




**UNITED NATIONS**  
Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia




**Broadband for Development in the ESCWA Region**

*ITU Arab Regional Development Forum  
13-15 December 2010*

Ayman El-Sherbiny  
UN-ESCWA, ICTD



**Contents**




1. UN-ESCWA ICTD Activities in bridging the Digital Divide

2. Highlights of ESCWA's study on Broadband

3. Recent Global Perspectives on Broadband


4. Recent Regional Perspectives on Broadband

- Recent Status of Broadband in the Region
- Factors Affecting Demand for Broadband in the Region
- The Way Forward



**UN-ESCWA ICT Division Activities  
in Bridging the Digital Divide**

**Vision**



- Aspires to play a major role with ESCWA member countries in their transformation towards knowledge-based economies, while striving to increase employment and reduce poverty, utilizing ICT and its applications.
- Narrowing the digital divide at the national and regional levels remains a primary objective by building a development-oriented I.S. in line with WSIS outcomes.

## 2012-2013 Expected Accomplishments




- (a) Perceptible progress towards the development of knowledge based economies in ESCWA member countries, substantiated by the formulation and implementation of pertinent policies and strategies.
- (b) Enhanced capacity towards competitiveness of the ICT sector in the region on the production and service delivery levels with special focus on partnerships, research, development and innovation.

## 2012-2013 Strategy




- Narrow the digital divide in Western Asia and help build an inclusive, people-centred and development-oriented information society.
- Conceptualize and implement programmes related to the development of enabling environments, capacity building, ICT applications, digital Arabic content, and promoting the ICT sector.
- Assess and update existing plans of action through analytical studies, meetings, advisory services and training.
- Enhance the currently used set of ICT indicators.
- Implement pilot field projects to enhance national capacity for development.

  
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## UN-ESCWA and Alcatel-Lucent Partnership: Overall objectives


The partnership constitutes an illustration of the multi-stakeholder approach advocated by the outcome of the World Summit on the Information Society

Both organizations are committed to contributing to the implementation of the Geneva Plan of Action and the Tunis Agenda, in order to reduce the digital divide and bring the benefits of information and communication technologies to all

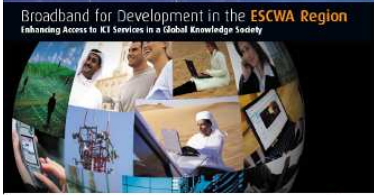
  
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## Joint study on Broadband for Development in the ESCWA region



- **Not only a study but also a tool to promote action:**
  - Highlights the development potential in the ESCWA region;
  - Provides assessment of factors that hinder the wide-scale deployment;
  - Proposes concrete actions to guide ESCWA Member Countries.
- **Based on two complementary know-hows:**
  - A leader in telecommunications, particularly in broadband equipment manufacturing;
  - A United Nations organization in charge of regional economic and social development;
  - Capitalizes on the two organizations' complementary expertise and objectives, and is aimed at allowing stakeholders to benefit from the development of broadband in the ESCWA region.




**Broadband for Development in the ESCWA Region**  
Enabling Access to KI Services in a Global Knowledge Society




**With Alcatel-Lucent (February 2007)**



### Broadband for Development Study: Content

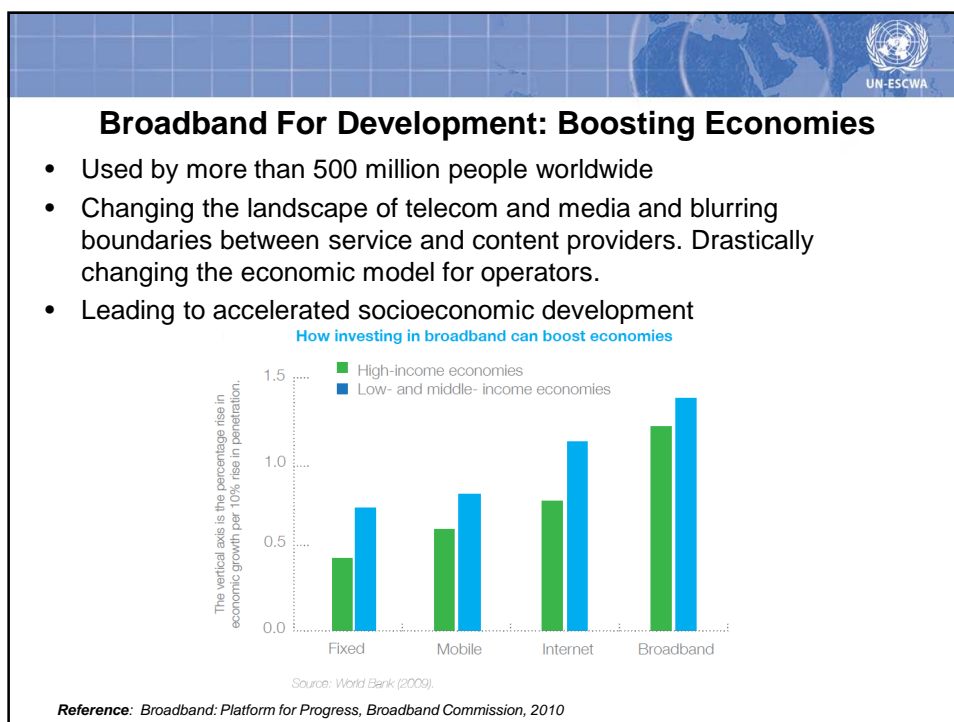
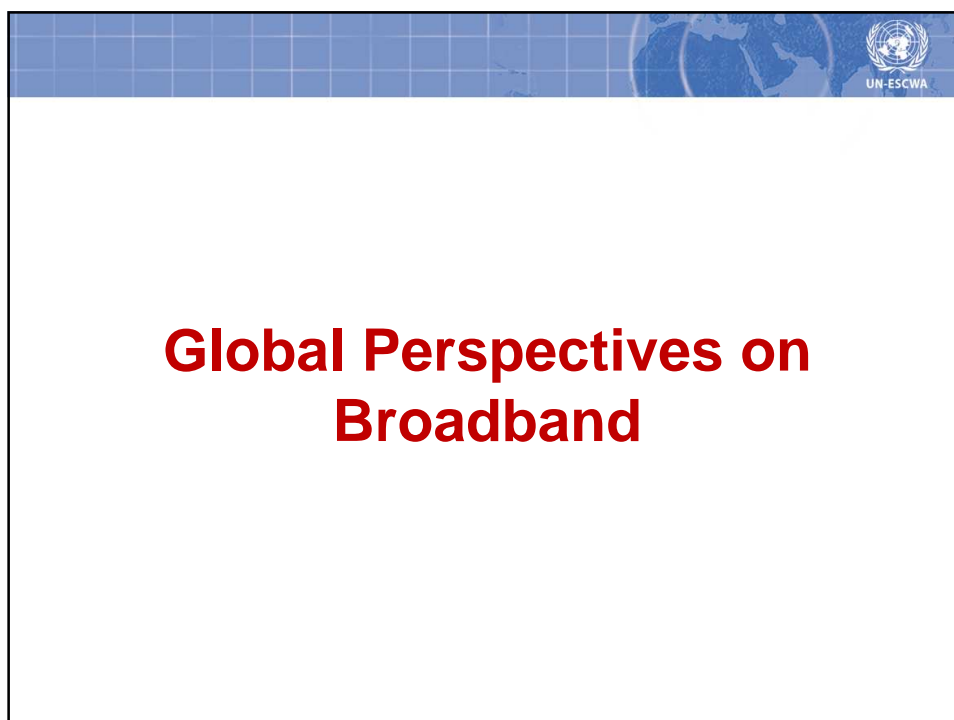
- Overview
- Broadband market take-up in the ESCWA region
- Broadband demand and supply patterns in the ESCWA region
- Selected broadband deployment case studies
- Factors affecting broadband demand in the ESCWA region
- Going forward (findings and recommendations)



### Broadband for Development Study: Main findings

- The dramatic take-up of broadband access in developed countries is basically due to the introduction of **competitive** offers for **bundled** broadband access, telephony and TV services (so-called Triple Play)
- The economic case for broadband access **cannot be made separately from the revenue generated by voice telephony and TV distribution**, with their associated advertising-based or subscription-based paradigms
- The study recommendations focus on factors having a **substantial impact** on the demand and supply aspects of Broadband in the ESCWA region
- The list of proposed recommendations must be considered as **a set of coherent action items** rather than a “*one-size-fits-all*” recipe

Broadband study is the main success of UN-ESCWA collaboration with Alcatel-Lucent but it remains to be translated into a real tool for broadband promotion in the region.

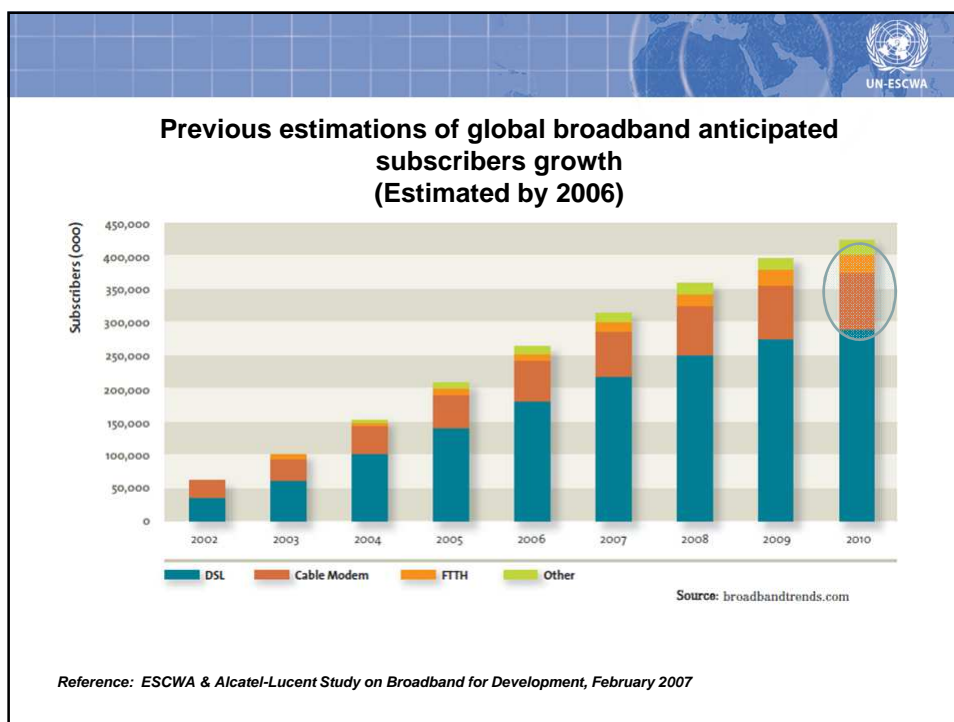


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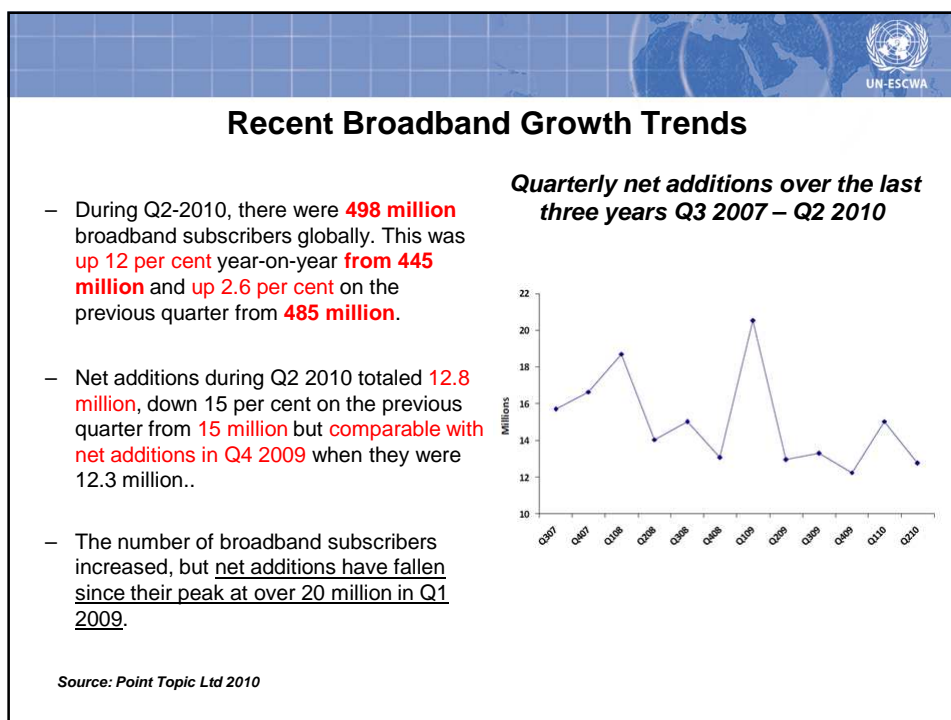
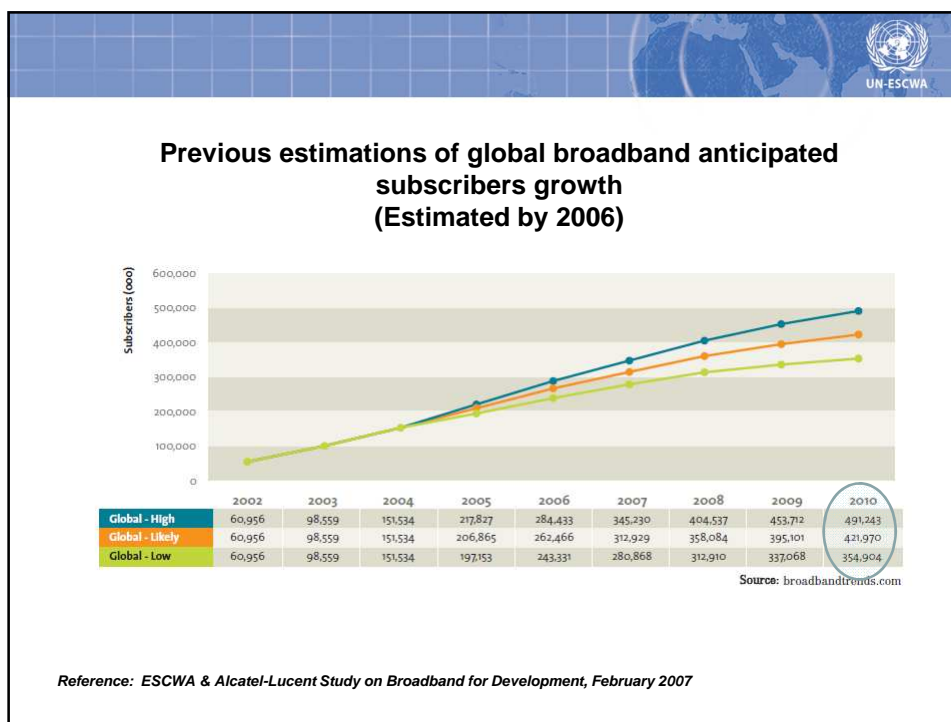
## Broadband For Development: Job Creation

- An additional GBP 5 billion investment in broadband networks would create or retain an estimated 280,500 UK jobs for a year.
- Broadband network construction will create 304,000 jobs between 2010 and 2014, and 237,000 between 2015 and 2020.
- Based on regression-based forecasting, it is estimated that an additional 427,000 jobs will be created: 103,000 in 2010–2014 and 324,000 in 2015–2020. The accumulated total jobs over a ten year period (2010–2020) will reach 968,000.
- Broadband leads to a 0.2% to 0.3% increase in employment in a US state for a 10% increase in broadband lines.
- Broadband has added about 1-1.4% to the employment growth rate.
- In the United States, a 1% increase in broadband penetration leads to a 0.2 – 0.3% growth in employment.
- Broadband added 10-14% to the growth rate in the number of jobs between 1998-2002.

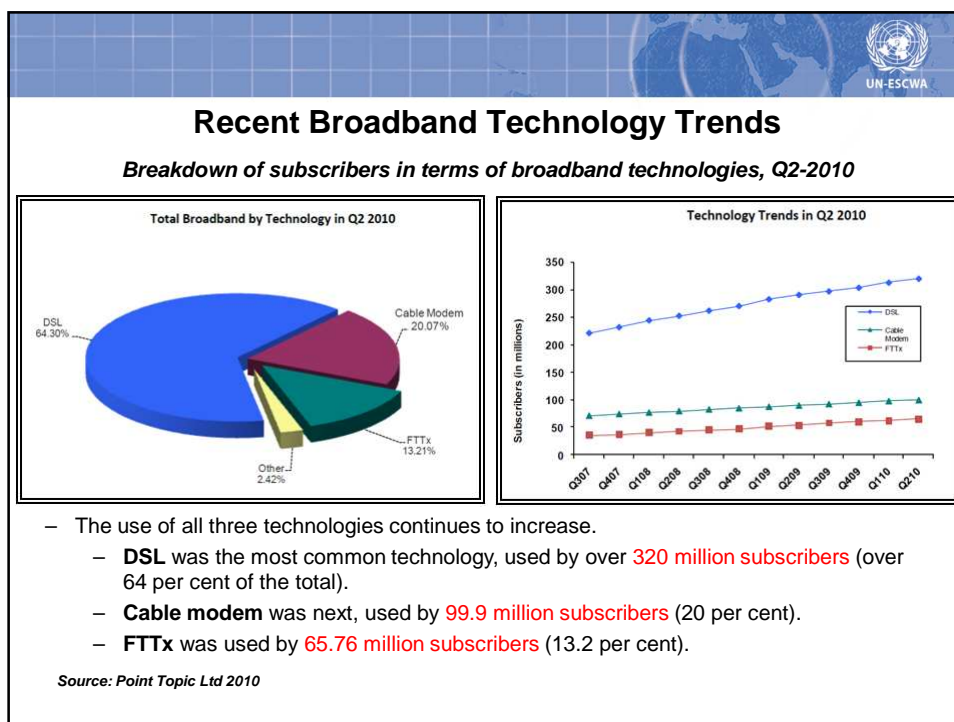
*Reference: Broadband: Platform for Progress, Broadband Commission, 2010*











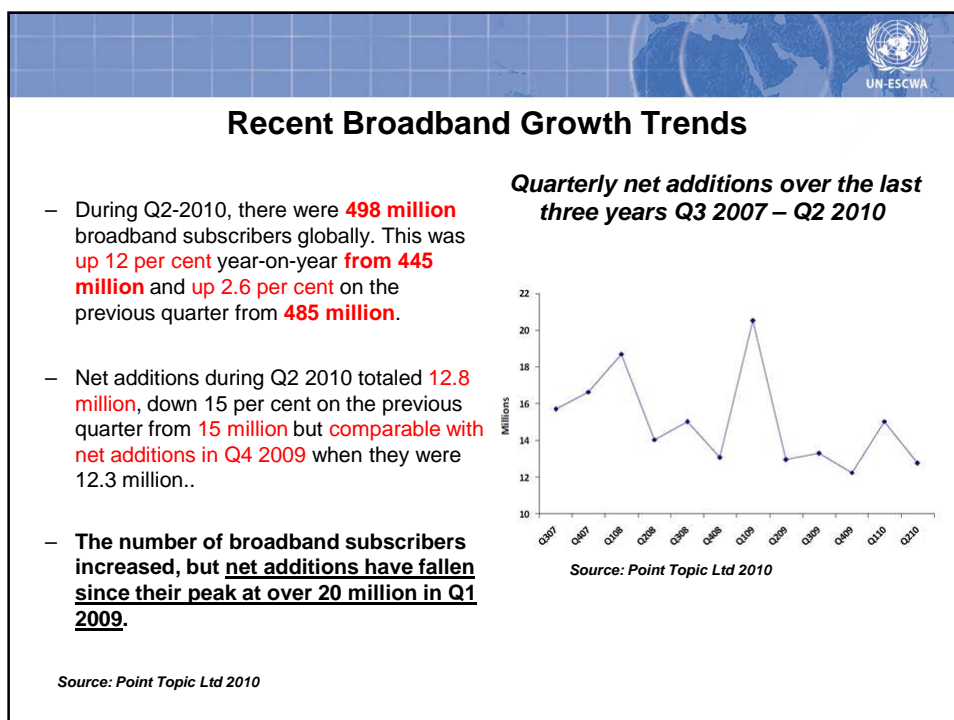
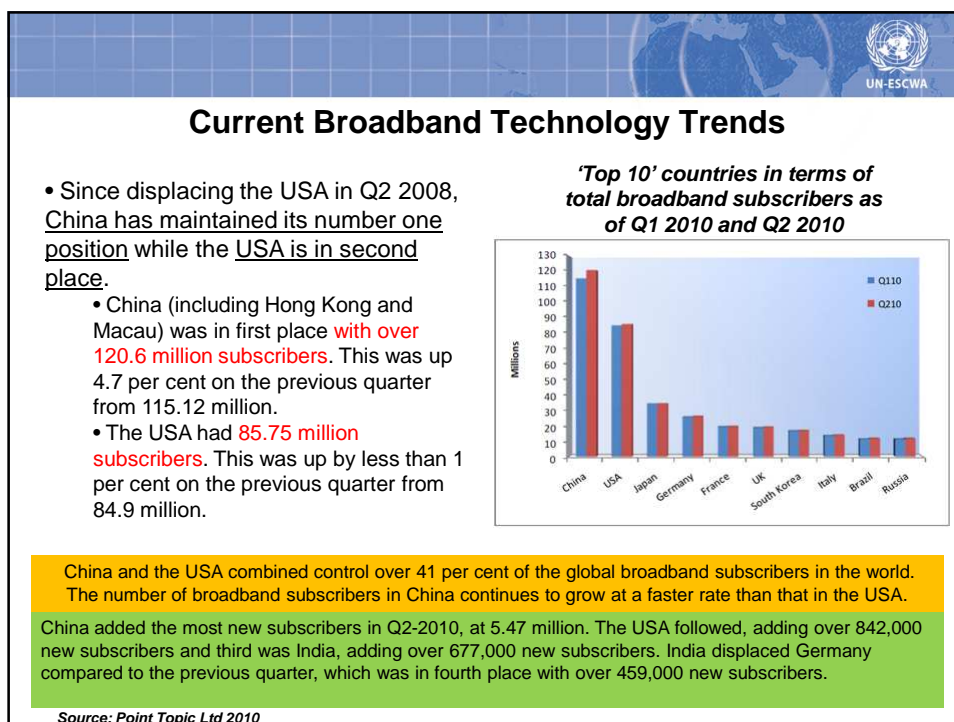
**Recent Broadband Technology Status**

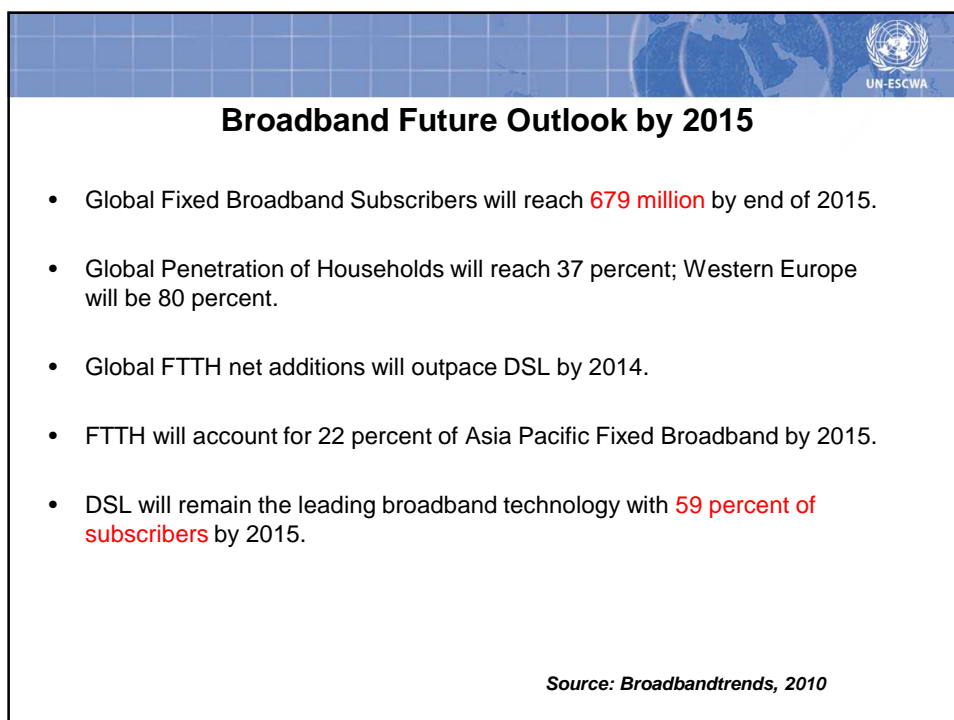
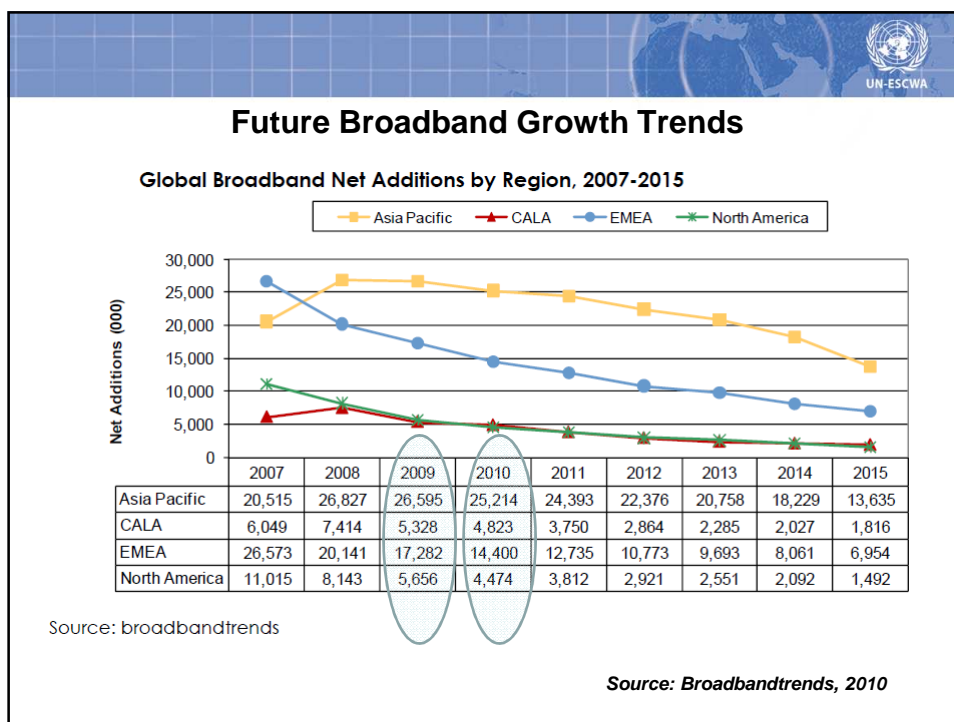
| Ranking       | ADSL   | Cable  | FTTx  |
|---------------|--|--|---|
| <b>First</b>  | <b>1.China</b> Over 95 million subscribers; (29.7 per cent of the worldwide DSL total) | <b>1. USA</b> 46.1 million cable modem subscribers; (46.1 per cent of the worldwide cable modem total) | <b>1. China</b> 25.14 million subscribers.          |
| <b>Second</b> | <b>2.USA</b> Over 31 million subscribers (9.6 per cent of the DSL total).              | <b>2. Canada</b> over 5.7 million lines (5.7 per cent of the cable modem total).                       | <b>2. Japan</b> 18.4 million subscribers.           |
| <b>Third</b>  | <b>3.Germany</b> Over 23 million subscribers (about 7.2 per cent of the DSL total).    | <b>3.South Korea</b> 5.1 million lines.  | <b>3. South Korea</b> with 8.8 million subscribers. |
| <b>Fourth</b> | <b>4.France</b> 18 million   | <b>4.Japan</b> 4.22 million lines.   | <b>4. USA</b> 6.07 million subscribers.             |


After North America, Western Europe had the second largest share of the cable modem market at 18.17 per cent, or 18.16 million lines. Countries in this region with the largest cable modem markets were the UK with 3.95 million lines, Germany with 2.79 million lines and the Netherlands with 2.46 million lines.

The largest FTTx markets are in Asia, with Asia Pacific and South and East Asia controlling over 82 per cent of the FTTx market globally (65.76 million lines).

Source: Point Topic Ltd 2010








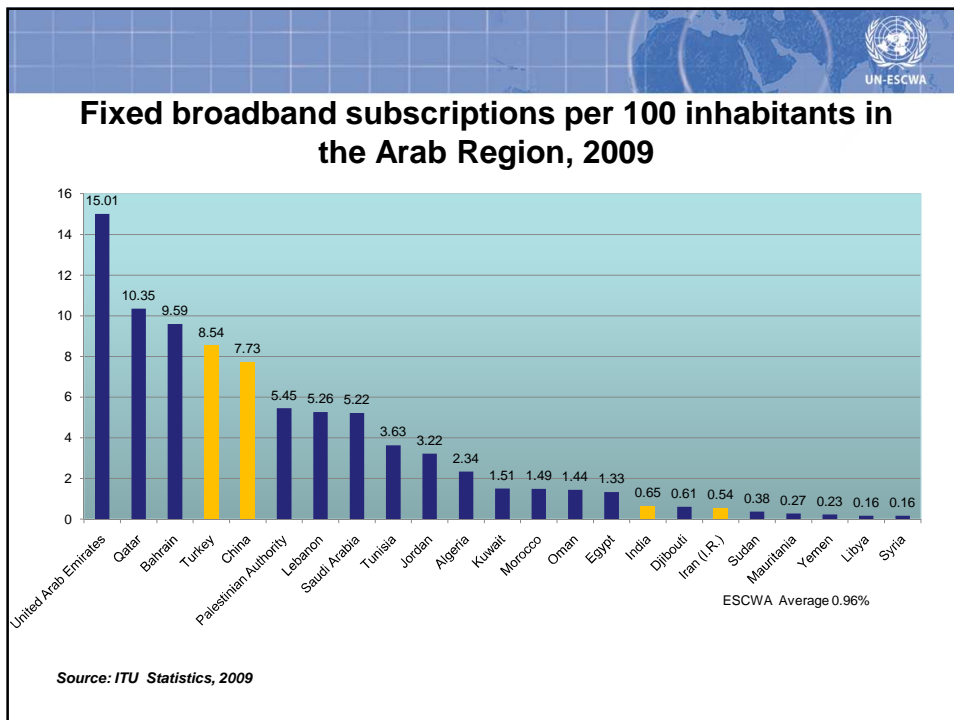
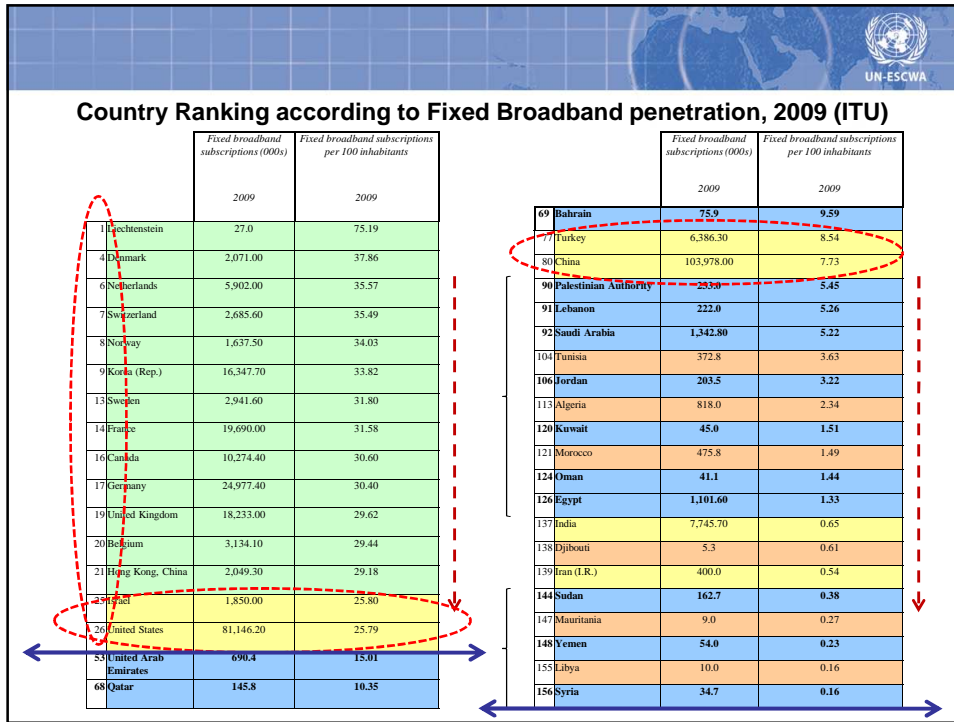
### Broadband Future Outlook by 2015

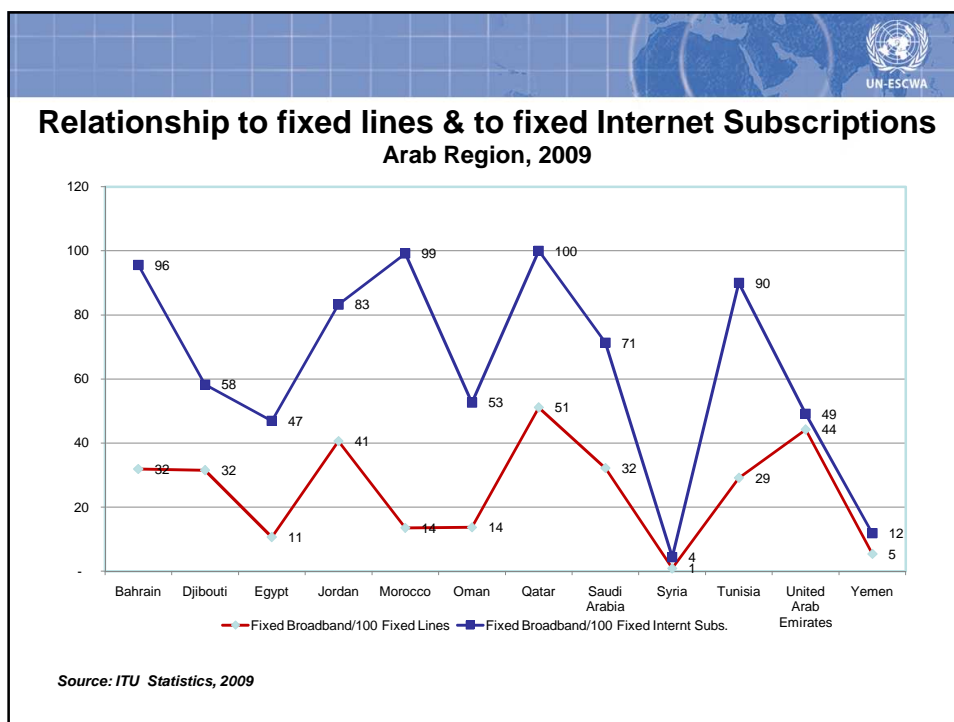
- Although innovative services and applications such as IP-TV will help drive adoption, the strongest factor remains cost.
- From a regional perspective, CALA, Southeast Asia, and Eastern Europe will have the strongest growth during the forecast.
- DSL will remain the dominant broadband technology throughout the forecast period, with 59 percent of total fixed broadband subscribers.
- FTTH will offer the strongest growth opportunity with 21 percent CAGR, while cable will be the lowest at 4 percent.
- Of the alternative broadband technologies, WiMAX holds the most promise for widespread deployment.
- Mobile broadband delivered over LTE networks is likely to have some impact on fixed broadband, especially in emerging markets, where consumer will be more likely to migrate to mobile broadband rather than fixed broadband technologies. (This will also be true in markets where mobile broadband pricing is on par with fixed broadband).

*Source: Broadbandtrends, 2010*



## Recent Regional Perspectives on Broadband





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### Competition in the Telecom & Internet Landscape

- Mobile Market the most competitive and liberalized.

COMPETITION IN THE TELECOM AND INTERNET MARKETS IN THE ESCWA REGION, JULY 2009

| Country or territory | Internet services | Mobile services | Fixed-line services (according to operational networks) |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---|
| Bahrain              | Competitive       | Competitive     | Competitive   |
| Egypt                | Competitive       | Competitive     | Monopoly  |
| Iraq                 | Competitive       | Competitive     | Competitive   |
| Jordan               | Competitive       | Competitive     | Competitive   |
| Kuwait               | Competitive       | Competitive     | Monopoly  |
| Lebanon              | Competitive       | Duopoly         | Monopoly  |
| Oman                 | Monopoly          | Competitive     | Monopoly  |
| Palestine            | Competitive       | Competitive     | Monopoly  |
| Qatar                | Monopoly          | Duopoly         | Monopoly  |
| Saudi Arabia         | Competitive       | Competitive     | Competitive   |
| The Sudan            | Competitive       | Competitive     | Duopoly   |
| Syrian Arab Republic | Competitive       | Duopoly         | Monopoly  |
| United Arab Emirates | Duopoly           | Duopoly         | Duopoly   |
| Yemen                | Duopoly           | Competitive     | Monopoly  |

Source: Arab Advisors Group (AAG), Strategic Research Service (23 July 2009).

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## WiMAX in the Arab World 2010

Operators licensed to provide fixed wireless services

| Country | Operators licensed to provide fixed wireless services   | WiMAX commercially launched (Yes/No) | Licenses which allow the operator to provide services over WiMAX |
|---------|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| Algeria | Smart Link Communications   | Yes                                  | WiMAX  |
|         | Algerie Telecom (in collaboration with AlviratNet)  | Yes                                  | WiMAX  |
|         | Loonnet   | Yes                                  | WiMAX  |
|         | Epsad, Webphone, Vocalone, webcom, Matelstat Ormaise, E.COM.SIUM, and Sari fast mark network. | No                                   | WiMAX  |
| Bahrain | Zain Bahrain  | Yes                                  | NFWS   |
|         | Mena Telecom  | Yes                                  | NFWS   |
| Egypt   | -   | -                                    | -  |
|         | -   | -                                    | -  |
| Iraq    | IPTC  | No                                   | WLL  |
|         | Isigama   | No                                   | WLL  |
|         | Kalimat   | Yes                                  | WiMAX  |
|         | IBN (Banks)   | Yes                                  | WiMAX  |
|         | Baghdad Co.   | No                                   | WLL  |
|         | IraqTEL   | No                                   | WLL  |
|         | Fahous  | No                                   | WiMAX  |
| Jordan  | Ummiah  | Yes                                  | FBWA   |
|         | w-tribe   | Yes                                  | FBWA   |
|         | Zain ISP  | Yes                                  | FBWA   |
|         | Kulacom   | Yes                                  | FBWA   |
|         | Mada Jordan   | Yes                                  | FBWA   |
| Kuwait  | Fast Telco  | Yes                                  | FBWA   |
|         | Qualitynet  | No                                   | FBWA   |
|         | Mada Telecom  | Yes                                  | FBWA   |
| Lebanon | Cable One   | Yes                                  | BWA  |
|         | Cedarcom  | Yes                                  | BWA  |
|         | GDS   | Yes                                  | BWA  |
|         | Resco   | Yes                                  | BWA  |
|         | Waves SAL   | No                                   | BWA  |

Arab Advisors Group; Strategic Research Service; June 2010

| Country      | Operators licensed to provide fixed wireless services | WiMAX commercially launched (Yes/No) | Licenses which allow the operator to provide services over WiMAX |
|--------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| Libya        | TRISAT SARL   | No                                   | BWA  |
|              | LCNC SAL  | No                                   | BWA  |
|              | Libya Telecom and technology (LTT)                    | Yes                                  | WiMAX  |
| Mauritania   | Aljeel Aljadid  | No                                   | WiMAX  |
|              | Mauritel  | No                                   | WiMAX  |
|              | Mattal  | No                                   | WiMAX  |
| Morocco      | Chinguitel  | Yes                                  | WiMAX  |
|              | Maditelem   | No                                   | WiMAX  |
|              | Wana  | Yes                                  | WiMAX  |
| Oman         | Nawras  | No                                   | FWS  |
|              | -   | -                                    | -  |
| Palestine    | -   | -                                    | -  |
|              | -   | -                                    | -  |
| Qatar        | Oqal  | No                                   | FWA  |
|              | Vodafone Qatar  | No                                   | FWA  |
|              | Saudi Telecom Company (STC)                           | No                                   | PFS  |
| Saudi Arabia | Enhad Esalat (Mobily)                                 | Yes                                  | DSP  |
|              | Integrated Telecom Company                            | Yes                                  | DSP  |
|              | Enhad Atheeb (GO)                                     | Yes                                  | PFS  |
|              | Saudi Integrated Telecom Company                      | No                                   | PFS  |
|              | Optical Communications Company                        | -                                    | -  |
| Syria        | -   | -                                    | -  |
|              | -   | -                                    | -  |
| Tunisia      | Planet Tunisie  | Yes                                  | WiMAX  |
|              | Tunisie Telecom                                       | No                                   | WiMAX  |
| UAE          | Etisalat  | No                                   | WiMAX  |
|              | Du  | Yes                                  | WiMAX  |
| Yemen        | Yemen Net (DTC)                                       | No                                   | WiMAX  |

Notes: - NFWS: National Fixed Wireless Service  
- WLL: Wireless Local Loop  
- FBWA: Fixed Broadband Wireless Access  
- BWA: Broadband Wireless Access  
- FWS: Fixed Wireless Service  
- PFS: Public Fixed Services  
- DSP: Data Service Provider

Source: Operators and regulators

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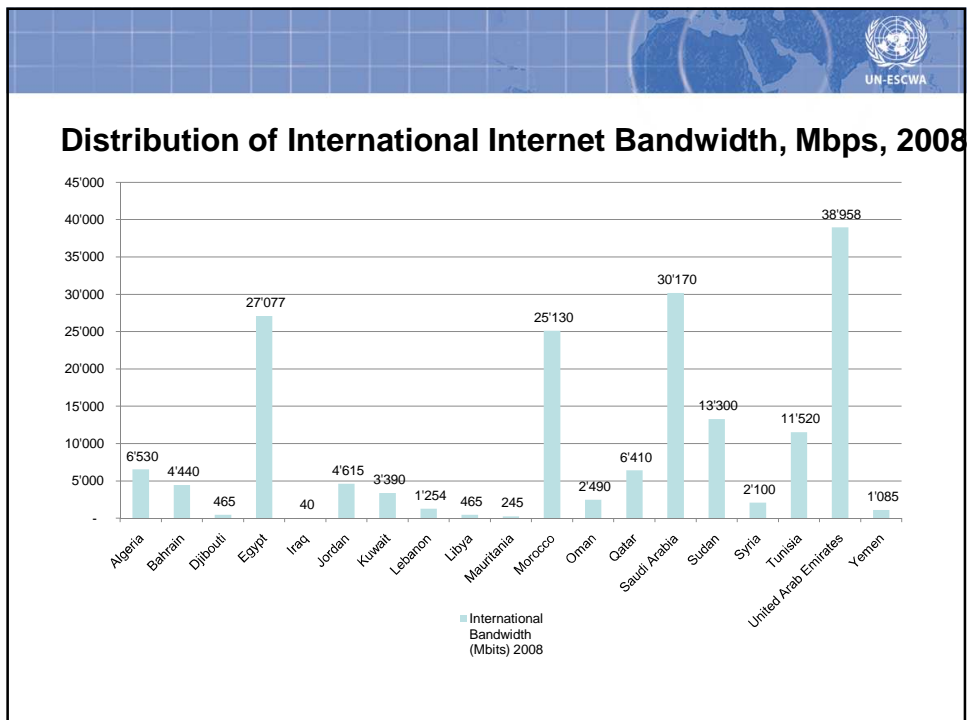
## Factors affecting Broadband in the ESCWA Region & The Way Forward




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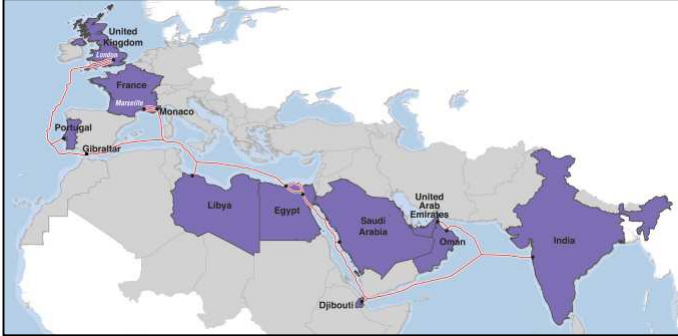
### Factors affecting demand for broadband in the ESCWA Region

1. Service Prices
2. Regional and international connectivity
3. Quality of service
4. Existence of relevant content and applications
5. Penetration and means of access
6. Development oriented policies
7. Convergence




  
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**The Europe India Gateway Submarine system: More international connectivity for the MENA region.**




*Source: Arab Advisors, 2010*

  
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**GBI FO Cable System: Further augmenting the Gulf Region's global connectivity.**



*Source: Arab Advisors, 2010*


  
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**MENA FO Submarine Cable: Orascom Telecom Connecting the Middle East and North Africa to India, Greece and Italy**

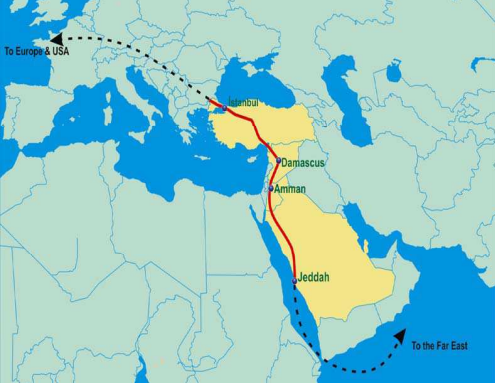


The map shows a red line representing the submarine cable route. It starts in Italy (Sicily), goes to Greece (Crete), then to Egypt (Alexandria), through the Suez Canal, to Saudi Arabia (Jeddah), then to Oman (Al Seeb), and finally to India (Mumbai).

*Source: Arab Advisors, 2010*

  
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**Four telecom operators join forces to launch JADI: A terrestrial fiber-optic cable connecting Turkey, Syria, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.**



The map shows a red line representing the terrestrial fiber-optic cable route. It connects Istanbul (Turkey) to Damascus (Syria), Amman (Jordan), and Jeddah (Saudi Arabia). Dashed arrows indicate connections to Europe & USA and to the Far East.

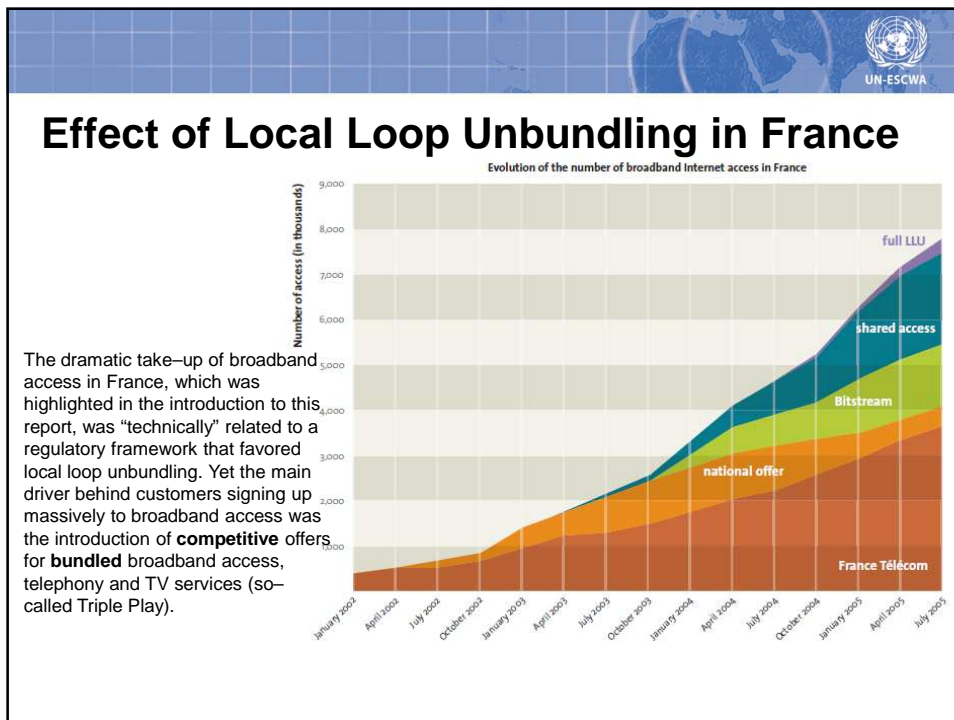
*Source: Arab Advisors, 2010*


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## Comparison between English and Arabic online

| Estimates for 2010                                |             |               |
|---|-------------|---------------|
|   | Arabic      | English       |
| Total Population Speaking the Language            | 347,002,991 | 1,277,528,183 |
| Total Population Speaking the Language On-line    | 65,365,400  | 536,564,837   |
| Web pages on Google in this Language (million)    | 350         | 25,000        |
| Growth in Internet Users (2000 - 2010) %          | 2501.20%    | 281.20%       |
| Pages per million Internet Users in this Language | 1           | 20            |

Sources: <http://www.ceroworldstats.com> and Google.com






## The Way Forward

- The following recommendations are closely inter-related, and depend overall on one overarching principle: the economic case for broadband access cannot be made separately from voice telephony and TV distribution, with their associated advertising-based or subscription-based paradigms.
- The list of ideas below must be considered as recommendations for coherent action, rather than a "one-size-fits-all" recipe. The ESCWA region consists of 14 countries that share many sociological, political and cultural aspects, but also demonstrate profound disparities in economic, social, and human terms. Hence, what is proposed below is a general framework for action. Implementation must be adapted to each country-specific situation.

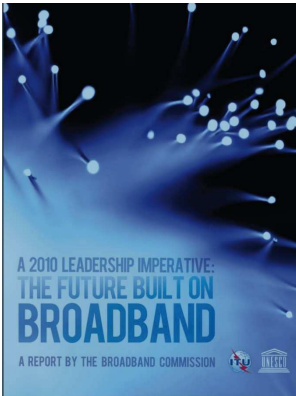
- Bring down broadband prices with bundled service offers, and create a virtuous adoption circle
- Improve regional connectivity and peering, and allow the emergence of powerful regional service providers.
- Improve technical and human factors related to Quality of Service as a key enabler for mass broadband adoption
- Provide relevant content and applications, and use broadband access as a lever to improve human development deficiencies in the region
- Develop collective means of access to the Internet and affordable PCs
- Include broadband access as a Universal Service Obligation
- Develop and generalize local loop unbundling and the emergence of multiple-service offers by newcomers and incumbents

• Develop core network convergence into a next-generation network paradigm

39



# Global Broadband Commission's Report



1. A 2010 Declaration of Broadband Inclusion for All
2. Executive Summary - A 2010 Leadership Imperative: Towards a Future Built on Broadband
3. Creating a Broadband Development Dynamic: A Strategic Framework for Action
  - 3.1 Policy: From Clear Policy Leadership to an Enabling Environment
  - 3.2 Infrastructure: Investing in Infrastructure for the Future
  - 3.3 Technology: Future-proofing Technology
  - 3.4 Innovation: The Changing Face of Innovation
  - 3.5 Content and Applications: The Growing Importance of Content and Applications
  - 3.6 People: Building the Network of Ideas and Information
  - 3.7 Government: Government takes the lead in creating demand
4. Broadband and the Interlinked and Interdependent MDG Agenda
5. Broadband and Beyond the MDGs
6. Recommendations and Proposed Plan of Action


New York, September 19, 2010



## Call from Arab Stakeholders towards Activating Comprehensive Cooperation in Internet Governance

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>(أ) مناقشة قضايا السياسات العامة المتعلقة بمواضيع حركة الإنترنت المتقدمة في المنتدى العلمي لحركة الإنترنت بغية تعزيز التفاهل لها وإسهاها واستقرارها وتطويرها؛</p> <p>(ب) تأمين قاعدة لتعاون، اعتماداً على هيكلة لا مركزية، بين جميع الفروع وما يتماشى مع أجدنة توسع وإعلان مبادئ جديفة وبثالثي تسهيل تبادل المعلومات والممارسات المثلى والسفاهة الدروس المعرفية هامة من أصحاب الخبرة السياسية والفنية والأكاديمية ومن ثم نشر ما يتم من مناقشات وما يتخذ من إجراءات؛</p> <p>(ج) تقريب وجهات النظر وصولاً إلى آراء عربية موحدة حول أولويات المنظمة لحركة الإنترنت واليات المتضمنة لاحتياجات الدول العربية فيما يخصها؛</p> <p>(د) تحديد أهداف للتعاون المشترك، حسب الحاجة، ووضع التوصيات الخاصة بها، كما يتلاءم مع العمل في السياسات الواسعة أو لثقافة الإنترنت؛</p> <p>(هـ) المساهمة في بناء القدرات في مجال حركة الإنترنت في البلدان العربية، والاستفادة بشكل كامل من الموارد المحلية للمعرفة والخبرات؛</p> <p>(و) نقل الخبرات العربية في المستوى العلمي وتثبيت الدور العربي في وضع السياسات العامة لحركة الإنترنت من دون أن يكون للمنتدى وظيفة إقليمية أو أن يعمل على الأليات أو المؤسسات أو المنظمات القائمة؛</p> <p>وتدعو أيضاً المنظمات الدولية والإقليمية في المنطقة بالتعاون مع جامعة الدول العربية واحة الأمم المتحدة الاقتصادية والاجتماعية لغربي إيباميليو تنظيم ورشة عمل وأبحاث مشتركين لجمعية لحركة الإنترنت على المستوى الإقليمي والسعي مع مختلف الجهات لتأمين الموارد اللازمة لذلك.</p> <p>وتتطلب مجلس الوزراء العرب للاتصالات والمعلومات:</p> <p>(أ) تبني الإطار العام والمبادئ والأهداف الخاصة بخارطة الطريق العربية لحركة الإنترنت وحث الحكومات على السعي لتحقيقها؛</p> <p>(ب) إطلاق المنتدى العربي لحركة الإنترنت وتحديد أولياته وطبيعة ومهام السكرتارية التي سيعيد إليها تنظيمها؛ بما يتماشى مع ما ورد في أجدنة تونس حول حركة الإنترنت؛</p> <p>(ج) تشكيل لجنة استشارية عليا للمعارة في تنظيم المنتدى بحيث تضم ممثلين عن الحكومات العربية والقطاع الخاص والمجتمع المدني والمنظمات العلمية والإقليمية؛</p> <p>(د) توفير البنية التحتية اللازمة لطب في تحديد آليات عملها والعمل على تأمين الموارد والشراكات اللازمة، بالتعاون مع سكرتاريته لإعلان عن برامج المنتدى لإسهاها؛</p> <p>(هـ) تكليف اللجنة الاستشارية العليا بمقارعة عضائها الأول في الربع الأول من عام 2011، وذلك تحت رعاية جامعة الدول العربية وفي مقر الأمانة العامة، بهدف تحديد آية وموعد ومكان عقد المنتدى العربي الأول لحركة الإنترنت؛</p> <p>(و) تكليف اللجنة الاستشارية العليا لمقرح المندوبين لإعدادات الخاصة بمقارعة الراجح لفرعية وأفان الأجهار لخارطة الطريق العربية لحركة الإنترنت على كافة الفروع المعنيين من أجل تنفيذها، بد الأخ في الاعتبار المقترحات والآراء التي قد تفرح بشأنها، في وثيقة شاملة لخارطة الطريق العربية لحركة الإنترنت.</p> | <p><b>إداه الفروء العرب</b><br/><b>نحو تفعيل التعاون العربي الشامل لحركة الإنترنت إقليمياً ودولياً</b></p> <p>نحن الفروء العرب - من لقطاع العام والخاص والمجتمع المدني - المشاركون في اجتماع الفروء حول خارطة الطريق العربية لحركة الإنترنت المنعقد في بيروت في بيت الأمم المتحدة في بيروت والمخرين من شهر تشرين الأول/أكتوبر 2010 في إطار الشراكة المشتركة بين جامعة الدول العربية واحة الأمم المتحدة الاقتصادية والاجتماعية لغربي أسيا للثور العربي حول حركة الإنترنت، وإذني نتج عنه وثيقة الإطار العام والمبادئ والأهداف لخارطة الطريق العربية لحركة الإنترنت؛</p> <p>التفاهل ما ذكرته القمة العلمية للمجتمع المعلوماتي برحلتها في جنيف 2003 وتونس 2005، حول بناء مجتمع المعلومات وتحديثها فيما يخص حركة الإنترنت؛</p> <p>وأفان بالأضمار أهداف وتوجهات الاستراتيجية العربية العامة لتكنولوجيا الاتصالات والمعلومات - بناء مجتمع المعلومات (جنيف 2012) وخاصة تلك التي تعصب في إطار تحسين حركة الإنترنت إن كان لجهة الفناء أو المندوبة أو لبيئة التشغيل؛</p> <p>وتأكيذاً على ضرورة حركة حركة الإنترنت بشكل متجدد الأطراف، وشفاف وديمقراطي، وبمشاركة كاملة من الحكومات والقطاع الخاص والمجتمع المدني والمنظمات الدولية وبشكل يكفل توزيعاً منصفاً للموارد وفقاً لمبدأ الأمم المتحدة وأولوية التنمية مع مراعاة التنمية؛</p> <p>وترسيماً للتوجه الذي قامت به الأمم المتحدة في إطلاق المنتدى العالمي لإدارة (حركة) الإنترنت في خمس سنوات متتالية وبمناه على الجهود التي بذلت في إيجاده والمشاركات التي قام بها جميع أصحاب المصلحة من المنطقة العربية بما فيها المنظمات الإقليمية وبمخاصة جامعة الدول العربية واحة الأمم المتحدة الاقتصادية والاجتماعية لغربي أسيا؛</p> <p>وأفان في التحسين الفعالت التي تمت في الاجتماعات الخمسة للمنتدى العلمي لحركة الإنترنت والمواضيع التي تنازلها برامج العمل؛ وكذلك المبادرات التي تمت على مستوى الفروء العرب؛</p> <p>تدعو الحكومات العربية إلى السعي لتحقيق الإطار العام والمبادئ والأهداف الاستراتيجية لخارطة الطريق العربية لحركة الإنترنت؛ وإلى الإسناد لها في وضع خطة عمل إقليمية، وأخر وطنية متعلقة عنها، وتقلها بحيث تشمل مجموعة من الأبتعة والشروط، وكذلك إلى بناء الشراكات الوطنية والإقليمية من أجل تنفيذها وقبول الأجهار الناتج عن تنفيذها، وبشكل شاملاً لكافة الفئات والجمود العربية لجمعية بحركة الإنترنت والتي من شأنها تطوير خارطة الطريق العربية المستجدة الدولية؛</p> <p>كما تدعو كافة الفروع المعنيين ببناء مجتمع المعلومات بشكل عام، وبحركة الإنترنت بشكل خاص، في المنطقة العربية من لقطاع عام وخاص والمجتمع المدني والمنظمات العاملة في المجال، وبالخاص المؤسسات الحكومية، إلى التعاون من أجل إطلاق المنتدى العربي لحركة الإنترنت تحت مظلة جامعة الدول العربية، بحيث يعقد بشكل دوري ويريحي إلى؛</p> |
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**Beirut, October 26, 2010**



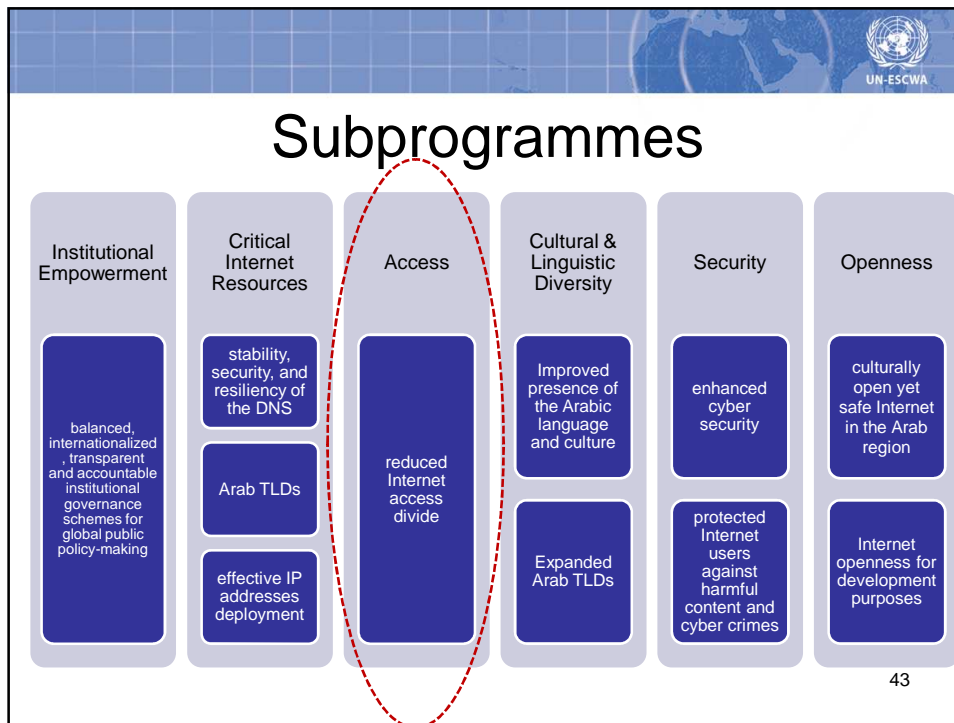
## ESCWA and Internet Governance

- ICTD at ESCWA became involved in the IGF process since its inception.
- ESCWA drafted a key contribution to the global workshop on IG, in March 2004 advocating increased participation in the existing IG mechanisms.
- ESCWA serves in the ICANN GAC since 2008 to cater for the interests of its Member countries.
- ESCWA served in the Selection Committee for ICANN global fellowship program
- ICTD at ESCWA developed a study in 2009: **"Internet Governance: Challenges and Opportunities for the ESCWA Member Countries"**;
- Launched in 2010, **the Arab Dialogue on Internet Governance (ADIG) Initiative.**

**Major Components of the Arab Dialogue on Internet Governance**

Study on Internet Governance  
*Collaborative Roadmap on IG*  
**A proposed Arab IGF concept**  
*Interactive Portal*  
(including an online forum, online questionnaires and link to community initiatives)  
**Joint Public Meetings**  
(Panel Discussion Session in IGF-V and Joint Expert Group Meeting in Beirut)

42



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## Benefits of an Arab IGF

**The Arab IGF will be:**

- A platform for empowering the region in global Internet Governance arena;
- A venue to follow-up on the progress of the Proposed Regional Roadmap for Internet Governance in Arab Countries;
- A replica of the global IGF process on a regional level for the period of 2011-2015;
- An interface and liaison to the global IGF process in its second phase;
- An umbrella to launch a number of national IGFs;
- A multi stakeholder process that is led by the governmental and intergovernmental bodies in the region.

44





**Thank you...**

**Ayman El-Sherbiny**  
**UN-ESCWA**

*el-sherbiny@un.org*