

Georgian Government approach and case study on reform to improve internet Connectivity

Digital Trade Working Group – Istanbul, 2022



About the ComCom

The proactive developments towards liberalization of the telecommunications market and establishing the competitive environment takes its start from the 2000s, once the policy and regulatory competences were separated, responsibilities were allocated to the Ministry and the National Regulatory Authority (NRA).

Precondition for the establishment of Communications Commission was the amendments to the Law of Georgia on "Post and Telecommunications" made on the 23rd of July, 1999. **Creation of Communications Commission has set completely new organizational-legal and economic principles in the field of post and telecommunications.** This law was invalidated since the adoption of the Law of Georgia on "Broadcasting" in 2004 and the Law of Georgia on "Electronic communications" in 2005. Under the current legislation the functions of the Government as a policy-setting body and the Commission as a regulatory body are clearly separated.

The Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia (MoESD) has a mandate to develop and implement state policy in the fields of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and Innovation as well as to promote digital development. The Georgian National Communications Commission has a mandate to implement applicable frameworks and regulations in the electronic communications and broadcasting sectors. **The regulatory system is aligned with the EU regulatory framework (source EU4Digital study) and according to the Constitution of Georgia, the institutional and financial independence of the NRA is guaranteed under the legislation.**

- The main goals and tasks of the Commission are the issues, such as:
 - Unacceptability of the monopolistic practices in the field of electronic communications and broadcasting;
 - Establishment of transparent regulatory environment and promotion of competition;
 - Promotion of high-quality, diverse and innovative telecommunications services for consumers;
 - Introduction of modern technologies and the active cooperation with international organizations for these purposes;
 - Consumer rights protection.



About the ComCom

International Cooperation

Regulatory authority of broadcasting and electronic communications, established 1st of July 2000.

The Commission consists of five members elected for a six years term.

Communications Commission acts under the Law of Georgia on "Electronic communications" and the Law of Georgia on "Broadcasting"

Currently, is ongoing process on implementation the obligations undertaken under the **Association Agreement**.

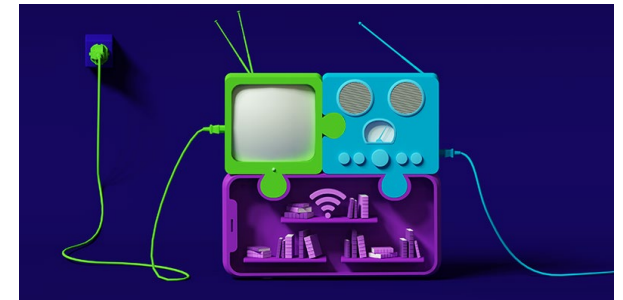
Over the past years, ComCom has been actively involved in consultation or the development projects which were organized at different times by the **World Bank, USAID, EBRD, UNDP, CoE**.

Since 2001, ComCom is the associate member of the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (**ETSI**). Georgia became a full member Since 2007. In February 2005 Georgia became member of the Governmental Advisory Committee of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (**ICANN GAC**).

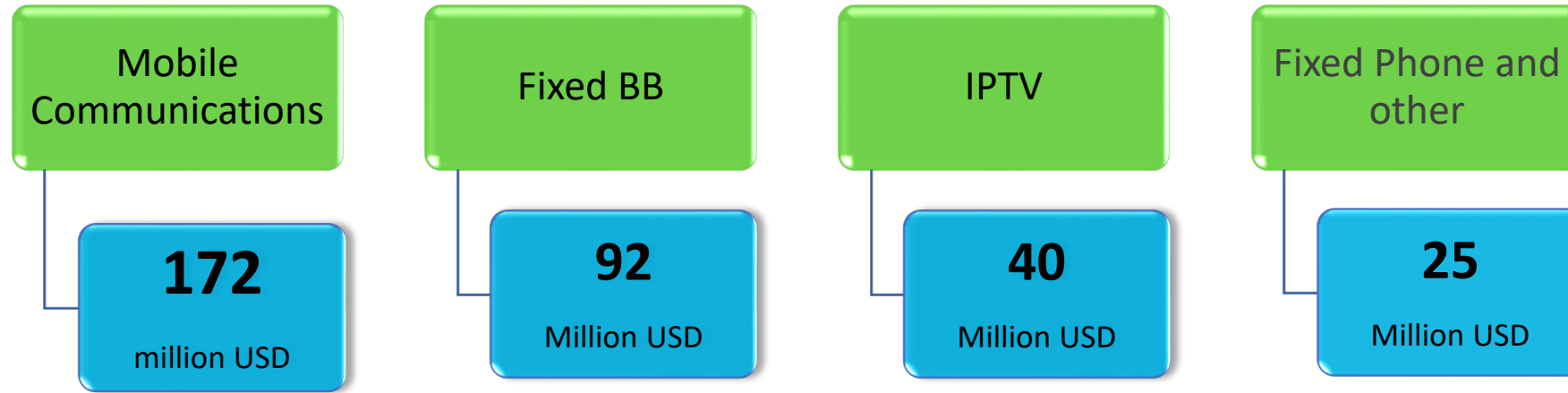
ComCom works closely with the International Telecommunications Union (**ITU**) and the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (**ETSI**). Since 2007, Georgia became a full member of European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (**CEPT**).

In May 2009, by the initiative of the Council of Europe, Eastern Partnership (EaP) was created. The Eastern Partnership was officially announced on May 7, 2009, in Prague, at the Summit, which was attended by the representatives of 33 countries (27 - of the European Community member states and 6 - Eastern Partnership countries).

Eastern Partnership (EaP), gives opportunity to all the six countries, including Georgia, in the frames of bilateral and multilateral cooperation, to accelerate the political and economic integration process with the EU.



Retail Revenue - Main Streams (2021)



- In 2021, mobile service subscribers have consumed up to 311 petabytes of mobile internet, and the revenue generated from the services amounted to GEL 258 million. On average, 1 subscriber consumes 9.5 GB mobile internet every month, which is 107% higher than in the previous year. By 2021, the share of 4G mobile traffic amounted to 91% of total mobile internet traffic.
 - According to the data of the 4th quarter of 2021, the number of subscribers of the fixed broadband Internet exceeded one million and amounted to 1 009 thousand subscribers. Respectively, the penetration of fixed broadband Internet subscribers among households increased and reached 86.7%

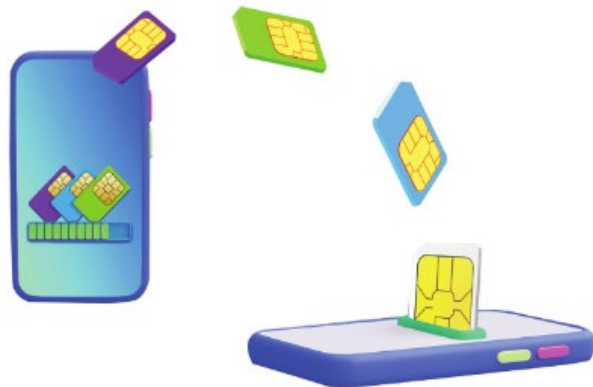
Digital Market Development

Key Enablers

Satellite Internet Systems



MVNO



5G.gov.ge



Broadband Access



Thank you for your attention!

