



STATE OF PLAY OF REGULATIONS TO COMBAT COUNTERFEIT ICTs IN ITU MEMBER STATES

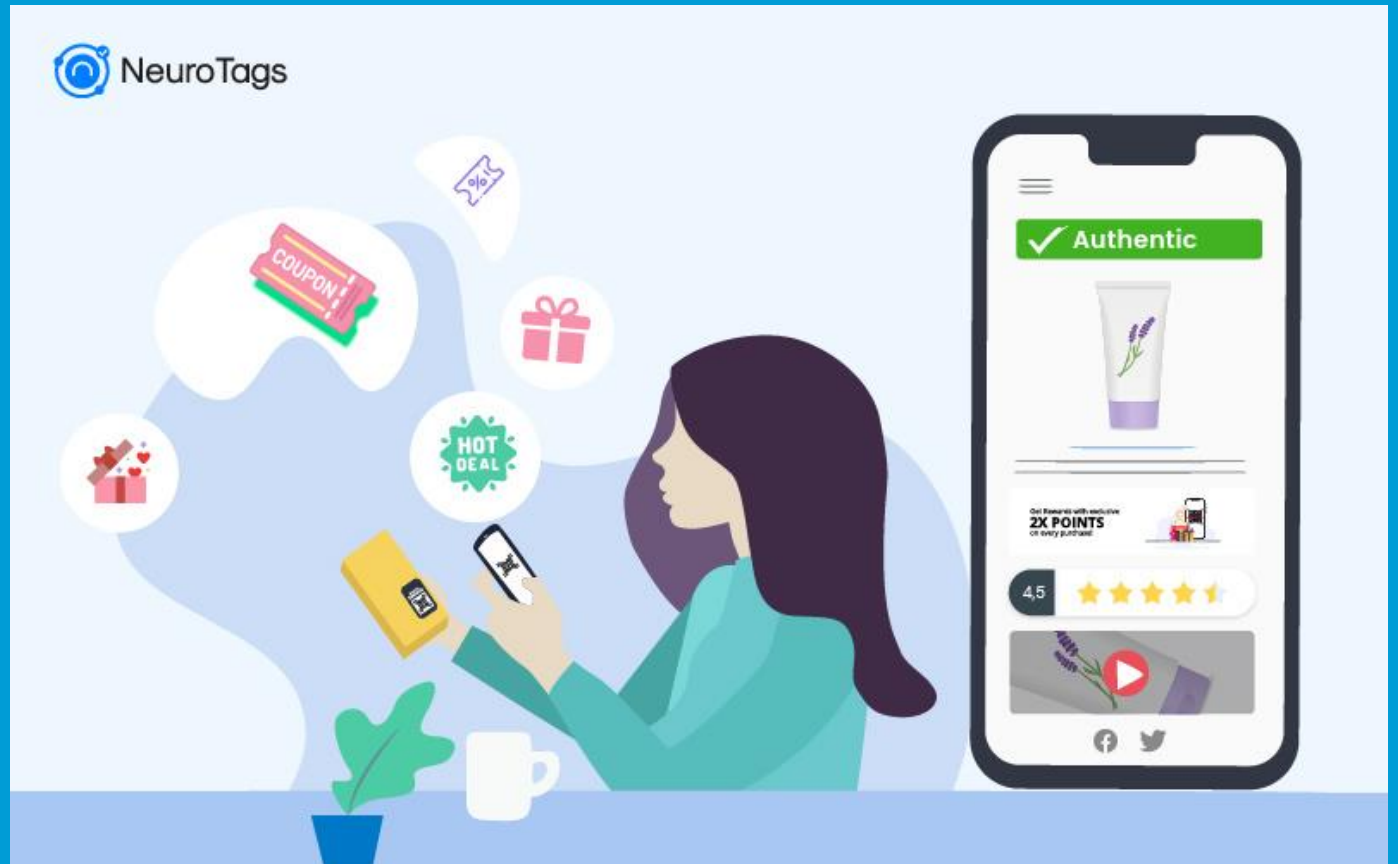
Youlia Lozanova, Senior Analyst, ICT Policy & Regulation, BDT/ITU

JOINT ITU / MWF WEBINAR

“COMBATING COUNTERFEIT AND IRREGULAR MOBILE DEVICES: HOW TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM”

31 MAY 2021

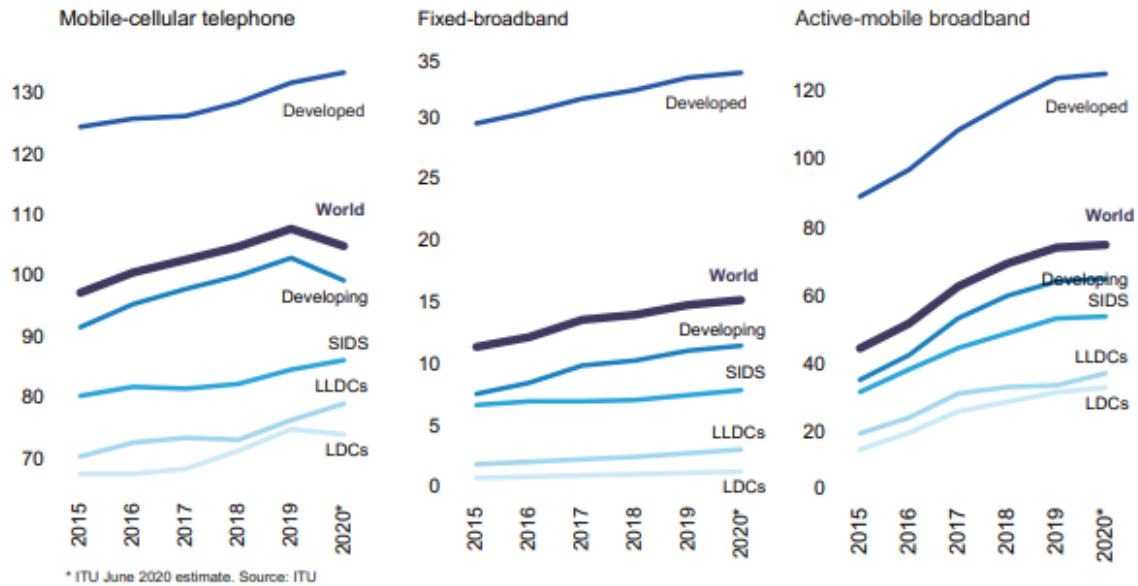
ICT
Counterfeiting
isn't a stand-
alone issue,
needs
coordinated
policy approach



CONNECTIVITY & ACCESS

- Mobile is essential for social, economic inclusion
- Inequalities persist, especially in mobile broadband adoption

Mobile-cellular telephone subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, by development status



The total number of mobile-cellular telephone subscriptions declined for the first time in history.

Further research is needed to understand whether this is caused by the disruptions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, or whether this can be explained by other socio-economic forces.

In the middle of 2020, there were an estimated 105 mobile-cellular subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, down from 108 in 2019.

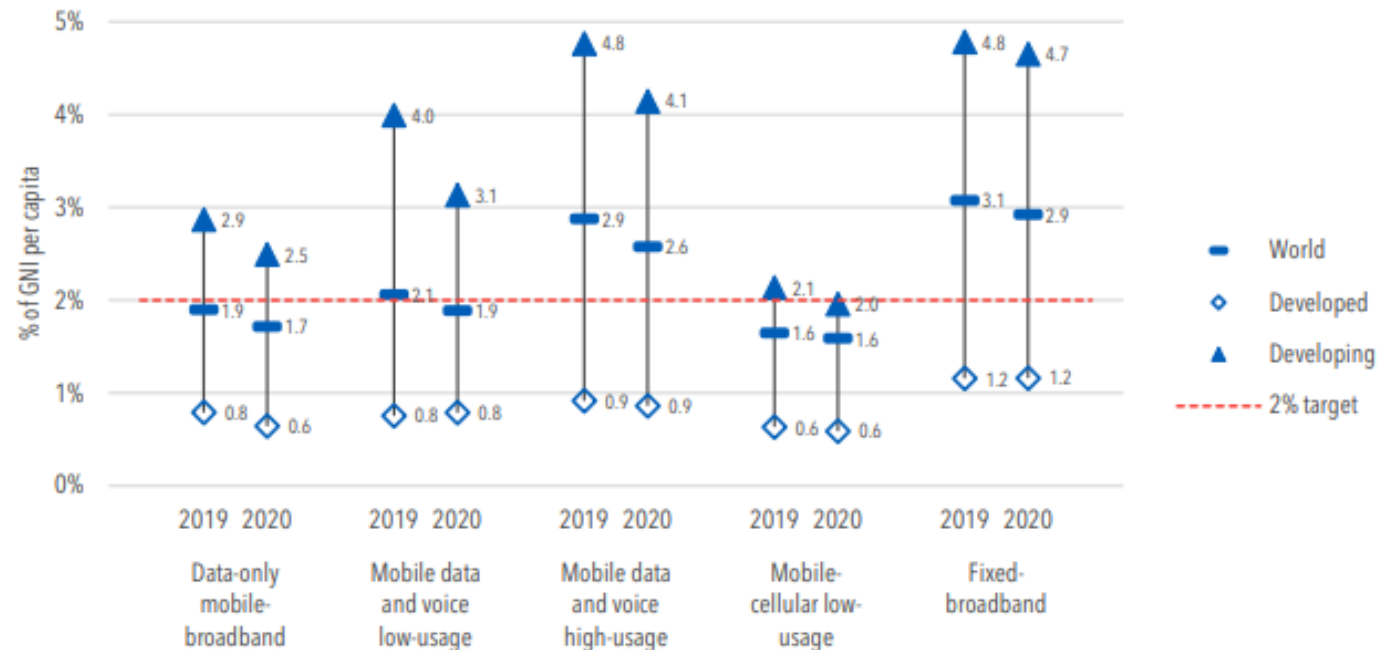
This decline was driven by developing countries, where the number of subscriptions went down from 103 in 2019 to 99 in the middle of 2020.

In developed countries though, the trend was still upwards.

AFFORDABILITY

- Basic mobile cellular is universally affordable
- Mobile broadband services remain unaffordable in many developing countries

Basket prices, 2019-2020



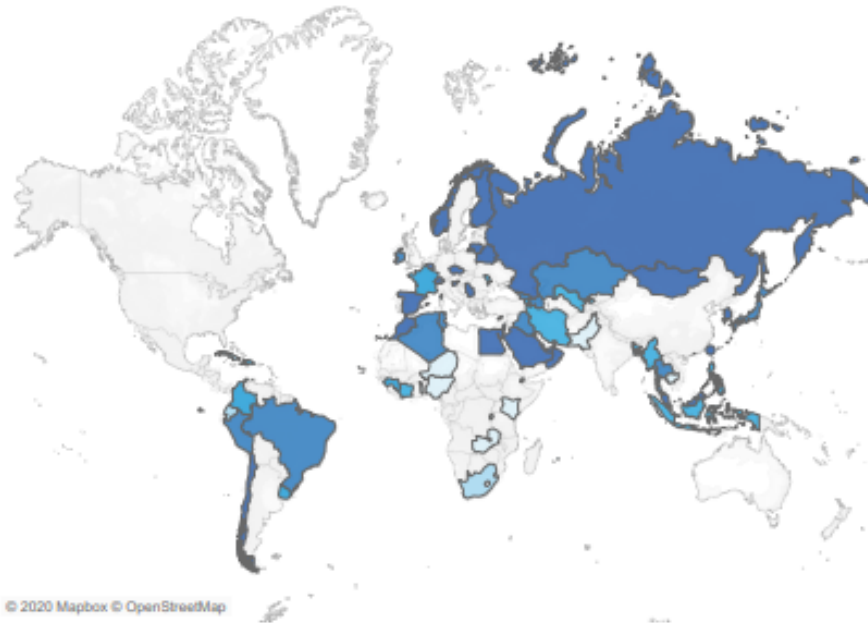
Source: ITU and A4AI

Note: Median values for each basket are based on the number of economies for which 2019 and 2020 data were available: 183 economies in the case of the data-only mobile broadband basket; 179 and 182 economies for the data and voice low-and high-usage baskets, respectively; 190 economies for the mobile cellular low-usage basket; and 170 economies for the fixed-broadband basket.

PHONE OWNERSHIP

- A phone is a passport, a credit card, a doctor and a teacher
- In some countries, less than half of population own a mobile phone

Percentage of individuals owning a mobile phone, latest year in 2017-2019



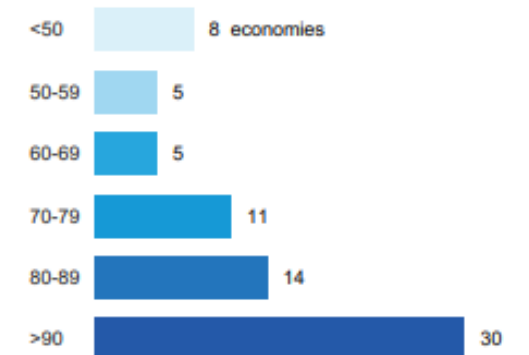
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Source: ITU

In 8 economies out of the 73 for which data are available, less than half the population owns a mobile phone.

On the other hand, in 44 economies, more than four-fifths of the population owns a mobile phone.

In particular in a number of Arab countries, virtually everyone possesses one.



REGULATORY PERSPECTIVE:

COUNTERFEIT ISN'T A STANDALONE ISSUE

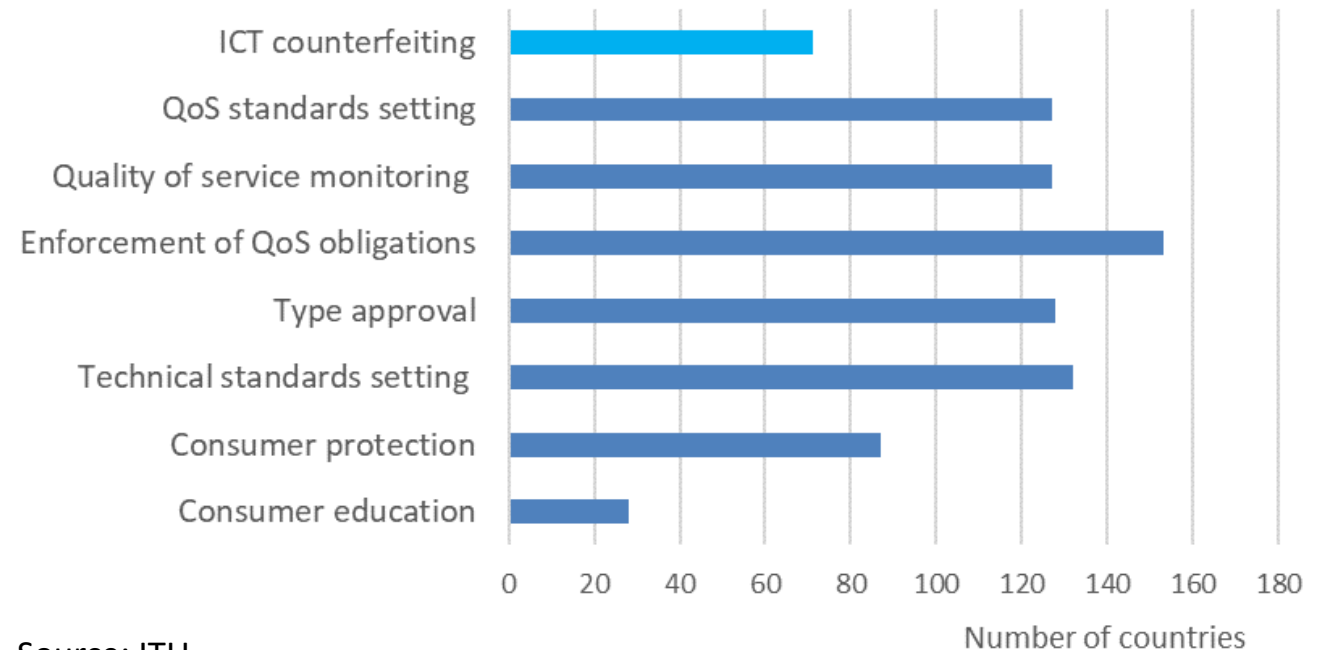
- A successful strategy to combat counterfeiting should cut across the board

- Governance aspects
- Legal aspects
- Regulatory context
- Digital agenda

REGULATORY GOVERNANCE

- ICT regulators have a key role to play & strong mandates across multiple relevant areas
- Technical mandates are generally stronger than “soft” mandates for consumer protection and education

ICT Regulator mandates, 2020

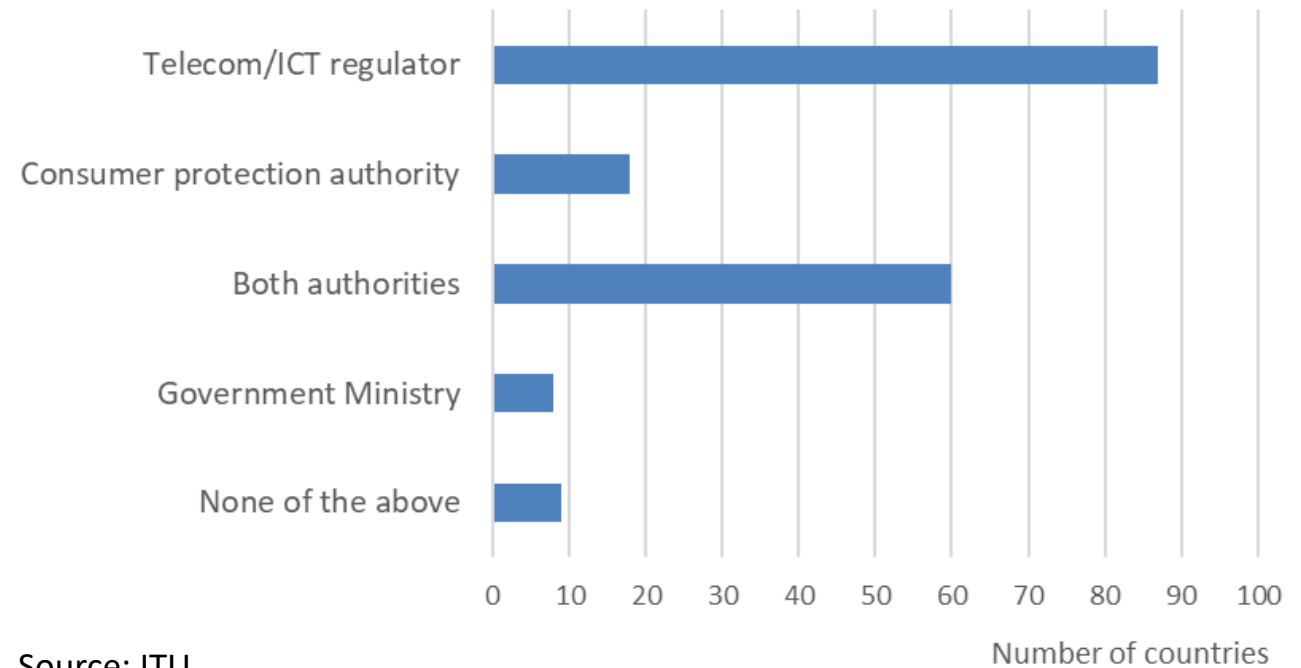


Source: ITU

REGULATORY GOVERNANCE

- Various institutional setups can deliver results
- Often more than one agency is involved
- Mechanisms for collaboration allow to pool resources and leverage diverse expertise

Who has jurisdiction over consumer protection issues related to the telecommunication/ICT sector?, 2020

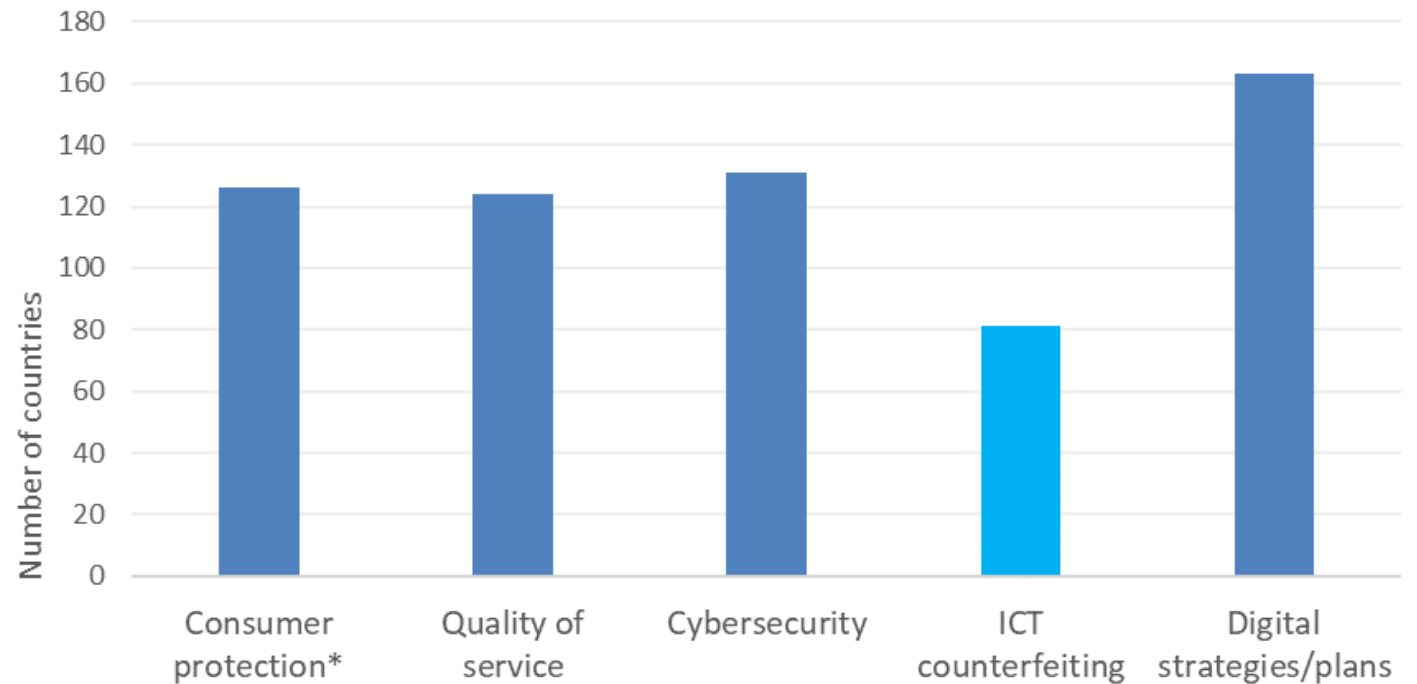


Source: ITU

REGULATORY REGIMES

- Holistic high-level policies and strategies should be supported by sound regulatory framework in core areas

Regulatory frameworks in place, 2020



Source: ITU

HOW CAN REGULATION HELP IN COMBATTING ICT COUNTERFEITING?

- Implementation is as important as legal frameworks
- Leadership and collaboration are key

- Pro-active regulatory attention and enforcement to address current sources of market disruption
- Design sound regulatory frameworks for ICT counterfeiting “speaking to” other related laws, regulations
- Take a holistic approach to solving market failures and enhancing citizen/consumer welfare
- Leverage specialized agencies’ expertise and their collaboration to ensure impact in implementation

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