The Evolution of the National Broadband Plan for 5G Deployment

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National Broadband Plan

- A politically supported document containing:
 - analysis / mapping of the current situation
 - Broadband-related goals
 - financial support
 - Implementations mechanism
- National Broadband Plan is a live document
- National Broadband Plans should be updated ("5G-ready")

5G in Gigabit Society 2025

- 5G is a major pillar of the Gigabit Society
- 5G-related targets 2025:
 - gigabit connectivity for all of the main socio-economic drivers
 - uninterrupted 5G coverage for all urban areas and major terrestrial transport paths, and
 - access to connectivity offering at least 100 Mbps for all European households.
- A 5G action plan is in place
- National Broadband Plans should be updated and incorporate 5G roadmaps

The 5G eco-system

- 5G: the platform for cutting-edge ICT technologies, e.g.:
 - Internet of Things
 - Smart cities
 - Artificial Intelligence
- A new user experience
- What is implied:
 - Pre-5G infrastructures (fixed broadband)
 - "Smart" facilities
 - Full exploitation of big and open data
 - Interoperability of systems and networks
 - Tailored-made applications

The evolution path

- Release of spectrum bands spectrum auctions
- 5G equipment standards
- Densification of mobile operators' networks
- 4G will evolve gradually towards 5G
- Use cases / applications
- Network Integration

Challenges

- Develop pre-5G infrastructures
- High level of investments needed
- Mind the digital divide!
- New standards
- Spectrum
- Deploy "small cells"
- Meet the needs of "Verticals"
- Security issues

Key success factors

- Meet the broadband targets in time
- Coordinated 5G deployment
- Timely development of 5G-tailored applications
- Cross-sector synergies
- Link to other key initiatives
- Motivate / engage all stakeholders and users

From vision to reality: the Greek case

- National Broadband Plan updated in order to comply with the Gigabit Society targets
- Large-scale fixed broadband infrastructures deployment
- MoUs signed between GSTP and Municipalities for the deployment of 5G pilot networks (in Trikala, Kalamata and Zografou)
 - Supported by the Mobile Network operators
 - Academia will have an active role
- 5G Corridor: Greece-Bulgaria-Serbia
- Release of 700MHz band, in line with EU decisions
- Update the antenna licensing regime

The way forward

- Close collaboration in national and international level
- Share experience
- Implement the pilot projects
- Gradually release spectrum bands
- Identify use cases
- Pilot applications
- Network rollout
- Meet Gigabit Society targets

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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