SIM Swap API

Sri Lankan mobile operators commit to launching Open Gateway APIs

Case study for bank payments using the CAMARA-standardised SIM Swap API – **View API Descriptions**

Business Problem

In November 2023, four Sri Lankan mobile operators – Airtel, Dialog, Hutch and Mobitel – announced their commitment to the GSMA Open Gateway initiative. The operators are working together to commercialise Open Gateway APIs, giving enterprises and developers a standard way to reach Sri Lankan mobile subscribers regardless of their network operator.

Technical Solution

Operators in Sri Lanka have prioritised commercialising GSMA Open Gateway APIs to enhance digital security and prevent fraud. All four mobile operators have completed east-to-west federation for the OTP Validation API, with federation underway for the Number Verification API. Dialog Axiata is also advancing commercialisation of additional APIs, including SIM Swap, KYC Match, Location Match, NIC Match, and Carrier Billing.

Impact and Value

The goal of operators is to leverage the APIs in the GSMA Open Gateway library to drive incremental mobile revenues. While longer term opportunities should arise from the rollout of 5G and other APIs that can unlock greater levels of network innovation, monetising fraud prevention capabilities in the financial sector is a key focus in the short to medium term.

This aligns with national efforts to increase financial inclusion and promote the use of digital financial services, which has led to a rising number of subscribers using their devices to access mobile financial services and government platforms.

However, operators report that the value perceived by banks currently lags behind the actual value Open Gateway APIs can create. This underscores the importance of early demonstrations showcasing the power of APIs, as seen in other early adopter markets like Brazil where Claro announced it had processed over 3 million SIM Swap APIs in March 2024