

What are the challenges we are facing?





Regulators and Policy Makers are playing an instrumental role in defining the "new normal" for a post-COVID world, as digital technologies are thrown sharply into the spotlight.



ICTs have moved far beyond the realm of simple 'communications' and have become the foundation for every economic sector and a sine qua non of business performance and national and individual growth.



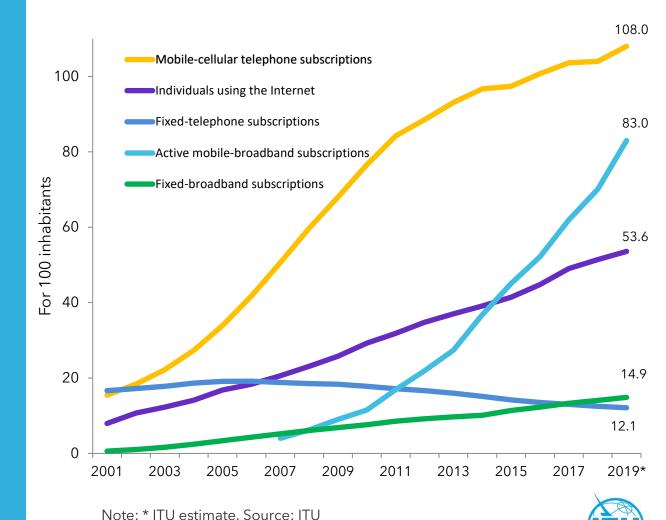
Regulatory process and tools need to be fit-for-purpose, allowing us to respond as rapidly as possible, yet in a considered and coherent manner



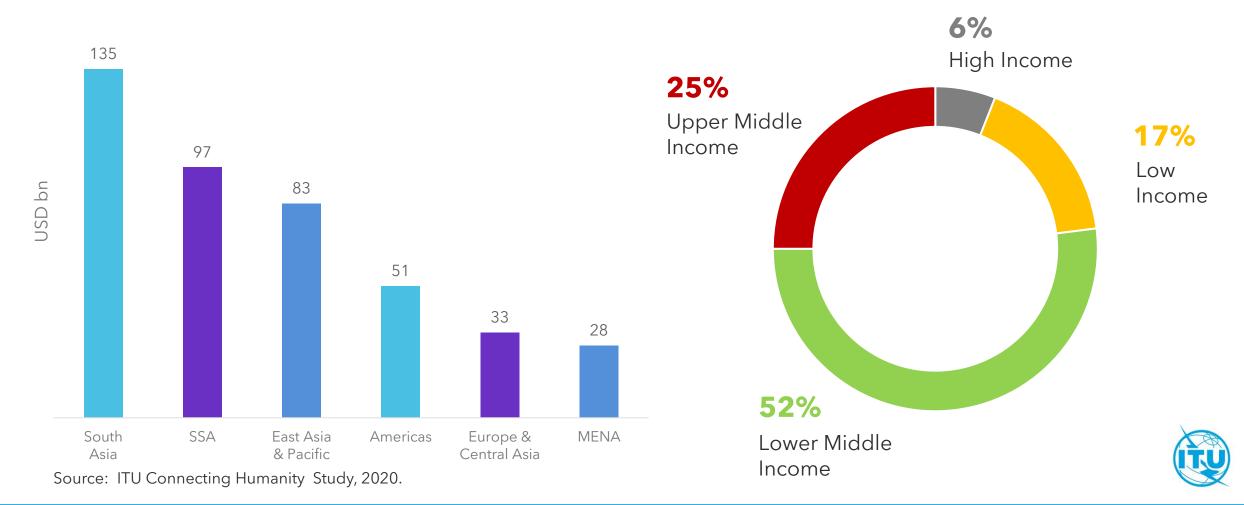
# Today, **4.1 billion people** or **53.6%** of the global population is online...

### but many remain unconnected

#### Evolution of Mobile and Fixed Subscriptions 2005-2019\*



An ambitious goal, and a major infrastructure investment challenge: 428 billion dollars required to **connect the rest of humanity** by 2030

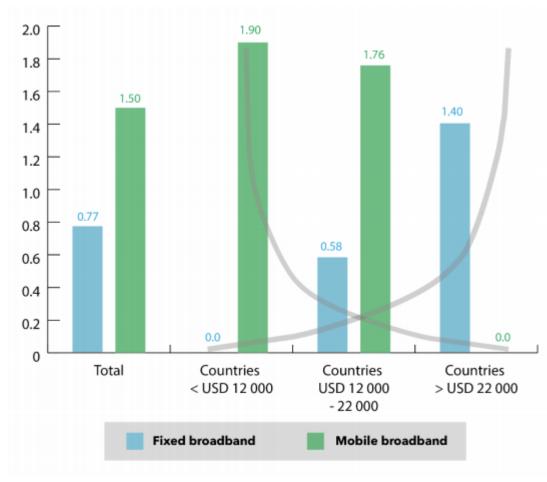




#### Why is it important?

The Economic Impact of BB, Digitization and ICT Regulation





Source: ITU (Katz and Callorda 2018)

## The impact of broadband at global level



The broadband economic impact models confirm that:

- At the aggregate level, mobile broadband appears to have a higher economic impact than fixed broadband;
- The economic impact of fixed broadband is higher in more developed countries than in less developed;
- On the opposite, the economic impact of mobile broadband is higher in less developed countries than in more developed.



Mobile broadband generates a **larger economic contribution** than fixed broadband, when examined globally.



Developing countries **benefit more from mobile broadband** than industrialized countries.



Developed countries with high penetration of fixed broadband enjoy **larger benefit from the technology** than developing nations.



The **economic contribution of digitization** is higher in advanced economies than in emerging countries.



Digitization contributes significantly to **labour** and total **factor productivity**.



The development of digitization is driven by **institutional and regulatory factors** and not only by variables such as economic development.



Digitization accelerates when a country introduces **structural changes in policy and institutions** which are related to digital technologies - after a time lag.

# The impact of broadband at global level





- Regulatory and institutional frameworks are essential in driving digital ecosystem growth and the effect builds up over time
- The connectivity of digital services is significantly correlated with the level of advancement of ICT policies and regulations, and the competition and market power regulatory set-up in particular
- Investment and development of infrastructure in the digital ecosystem are directly and positively influenced by the maturity of ICT regulatory frameworks and by ICT competition

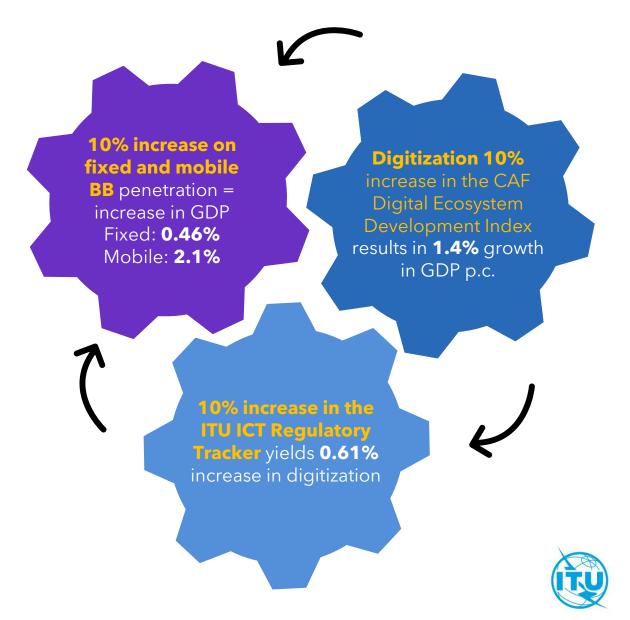
## The impact of regulation

- Level playing field in the digital marketplace is hard to achieve
- New policies and regulations need to be built in and onto existing ones in order to increase their relevance and impact on the development of the digital ecosystem.



## The economic contribution of broadband, digitization and ICT regulation

Econometric modelling for Europe



Source: ITU, 2018



The evolution of regulation



#### How has regulation evolved?

The ICT Regulatory Tracker tracks the **transition of countries** through generations one to four





#### Benchmark for collaborative regulation, G5

Regulatory upheaval from new technologies will give rise to the fifth generation of regulation.

Countries need to leap forward to the next level of regulation, with a new attitude and a new toolbox.

At the core are principles of strengthening institutional capacity and collaboration, principle-based regulation and new tools and processes while building on the acquis of previous generations of regulation.

G5 does not mean more regulation, but rather more hands-on, inclusive and evidence-based regulation and decision-making.

#### Degree of collaboration between the ICT regulator and:

- Competition authority
- Consumer protection commission
- Data protection commission
- Spectrum agency
- Broadcasting regulator
- Financial regulator
- Energy regulator
- Internet agency

#### **G5** toolbox: Cross-sectoral policies on

- Competition
- Data protection
- Cybersecurity
- e-Commerce/e-Transactions
- Digital financial services
- OTT/digital platforms
- Internet of things
- Accessibility
- Taxation of Internet services
- Infrastructure mapping

#### **Policy design principles**

- Forward-looking
- Holistic
- SDG-oriented
- Evidence-based
- Market-proof
- Incentive-based
- Innovation-based
- Inclusive
- Technology-neutra





### The Gold Standard for Digital Regulation

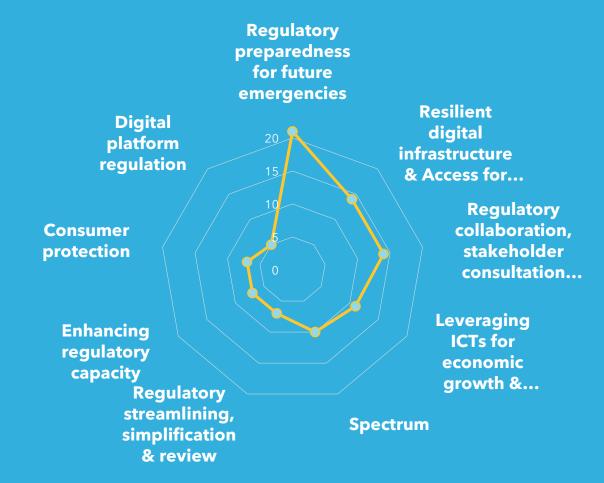
GSR-20 Best Practice Guidelines



## Main topics of focus in contributions to the GSR-20 consultation

- The most discussed topics range from digital infrastructure to spectrum to consumer protection and digital platform regulation.
- A major focus on enhancing regulatory capacity, decisionmaking processes and regulation
- Forging emergency-proof regulation is an omni-present concern.







Digital Economy and Regulation Policy Tools and Support



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current and future challenges



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ITU Infrastructure Development and Connectivity Portal







Read our research on best practices related to all

Opportunities of broadband, regulation of 5G, digital



## Thank you!

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