

Poland (UKE) has been able to develop a comprehensive infrastructure and telecommunication services inventory from scratch. This comprises fixed and wireless networks, telecommunications hubs, transmission systems, points of contact, co-location buildings, buildings within network coverage and provided services. The system makes use of a variety of internal and external databases to integrate backbone, distribution and access data. Data is made available via a single information point in order to facilitate access.

UKE provides the data on broadband infrastructure and engages with ITU in the implementation of a project that enables consumers around the world to get acquainted with access to broadband backbone networks, regulators and administrations on a comparison of existing solutions in different countries and check the implementation level of the so-called broadband plans, and entrepreneurs to get acquainted with investment opportunities. The map is developed as part of independent and separate projects run by ITU and UKE. UKE is involved in data collection, clearance of available data and their submission to ITU.

Therefore, UKE decided to engage in the recently launched project by ITU and Broadband Foundation on *Supporting Investment Opportunity Mapping Systems in Broadband Infrastructure for South Eastern Europe* aiming at to helping countries advance their digital transformation.

UKE had the pleasure of hosting already two workshops (2016, 2019) dedicated to mapping of broadband infrastructure and services that lead towards creation of a consortium of stakeholders interested and willing to provide assistance to the countries in this field of expertise. UKE is pleased to witness momentum of launching the project and moving towards advancing the work on mapping in Europe.

Proposal [max 400 words]

UKE is committed to continue its engagement in the project on Supporting Investment Opportunity Mapping Systems in Broadband Infrastructure for South Eastern Europe. Its contribution may consist of the following:

- Sharing of the national experience regarding collecting the data on telecommunications infrastructure.
- UKE experts to share detailed knowledge about the mapping process, starting from the legal framework and the type of reported data on infrastructure and services to specific tools for processing the collected information and ways of developing it, in order to facilitate exchange of good practices across Europe, including the Polish approach on the issue.
- Strategic advise as part of the advisory committee of the project.

Cooperation within the framework of this project could be a basis for further exchange of know-how and best practices.

Understanding is that within the framework of the project and with the contribution by UKE South Eastern Europe countries. Countries of the South Eastern Europe (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Ukraine) will be assisted on technical requirements and system design, from regulatory standpoint. To ensure the sustainability of the process, assistance to National Regulatory Authorities and other competent authorities will be provided on how to harness mapping systems to support countries' digital transformation. Based on this experience, the project will finally deliver guidelines on the establishment, improvement, maintenance and utilization of mapping systems (Country Assistance Guidelines), which can be



applied worldwide. This project will provide a unique opportunity for harmonization of mapping systems in part of Europe region, aligning mapping tools as well as the regulations underpinning them. In particular, the project will increase the transparency of information about broadband infrastructure, private investment with new operators entering the market and opportunities for delivering public aid without distortion of competition. The project will take into account requirements from regional harmonization efforts carried out by the European Union and Body of European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC).

The expected results of this project are calibrated into 5 phases that build upon each other:

- Phase 1 – Taking Stock: Stocktaking of the level of development of mapping systems for infrastructure in targeted countries and identification of gaps;
- Phase 2 – Tailored Assistance: Drafting of tailored plans for implementation and coordination with targeted countries;
- Phase 3 – Country Implementation: Implementation of country assistance based on Phases 1&2;
- Phase 4 – Assessing Impact: Assessing impact on targeted countries and development of guidelines including best practices in Europe;
- Phase 5 – Scaling Up: Worldwide use and promotion of the newly formed guidelines of Phase 4 with the aim of attracting new countries.

