Access to Infrastructure:

Implications of the proposed Regulation

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Access to Infrastructure

- Introduction
- Coverage and capabilities
- Challenges to achieving full NGA coverage
- The proposed Regulation
- Observations and questions



The Digital Agenda for Europe (DAE)

- The European Union is committed to an ambitious Digital Agenda for Europe (DAE).
- The DAE includes
 - full broadband availability in 2013,
 - 100% availability of 30 Mbps in 2020, and
 - 50% adoption of 100 Mbps by 2020.
- It is widely acknowledged that meeting these goals is challenging.



Coverage and capabilities



Coverage in Europe

- Basic broadband
 - The older Member States have nearly full coverage.
 - Some of the newer Member States have sufficient gaps in rural coverage.
- NGA coverage
 - Member States with cable already enjoy full deployment (the Netherlands, Belgium, Malta).
 - Some eastern Member States have already deployed substantial fibre.
 - Some eastern Member States have lots of cable.



Basic broadband coverage





Rural basic broadband coverage



Source: Point Topic (2012)

ANCOM, The Communications Infrastructure, Bucharest, 6 November 2013

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Coverage of DSL networks



Source: Point Topic (2012)

ANCOM, The Communications Infrastructure, Bucharest, 6 November 2013

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NGA coverage





Overall adoption

• Europe ranks very high in broadband adoption.

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OECD Fixed (wired) broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants, by technology, Dec. 2012

Coverage of Cable Networks

• Estimated coverage of DOCSIS cable 3.0 in Europe (4Q2011).



Percentage of premises passed

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Challenges to achieving full NGA coverage



Coverage poses challenges Population density



Full report, page 41.

Source: Center for International Earth Science Information Network (CIESIN).





The cost of meeting **DAE** objectives depends on the assumptions that one makes

•Base case: advertised speed •Advance case: guaranteed speed in one direction

Source: Hätönen/EIB (2011).

Migration to fibre

- WIK report on Next Generation Access for ECTA (2008).
- Sophisticated models of fibre roll-outs in France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain.
- No country likely to achieve full coverage without public stimulus/subsidy.
- Only limited prospect of replicating infrastructure.



Migration to fibre

Investment per home connected (in Euro), market share 50%, urban cluster, stand alone first mover **

Network Type	Country [in €]							
	DE	FR	SE	PT	ES	п		
VDSL	457	n.v.	352	218	254	433		
PON	2,039	1,580	1,238	1,411	1,771	1,110		
P2P	2,111 (54%)	2,025	1,333	1,548	1,882	1,160		

** Based on the investment of the urban cluster and a market share of 50%. If other marekt shares are used, it is mentiond in brackets.



Migration to fibre

Viability of NGA roll-out for incumbents across countries and technologies

Network Type	Country							
	DE	FR	SE	PT	ES	Π		
VDSL	71.5%	n.r.	18.3%	39.0%	67.4%	100.0%		
PON	25.1%	25.2%	18.3%	19.2%	12.2%	17.6%		
P2P	13.7%	18.6%	18.3%	19.2%	12.2%	12.6%		



Challenges of achieving NGA deployment

Cost and ARPU per customer per month for FTTH P2P Ethernet (Germany, 70% penetration)



Challenges of achieving NGA deployment

Investment subsidy per customer required for FTTH P2P Ethernet (Germany)



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Reducing the Cost of Access



Technologies and Implications: FTTx

Civil engineering costs tend to dominate



Source: Alcatel, JPMorgan (2006)

Challenges

- ... use of existing passive infrastructure (such as ducts, conduits, manholes, cabinets, poles, masts, antenna installations, towers and other supporting constructions),
- bottlenecks related to co-ordination of civil works,
- burdensome administrative permit granting procedures, and
- bottlenecks concerning in-building deployment of networks.



Regulation to reduce the cost

- Access to existing physical infrastructure
- Transparency of information
- Coordination of civil works
- Permit granting
- In-building equipment



The scope is broad

 "network operator" means an electronic communications network provider as well as an undertaking providing a physical infrastructure intended to provide: a service of production, transport or distribution of gas, electricity, including public lighting, heating, water, including disposal or treatment of waste water and sewage; transport services, including railways, roads, ports and airports ...



Observations and questions

- The Regulation seems to address real challenges.
- The measures proposed seem sensible.
- Can the Regulation be expected to be effective and efficient?
- Do NRAs possess the necessary skills and legal authority?
- How sensitive is the information provided?
- Does the Regulation go far enough?
 Is anything missing?