

Low-Band 5G Spectrum for Digital Equality

Low-band spectrum is the cornerstone of digital equality and a driver of broad and affordable connectivity. It is a crucial national asset that can build bridges towards digital inclusion. WRC-23 is an opportunity to enhance low-band capacity to deliver 5G in all communities.

Why low-band spectrum?



Digital equality



Rural connectivity



Rural economic growth

470-694 MHz at WRC-23 can allow:



Long-term planning of spectrum below 1 GHz to help 5G lower the digital divide.



Development of sub-1 GHz spectrum for better rural and in-building connectivity.



Development of video content distribution mechanisms going into the 2030s.

Adults living in rural areas are

29%

less likely than those living in urban areas to use mobile internet



Average 5G network population coverage (Q4 2022)

73% Countries **using** 600 or 700 MHz

46% Countries **not using** 600 or 700 MHz



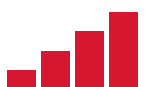
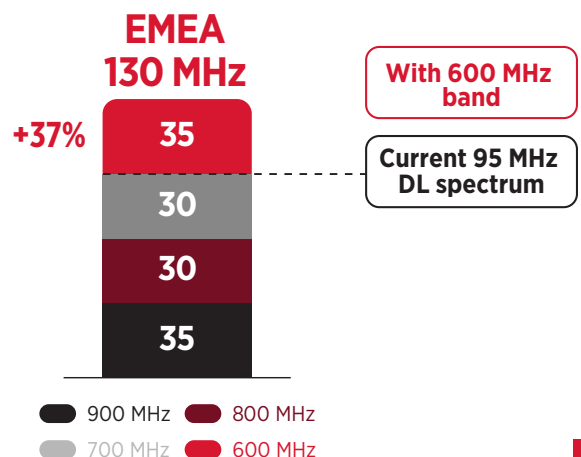
The contribution to global GDP from low-band 5G in 2030

\$130bn



The additional capacity in the 600 MHz band leads to:

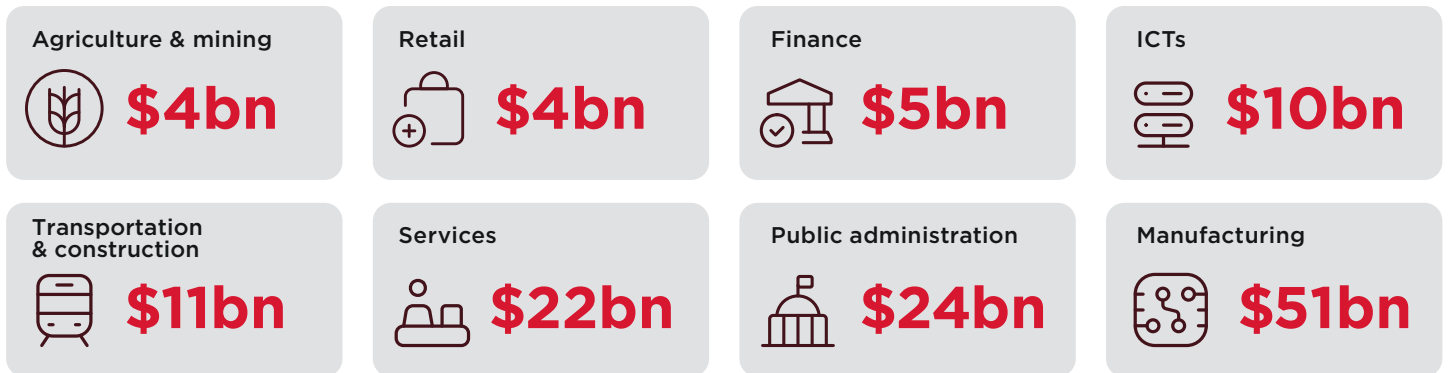
- 1 A **33%** reduction in the cost of extending 5G to rural populations
- 2 Improvement in rural speeds of **30-50%**



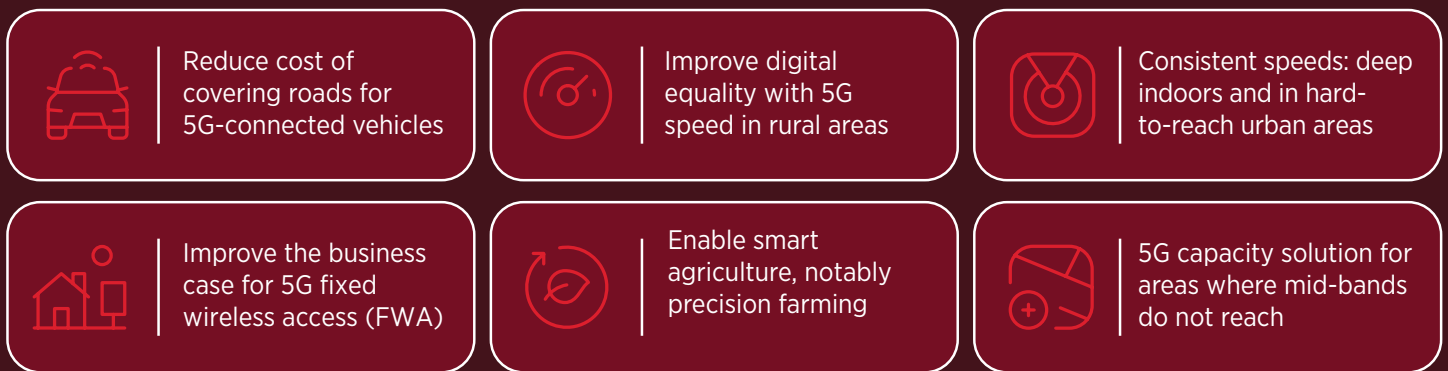
Regional breakdown of the GDP contribution generated by low-band 5G in 2030



Estimated global contribution of low-band 5G spectrum to GDP, by sector, 2030



Benefits of low-band spectrum:

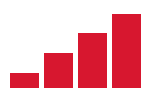


Enhancing the social impact of mobile



➔ All data and further analysis found at: www.gsma.com/spectrum/resources/low-band-5g-spectrum-benefits/

➔ Read more about WRC-23 here: www.gsma.com/spectrum/wrc-series/



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