

Session II: 5G Spectrum Policy



5G Awards: What have we learnt so far?

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Часть II: Политика по выделению спектра для 5G



Спектр для 5G: Что мы узнали на сегодняшний день?

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1. Use a Collaborative Approach

- The best connectivity and services is reliant on trust and good relationship between government and industry
- Creating the right environment for both network investment and network-based competition to thrive over the medium to long term is critical



2. Create and Maintain a Clear Spectrum Roadmap

- Setting out what spectrum bands are to be cleared and licensed over the coming years provides:
 - Visibility
 - Certainty
 - Predictability
- Sets the stage for future investments for the whole mobile ecosystem
- Helps incumbent spectrum users



3. Use awards only when appropriate and necessary

- Competitive awards should only be used when:
 - New spectrum is allocated or,
 - there is a significant market change
- Administrative renewal are best for spectrum already in the market
 - E.g. France and Portugal



4. The supply of spectrum should not be limited to create artificial scarcity

- The right amount of spectrum allows the industry to innovate and provide overall better quality of services
- For 5G operators need:
 - 80-100MHz per operator in the C-Band and,
 - 1GHz per operator in 26 GHz band
- Setting spectrum aside for any particular applicants risks "picking winners"



5. Award all spectrum in open, transparent and non-discriminatory processes

- Spectrum licences are assigned to those entities that will make the best economic use of the resource
- Transparency ensures clarity and visibility
- Allowing market forces to determine the best outcome
- E.g. Germany (2015) and Norway (2013)



6. Strike a balance between competing policy objectives

- Impossible to have everything, there are different trade-offs that need to be considered
- Balancing different policy priorities is critical to ensure a viable outcome



7. A clear and timely award process including a comprehensive and inclusive consultation(s)

- Set a timeline with clear a process e.g:
 - Initial consultation with stakeholders
 - Draft proposal
 - Second consultation
 - Final award rules
- Allow sufficient time for each mile stone



8. Spectrum pricing should aim to achieve greater connectivity and investment rather than revenue

- The long-term socioeconomic benefits are much higher than the short term gain from high spectrum proceeds
- Network impact of lower spectrum costs is:
 - Extensive coverage
 - Lower service costs
 - Higher capacity



9. Adopt an award design that can deliver an efficient outcome with minimal uncertainty

- There is no one size fits all for spectrum awards
- There are key principles that should be applied irrespective of the award format that collectively will lead to better outcomes



10. Offer spectrum in lots that allow the auction to function efficiently and the market to find optimal equilibrium

- Award formats need to allow bidders to find the optimal distribution of frequencies
- Offering spectrum in smaller packages to allow competition and market forces to determine the best outcome



To Learn More: https://www.gsma.com/spectrum/resources/







NETWORK COVERAGE

Strong evidence that higher spectrum prices had a persistent negative impact on 4G coverage as well as a negative impact on 3G coverage in the short and medium term.





Strong evidence that higher spectrum prices had a negative impact on 4G coverage.



NETWORK QUALITY

Strong evidence that higher spectrum prices had a long-term negative impact on average network quality and 3G network quality, including download/upload speeds and latencies.

Some evidence of negative impact on 4G network quality, particularly upload speeds, though this is not conclusive.



Strong evidence that higher spectrum prices had a long-term negative impact on 4G download speeds.

Some evidence of a negative impact on 4G upload speeds.



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