ICT Scenario of Nepal

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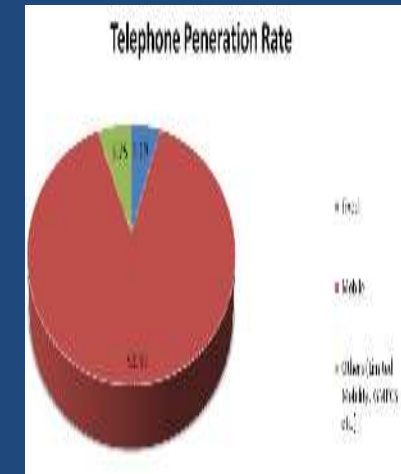eMail: manohar_kb@wlink.com.np

Background

- Key indicators
  - Telecom footprint
- Policy and regulatory environment
- On-going initiatives
- Nepal advantage
- Future direction : Nepal's ICT agenda

Telecom footprint and Infra

- Services   Penetration Rate %

Telephone Penetration Rate

- Fixed   3.19

- Mobile (GSM, CDMA)   53.39
  - Growth rate 47%
- Others (LM, GMPCS)   3.75

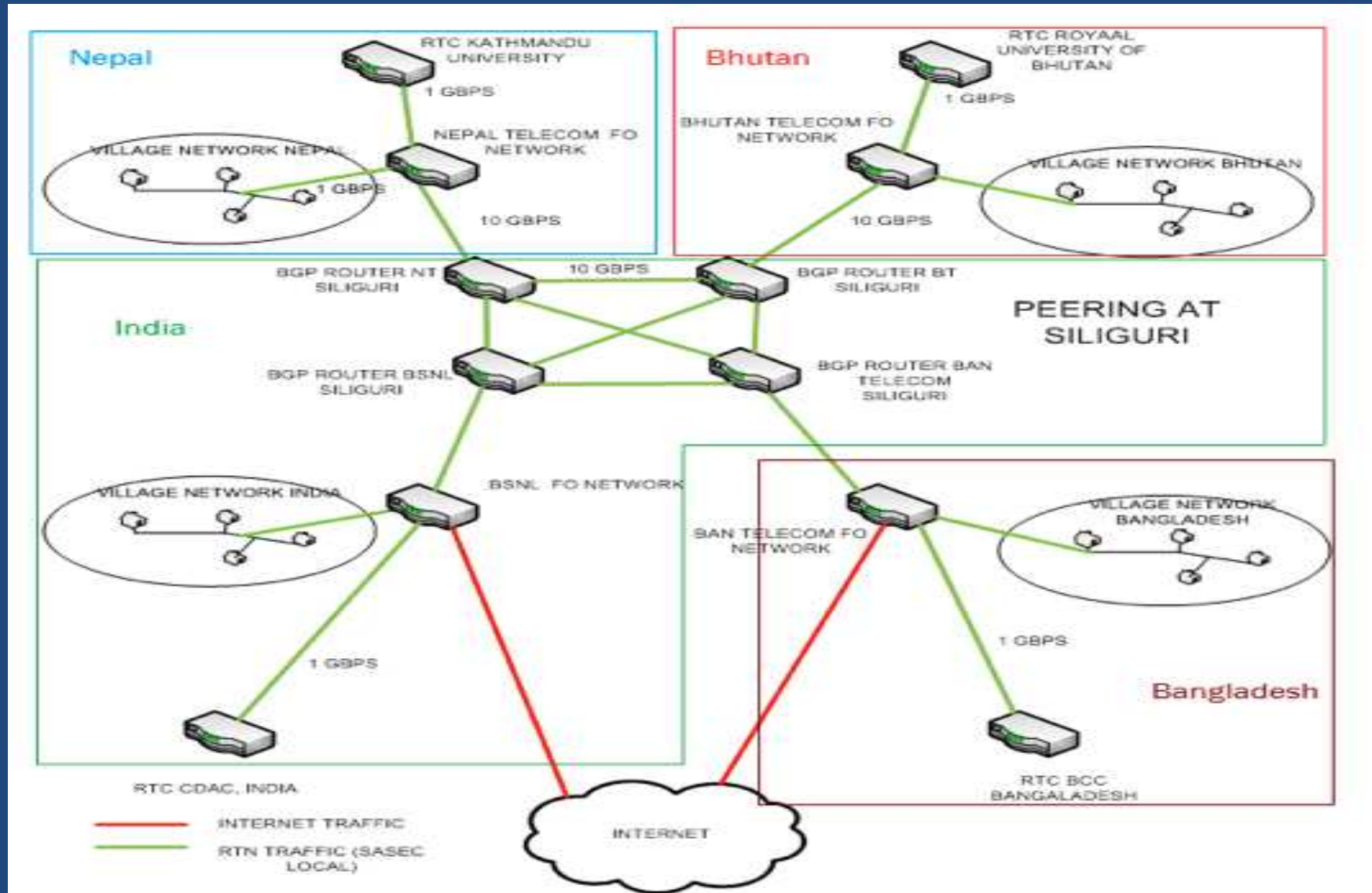- Total   60.34

Internet Penetration Rate   % 16.67
- Cable modem, ADSL, GPRS, CDMA 1X   % 16.59
- Growth rate   % 113

F/O Backbones, OPGW

NEPAL TELECOM

EastWest High Way Optical Fibre

CHINA

INDIA

OPGW Link
Optical SDH Link
Regional Office

The broader SASEC IH framework

State of competition in telecommunications market, 2011

Company		Service	Market Share*	Description
Nepal Telecom		Mobile & fixed-line	58%	Incumbent. Provides GSM and CDMA & soon WiMAX mobile services.
United Telecom Ltd		Wireless local loop	5%	Limited mobility service using CDMA
Ncell		Mobile	36%	Owned by TeliaSonera. Provides GSM services.
Smart Telecom		Fixed-line Mobile & Satellite	n.a	Services central development regions and remote western regions (fixed) VSAT. Mobile coverage in 250 VDCs.
Gramintel		Fixed-line Mobile	n.a	Services eastern regions (fixed) Mobile service (GPRS & EDGE)
Nepal Satellite Telecom)		Fixed-line	n.a	Services western regions.

Telecom scenario contd..

- 45 Registered ISPs
- 6 Rural ISPs

Nepal's ICT journey

History

- Began with use of IBM 1410 in 1971
- Establishment of National Computer Center (NCC) in 1974
- Computer education started in early 1990s.
- Internet started with e-mail services in June 1994.

..... Now

- Has come a long way
- Social and public sector appropriation of ICTs on the rise
- Growing private sector
- Global ambitions
  - IT/ITES , growing diaspora

Policy and regulatory environment

- Information Technology Policy, 2010

- Telecommunication Policy, 1999
  - Commitment for competition

- Telecommunications Act, 1997
  - Created Nepal Telecom Authority

- Revised Telecommunication Policy, 2004
  - Advocated for fully liberalizing telecom sector, with open licensing regime
- Electronic Transaction Act

Key trends -
Competition driving investment

- 3G services using 2100 Mhz bands in 16 cities, awaiting license on LTE
  - *Launch of 7.2Mbps in Kathmandu*
- Plans for 4G (WiMAX) roll-out: 58 municipalities and 3,915 villages spread across Nepal.
- Goals to introduce IPTV, Interactive TV, Time-Shift TV, Gaming, Video on Demand (VOD), Pay Per View in near future
- Strategic orientation : Integrated service- NGN, IP based technology - IPCDMA, MSAN rollout

Nepal advantage

- Demographic imperatives
- Increasing availability of key skills sets
- Proximity to two major emerging economies
- Growth in the SME sector
- Uptake of ICTs on the rise across agencies
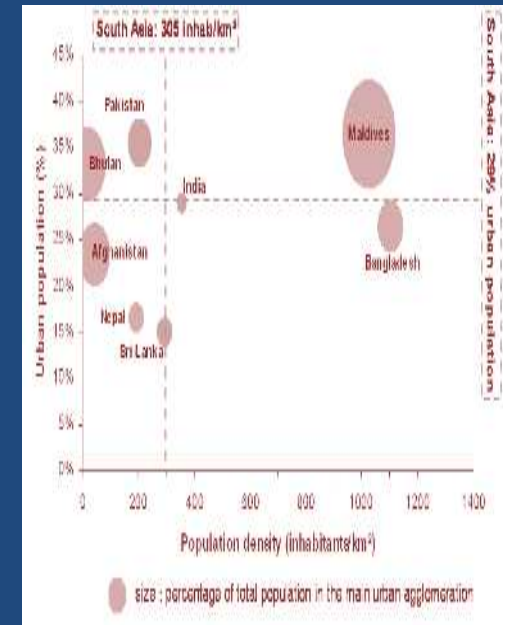
Nepal's ICT Agenda

- Increased focus on strengthening eGovernment initiative
  - Phase I: 35m US$ - currently underway, GEA completed >> driving public sector uptake

- Positioning Nepal as an sourcing destination of choice
  - Strengthening key elements of growth ecosystem
    - Broadband – WB Masterplan, National Broadband Policy
    - IT Park
    - Policy commitment
    - Investment in HR
      - Realignment of supply and demand side fundamentals

Nepal's ICT Agenda contd

- Driving ICT uptake across sector
  - ICT uptake by SMEs – big market, untapped potential

- Driving Innovation around mobile technologies
  - Taking meaningful ICTs to BOP
    - Bridging gaps in service delivery : eEducation, telemedicine

- Aligning policy with the technological dynamism of the sector
  - Convergence and its regulatory implications
- Strengthening PPP in IT
  - CAN : IPSSI
    …………………

THANK YOU