



European communications providers' access to infrastructure

Bucharest, 6th of
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FICORA's role in the Finnish society

We ensure that telecoms operators provide well-functioning, affordable and safe telephone and internet connections for anyone to access.

We create the right conditions for new wireless services.

We make sure that you can watch television and listen to radio, and that the mail delivery functions everywhere in Finland.

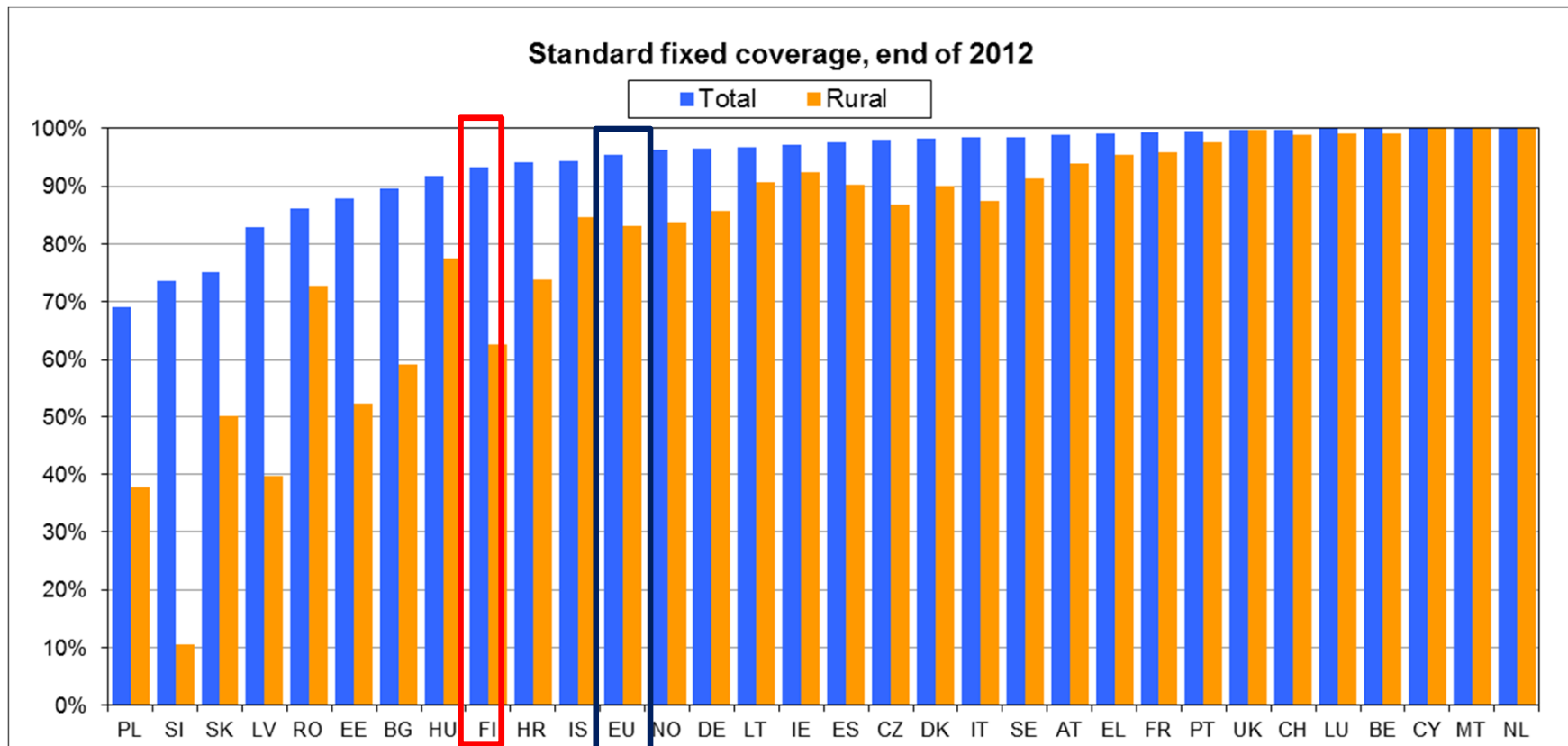
We also administer .fi domain names and numbering.

Basic broadband for all by 2013



Standard fixed broadband* availability

adding wireless, EU coverage is 99.97%



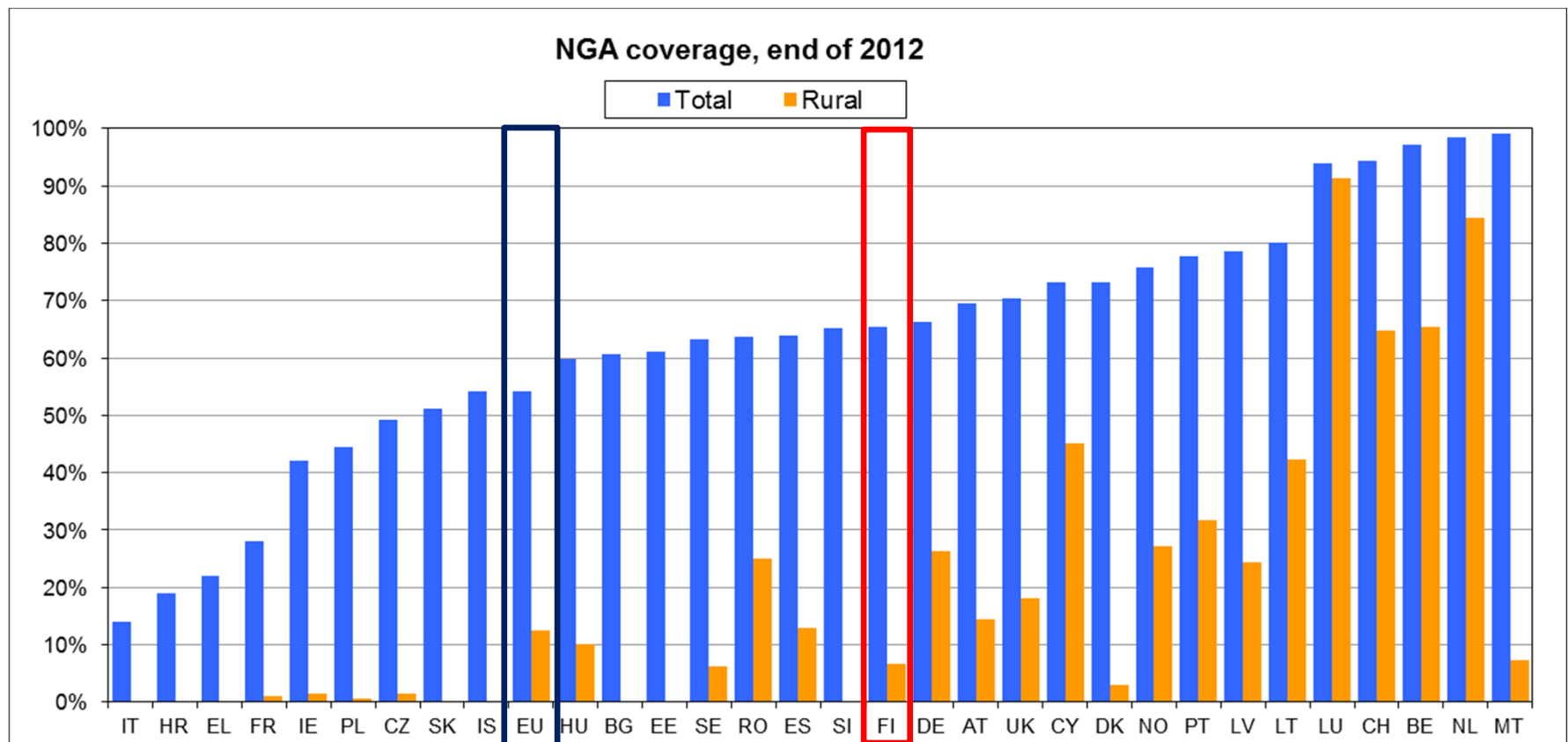
*xDSL, Cable, FTTP and WiMax; Source: Point Topic

At least 30 Mbps for all by 2020



NGA* availability (54% of EU homes)

But only 12% of EU rural areas are covered

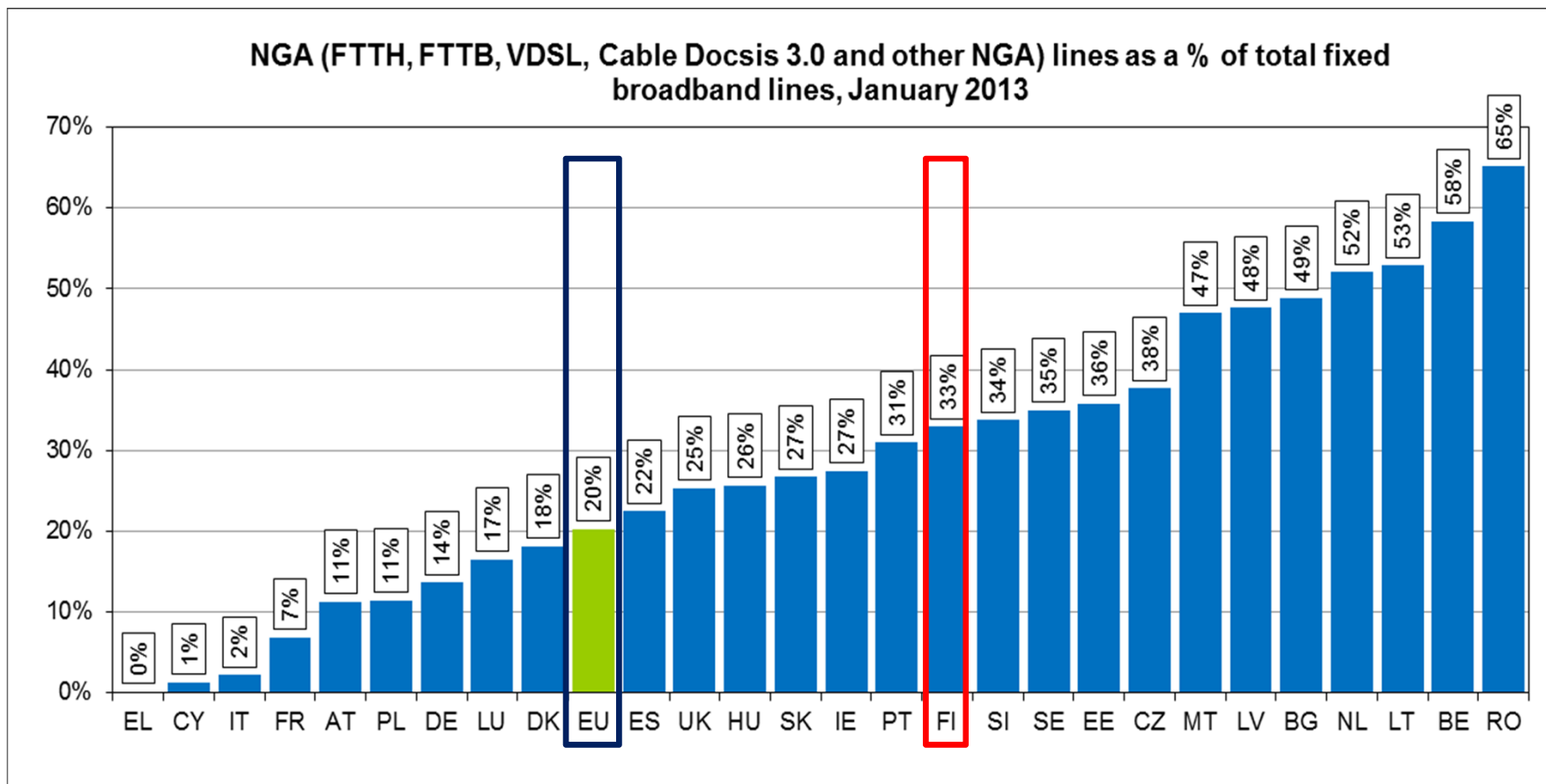


* Next Generation Access (NGA): VDSL, Cable Docsis 3.0 and FTTP; Source: Point Topic

Share of High-speed broadband



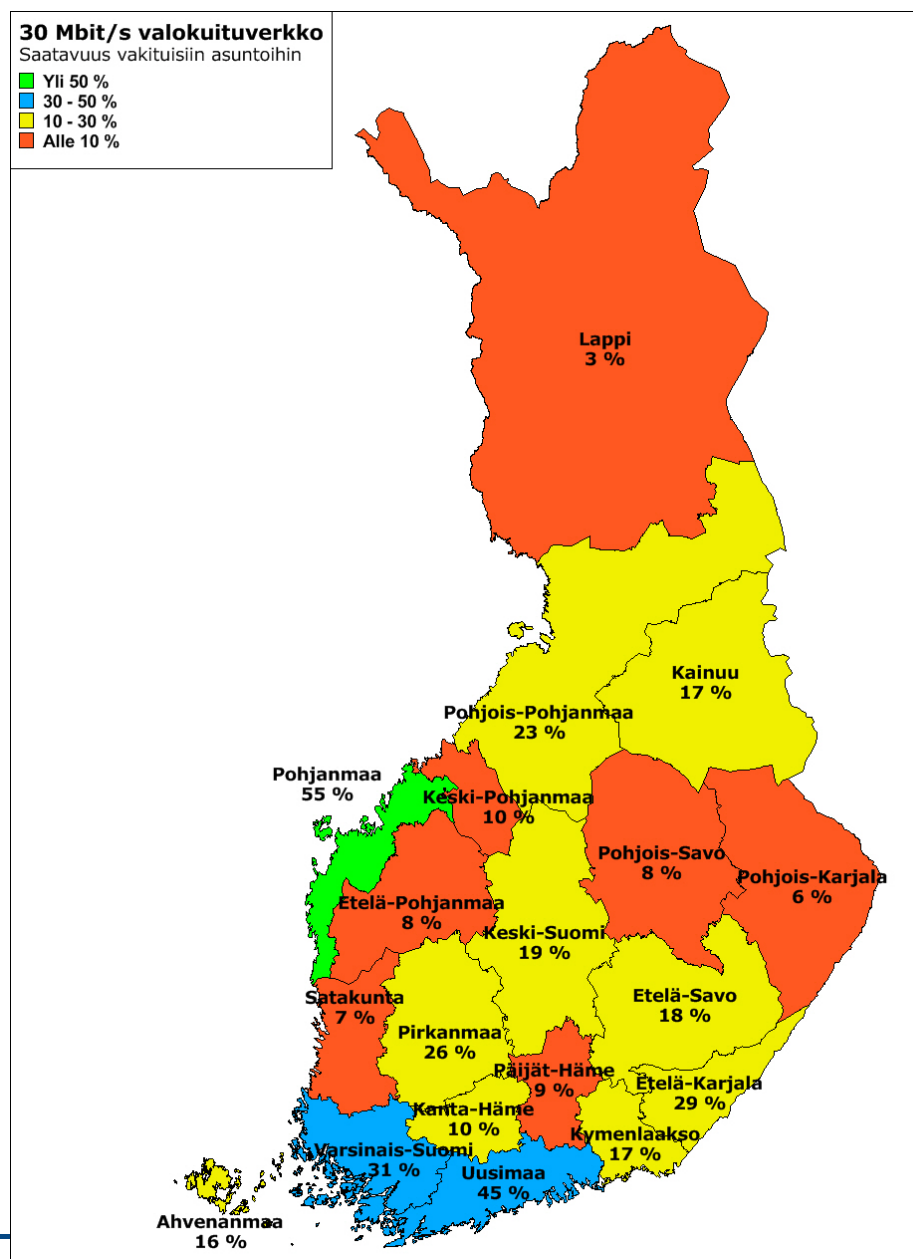
20% of EU fixed broadband subscriptions are NGA



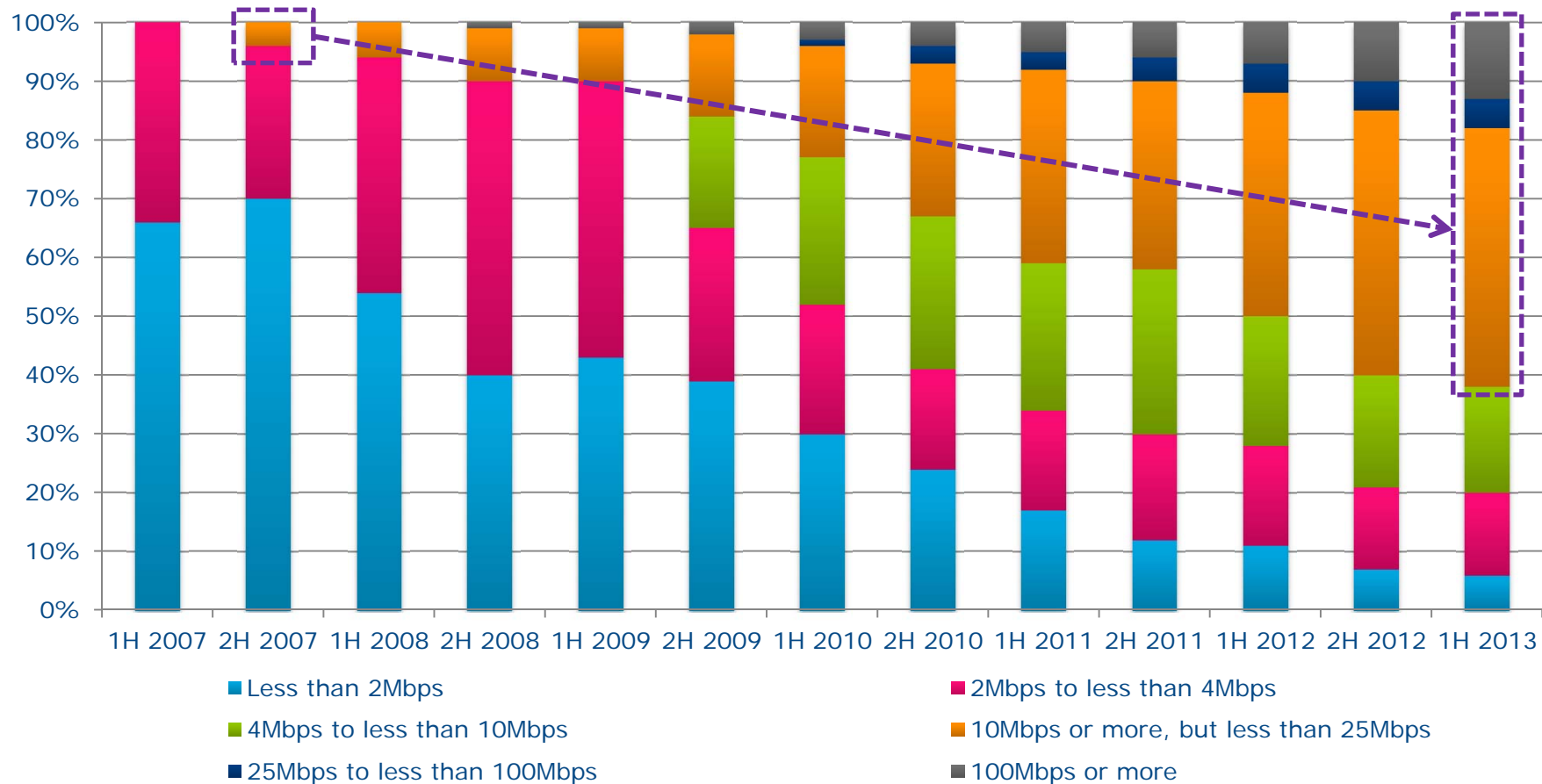
Source: Communications Committee

Fast broadband is not available to everyone

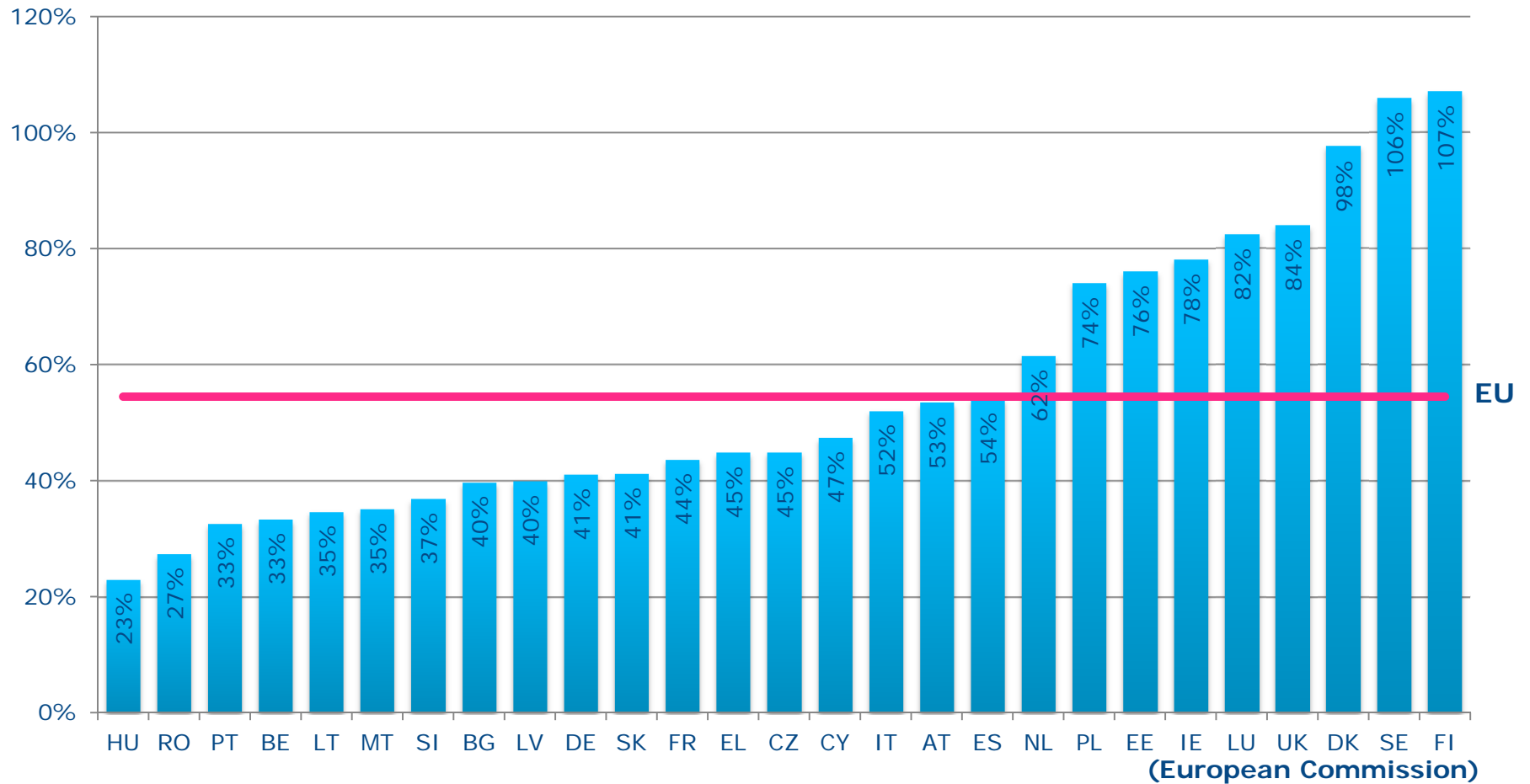
- One third of households could use fast broadband
- Big differences among municipalities in the availability
- TOP-10 municipalities include small northern and western both rural and urban municipalities, including those that have profited from the state aid programme



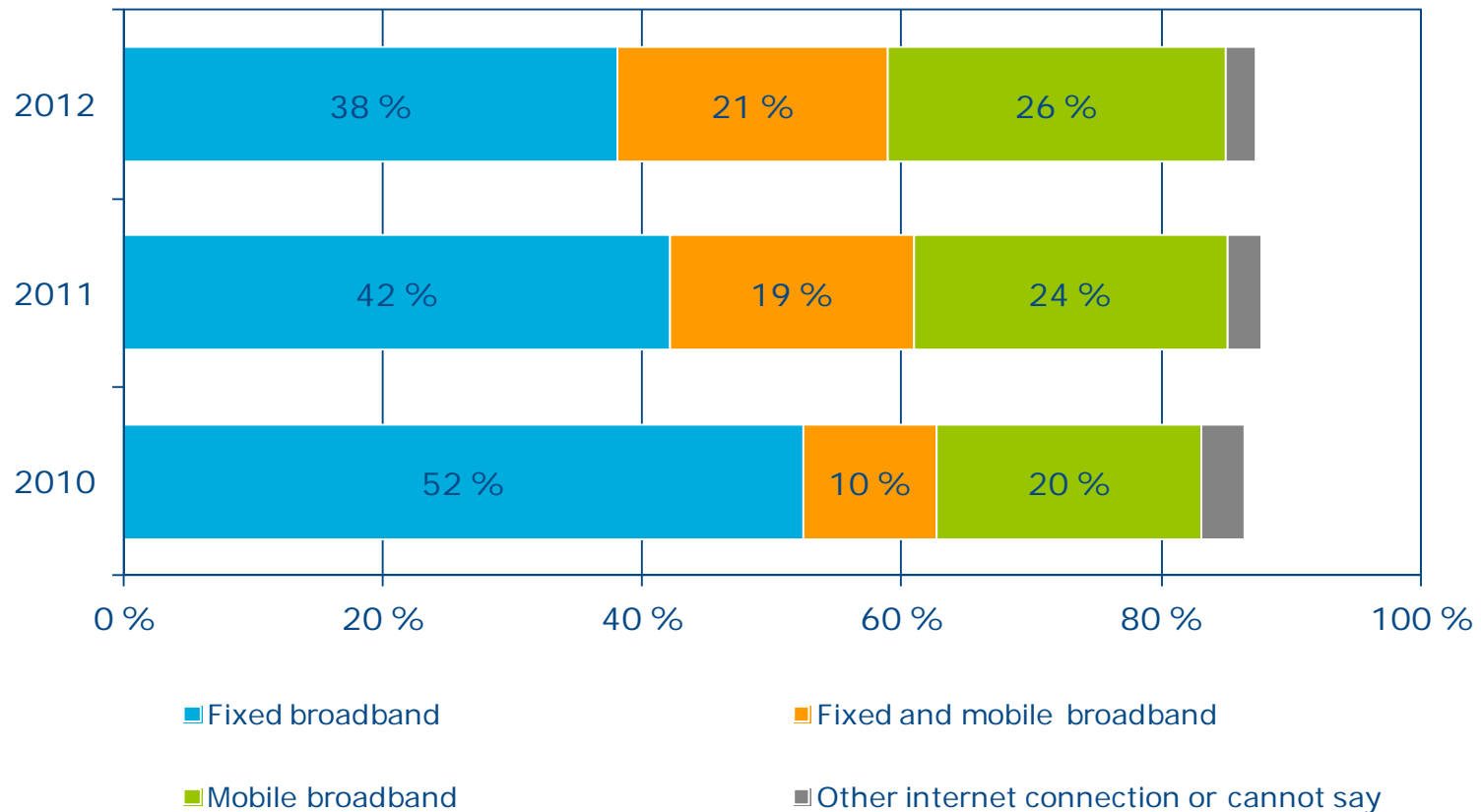
Fixed-line broadband subscriptions by connection speed



Mobile Broadband penetration - all active users, January 2013



Take-up of fixed and mobile broadband connections in households

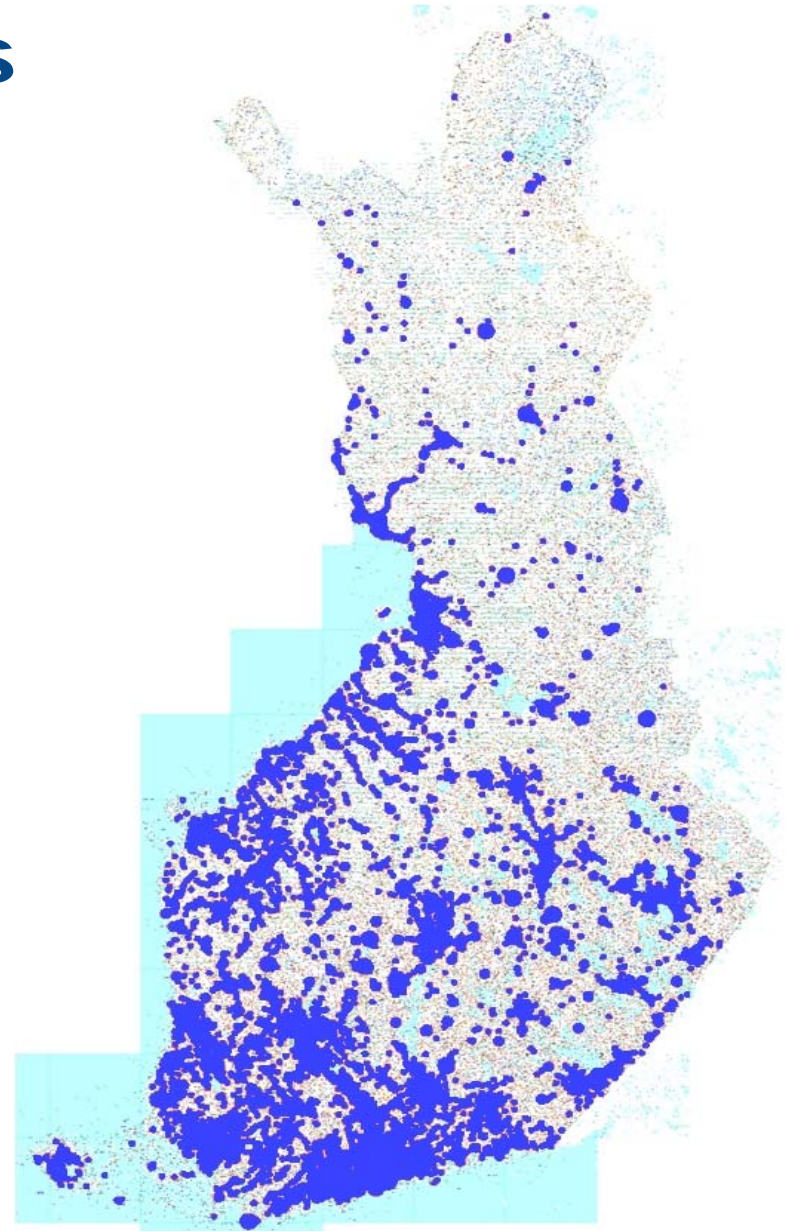


Measures applied

- Traditionally, FICORA has been in charge of technical regulation
- The state aid granting authority (SAGA) duties enforce this
 - » Need to assess the network plan
- FICORA regulation on internal networks in real estate buildings
 - » New buildings and rebuilding or renovating existing ones
 - » Ex post regulatory powers
- Single point of contact, electronic information

Ex ante regulation vs universal service obligation

- Ex ante regulation (SMP regulation) used to promote competition in those areas where there is a market
 - » Blue area = 95% of the population, 22% of the area
- Universal service obligation to ensure basis services
 - » White area = 5% of the population 78% of the area
- Technical regulation and consumer protection applies to the whole area



Finnish National Broadband Action Plan for 2009 - 2015

- **Universal service** to broadband connections of an average speed of 1 Mbps from 1 July 2010
- **Ultra-high speed networks:** An upgrade of communications networks to cover the whole country with 100 Mbps connections by the end of 2015
- Permanent residences and businesses should be no more than two kilometres from an access point for a fibre-optic or cable network.

Implementation of the Plan

- Appr. 132 million euro of public funds (state 66 million, municipalities 40 million and EU 25 million) to cover the rural areas
- Maximum public aid is 66% of the accrued costs
- FICORA is the state aid granting authority
- EU funds are granted by regional authorities
- 20 regional councils define projects and invite tenders → will select the parties to realize the projects
- FICORA will define on the basis of application (based on network data) the maximum state aid

Regulation on internal networks and telecommunications contracting (M 65)

- Aims at ensuring tv and radio services, fixed telephony and fast BB services up to 1 Gbit/s
- Requires FTTH, promotes competition
- Enters into force 1st of January 2014
- To be applied to new buildings and buildings under renovation → The regulation obliges owners, builders or developers, internal network designers and telecommunications contractors.
- Wide cooperation and information campaign

Available at <https://www.viestintavirasto.fi/en/steeringandsupervision/legislation/regulations/regulation65oninternalnetworksandtelecommunicationscontractinginrealestatebuildings.html>



Viestintävirasto

Finnish Communications
Regulatory Authority

www.ficora.fi