Inclusive connectivity - The future of regulation

GSR-19 PROGRAMME
Vanuatu

Tuesday 9 July 2019 - Thematic Events

09h30-12h00 **Regulatory Associations Meeting** (by invitation)

09h30-12h00 **Private Sector Chief Regulatory Officers Meeting** (by invitation)

14h00-17h00 **Heads of Regulators Executive Roundtable** (by invitation)

Wednesday 10 July 2019 GSR

09h00-10h00 **Opening Ceremony**

10h00-10h15 **COFFEE BREAK / PHOTO OPPORTUNITY**

10h15-12h00 **Leadership debate: Getting the next 3.7 billion online!**

This Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development/ Leadership debate will set the scene and examine:

- The role of collaboration in getting the offline population online, the need for inclusive people centered approaches, innovative investment models for affordable and secured connectivity, access and use
- Partnerships and public-private cooperation mechanisms to meet the SDG Goals using ICTs

12h00-14h00 **LUNCH / PRESS CONFERENCE**

14h00-15h30 **Session 1: Digital Infrastructure policies and regulation: A Multidimensional Collaborative Approach**

Connecting the remaining half of the population that is still offline will require inclusive digital strategies and policies strengthening collaboration and taking into consideration:

- Innovative regulatory approaches, a review of the legal mandate for collaboration, looking at collaboration across borders and sectors to enhance connectivity, affordability, access and use.
- Leveraging the cross sectoral role of ICTs in the digital economy to foster connectivity and use, competition moving forward and the importance of sharing, open access (wholesale), skills development and global players.
- Building in accessibility enabling digital inclusion for people with disabilities
- out-of-the box policy and regulatory tools drawing from lessons learned and new approaches, such as regulatory sandboxes, pilots, temporary licences, regtech, evidence-based decision making and data driven regulation
- Sharing of experiences on collaborative approaches to regulation – the case of Digital Financial Inclusion

15h30- 15h45 **COFFEE BREAK**

15h45-17h00 Session 2: Investment, Funding and New Business Models for Connectivity in a Post 50-50 Digital World

The session will address how to secure investment and funding to bring the remaining 3.7 billion people online, focusing on:

- How to balance incentives to promote investment and innovation while still aiming for affordability and quality?
- How can frontier technologies such as AI, automation, blockchain and data analytics contribute to greater business and ICT infrastructure efficiency and security?
- Innovative commercial partnerships (including investment from non-traditional sources), and intelligent networks to expand connectivity in underserved region

- Moving towards Universal service 2.0 (Innovative business models, PPPs and funding, CSR, holistic approach, digital transformation centers)? How to minimize economic distortions from contributions to and allocation of USFs?
- What are the concrete regulatory measures foreseen?

Thursday 11 July 2019

9h00-10h30   Session 3: Connectivity for all: Do the basics still apply?

The discussion would broadly focus on:

- How to connect the dots: lifting remaining barriers to building and accessing communications infrastructure, security of infrastructure and information components; spectrum and smart deployment for better connectivity and access to the ICT digital ecosystem
- The role of alternative networks (community, municipal and other public utilities), incentive regulatory measures
- Means to foster innovation across layers to ensure inclusive digital transformation (e.g. use of emerging technologies across the layers and across the sectors).
- Incentive-based regulatory approaches across the sectors to achieve connectivity for all.

10h30-10h45   COFFEE BREAK

10h45-12h00 Session 4: How can emerging technologies contribute to inclusive disaster risk reduction in time of emergencies?

The discussion will focus on the role of emerging technologies (e.g. drones, balloons, robots) in contributing to inclusive disaster risk reduction in time of emergencies:

- How can disruptive technologies contribute to inclusive disaster risk reduction? Who are the new market players on the block?
- Is it business as usual or are innovative regulatory measures needed?
- Developing national emergency plans, what regulators need to know: understanding the technologies, spectrum needs, licensing, access and interoperability, data analytics, business models, etc.

12h00-14h00   LUNCH

14h00-15h30   Session 5: Building confidence in a data driven digital economy

ICT infrastructure, digital platforms and data constitutes the bedrock of the digital economy. In this environment:

- Who owns the data and who pays for data collection? How can regulators facilitate cross-border data flows, and what is the cost of preventing them? How can public policy objectives be met in this environment? What is the value of data in digital markets? How to define SMP in the data economy where data is everywhere, how to foster competition?
- How can regulators meet the needs of all stakeholders including citizens, consumers and business agendas - where is the cursor?

15h30-15h45   COFFEE BREAK

15h45-17h00   Session 6: The need for spectrum

Under the umbrella of spectrum for digital transformation and connected societies, the discussion will focus on:

- Spectrum harmonization roadmaps and plans
- Spectrum sharing and licensing
- Investment in spectrum
- Spectrum needs for Small Island Developing States (SIDS)
- Spectrum for sustainable development and preparing for WRC 19

Friday 12 July 2019   **REGULATORS TRACK**

9h00-9h15   GSR Best Practice Guidelines

9hh15 -10h30   *Putting people at the Center: c*onsumer protection and the changing consumer role

Consumers are instrumental players in the digital ecosystem as they are key data users and producers/prosumers enabling smart societies to strive. Ensuring consumer protection and user security in the smart data driven economy, and building trust is however the mandate of all.

- What are the tools and data that should be made available to empower consumers? Which skills are needed to fully participate in the digital economy (capacity building and awareness raising)?
- What is the role of regulators in digital skills development and consumer awareness raising on the challenges and opportunities of new technologies?
- A regulatory toolbox for citizens, consumers and business

10h30 - 10h45   Coffee break

10h45 -12h00 Preparing for 5G

This session will provide regulators with the opportunity to engage into more in-depth discussion on:

- Licensing spectrum: frequency allocation mechanisms and fees
- Investment requirements and what regulators can do to encourage fast deployment track after WRC-19 (5G and others)
- From 3G to 4G and 5G: what are the opportunities for consumers and businesses?
- Securing 5G access and use

12h15-13h00   Way forward and Closing