

**ITU-D Workshop for the Arab region
on Interconnection and Next
Generation Networks: *Addressing
the regulatory challenges*
Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain**

BDT Products and Services

3 May 2007
Susan Schorr
Regulatory Officer
ITU BDT Regulatory and Market Environment Division

***Global Symposium for Regulators
February 2007 Edition
The Road to Next-Generation Networks
(NGN): Can Regulators Promote Investment
and Achieve Open Access?***

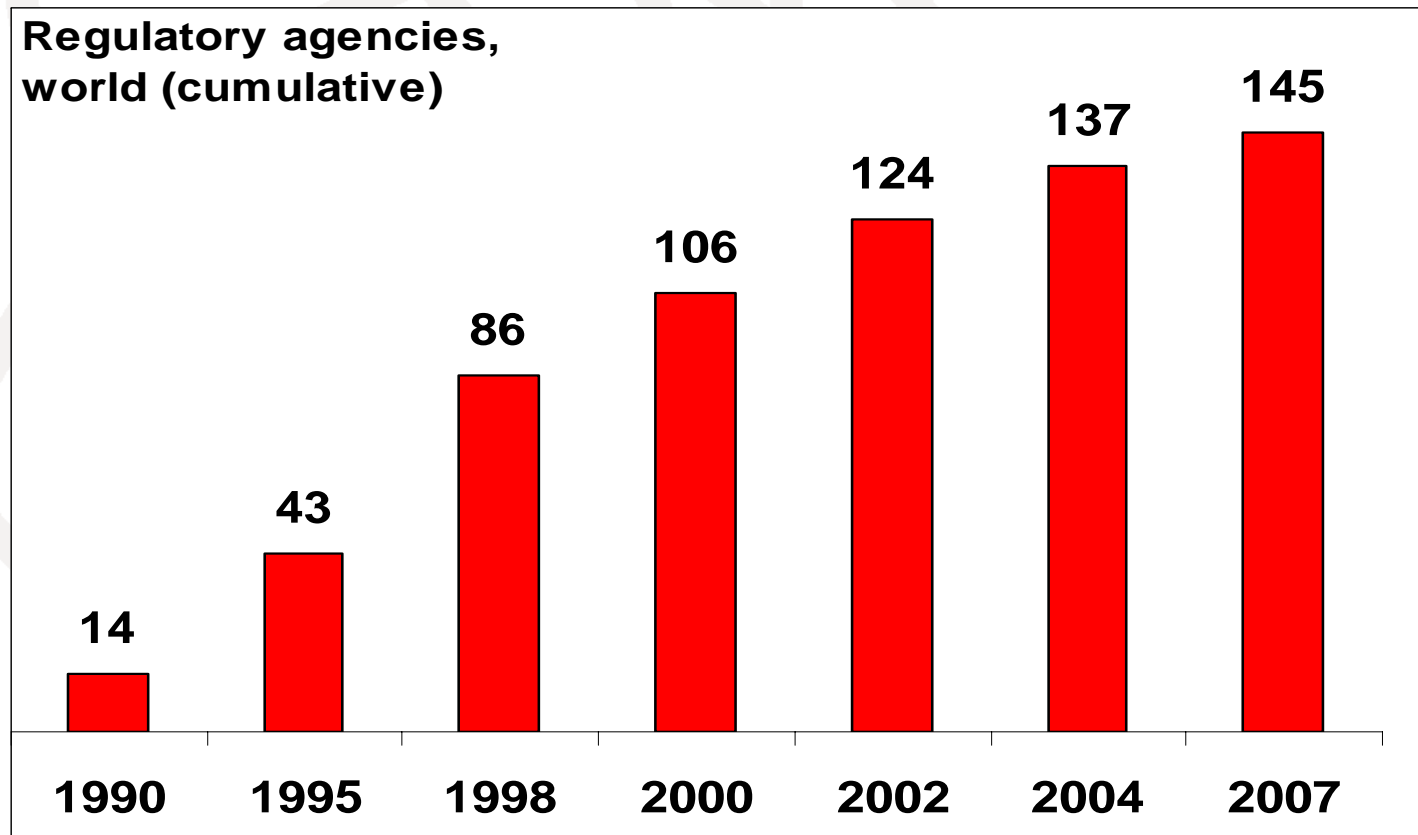


The Annual Global Symposium for Regulators
(GSR)

a unique venue for regulators and policy makers
to meet and exchange views and experiences
to develop a common understanding and
adopt
best practice guidelines addressing key
regulatory issues



ITU—Helping Regulators To Communicate



GSR Best Practice Guidelines

- **ITU Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR) 2003 Best Practice Guidelines on Universal Access**
- **GSR 2004 Best Practice Guidelines on Promotion of Low Cost Broadband**
- **GSR 2005 Best Practice Guidelines for Spectrum Management to Promote Broadband Access**
- **GSR 2007 Best Practice Guidelines for Next-Generation Networks Migration**

GSR 2003 Universal Access Best Practice Guidelines

- The success of any universal access/service policy is dependent upon political support at the highest level that recognizes the role of ICTs as a tool for development.
- Countries can use regulatory reform as the first step in achieving universal access, recognizing that further steps may be necessary to achieve ubiquitous access to ICTs, e.g., in rural areas or to users with special needs.
- Universal service funds can be viewed as an option that complements regulatory reform and developed as a mechanism within a broader market-oriented approach to achieving universal access.

GSR 2004 Best Practice Guidelines on Promotion of Low Cost Broadband

- We encourage regulators to set policies to stimulate competition among various technologies and industry segments that will lead to the development and deployment of broadband capacity. This includes addressing barriers or bottlenecks that may exist with regard to access to essential facilities on a non-discriminatory basis.
- We encourage regulators to allocate adequate spectrum to facilitate the use of modern, cost effective broadband radiocommunications technologies. We further encourage innovative approaches to managing the spectrum resource such as the ability to share spectrum or allocating on a license-exempt non-interference basis.
- We recommend that the promotion of access to low cost broadband interconnectivity should be integrated from “grass-roots” efforts to identify local needs all the way through to the “tree tops” of international law. Governments, businesses and non-governmental organizations should be involved.

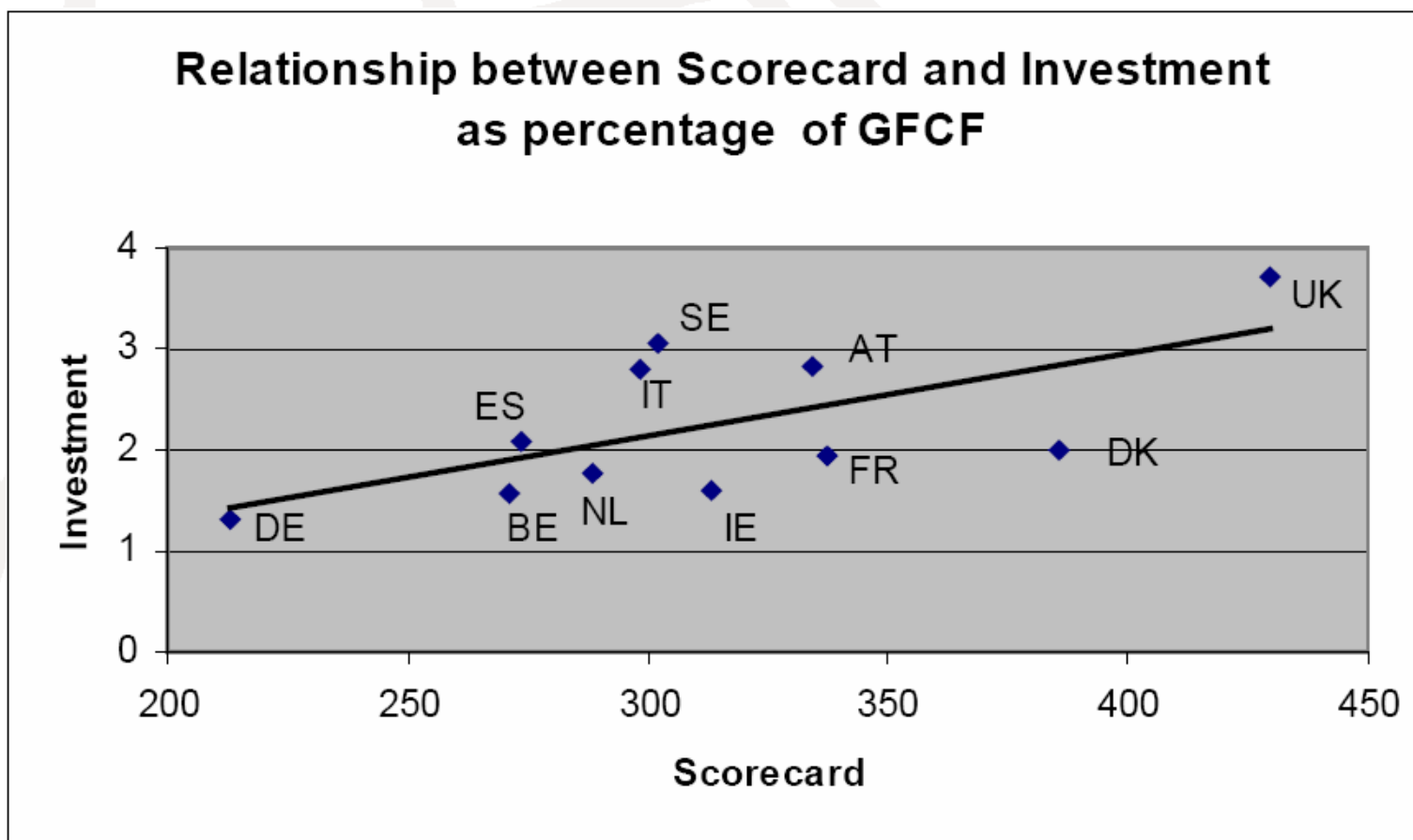
GSR 2005 Best Practice Guidelines for Spectrum Management to Promote Broadband Access

- Embracing the principle of minimum necessary regulation, where possible, to reduce or eliminate regulatory barriers to spectrum access, including simplified licence and authorization procedures for the use of spectrum resources.
- Carrying out public consultations on spectrum management policies and procedures to allow interested parties to participate in the decision-making process, such as:
 - public consultations before changing national frequency allocation plans; and
 - public consultations on spectrum management decisions likely to affect service providers.
- Adopting lighter regulatory approaches in rural and less congested areas, such as flexible regulation of power levels, the use of specialized antennas, the use of simple authorizations, the use of geographic licensing areas, lower spectrum fees and secondary markets in rural areas.

GSR 2007 Best Practice Guidelines for Next-Generation Networks Migration

- We encourage regulators to adopt a coherent approach to regulating the converged information and communication technology (ICT) sector. One approach could be through the establishing of converged ICT regulatory authorities.
- We encourage regulators to adopt licensing frameworks which are flexible and technology neutral, recognizing that these attributes are vital for the transition towards an NGN world, characterized by the decoupling of service/application provision from the underlying infrastructure.
- We believe that the security of communications will become increasingly important in a new IP based communication environment, and therefore encourage regulators to follow developments of security issues, and implement appropriate measures such as, for example consider requiring reports from relevant service providers on security incidents and failures.

Effective Regulation Linked to Investment



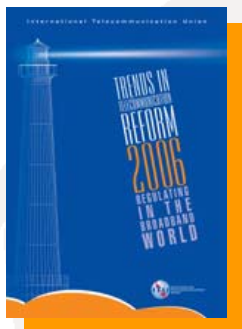
Source ECTA Regulatory Scorecard 2005



Meeting the Millennium Development Goals: promote development and improve the quality of life

- “Our challenge is to harness the potential of ICTs to promote the development goals of the Millennium Declaration...”
- Make available the benefits of new technologies especially information and communications technologies (ICTs).
- ICTs are considered as fundamental working tools for development

ITU Regulatory Tools for the enabling environment



Trends in Telecommunication Reform



ICT Eye
regulatory data and information

Global Regulators' Exchange



and Regulatory News Log

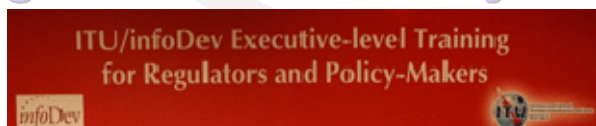
Global Symposium for Regulators (GSR)



West African Common Market Project Regulatory Guidelines



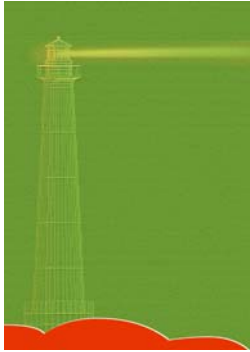
Executive Level Training for Regulators and Policy Makers



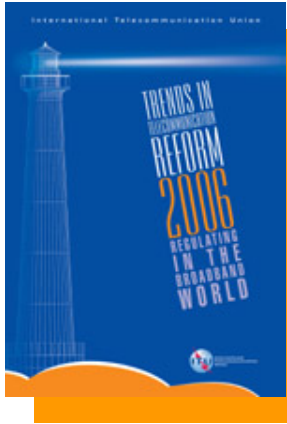
ICT REGULATION TOOLKIT



Trends in Telecommunication Reform



Coming Soon
**Trends in Telecommunication Reform 2007:
The Road to Next-Generation
Networks (NGN)**



**Trends in
Telecommunication
Reform 2006:
Regulating in a
Broadband World**

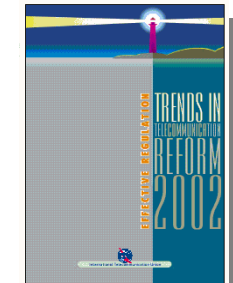


**Trends in
Telecommunication
Reform 2004/2005:
Licensing in an
era of convergence**

**2003
Promoting universal
access**



**2002
Effective
Regulation**



**2000/2001
Interconnection
Regulation**



**1999
Convergence
and
Regulation**



Regulatory Reform Unit (RRU) - Microsoft Internet Explorer
Address: http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/treg/index.phtml

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Useful Links

GREX
Virtual Tool for Regulators

GLOBAL SYMPOSIUM FOR REGULATORS (GSR)



- **7th GSR!** -Dubai, United Arab Emirates - 5-7 February 2007
- **BOOK YOUR HOTEL ROOM!**
- **Consultation launched!**
[Regulatory Frameworks to Promote NGN](#)
- Side Event: **4th Regional Regulators' Associations**
4 February 2007
- **The History**
Best practice guidelines, Press release...


MORE EVENTS

- [Global seminar on quality of service and consumer protection](#)
Geneva, Switzerland, 31 August - 1 September 2006
- [Workshop on Interconnection and NGN Networks: Addressing the Regulatory Challenges](#)
Buenos Aires, Argentina, 11 September 2006
- [13th Sub regional Telecommunication Meeting for Cambodia, Lao P.D.R., Myanmar and Vietnam](#)
Yangon, Myanmar, 4-8 October 2006
- [ITU - infoDev Executive Level Training for Regulators and Policy Makers](#)
Hong-Kong, China, 2-3 December 2006

VIRTUAL EVENTS


- [ITU/infoDev ICT-Regulation Toolkit, New Technologies Module](#) - 15 March 2006

COOPERATION PROJECTS



ICT Regulation Toolkit
The ICT Regulation Toolkit is a web-based tool, organized as a series of lined module to provide regulators, telecom service providers, policy makers, sector experts and the general public with latest on regulatory topics, best practices, and case studies. The Toolkit is an update and expansion of infoDev's, popular and influential Telecommunications Regulation Handbook.

- Regulating the telecommunications sector -- overview
- [Competition and price regulation](#)
- [Authorization of Telecommunications Services](#)
- Universal Service
- [Radio Spectrum management](#)
- [Legal and institutional framework](#)
- New technologies and impact on regulation




ICT Market Harmonization for ECOWAS/UEMOA
In 2004, the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) launched a regional project, in cooperation with the European Union, to support the establishment of an integrated ICT Market in West Africa.

- [ITUNews article](#)
- [ECOWAS press release](#)

SURVEYS

- **THE 2006 TELECOMMUNICATION REGULATORY SURVEY IS OPEN!**

THE ITU ICT EYE



The ICT "eye" website:
a one stop-shop for ICT information


[What is the eye?](#)

NEWS

RRU Newslug: News related to ICT Regulations

- [Vivendi goes into Sub-Saharan Africa with Onatel Purchase](#)
- [New licensing regime commences](#)
- [British co eyes Bulgarian cable operator CableTEL](#)
- [VoIP regulation due early 2007](#)
- [Italy WiMAX auction due by end-June](#)
- [more...](#)

- **RRU Newsletter:** [May 2006](#)
- **ITU News: March 2006**
Trends in Telecom Reform:
 - [Broadband and Development](#)
 - [Broadband Spectrum Management](#)
- **Enabling the Information Society**



PUBLICATIONS

- [Trends in Telecommunication Reform 2006](#)
Regulating in the Broadband World
[Summary](#)
Free Spam Chapter!
- [Case Studies](#)

TRAINING

- [E-learning Course on Dispute Resolution for European Countries](#)
16 May - 22 July 2005
- [Arab States E-learning Course on Dispute Resolution](#)
21 March - 27 May 2005

Internet



Home : ITU-D : Regulatory Reform Unit

 Search

On-line resources by topic

The rapid reform of the telecommunication sector is resulting in the emergence of many complex issues. This section brings together useful documentation on key subjects. In some cases, the entire document is provided. In others, a summary is given as well as purchasing information.

- ▶ [General Regulatory](#)
- ▶ [Interconnection](#)
- ▶ [Convergence, Broadband, Internet & VoIP](#)
- ▶ [Licensing](#)
- ▶ [Mobile](#)
- ▶ [Dispute resolution](#)
- ▶ Other references
www.TheClaimRoom.com
www.TheSolicitorsRoom.com
www.TheMediationRoom.com

- ▶ [Model Legislation, Policy and Guidelines](#)
- ▶ [Numbering](#)
- ▶ [Pricing & Costs](#)
- ▶ [Universal Service](#)
- ▶ [Case studies](#)

- ▶ [Quality of service and Consumer issues](#)
- ▶ [Spectrum Management](#)
- ▶ [Trade](#)
- ▶ [Unbundling](#)
- ▶ [Spam](#)

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Virtual Tool for Regulators
- Address book



Documents & rapports : Service universel

- ICT EYE
- Faits & Statistiques
- Publications
- Evénements
- Documentation
- Recherche
- Liens utiles
- GREX
- Outil virtuel
- Régulateurs
- Carnet d'adresses

DOCUMENTS UIT	DOCUMENTS NON UIT (SOURCES OFFICIELLES ET GOUVERNEMENTALES)	AUTRES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Universal Service in an IP-enabled NGN Environment, prepared by P. Xavier, ITU Workshop on What Rules for IP enabled NGNs? SEC/SPU, March 2006 ▶ Tendances des réformes dans les télécommunications: Promouvoir l'accès universel aux TIC-Outils pratiques pour les régulateurs, 5ème édition, UIT, 2003 (<i>Résumé</i>) ▶ Séance sur l'accès/le service universel, Colloque mondial des régulateurs de l'UIT/BDT, Hong Kong, Chine, 2002 (<i>Chairperson's Report</i>, page 14) ▶ Universal Access and Services in Central Eastern Europe and the Baltic States, ITU/BDT Seminar March 2002, Bratislava, Slovak Republic (<i>Documents</i>) ▶ Universal Service in the Americas, Doc. OEA/Ser.L/XVII.6.2, ITU, CITEL et AHCIET, 2000 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ New Models for Universal Access Models in Latin America, Regulatel/World Bank (PPIAF and GPOBA)/ECLAC Project, 2006 ▶ Rethinking Universal services for a Next Generation Network Environment, OECD, Working Party on Telecommunications and Information Services Policies, 2006 ▶ Directive concernant le service universel et les droits des utilisateurs, Le Parlement européen et le Conseil, Bruxelles, 7 mars 2002 ▶ Closing the Gap in Access to Rural Communications: Chile 1995-2002, Bjorn Wellenius, World Bank discussion paper series ; no. WDP 430, 2002 ▶ European Universal Service Atlas, commissioned by EU Directorate Information Society Seventh Report on the implementation of the Telecommunications Regulatory Package (See page 26 section 4.2.9), European Commission, COM (2001) 706, Brussels, 2001 ▶ Service universel, Module 6, Manuel sur la réglementation des télécommunications, projet InfoDev 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ ETNO Reflection Document on The Development of Universal Service for Telecommunications in a Competitive Environment. European Public Telecommunications Network Operators' Association (ETNO). RD02 (12/93) ▶ The Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) in India - An Overview, contribution of Shyamal Ghosh, Administrator, USOF, Department of Telecom, India, November 2004

International Telecommunication Union - BDT - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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- Regulatory Information
- Operators / Service Providers
- Tariff Policies
- Financial Institutions
- Scientific Institutions
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Welcome to the ITU's ICT Eye

The ITU, the UN specialized agency for telecommunications, has its "eye" on ICTs and is recognized around the globe as the leading provider of timely and comprehensive telecommunication/ICT statistics and trends.

The ICT "eye" website is a one stop-shop for ICT information and provides telecommunication/ICT indicators and statistics, regulatory and policy profiles, national tariff policies, operator information, financial and scientific institutions, and much much more...

Please select a country/economy from the map or select from the following list: ➔



select a country to see its name

Macromedia Flash **MX** plug-in is needed to view / use the map above. Download [here](#).

Map used with permission from the [United Nations Cyberschoolbus](#), Outreach Division, DPI.

The boundaries and names shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the International Telecommunication Union and the United Nations. All content linked to this map was created by the International Telecommunication Union.

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- ICT Statistics
- Regulatory Information
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- Economic Research Tools

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- Economic Research Tools
- WSIS Stocktaking

- » ITU ICT EYE +
- » REPORTS +
- » SURVEY LOGIN +

Regulatory Knowledge Centre

The information and communication technology (ICT) sector is in the midst of remarkable transformation fueled by a combination of technological, market, policy and regulatory developments. These changes include unparalleled numbers of voice telephone subscribers, the rise of IP-enabled networks and Voice over IP (VoIP) services, initial-yet promising-deployment of fixed line broadband and broadband wireless access (BWA) services and intelligent radio devices. The market and technological developments are exerting pressure on the current regulatory framework. How will regulation change?

One of the core functions of the BDT is the collection, analysis and dissemination of information on telecommunication regulatory trends and practices, collectively known as the Regulatory Knowledge Centre. This site is an online one-stop shop for the latest ICT regulatory information. The data is drawn from an annual regulatory survey, which dates back to 1994. Each year the survey is adapted in order to reflect changes in the sector.

Since the start of the survey, the number of countries with separate regulators has grown by over 200%; the number of countries that have privatized has doubled and the number of countries providing competitive basic services has grown by over 500%. To view the latest trends, select the desired reports from the right hand menu.

Search input field with "Search" button

Regional Reports

- Select Region:
- [Level of Competition](#)
 - [Status of the main fixed-line operators](#)
 - [Countries with a separate regulator](#)
 - [Laws and Regulations by region](#)
 - [Interconnection agreements and prices / Reference Interconnection Offers \(RIOs\)](#)
 - [Licensing agreements](#)
 - [Dispute resolution decisions](#)
 - [Spam legislation and responsible anti-spam authority](#)
 - [IP Telephony](#)
 - [Spectrum information](#)

Country Reports

- Country:
- [Country Snapshot](#)
 - [Country Profile \(includes contact details, market structure and regulatory environment\)](#)
 - [Regulators Profile \(Includes details on the Regulators structure, financing and functions\)](#)
 - [Universal Service Profile \(Includes details on the Universal Service coverage, programs and financing\)](#)

- ITU ICT Eye
- ICT Statistics
- Regulatory Information
- Operators / Service Providers
- Tariff Policies
- Financial Institutions
- Scientific Institutions
- Economic Research Tools

ITU ICT EYE + REPORTS + MAIN SURVEY PAGE +

ICT Statistics

Select Year: 2005

1. Basic indicators: Population, GDP, total telephone subscribers and total telephone subscribers per 100 people
2. Main telephone lines, subscribers per 100 people
3. Mobile cellular, subscribers per 100 people
4. Internet indicators: Hosts, Users and Number of PCs

For definitions, see the technical notes

Regulatory Information

Regional Reports

Select Region: -- Please Select --

- Level of Competition
- Status of the main fixed-line operators
- Countries with a separate regulator
- Laws and Regulations by region
- Interconnection agreements and prices / Reference Interconnection Offers (RIOs)
- Licensing agreements
- Dispute resolution decisions
- Spam legislation and responsible anti-spam authority
- IP Telephony
- Spectrum information

Country Reports

Country: -- Please Select --

- Country Snapshot
- Country Profile (includes market structure, regulatory environment and contact details)
- Regulators Profile (Includes details on the Regulators structure, financing and functions)
- Universal Service Profile (Includes details on the Universal Service coverage, programs and financing)

Operators / Service Providers

Details

ALL companies: 2973 records
NEW Companie(s) (1 month): 0 record(s)

Profiles

ALL Profiles: 424 records
NEW Profile(s) (1 month): 0 record(s)

Geographical approach

Region: World

[List of countries in region](#)

Thematic approach

This criteria search is divided in 6 parts:

- COUNTRIES
- COMPANY PROFILES
- NETWORKS AND SERVICES
- DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS & PARTNERSHIPS
- TYPE OF PARTNERS SOUGHT
- COUNTRY WHERE A PARTNER IS SOUGHT

Classification: ITU/BDT Classification

[Set criteria](#)

Tariff Policies

Region: <All>

Teledensity level: <All>

GDP level: <All>

Year From: 2006 To: 2006

- Cost and Tariff Models
- Universal Service Policy
- Tariff Rebalancing
- Time Bands, Tariff Zones and Interconnection
- Network Based on IP

Scientific Institutions

Geographical approach

Region: -- Please Select --

Country: -- Please Select --

[List of Scientific Institutions](#)

[List of Scientific Institutions with contact info](#)

Thematic approach

Institution data can be filtered by specifying various search criteria.

[Set criteria](#)

Financial Institutions

Geographical approach

Region: -- Please Select --

Country / Economy: -- Please Select --

[List of Financial Institutions](#)

[List of Financial Institutions with contact info](#)

Thematic approach

Please set filter criteria.

- Multilateral & bilateral
- Fund
- Private source

Economic Research Tools

Browse Database

Select a tool to view its details:

-- Please Select --

[Display Tool Information](#)

Thematic approach

Economic Research Tools data can be filtered by specifying various search criteria.



The **ICT Regulation Toolkit** is a live resource for policy-makers, regulators, the telecom industry, and consumers. It provides a global overview of how telecom policy is best implemented with practical materials highlighting experience and results. [More](#)

- TOOLKIT**
- [Table of Contents](#)
 - [Table of Documents](#)
 - [Table of Practice Notes](#)

Module 1: Regulating the Telecommunications Sector: Overview

Telecommunications growth and innovation, Telecommunications and economic development, rationale for regulation, Principles for effective regulation, Key success factors and risk of failure, Institutional responsibilities.

Availability: January 2007

Module 2: Competition and Price Regulation

Fair competition, Interconnection and access, Prices, Benchmark price regulation, Data requirements, Effective price regulation.

Availability: Beta | [Overview](#) | [Contents](#)

Module 3: Authorization of Telecommunications Services

Introduction, Authorization approaches, Competitive licensing processes, Authorization practices, Special authorization situations.

Availability: Released | [Overview](#) | [Contents](#)

Module 4: Universal Service

Principles and basic concepts, Market shortfalls and development gaps, Roles of the government and the private sector, Scope of support beyond the market, Principles of cost-effective support, Funding sources and mechanisms.

Availability: January 2008

Module 5: Radio Spectrum Management

Current trends, Technical aspects, Scope of spectrum use and issues, International administrative framework, National institutional arrangements, Authorizing spectrum use and Assigning frequency bands to users and technologies, Stakeholders, Spectrum Pricing, Monitoring and enforcement, and Capacity building for regulators

Availability: Beta | [Overview](#) | [Contents](#)

Module 6: Legal and Institutional Framework

Laws and regulations, International treaties and agreements, WTO, National legislation and regulations; Institutional arrangements for telecommunications regulation; Regulatory processes, Relationships with judiciary and competition authorities; Governance, Realistic design options, Human resources and capacity building.

Availability: Released | [Overview](#) | [Contents](#)

Module 7: New technologies and impact on regulation

New technologies and applications, Convergence, Internet's impact on networks, business models, market structures, and regulation; Broadband, the way forward.





REGULATORY NEWSLOG

News related to ICT Regulation

30 MARCH 2007

EC's 12th implementation report: Consumers have more choice, but full potential of EU's internal market remains unexploited

European consumers continue to benefit from lower prices and innovative services as a result of good progress in the implementation of Europe's telecoms rules. However for consumers and providers to reap the full benefits of Europe's internal market, more competition, a more consistent and speedy application of remedies and regulators that are more independent are necessary, says the European Commission's 12th report on the EU's telecom markets, issued on 29 March 2007.
'The opening of telecom markets to competition is certainly one of the EU's success stories as can be seen by the downward trend in tariffs and better services. However, whilst 2.3% growth of the sector and 5% additional investment are good, they are not good enough in times when Europe's competitiveness is a stake.' commented Viviane Reding, EU Commissioner for Telecommunications.
'This is why this year's reform of the EU's telecom rules must focus regulation on those key bottlenecks where competition is still not effective. In a sector where technology transcends national borders, regulators should pave the way for pan-European economies of scale that are in the interests of both operators and consumers.' The Commission report takes a snapshot of Europe's telecom markets, worth almost €290 billion in revenues, just prior to the reform of the EU telecom rules. It includes individual chapters covering the situation in each EU Member State. Source:
http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=3304

Europe

30/03/2007 13:42:44 (W. Europe Daylight Time, UTC+02:00) # | Trackback

29 MARCH 2007

Archives

Calendar for March 2007 with dates 1-31 and a highlighted date 30.

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Navigation

Categories

- List of categories with RSS icons: Africa, America, Arab States, Asia, Australian Continent, Broadband, Broadcasting/IPTV, Competition, Consumer Protection, Convergence, Cyber-security and Spam, Enforcement/Dispute Resolution, Europe

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Online forum for
Regulators and Policy makers

Forum en ligne pour les régulateurs et
les décideurs

<http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/grex/index.html>

Done Internet



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TREG

G-REX, THE VIRTUAL TOOL FOR REGULATORS

The Global Regulators' Exchange (G-REX) is a password protected website* for national communications regulators, policy makers and regional regulatory organizations.

This exciting initiative, launched by the Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) in May 2001 provides a vehicle for sharing information, views and experiences on pressing regulatory issues. Regulatory information is key to creating an enabling environment to bridge the digital divide.

The most popular feature of G-REX is the **Holline** through which regulators and policy makers can pose any question they wish and seek feedback from their colleagues around the world. G-REX Advisors translate all postings into French, Spanish and English and research regulators' websites to find useful information responsive to Hotline queries.

G-REX also offers **virtual conferences** on cutting edge regulatory issues. G-REX virtual conferences combine a telephone conference call and a dedicated website through which participants can, in real time, share power point presentations and engage in online chat.

The RRU is also in charge of **TREG**, the Regulatory Knowledge Center, providing key regulatory information such as:

- > Websites, names and addresses of regulators and policymakers worldwide
- > The most comprehensive listing of telecom
- > Regulatory information at regional & country levels
- > Profiles (country, regulators and regional)
- > Link to the ITU-InfoDev ICT Regulation Toolkit
- > Useful documentation on key subjects
- > Case studies
- > Self-learning material

G-REX is managed by the Regulatory Reform Unit (RRU):
regulators.hotline@itu.int

Login Registered members

*The staff of national communications regulatory bodies, policy makers and regional regulatory organizations interested in registering for G-REX are invited to do so here:

New registration [JOIN US!](#)

http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/grex/topic.asp?TOPIC_ID=6493

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[Subscribe to this topic](#)
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Author	Questions/Replies
Ebrahim Al-haddad Member Egypt 2 Posts	<p>Posted - 14/03/2007 : 11:12:31</p> <p>Does anyone know of a country where the incumbant had been seperated into a service company (servco) and a netwrok company (Netco)? Where the netwrok is made available to any service provider on an equal basis, including the incumbant?</p> <p>=====</p> <p>Y a-t-il quelqu'un qui connaît un pays où l'entreprise titulaire a été divisée en une entreprise de services (servco) et une entreprise de réseau (Netco)? Où le réseau est-il rendu disponible à tout fournisseur de services sur une base égale, incluant l'entreprise titulaire?</p> <p>=====</p> <p>¿Sabe alguien de un país donde la incumbente ha estado separada en una compañía de servicio (servco) y una compañía de red (Netco)? ¿Dónde la red se pone a disposición cualquier proveedor de servicio en una base igual, incluyendo la incumbente?</p>
hasan Karim Member Sudan	<p>Posted - 17/03/2007 : 06:58:58</p> <p>Dear Mr Haddad</p> <p>In Sudan , the incumbent Telecom Co. SUDATEL (Network Operator & Service Provider) has recently released</p>

Internet

ICT Market Harmonization for ECOWAS/UEMOA

In 2004, the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) launched a regional project, in cooperation with the European Union, to support the establishment of an integrated ICT Market in West Africa.

2005

Best practice guidelines developed and adopted in Accra, Ghana, at the 3rd Ordinary General Assembly of the West Africa Telecommunications Regulators Assembly (WATRA) in September 2005.

(see <http://www.watra.org>).

[Final Guidelines](#)

Reports:

- [Model ICT Law & Policy](#)
- [Licensing](#)
- [Interconnection](#)
- [Number Management](#)

2006

Harmonized ICT regulatory decisions were adopted at the 6th Meeting of the ECOWAS Ministers in charge of Telecommunications and ICT, held in Abuja Nigeria on 11th May 2006. The content body of these decisions was derived from the best practice guidelines adopted in Accra, Ghana, in 2005.

([Final Report of the Ministerial meeting](#), [ITUNews article](#), [ECOWAS Press release](#))

[Decisions](#)

2007

The decisions previously adopted by the ECOWAS Ministers in charge of Telecommunications and ICTs in Abuja, Nigeria in 2006, were adopted as Supplementary Acts by ECOWAS Authority of Heads of States and Government during its thirty-first session held in Ouagadougou on 19th January 2007.

([ECOWAS press release](#))

[Supplementary Acts](#)

Thank you!

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