agreed at its 11th Meeting in 2020 to extend the mandate of the subgroup on 5G indicators (initially established at the 10th Meeting of EGTI in 2019) with the aim to develop indicators measuring adoption and subscription.
- In its report, the sub-group coordinator presented the results of the ad-hoc questionnaire on deploying 5G networks.
- During the meeting, the sub-group proposed adding two new indicators:
 - active mobile broadband subscriptions to 5G/IMT-2020 and
 - mobile cellular subscriptions with access to 5G/IMT-2020, as a new sub-indicator of active mobile cellular subscriptions,and to refine the scope of existing indicators:
 - active mobile subscriptions with 4G/LTE (this will include any more advanced technology)
 - active mobile broadband subscriptions (this will include any bb with 5G/IMT-2020)
 - active fixed-broadband subscriptions (this will include 5G/IMT-2020 -supported fixed wireless broadband);As well as to
 - flag the spectrum blocks assigned to 5G when reporting the indicator “total spectrum assigned for ach of the three main blocks” by indicating a) what specific spectrum band has been assigned for 5G, and how much total capacity has been assigned to 5G (in MHz).

EGTI 2021 meeting agreed to

1. add as new indicators:
 - a. active mobile broadband subscriptions to 5G/IMT-2020, and
 - b. mobile cellular subscriptions with access to 5G/IMT-2020, as a new sub-indicator of active mobile cellular subscriptions
2. refine the scope of the following existing indicators as proposed in the subgroup report:
 - a. active mobile subscriptions with 4G/LTE (this will include any more advanced technology)
 - b. active mobile broadband subscriptions (this will include any bb with 5G/IMT-2020)
 - c. active fixed-broadband subscriptions (this will include 5G/IMT-2020 -supported fixed wireless broadband);
3. Collect data on **spectrum blocks assigned to 5G**, when reporting the indicator “total spectrum assigned for each of the three main blocks” by indicating a) what specific spectrum band has been assigned for 5G, and how much total capacity has been assigned to 5G (in MHz).
4. Subject to comments from ITU-R and EGTI Members by 15 October;
5. The new indicators will be collected in the ITU WTI Long Questionnaire 2022;
6. extend the mandate of the 5G sub-group with the aim to investigate the implications for M2M subscriptions.

- Last year, at its 11th Meeting, EGTI revised the price baskets collected by ITU. This session aimed to share preliminary experience with the data collection.
- The ITU Secretariat informed EGTI about the ongoing collaboration with the Alliance for Affordable Internet (A4AI) on ICT price data collection and dissemination.
- In her presentation, Shazna Zuhyle summarized the experience with the 2021 ICT price data collection, highlighting the potential breaks in series from 2020 to 2021 due to changed rules, such as those concerning contract modality and, to a limited extent, changes in the allowance threshold.
- Teddy Woodhouse shared the experience of Alliance for Affordable Internet (A4AI) with the collection of mobile broadband prices with a variety of alternative allowance thresholds reflecting market realities, highlighting the relevance of collected data for 1, 2 and 5 GB baskets.
- The ensuing discussion focused on the advantages and disadvantages of revising ITU's ICT price data collection methodology.

Conclusion

3. Experience with collecting 2021 price baskets

- EGTI agreed to postpone the re-activation of the subgroup on ICT prices in order to ensure continuity
- ITU will continue to collaborate with A4AI on the collection and dissemination of ICT Price baskets.

- The 11th meeting of EGTI in 2020 set up the sub-group on measuring OTT services;
- Work of the subgroup only started in May 2021 with the appointment of the chair/rapporteur and of Member State participants. The group's objectives spanned from reflection on the foundations for work on OTTs to considering a possible outline set of indicators.
- In his presentation, Mr. Oliver Fug, the sub-group rapporteur explained that based on a stocktaking exercise among participants it identified limited ongoing data collection activities and the absence of a shared conceptual framework on which to base a joint methodology.
- The sub-group proposed to adopt the consensus definition of OTTs for the purpose of statistical data collection, as well as to continue the group's work during the 2021/2022 period with the aim to:
 - Clarify framework conditions (institutional, other) for data collection at membership scale.
 - Study technical aspects of OTT communications.
 - Assess feasibility of data collection.
 - Define indicator(s) and, if possible, conduct data collection trials.

EGTI agreed

1. to adopt the definition of Over-the-top (OTT) services as proposed by the subgroup;
2. Extend the mandate of the OTT subgroup for the following year. Its work will entail examining framework conditions for data collection, studying technical aspects of OTT communications, evaluate the feasibility of data collection, to eventually define indicator(s) and, if possible, conduct data collection trials.

Given the additional insights expected to be gained from demand-side measurement, the sub-group shall continue as a joint EGTI-EGH subgroup, subject to the agreement of EGH.

- The 10th meeting of EGTI in 2019 adopted a set of indicators to measure the allocation and assignment of spectrum for IMT systems. Subsequently, ITU launched its first data collection of these spectrum indicators in the 2020 WTI Long Questionnaire.
- In his presentation, Mr. Joaquin Restrepo (ITU-R) explained the relevance and use for the collection of these indicators. He also explained the methodology applied for the inclusion of spectrums in the denominator of the indicators used for international comparison, which are based on those identified by at least 50% of the countries in each of the 3 regions defined in the ITU Radio Regulation.
- The presentation provided regionally aggregated results from the 2020 data collection round.

Conclusion

5. Experience with collecting indicators on spectrum for IMT systems

1. EGTI agreed to continue the collection of statistics on spectrum for IMT services.

- In the two sessions, the ITU Secretariat (ICT Data and Analytics Division) informed EGTI of newly developed statistical products, including the
 - ITU Academy free only training course on the Handbook, titled: “Measuring Digital Development: Telecommunication/ICT Indicators”;
 - The Digital Development Dashboard, a data visualization tool for disseminating ITU statistics; and
 - Ongoing work on the exploitation of big data for measuring digital development

EGTI agreed to:

1. Create a subgroup to review indicators collected in the ITU WTI Long Questionnaire and re-visit how the number of households covered by a certain technology of fixed-broadband is measured (instead of numbers, collect % to improve comparability);
2. Extend the mandate of 5G subgroup, with the aim to investigate the implications for M2M subscriptions;
3. Extend the mandate of the OTT subgroup, with the aim to examine framework conditions for data collection, study technical aspects of OTT communications, taking into account the related work of other international organizations, evaluate the feasibility of data collection, to eventually define indicator(s) and, if possible, conduct data collection trials.); the sub-group shall continue as a joint EGTI-EGH subgroup, subject to the agreement of EGH.
4. Re-activate the forum topic on internet of things (IoT) for topics other than 5G.

- The 11th meeting of EGTI and the 8th meeting of EGH in 2020 agreed to form a joint subgroup with an aim to develop indicators measuring the adoption and usage of mobile money services from the supply as well as the demand side.
- The joint subgroup, based on experience from countries and GSMA, proposed to define mobile money as a technology that allows people to receive, store, and transfer money or make payments through a mobile phone, and specified the scope of measurement.
- Considering the supply side, it proposed the addition of 4 new indicators to measure mobile money services:
 - Number of mobile money active customer accounts
 - Number of domestic account-to-account P2P transfers
 - Value of domestic account-to-account transfers
 - Number of Active agents

1. EGTI Agreed to collect the following new indicators to measure mobile money services:
 - a. Number of mobile money active customer accounts
 - b. Number of domestic account-to-account P2P transfers
 - c. Value of domestic account-to-account transfers
 - d. Number of Active agents
2. The four new indicators will be collected on a trial basis in the 2022 ITU WTI Long Questionnaire, after which EGTI will revisit data availability and relevance of the indicators.
3. The subgroup is closed.

Overall Conclusions

- All the decisions regarding the indicators will be subjected to comments until 15 October 2021, after which they will become final.

Thank you!

