

REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS FOR SATELLITE BROADBAND

SESSION 1: REGULATORY TRENDS AND EMERGING REGULATORY CHALLENGES AT THE INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVEL



José Toscano
Director General of ITSO
International Regulatory
Conference for Europe
26-27 September 2016
Budva, Montenegro

AGENDA

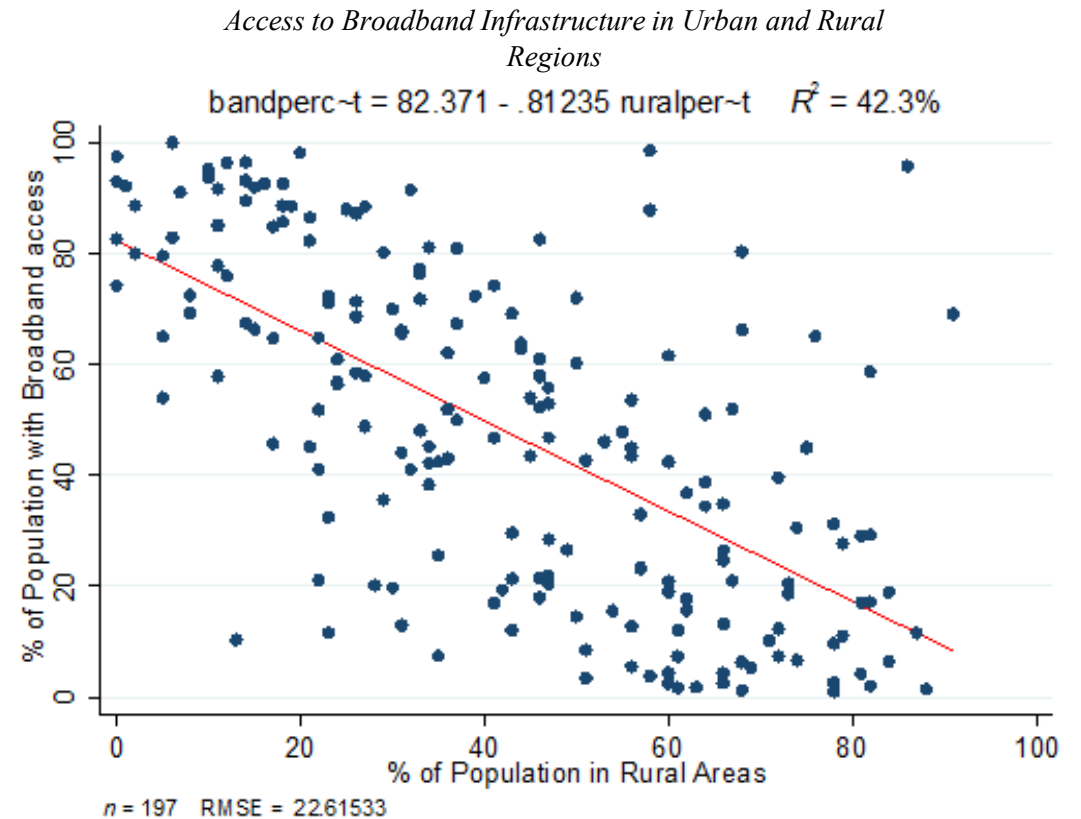
- Introduction
- Satellite Broadband
 - Where are the unconnected?
 - When and why can satellite be used?
 - What are the new developments in satellite broadband
- Regulatory Considerations
 - Creating an enabling regulatory environment
 - Generations of Telecommunications regulation
 - Collaborative regulation and policy
 - Importance of national broadband plans
 - Use of satellite in national broadband plans
- Conclusion
- What is ITSO doing?
- Final Remarks

INTRODUCTION: ABOUT ITSO

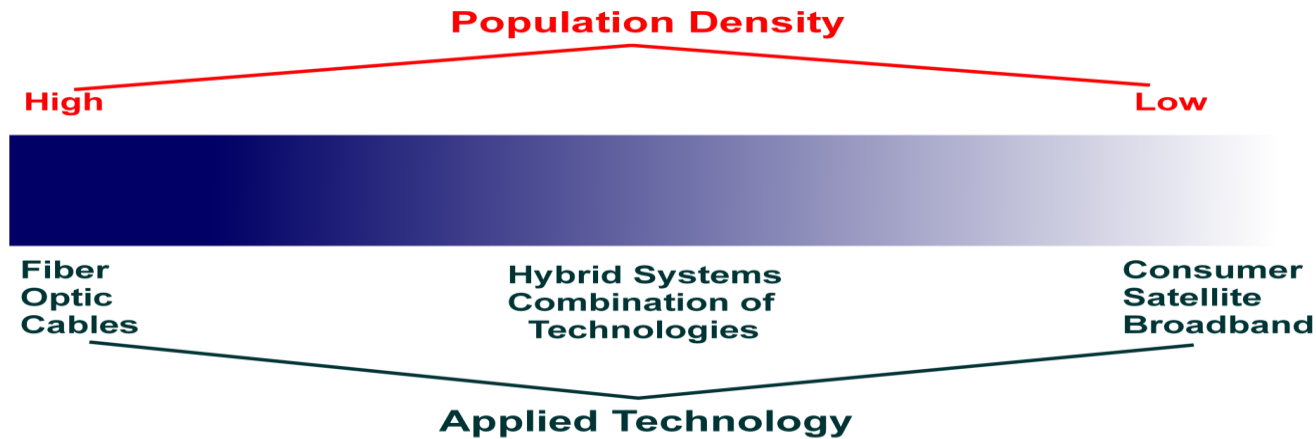
- ITSO is an intergovernmental organization with the mission to ensure that Intelsat, Ltd. provides public telecommunications services, including voice, data and video, on a global and non-discriminatory basis and to protect the Parties' Common Heritage.
- ITSO currently has 149 member countries.
- ITSO and the ITU have been partners for several years and collaborate on the following issues among others:
 - Capacity Building.
 - Activities relating to ITU-R 69 titled “Development and deployment of international public telecommunications via satellite in developing countries” with exactly the same issues as Resolution 11 of WRC-12.
 - The Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development.
 - The Smart Sustainable Development Model.
 - Development of Satellite Communications Capacity and Emergency Communications Solutions for the Pacific Islands Project.
 - Caribbean Emergency Communications Capacity and Solutions Project.

SATELLITE BROADBAND: WHERE ARE THE UNCONNECTED?

- The scatter graph adjacent compares the percentage of a country's population with access to broadband infrastructure to the percentage of people living in the country's rural areas.
- It depicts a strong negative correlation between access to broadband infrastructure and the percentage of population living in rural areas.



THE CASE FOR SATELLITE BROADBAND: WHEN TO USE SATELLITE BROADBAND



- Satellite is the only broadband technology that provides full coverage, in metropolitan as well as in rural or most remote areas, including mountainous regions, islands, the seas and the skies.
- In many cases, satellite infrastructure is already there, however the ground infrastructure is either non-existent or its deployment is costly usually due to artificial regulatory constraints.
- The cost of services is independent from distance or number of subscribers.
- Satellite broadband is the best and only option for widespread remote settlements.

REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS: CREATING AN ENABLING REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT

- Regulation and policies play a critical role, and can either foster or hamper the provisioning of connectivity, therefore it is critical to create an enabling regulatory environment.
 - Regulation can promote innovation, investment, and effective infrastructure which can strengthen and diversify the ICT resources that are available to communities.
- ICT regulation must:
 - Limit unanticipated changes in policy and stable regulation in order to reduce investment risk
 - Avoid regulatory capture and ensure that all actors are treated equally
 - Prevent of anti-competition measures, such as the creation of monopolies
 - Create clear and transparent rules for spectrum management so that operators can secure continuous use
 - Free operators from any unnecessary restrictions in accessing the market
 - Develop tax measures that do not undercut telecommunication industry subsidies nor place the burden on the customers

REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS: GENERATIONS OF REGULATION

- We are moving towards the 5th generation of telecommunications regulation:



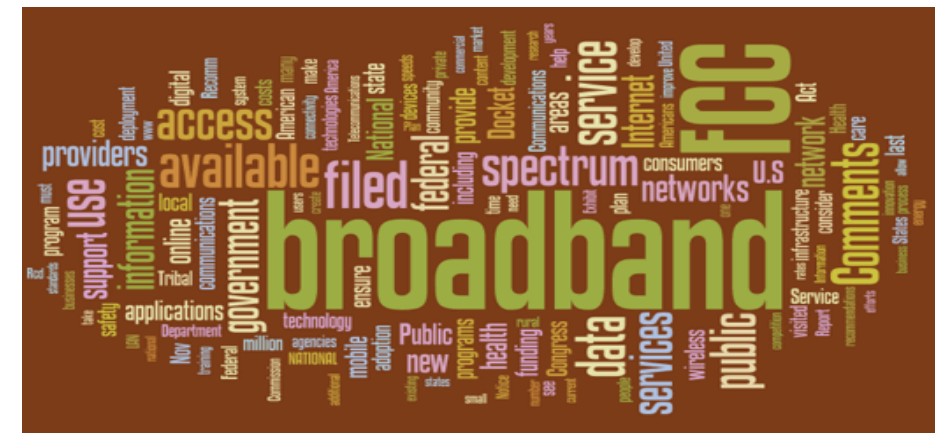
- One out of four countries now enjoys 4G regulatory environment that allows for leveraging of the ICT sector to achieve economic growth and social development across the economy.

REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS: COLLABORATIVE REGULATION AND POLICY

- ICTs are an essential pillar of many areas of “life in the converged ecosystem”.
- School, government, digital finance and the health sector initiatives, among others, require access to ICTs to reach their full potential.
- Therefore, there is a lot of overlap between regulation for these areas and ICTs.
- Collaborative regulation starts with holding an inclusive dialogue across sectors to leverage the potential of ICTS and telecommunications for development.
- Examples of collaborative regulation:
 - Converged regulator
 - Collaboration with independent authorities, i.e., Competition Authorities and Consumer Protection Agencies
 - Multi-sector regulators

REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS: IMPORTANCE OF NATIONAL BROADBAND PLANS

- In order to create an enabling environment for the deployment of broadband services it is essential for countries to have a strong and efficient strategy for policy and regulation that allows for cross-sectoral collaboration.
- National Broadband Plans (NBPs) are a good way of accomplishing an enabling environment and the inclusion of satellite broadband in NBPs is crucial.
 - The following countries, among others, directly consider **satellite broadband** in their connectivity regimes:
 - United States of America
 - Kenya
 - Brazil
 - Malaysia
 - The European Union
 - Australia



CONCLUSION

- There is a strong negative correlation between access to broadband infrastructure and the percentage of population living in rural areas.
- Satellite broadband can play a crucial role in connecting rural and low population density areas, where terrestrial broadband is not cost effective.
- Regulation can promote innovation, investment, and effective infrastructure which can strengthen and diversify the ICT resources that are available to communities.
- Many countries have included the provision of satellite broadband in their National Broadband Plans.



WHAT IS ITSO DOING?

- Capacity Building:
 - Specific courses for regulators
 - Program on International Communications Regulation and Policy at American University's Washington College of Law
- Regulatory interventions when requested
- Specific contributions to ITU groups on policy and regulatory issues.



FINAL REMARKS

- ITSO's 37th Meeting of the Assembly of Parties will take place from October 12th to 14th, 2016 in Washington, DC.
- In addition to deciding on key matters relating to the management of the organization, the Assembly will also elect the **next Director General**.

I urge you all to register your party delegations as soon as possible.

Registration page can be found at www.itso.int



THANK YOU

José Toscano
Director General of ITSO

