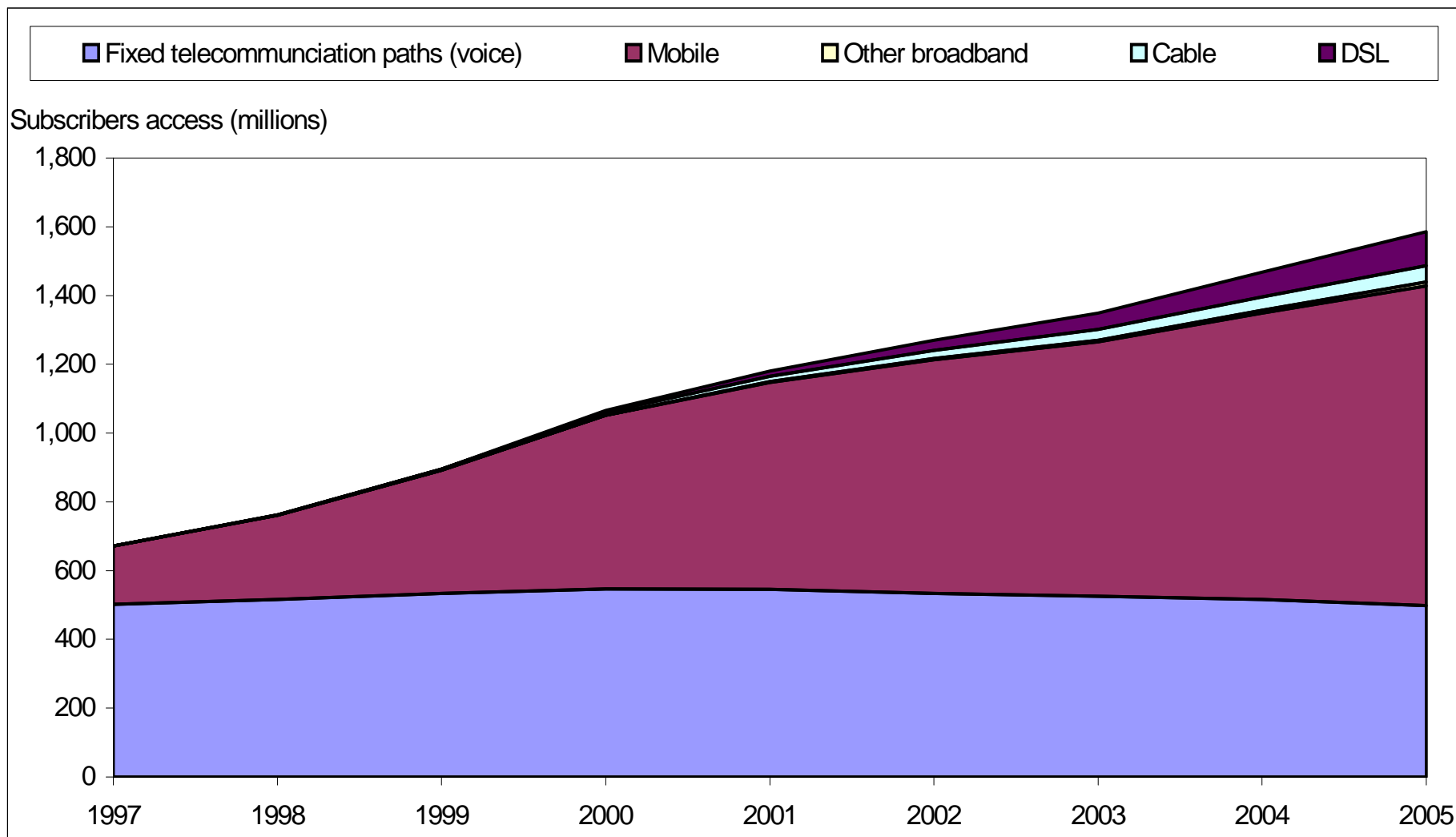




Challenges and Opportunities: What Lies Ahead for Radio Spectrum Management?

Dimitri Ypsilanti
**Organisation for
Economic Co-operation
and Development**

OECD: Access growth 1997-2005

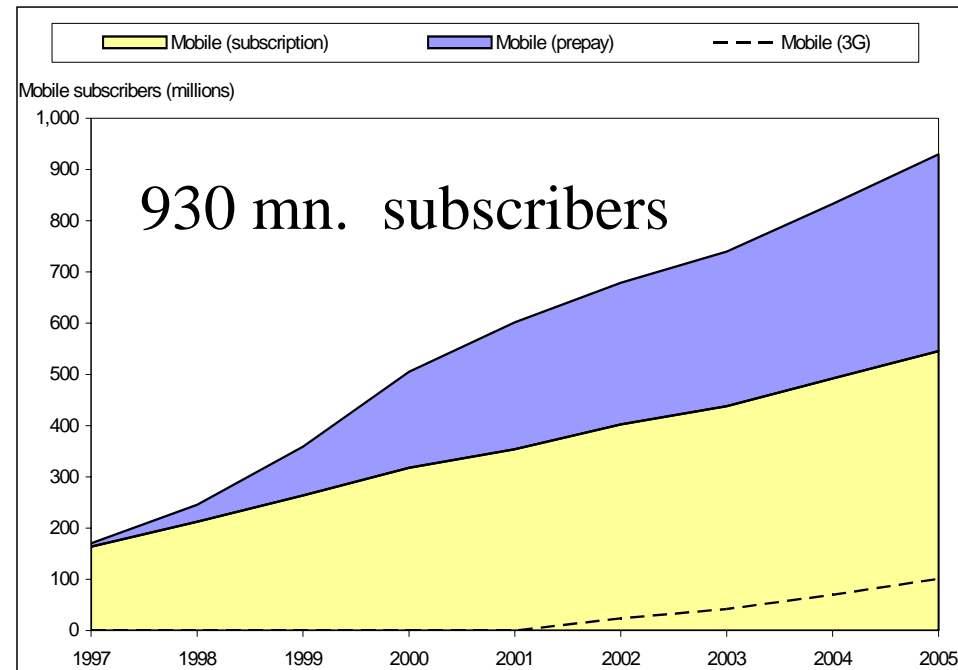


OECD: Mobile Market

● OECD Communication Revenues

- Reached USD 1 trillion in 2005
- Mobile revenues roughly 40% of total
- Mobile market alone in either Japan or the United States is larger than the 2005 GDP of 125 of the 213 economies for which the World Bank collects data.

OECD: Growth of mobile



Spectrum Planning and Allocation

- In nearly half of OECD countries spectrum planning is by independent radio-communication agency or Ministry;
- In one-third of OECD countries spectrum allocation decisions are taken by Ministry or radio-communication agency;



But digital world much more integrated than analogue and need to ensure that the pieces fit together.

What should lie ahead for radio spectrum management:

Institutional Reform

Spectrum Planning and allocation should be an integral part of the independent communications regulatory body

- **Consistency:** In a converging communications environment, function of communications regulator is to ensure that competitive, efficient markets develop based on technology-neutral policy frameworks;
- **Convergence & competition:** Convergence is leading to fixed-mobile convergence, to the diffusion of IPTV and the development of mobile TV: spectrum planning and allocation can no longer be viewed as a separate function divorced from market developments such as convergence and competition;
- **Innovation & Market entry:** Multi-use planning and allocation of spectrum more effective from body dealing closely with market developments: i.e body better placed in dealing with digital dividend, impact & requirements of competing technologies, and issues such as spectrum sharing

Market Mechanisms and Institutional Change

“Every step of progress is a change involving heavy risks”
(Ludwig von Mises)

- If there is consensus that market is better placed in spectrum allocation then spectrum management body needs to have closer links to market and wider framework of regulation;
- Encourage use of new innovations to improve efficiency in spectrum use;
- Ensure rapid migration to digital terrestrial TV and take advantage of “digital dividend”;