



# Regulatory Framework for Disaster Recovery Planning of the ICT Sector in KSA

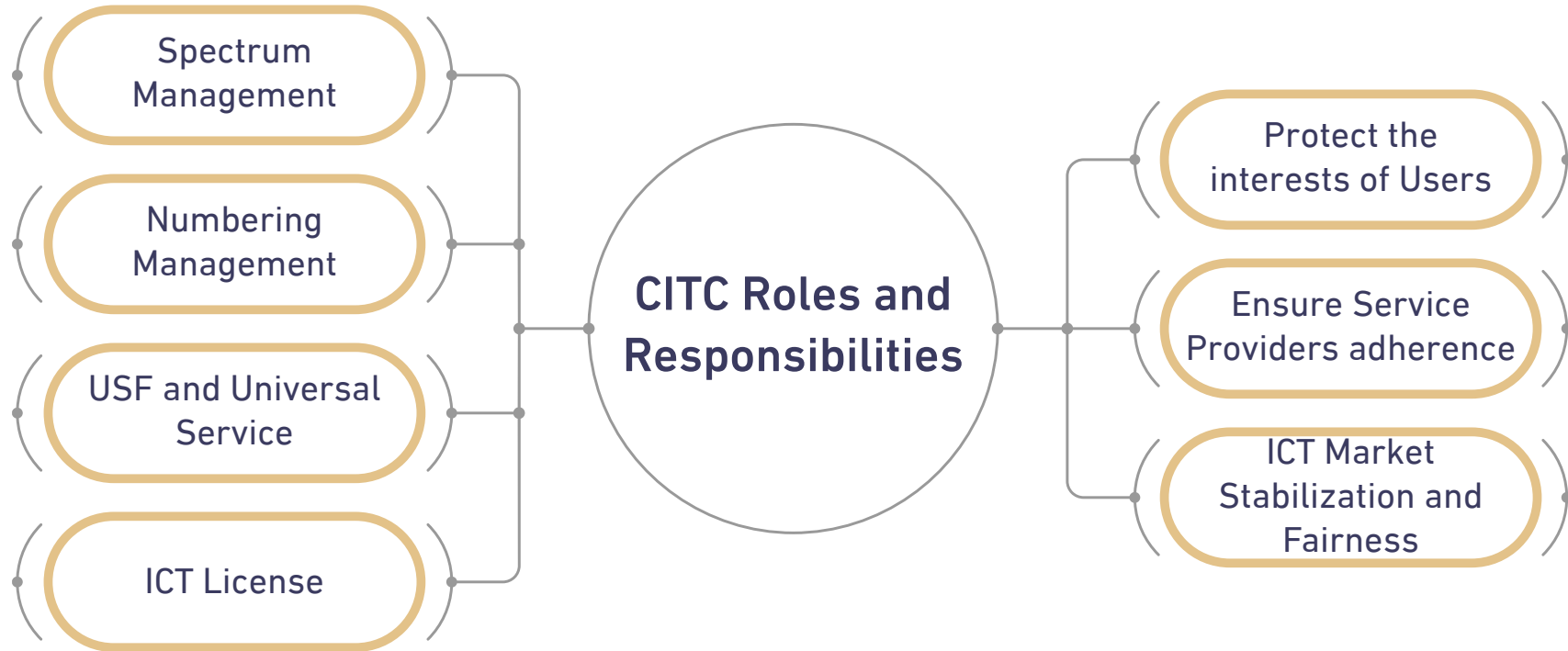
Regional multi-stakeholder Workshop on the Role of Telecommunication/ICTs  
for Disaster Risk Reduction and Management for the Arab Region

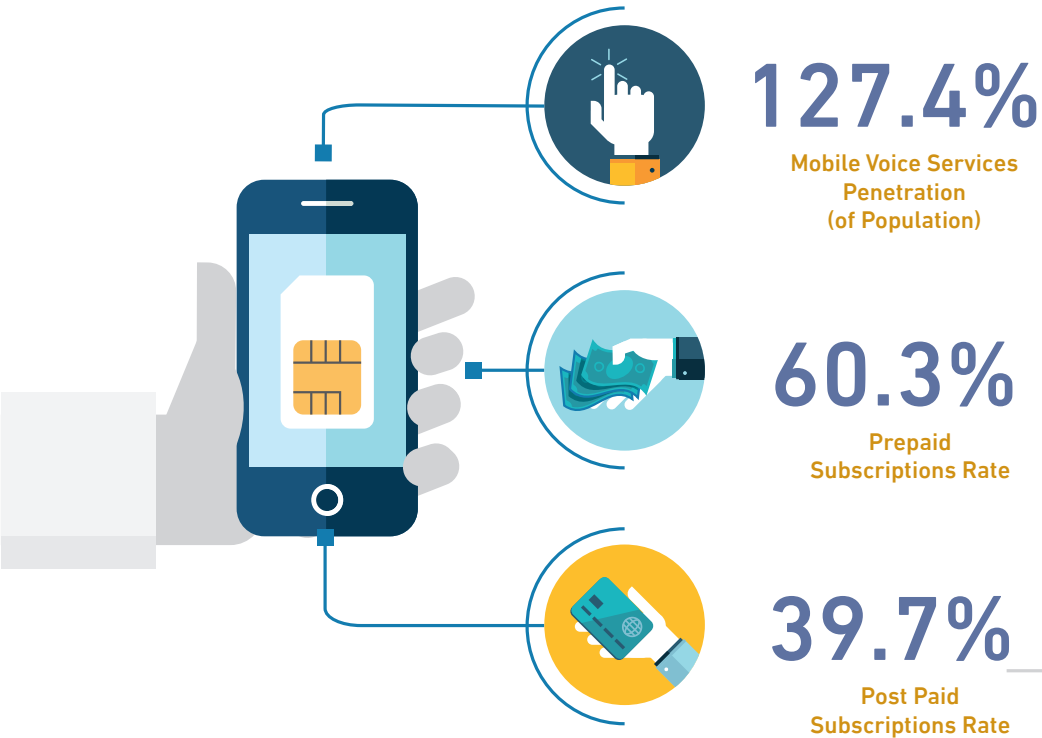
Riyadh, 26 – 28 November 2019



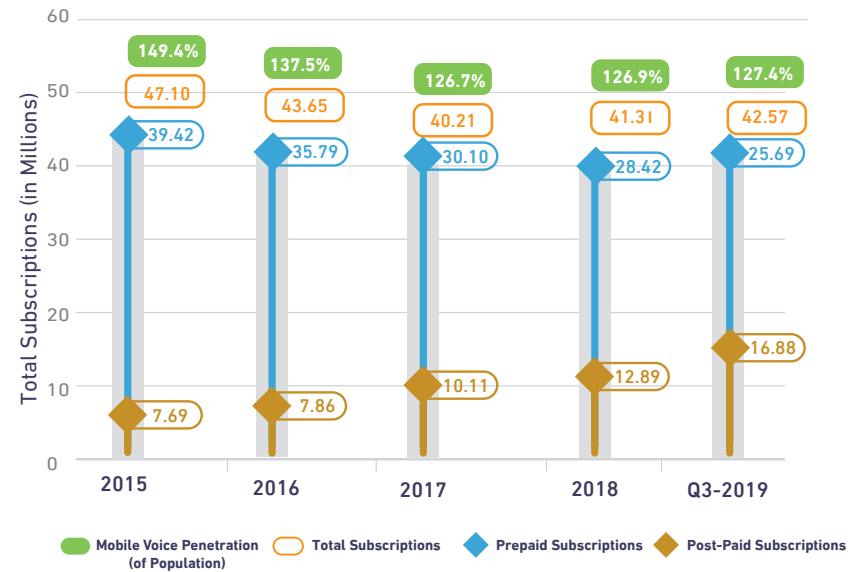
- Data shows from 2007 to 2017, an annual average of 350 disasters resulting in 68,000 deaths, 210 million people affected, and over 150 billion dollars' worth of damage.
- When disasters strike, they have devastating effects on people's lives, and on the economy.
- The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction was adopted on March 2015 to make the world a safer place and to reduce the risk of manmade and natural hazard.
- It recognizes the important role of ICTs in all phases of disaster management, and technological advancement and innovation are continuing to create exciting new opportunities for enhancing disaster resiliency and risk reduction.

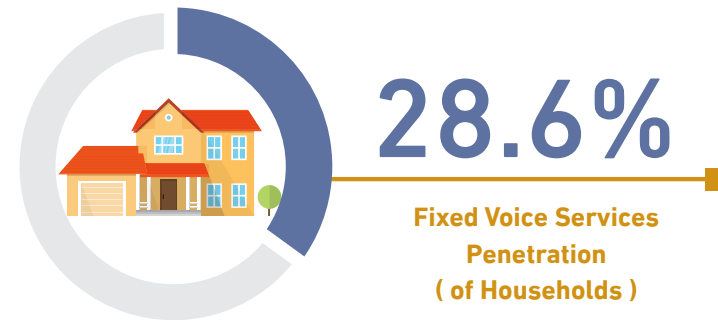
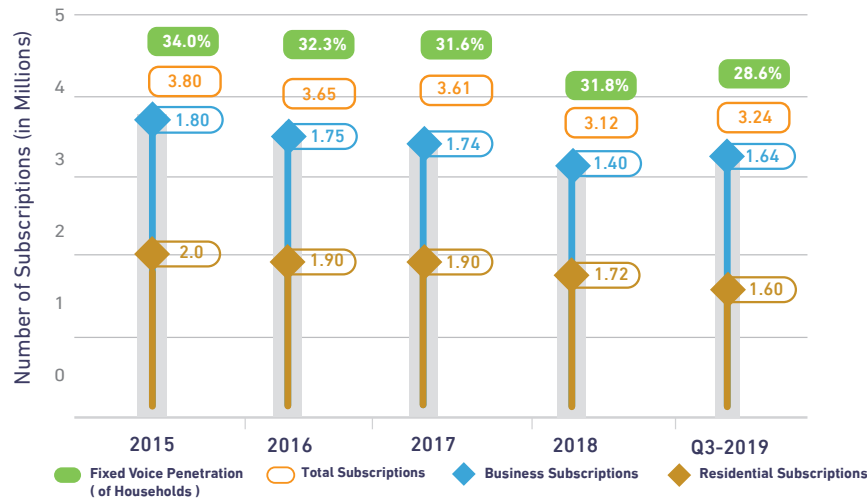
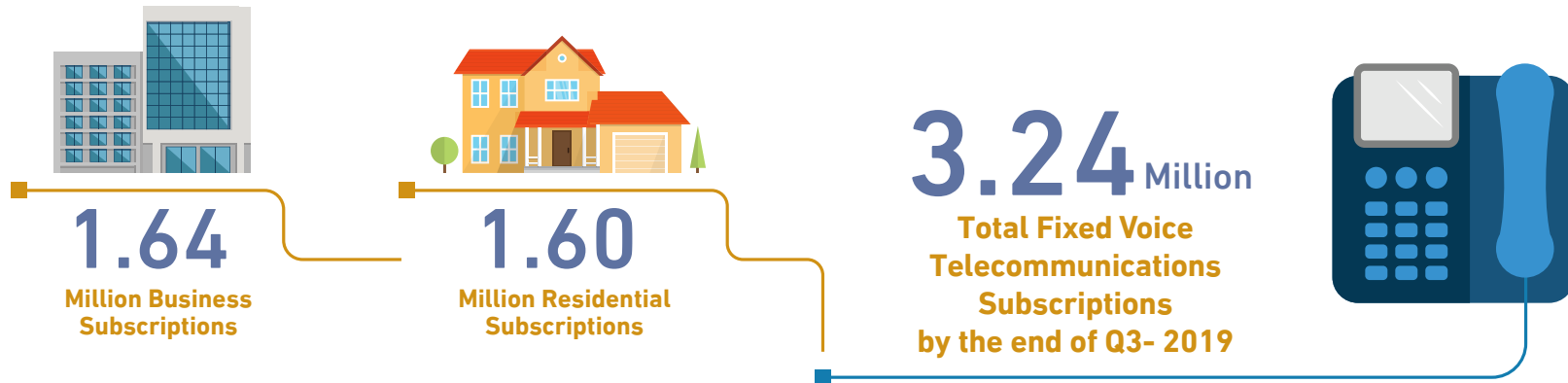




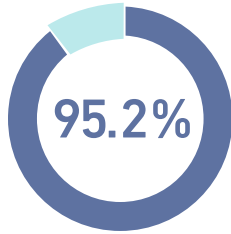


**42.57** Million  
Total Subscriptions in Mobile Voice Telecommunications Services by the end of Q3-2019

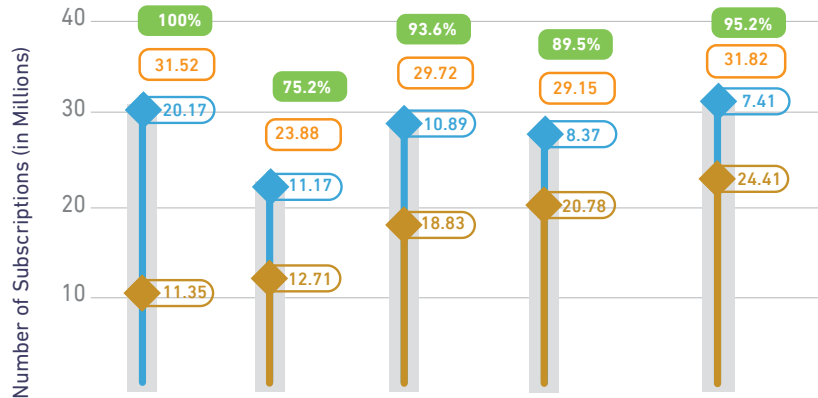
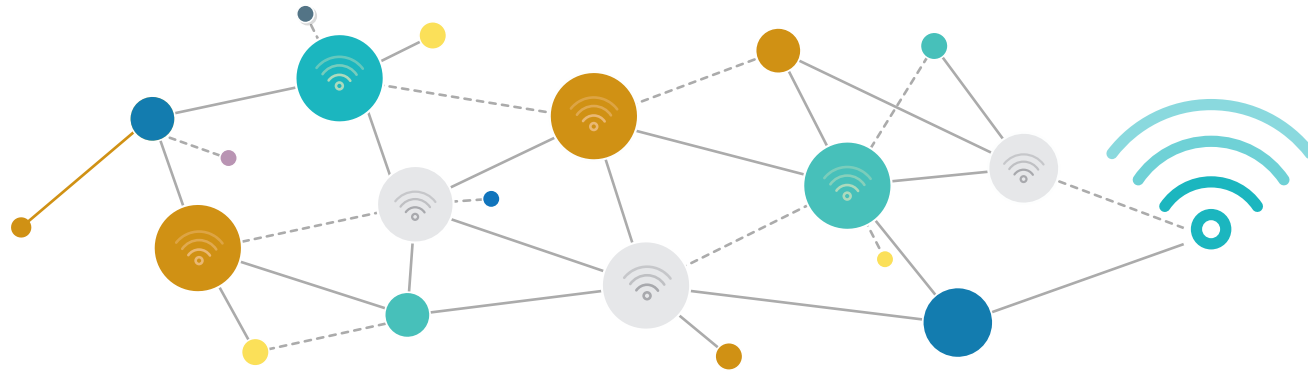




### Mobile Broadband Services



Mobile Broadband Penetration (of Population)



# 31.82

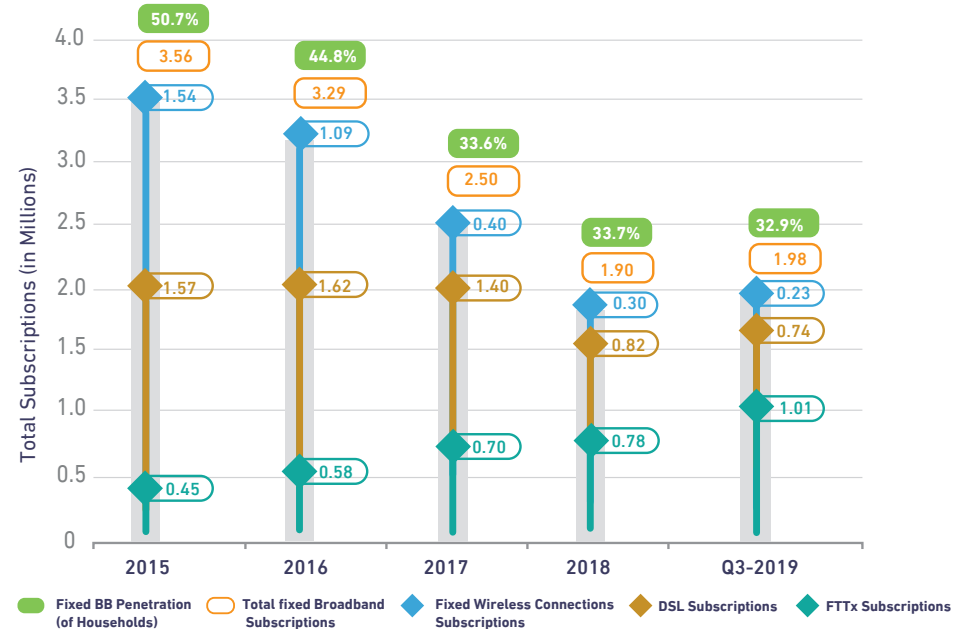
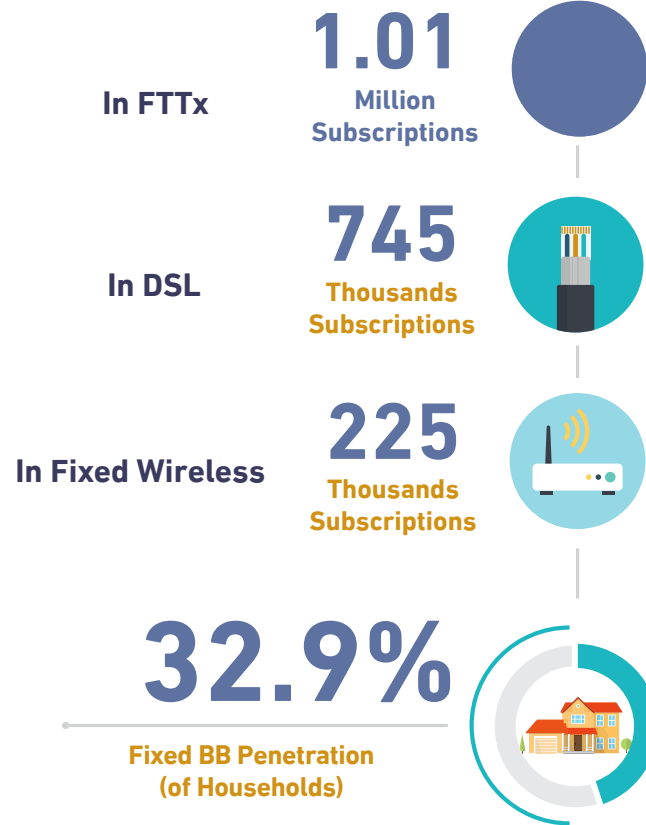
Total Subscriptions in Mobile Broadband Services by the end Q3- 2019

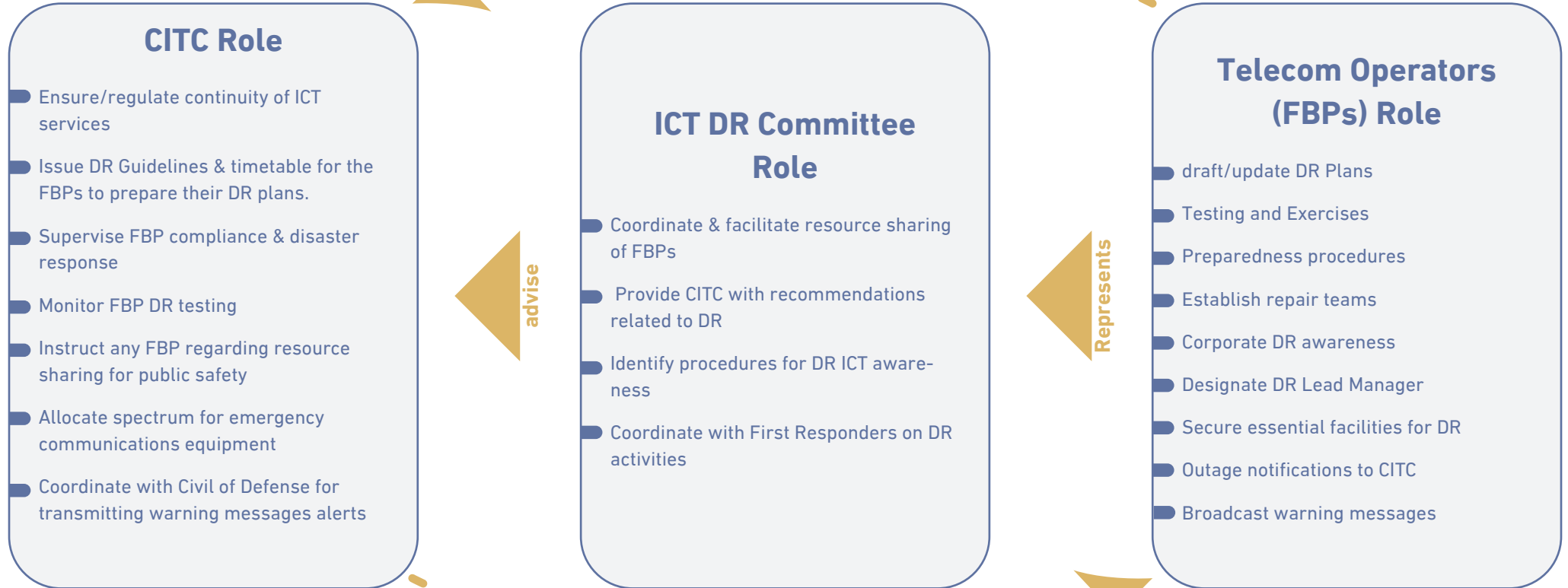


### Fixed Broadband Services

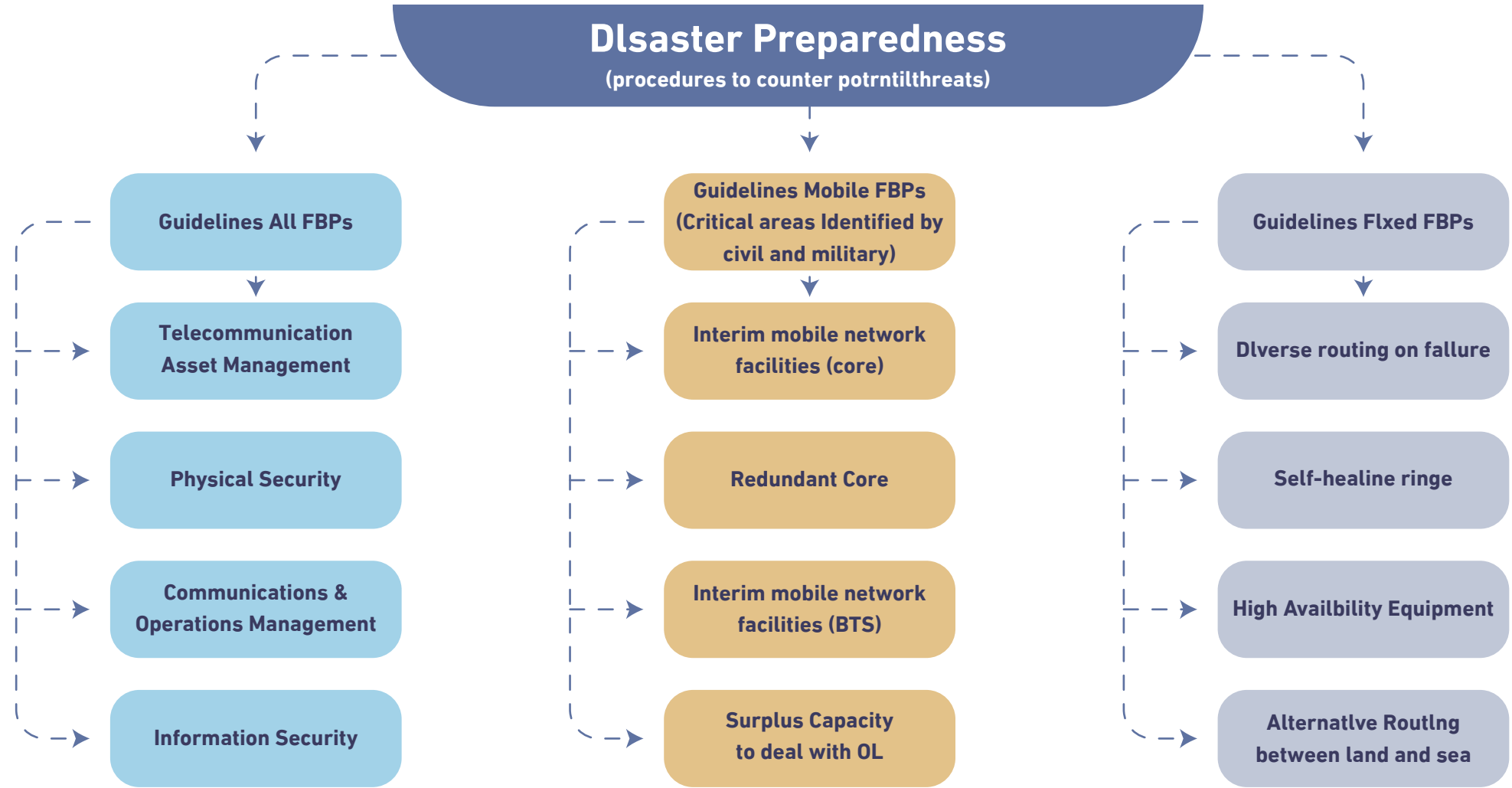
# 1.98 Million

Total Subscriptions in Fixed Broadband Services by the end of Q3- 2019









#### From the Regulator's perspective:

- business continuity / disaster preparedness and recovery is an extremely complex area to regulate appropriately.
- Command-and-control regulations need to be extensive, detailed and up-to-date
- Supervision and monitoring of operator plans, processes, testing etc. are complex and resource intensive
- The complexity of interdependent multi-operator networks renders DR preparedness & response difficult

#### From the Operator perspective:

- The regulator needs to set sufficiently nuanced risk assessments that assign appropriate requirements to relatively more or less crucial elements of the infrastructure.
- Compliance and coordination requirements are complicated and resource intensive.
- Regulations need to prescribe a minimum set of standards/metrics for preparedness and recovery operator planning, exercise management and audit processes, leaving organization and network appropriate details to operators

It has been nearly a decade since the development of the present DR Framework and Guidelines under it. Over the past decade, ICT has evolved significantly due to advancement in technology and its rapid adoption worldwide.

Small to large businesses, government agencies, enterprises at the heart of the economy of a country and people have become highly dependant on connectivity provided by ICT networks.

Within KSA, this is well recognised by Vision 2030 objectives and goals thus CITC needs to make sure that the ICT sector within KSA will follow an appropriate DR/BC regulatory framework.

#### Some of the other key goals of Vision 2030 are as follows:

- Increase foreign direct investment (FDI) from 3.8% to 5.7% of GDP in line with more developed economies.
- Increase the private sector's GDP contribution from the present 40% to 65% by 2030, and, in particular, increase SME GDP contribution to 35% (from the present 20%).
- Lower the rate of unemployment from the present 11.6% to 7% by 2030 and improve the participation of women in the workforce.
- Raise government effectiveness and efficiency and improve Saudi Arabia's position in the Government Effectiveness Index published by the World Bank. Saudi Arabia ranked 80th in 2015, and the government aims to increase this to at least 20th place as part of Vision 2030.
- Improve Saudi Arabia's position on the annual Global Competitive Index published by the World Economic Forum (WEF). The government aims to be listed as one of the top 10 countries listed on the WEF index by 2030. The country currently ranks 25th.

To achieve these outcomes, telecommunication providers will need to provide a highly developed and resilient communications infrastructure, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) will need to rapidly embrace ICT solutions and services, and the local IT industry will need to innovate and develop more valuable products and services. The education system will also need to refocus its efforts on nurturing the existing ICT skills base.

هيئة الاتصالات وتقنية المعلومات  
Communications and Information Technology Commission

