

ITU EGTI

ITU Expert Group on Telecommunication/ICT Indicators

13th Meeting

12-14 September 2022 | 13:00-16:00 (CET)

Summary and Conclusions



2. 5G/m2m subgroup - Summary

Summary

- At its 12th Meeting in 2021, EGTI agreed to extend the mandate of the subgroup on 5G indicators (initially established at the 10th Meeting of EGTI in 2019) with the aim to consider if there was any need to extend the existing machine-to-machine (m2m) indicator definition considering the new applications, uses and connectivity possibilities offered by 5G/IMT-2020 technology.
- At the 13th Meeting of EGTI in 2022, Prof. Herguera, the sub-group coordinator, summarized the outcome of discussions and proposals provided in their report.
 - This emphasized the growing importance of m2m and Internet of Things (IoT) connections in general, as well as the challenges of measuring the number of connections using unlicensed spectrum or local networks.
 - The subgroup proposed that EGTI should keep collecting statistics on m2m connections using the current definition, with a small modification (see next slide).
- The ensuing discussion emphasized the limited ability of regulators to monitor all m2m connections as well as the importance of continued data collection; including the consideration of using other data sources.

2. 5G/m2m subgroup - Conclusions

Conclusions

- EGTI agreed to keep the current definition of the M2M indicator
2.10 Machine-to-Machine mobile network subscriptions- M2M(i271m2m), and clarify the scope as follows:
 - **include eSIM;**
 - use the same **activity criterion** as the one used in cellular subscriptions (past 90 days);
 - excludes connections among devices that use other networks, i.e., non- licensed spectrum, private networks or some local area networks, among others
- EGTI recommends to continue monitoring the evolution of Internet of Things (IoT), in collaboration with the data collection efforts from the user side (individuals or enterprises)

3. Middle-mile connectivity - Summary & Conclusions

- EGTI discussed the relevance of statistics on middle-mile connectivity from multiple aspects building on insights from 3 presentations:
 - Mr. Michael Minges emphasized that IXPs and data centers are critical components of the digital economy but are largely invisible in ICT sector statistics, calling for the need to define and collect new statistics - including those on environmental sustainability;
 - Ms. Bijal Sanghani offered insights on the benchmarking work carried out by Euro-IX, the Membership Association of IXPs;
 - Mr. Milton Kashiwakura provided technical details about the background of connectivity in Brazil, covering Autonomous System Networks (ASNs), IXPs and content delivery networks (CDNs) and relevant statistics;
- EGTI proposed to develop internationally harmonized indicators on IXPs and data centers;

4. Introduction to new ITU statistical products

- Fredrik Eriksson (ITU) presented the latest results from the ITU big data project;
- Thierry Geiger (ITU) provided an overview of the ongoing work to improve the ITU statistical data cycle and presented the ITU DataHub, a dissemination platform for ITU statistics offering a rich source of ICT data.

5. Review of the ITU WTI Long Questionnaire – Summary

- At its 12th Meeting in 2021, EGTI agreed create a subgroup with the mandate to review indicators collected in the ITU WTI Long Questionnaire, with an aim to find a balance between stakeholder needs for detailed, comprehensive, timely, high-quality data measuring different dimensions of digital development and the response burden on Member States, and to re-visit how the number of households covered by a certain technology of fixed broadband is measured.
- At the 13th Meeting of EGTI in 2022, the sub-group leader, Ms. Cinthya Arias (SUTEL, Costa Rica) provided an overview of the work of the sub-group, that included reviewing response rates, regional response patterns and relevance of indicators (based on surveying statistical focal points).
- Based on its thorough evaluation work, the subgroup presented its proposal to EGTI, which entailed: 1) dropping; 2) putting on hold recently introduced indicators (until sufficient evidence emerges from questionnaires); 3) simplifying indicators; 4) flag for methodological refinement; and 5) keep collecting indicators.
- EGTI discussed in details each group of indicators.

5. Review of the ITU WTI Long Questionnaire – Conclusions

- EGTI agreed to
 - Directly drop 1 indicator from the LQ but still on Handbook
 - Keep “On Hold” 7 of the 44 analyzed
 - Simplify 14 indicators of the 44 analyzed – the specific methodological details need to be defined in future work
 - Keep for data collection or reporting 3 indicators, but flag the need for methodological refinements
 - Keep collecting data for the rest of the indicators
- The work of the subgroup is closed.

7. Measuring OTTs - Summary

- At its 12th Meeting in 2021, EGTI agreed to extend the mandate of the subgroup on developing OTT indicators (initially established at the 11th Meeting of EGTI in 2020), in the form of a joint subgroup of the Expert Group on Household Indicators (EGH), with the aim of operationalizing the definition agreed and collecting data;
- At the 13th Meeting of EGTI in 2022, the subgroup chairs presented a summary of the joint report, highlighting existing legal and technical challenges hampering data collection as well as the need for participants to come forward sharing experience with data collection.
- The subgroup chairs recommended the extension of the mandate of the joint subgroup, conditional to the availability of additional country experiences and membership participation to build upon
- During the discussion, EGTI and EGH members pointed to recent country experiences and expressed interest to join the subgroup

7. Measuring OTTs - Conclusions

- EGTI agreed to
 - Building knowledge base and mechanisms for exchange on practical questions.
 - Enquiry into non-traditional data collection approaches, and exploration of data triangulation
 - Develop OTT communications data collection guidance, considering evolving Member State practices.
 - Extend the mandate of the joint subgroup

6. Future work

Subgroup or discussion forum – subject to commitment to participate

- Revisit outcome of pilot recently introduced indicators and those “on hold”
 - Quality of service
 - Int’l roaming
 - Mobile money
 - 5G
- Define and refine methodology for new indicators created by simplifying (aggregating) existing indicators;
 - fixed and mobile numbers ported;
 - foreign investments in telecom
- Measuring middle-mile connectivity (IXPs, data centers, etc.)
- Developing indicators on measuring OTTs: extend the work of the subgroup
- Explore changing the methodology for calculating fixed broadband penetration

Overall conclusions

- All the decisions will be subjected to comments until 21 October 2022, after which they will become final.

Thank you!

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