

## Greece towards a "mobile first" digital strategy: Prospects & Requirements

ITU – Towards 5G Enabled Gigabit Society

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# Mobile Telecommunications Future Prospects & Opportunities for Greece

Rapid mobile telecommunications technological evolution: 4 generations in 3 decades & parallel evolution in devices to catch up with continuous network developments

**G** 5G technological requirements, footprint & services

□ Mobile telecommunications - a stimulus for growth

Growth potential: opportunities, prerequisites & incentives

Greece's digital snapshot

□ Steps towards a "mobile first" digital strategy for Greece



## **4G-LTE Radio Networks Key Technologies**

#### **Standardisation & Commercial Development**

- **2008** The 1<sup>st</sup> 4G standardisation (3GPP Rel.8) was finalised
- 2008 today 6 upgrades in the standard (Rel. 9 to 14)

#### Key upgrades :

- LTE-A (Rel.10), finalised in 2010.
- LTE-A Pro (Rel.13), finalised in March 2016.
- **2009** The first 4G commercial network operated in Stockholm

#### **2018** - in operation approximately

- 644 LTE commercial networks in more than 200 countries worldwide.
- 100 LTE-A commercial networks in more than 50 countries worldwide.

#### **Key Technologies**

- OFDM/OFDMA techniques in down-link, SC-FDMA in up-link.
- □ Adaptive differential /codification and scheduling of telecommunication traffic.
- □ Inter-Cell Interference Coordination ICIC.

MIMO

- □ Use of MIMO techniques (multiplexing, diversity, beamforming).
- □ Multicasting & Broadcasting Support.
- □ Carrier aggregation.



Opinion on Architecture for Mobile Telephony Wireless Access Networks

#### OFDMA

## **Mobile Communications Worldwide Today**



#### Better networks:

- 4G networks cover half of world's population (4 bn people)
- □ \$ 900 bn investments

#### Greater connectivity:

- □ 4,8 bn people own a mobile telephone.
- \$1 trillion of annual contribution to global GDP (4.2%)
- □ 36 million jobs
- □ \$500 bn of public revenues

#### **Richer services**:

- Internet (3.5 bn users 1 million new users each day)
- social networks
- 🕽 e-gov
- health services, etc.

Average mobile broadband speed13.5 Mbps16.6 Mbps20152016



**1.5** bn people have carried out purchases via mobile phone

**1.3** bn people have used governmental services via mobile phone

Source: 2017 Mobile Industry Impact Report, GSMA

## The Future is almost here (5<sup>th</sup> Generation)

#### Next generation (5G) has already taken its first steps

- □ March 2017, 3GPP published the first studies for Release 14, which constitutes the first version systematically referring to 5G.
- **2020:** The1st wide-range pilot operation (Tokyo Olympic Games)
- Software and Service centric transformation
  - Telecoms → Multiple stakeholders
  - Bit pipe → Enabling platform
  - Phones  $\rightarrow$  Things
  - Procedures → Services

- Protocols → APIs
- Dedicated Hardware → Orchestrated Resources
  - ➢ Network Function → Virtualized Software Instances
  - $\succ$  Network  $\rightarrow$  Slice

#### **Parallel steps in Greece**

□ Consultation process initiation for drafting comprehensive 5G roadmap – collaboration among policymakers, mobile telcos & critical sectors of the economy

## □ 5G pilots underway by the 3 providers in 3 municipalities – estimated launch date 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2019

□ 2020 onwards new spectrum frequencies allocation

### Evolution of 5G new reality (2020-2030)



Source: HUAWEI Technologies

### **Possible Operation Scenarios**



Source: NGMN Alliance, 5G White Paper

### Requirements

- 300-500Mbps mean time of transmission & max >10Gbps
- < 1ms. response time (latency)</li>
- 100 times higher speed than the current cutting-edge systems
- 100% coverage.
- 1000 times reduction of energy consumption
- High Reliability (99,999%).
- 30× device density
- 10-100× more connected devices
- Higher security levels in communication

## The 5G "10.000×" Challenge

□ Mobile data traffic demand is almost doubling each year

In a decade, 10,000 times higher telecommunications volumes (bits/sec/Hz/km<sup>2</sup>) shall be required



## **Evolution towards 5th generation (5G) (2020-2030) Technological Perspectives**



## Mobile Communications Critical Contribution in European Economy

Europe is the world's most highly penetrated mobile region as 4G shifts continue



**The EU vision**: In a decade Telecoms and IT shall be unified in a common infrastructure with extremely high capacity.

- Ensuring flexibility & expandability requires "virtualised" network operations, carried out by generic purpose, programmed and high performance hardware, providing the resources for transmission, routing, storing and processing data.
- **5G networks shall integrate telecommunications, IT and storing resources in one programmable unified infrastructure**, allowing the optimum use of allocated resources.

Source: The Mobile Economy: Europe 2017, GSMA



## **Greece compared to the EU**

#### Greece is far behind the EU average (26th in EU-28)

#### Greece fails to converge with the EU, lagging steadily behind 4-5 years in digital modernization

DESI – Evolution over time 0.80 0.70 ■ 1 Connectivity ■ 2 Human Capital ■ 3 Use of Internet ■ 4 Integration of Digital Technology ■ 5 Digital Public Services 0.70 0.60 0.60 0,50 0.50 0.40 0.40 0.30 0,30 0.20 0,20 0.10 ΔΕΙΚΤΗΣ DESI ΔΕΙΚΤΗΣ DESI ΔΕΙΚΤΗΣ DESI ΔΕΙΚΤΗΣ DESI 2014 2015 2016 2017 0.00 DK FI SE NL LU BE UK IE EE AT DE MT LT ES PT EU FR SI CZ LV SK HU CY PL HR IT EL BG RO Greece EU Πηγή: Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI) 2017 Πηγή: Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI) 2017

#### 2017 ranking based on Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI)

## However the Industry is One of the Largest & More Stable

- **€334** million investments in 2017 or 48,4% of EBITDA
- □ €537 MinEcon investments including cost for spectrum licenses
- □ €2.5 bn investments in fixed and mobile networks for the 2017-2020 period
- □ 3,6% of industry's turnover invested in R&D



Source: Providers' data processed

The roll out of new generation networks is expected to create the necessary broadband dynamics that shall support the new 5G services.

Investors

## **Greek Economy Growth Potential**

#### The industry's additional contribution\*

- +2.05% or €3.06 bn to GDP

\* Prerequisite: the implementation of required reforms, so that Greece may digitally converge with the rest of the EU (Convergence scenario).

#### Mobile data

•Baseline scenario: data penetration increases by 42% annually, reaching 2.3 GB per inhabitant in 2021, without converging with european average

•Convergence scenario: Greece converges with the average of Italy, Spain and Portugal in 2021 (at 6.8 GB per inhabitant per month)



Impact on public revenues per scenario in million € in 2021



## **Towards a "Mobile First" Digital Strategy**

## Greece has the potential to evolve to No1 destination in South-east Mediterranean region for investments in cutting-edge technology.

To this end, State initiatives are required to upgrade Greece's position on the digital map:

O1 Simplification and implementation of the regulatory framework in order to speed up the licensing process of base stations. The much anticipated upcoming Bill is expected to solve pending issues regarding network upgrades for faster implementation of planned investments.

Adoption & immediate implementation of a comprehensive "mobile first" digital strategy. The strategy 02 should incorporate action plans for the digital transformation of all sectors of the economy. Therefore, it should be drafted and implemented by GR GOV in cooperation with the various sectors.

"Ready for use" spectrum allocation. Review of frequency auctions and infrastructure licensing cost, so
as to be designed to balance fiscal requirements with the need for investment to enable economic development. It is critical to avoid artificial auction constructs which fail to strike a healthy balance for the industry.

Strengthening demand by introducing incentives for adoption of innovative mobile services by businesses, citizens, local authorities & public administration. Exploitation of 5G opportunities is not an automatic procedure. **Revenue prospects should be based on realistic forecasts, demand's stimulation will be the key challenge for the 5G ERA.** 

- 05 Removal of the special mobile tax distortion. In Greece, consumers bear a tax surcharge of up to ~50% of their final bill when the maximum charge in the EU is 25%.
- 06 **5**G Networks and Services are anticipated to become a key factor to sustainable development goals and achieving the UN 2030 targets.
- 07 GDPR Optimum environment creation, safeguarding trust between providers, clients & public administration so as EU to thrive in innovative sectors (telcos, AI etc.) outflanking USA & China.