

High speed broadband access – EU strategy and future targets

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OUTLINE

- EU broadband strategy & policy
- The current broadband connectivity in the EU
- EU broadband targets for 2020 and beyond
 - Public consultation on future (B2020) needs

EU Broadband Strategy & Policy

Policy and Regulatory
Instruments



Digital Agenda for Europe (DAE)

- Europe 2020 Strategy recognised the importance of broadband for a network-based knowledge society
 - **DAE is one of its seven pillars**
- 10% increase in broadband penetration brings up the GDP by 1-1.5%;
- Access to high-speed telecoms has become an integral part of our societies and economies;
- Over the next decade, it means that we need to make top-class connections available everywhere in the EU!

Relevant Regulations and Plans

- The Directive on Measures to Reduce the Cost of Deploying High-speed ECN (2014/61/EU)
 - Limiting some of the cost-intensive civil engineering works would **make broadband roll-out more effective**;
- > Scale up national best practices in four main areas:
 - Access to existing **physical infrastructure** (ducts etc.);
 - Efficient coordination of **civil works**;
 - Faster, simpler and more transparent **permit-granting procedure**;
 - Equipment of **new buildings and major renovations** with high-speed physical infrastructures (mini-ducts, access points) and access to in- building infrastructure

Relevant Regulations and Plans, cont'd

- The **Juncker Investment Plan** for Europe:
 - To be driven by the Regulation for a European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI), COM/2014/0903;
 - Aims to mobilise 315 billion euro in additional public and private investments in the real economy between 2015 and 2017;
 - Includes development and deployment of ICT through high-speed telecom infrastructures & BB networks
 - Priority to strengthen Europe's competitiveness and to stimulate investment for the purpose of job creation

Broadband Connectivity and Status in the EU

Current connectivity status in the EU

- The Digital Agenda for Europe (DAE) 2020 targets:
 - Availability of 30 Mbps for all; 50% uptake of 100 Mbps
- The latest broadband data (DA Scoreboard 2015):
 - During the last two years, 20M more subscriptions to fast internet (at least 30Mbps) in the EU;
 - Next Generation Access (NGA) networks cover 68% of households (64% >30 Mbps), up from 62% a year ago;
- However:
 - Rural coverage remains at 25% in NGA (up from 18%)

Broadband coverage



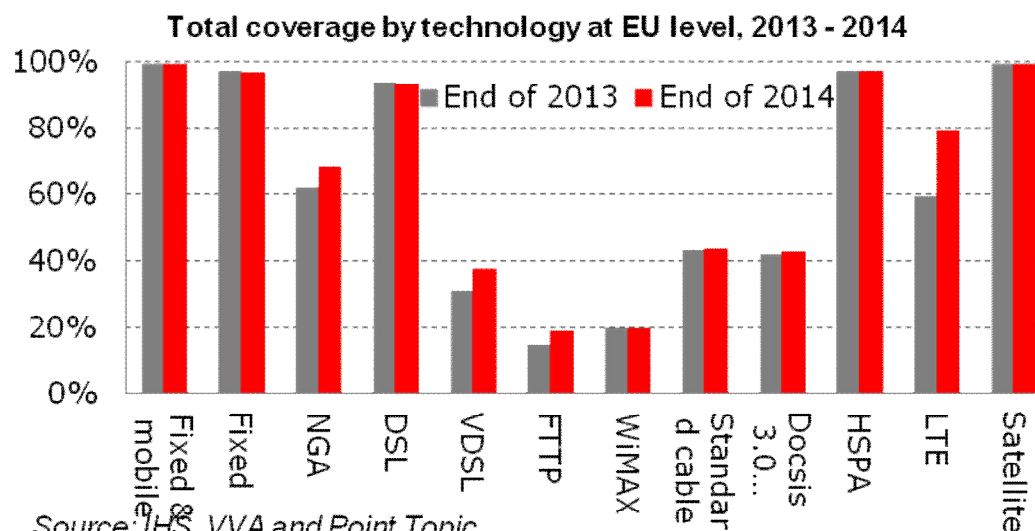
Basic broadband is available to all in the EU, when considering all major technologies (xDSL, Cable, Fibre to the Premises, WiMax, HSPA, LTE and Satellite).

NGA technologies (VDSL, Cable Docsis 3.0 and FTTP) capable of delivering at least 30 Mbps download are available to **68%**.

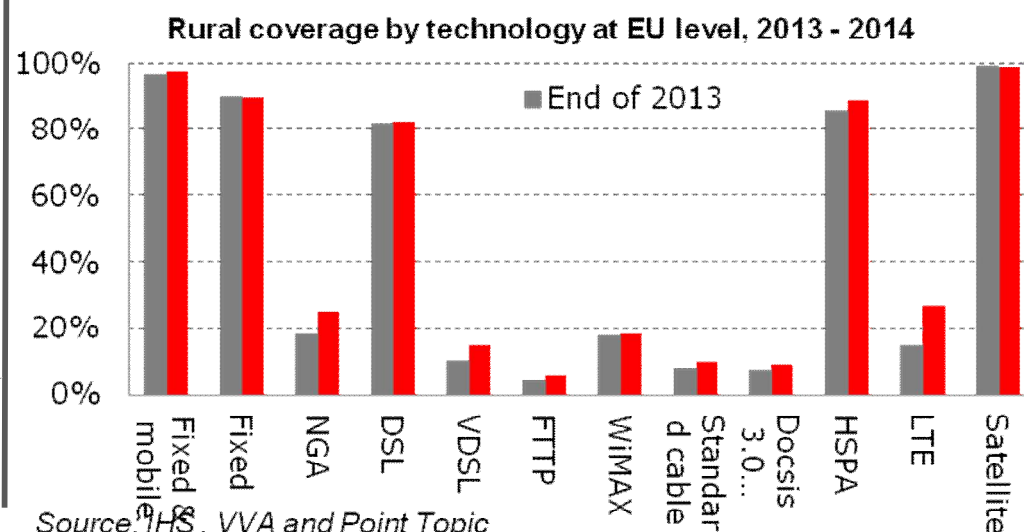
Coverage in rural areas is substantially lower for fixed technologies (90%), and especially for **NGA (25%)**.

Our Target

Basic broadband for all by 2013: **100% in 2014**
Fast broadband (>30Mbps) for all by 2020: **68% in 2014**



Source: IHS, VVA and Point Topic



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EU **future targets** for broadband...

- The current DAE targets for 2020 to be maintained?
- Greater ambition needed for 2025 and 2030!
 - **In terms of speed, capacity and other parameters;**
 - **Reaching the new targets will rely on 5G infrastructure;**
 - **Optical fibre will be essential for 5G networks!**
- The policy, regulatory and financial instruments need to promote an investment-friendly environment
 - **This will provide for synergies, coherence and certainty**



A **public consultation** was organised on...

...the Needs for Internet Speed and Quality beyond 2020

- to assess and understand the connectivity needs better;
 - to develop public policy to accompany the deployment of adequate and future-proof connectivity networks
- We asked about the current and future...
- ... uses of Internet services and applications;
 - ... connectivity needs;
 - as well as views on connectivity-related public policy
- The consultation ended in December 2015, and the results will be made available soon - see:

<http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/news/public-consultation-needs-internet-speed-and-quality-beyond-2020>

The Public Consultation on the Needs for Internet Speed and Quality beyond 2020

- Around 1550 contributions, including around 15% by organisations and many position papers
- Main findings:
 - Clear need for substantial improvement, especially in terms of **download speed** and **latency**;
 - Besides download speed, also **uninterrupted access**, **reliability** and **upload speed** were regarded as important or very important
- **Driving towards Gigabit connectivity in 2020's!**

**Grazie per la
vostra attenzione!**

**Thank you for
your attention!**

