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MTN Presentation on the Broadband Services Market Inquiry

October 2020



Key observations

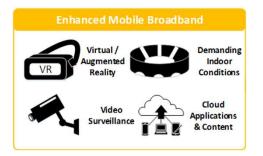
Key Observations

- No evidence to support narrow <u>geographic markets</u> (e.g. by municipality), not at the retail level, certainly not at the wholesale level
 - The introduction and inclusion of Tier 1 and Tier 2 categories using this classification has been introduced into the ITA without ICASA having followed a completed public process on the methodology and computation. -> municipality and "retail market share" of above or below 45% has reference
- No robust market definition for <u>site access</u>. In most cases MNOs do not own sites; MNOs typically have many options; different types of sites are linked by chains of demand and supply substitution; operators already have strong incentives to share common costs
- **Spectrum** is not a market, but rather an input; Spectrum is not produced, and cannot be traded. Spectrum is applied in a number of different ways
- <u>Vigorous and effective competition</u> has continued to deliver benefits to South African consumers. The regulatory environment needs to encourage and enable ongoing investment and rivalry

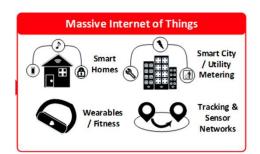
The Future of Telco's is driving economic growth for SA

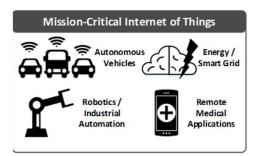
 To harness these benefits we need a regulatory environment which incentivises investment

Lockdown has only accelerated these imperatives



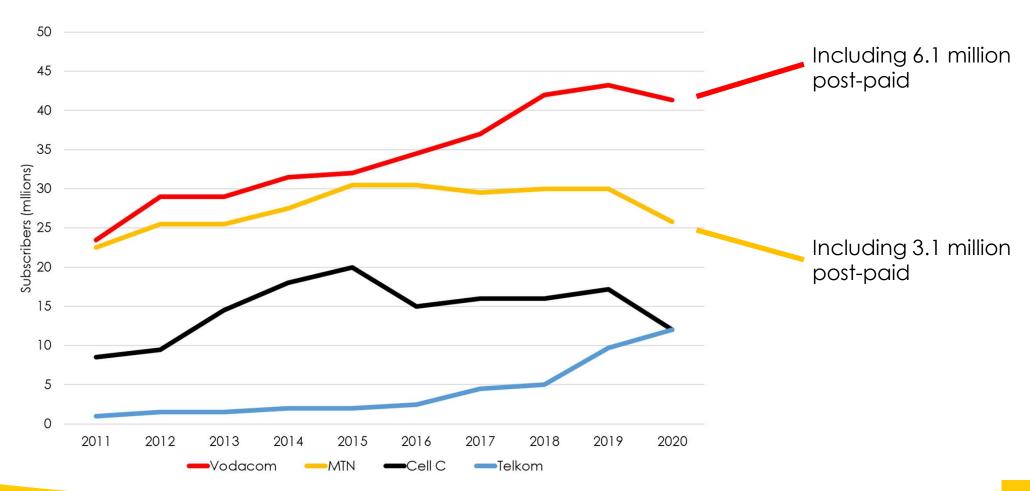




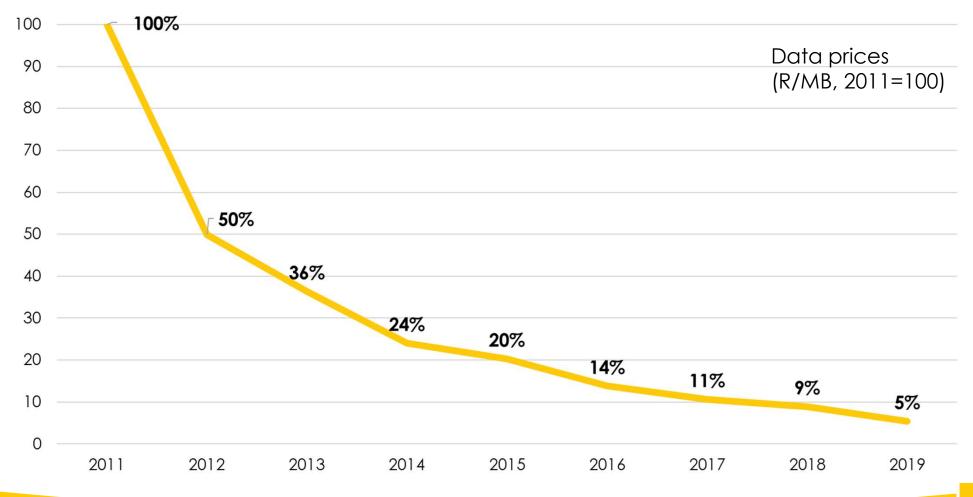




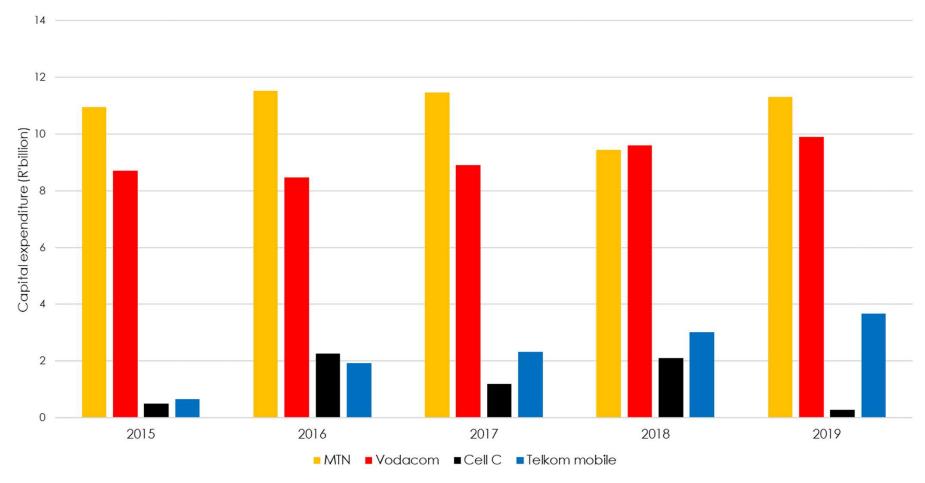
MTN losing, Telkom growth, Vodacom still dominates lucrative post-paid



Prices continue to plummet – 95% drop in 8 years

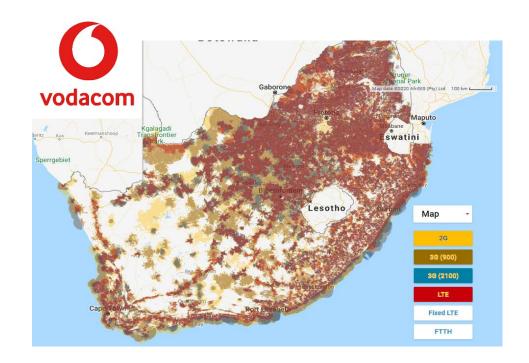


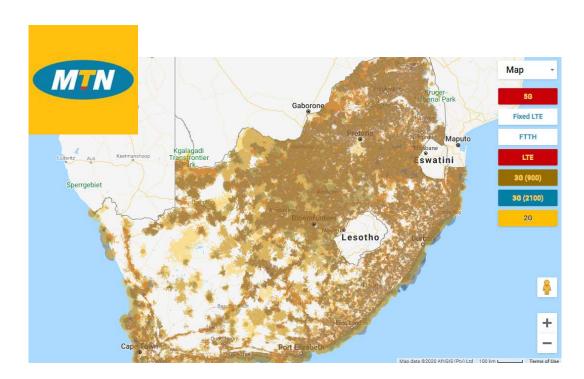
Massive investment required, to meet exponential demand



Source: Operator Annual and Media Reports

MTN's 26 years of investment have created a second national network

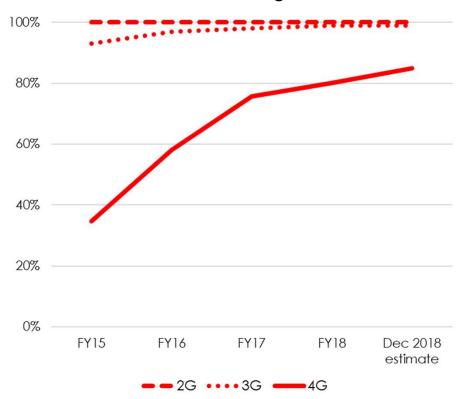






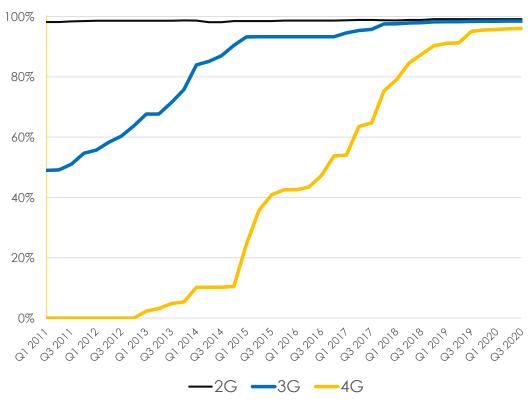
MTN plays a critical role in maintaining national infrastructure competition

Vodacom national coverage



Source: Adapted from the Competition Commission DSMI

MTN national coverage



Source: MTN Population Coverage

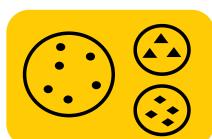
Relevant markets

ICASA has sought to define several markets

- These include:
 - Retail
 - Site access / facilities leasing
 - Roaming
 - Spectrum

Market Definition

Market definition is only the first step in any competitive assessment











Market definition must come before any assessment of substantial market power, or dominance The assessment of

dominance (or SMP)

depends on market

definition and the

consideration of the

state of competition

within any defined

markets

The assessment of
abuse of
dominance, or
substantial lack of
competition, depends
on a finding of
dominance, and the
consideration of
specific conduct, or
some specific lack of
competition

The consideration of, and suggestions for, remedies should only follow market definition, assessment of dominance, and robust conclusion of an abuse of dominance, or lack of competition

Retail market

- Product dimension data, voice, and SMS
 - Use the same supply-side inputs
 - Bundles of different sizes linked by a chain of substitution
- Geographic market
 - Each of MTN and Vodacom have nearly 100% national coverage. Cell C, Telkom, smaller operators and MVNOs, can also offer national coverage by virtue of their roaming, MNS, or wholesale arrangements
 - Services are provided on a national basis mobile services allow users to connect as they move throughout the country
 - Services are provided by the same underlying (core and transmission) and contiguous (RAN) network
 - Chains of substitution link different RAN towers. Soft handover is a direct example of these linkages
 - Effective data prices differ between individual subscribers, and these differences change over time. Not a reliable basis on which to distinguish markets

Site access / facilities leasing market

- In most cases, MNOs do not own the sites on which they construct infrastructure
- In dense urban areas, MNOs will lease space on buildings sites are an input into the provision of mobile services
- In less dense areas, MNOs may construct their own site infrastructure, or lease space on the infrastructure of another MNO. MNOs have many options to choose from, including building their own infrastructure
- Different forms of sites are linked by chains of demand and supply substitution, and there are typically options for any particular network requirement
- There is demand side switching between different form of sites
- Operators always have a strong incentive to share common costs

Roaming "market"

- Roaming (whether national, international, or regional), is a component of wholesale activity
- Different costs to serve rural and urban areas. These cost differences are typically not passed on to consumers, but must be borne by the operators (whether hosting, or roaming)
- MTN provides a second option for national coverage (in addition to Vodacom), and accordingly is critical in creating competition at the wholesale level

Spectrum "market"

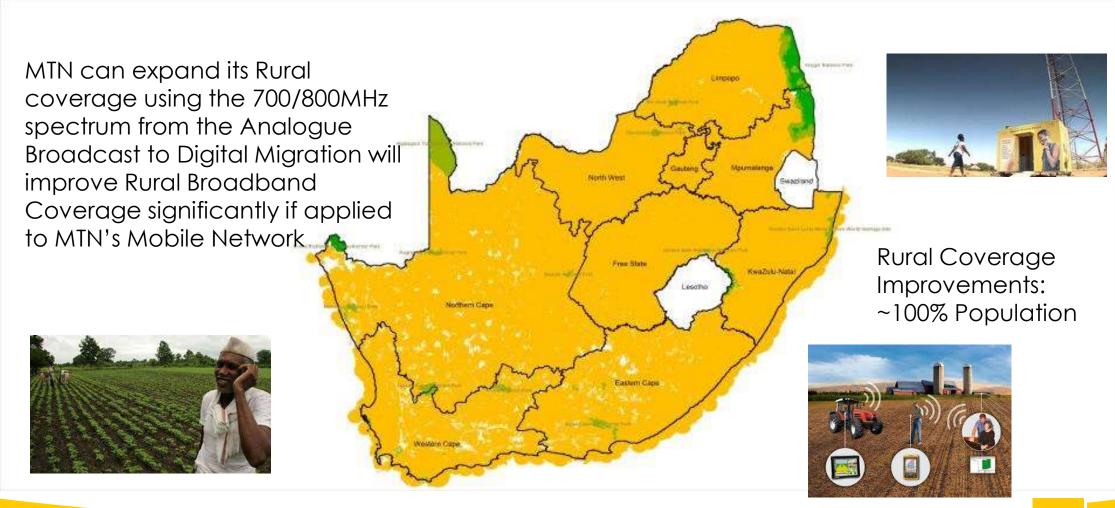
- Spectrum is not produced by operators or licensees it is licensed to them by regulatory authorities
- Operators do not set spectrum prices these are set by the authority, or determined in auctions
- Spectrum is an input into the provision of mobile services
- There is no trading of spectrum between MNOs
- Spectrum is used by licensed operators to create mobile capacity, access to this capacity is then traded at wholesale and/or retail levels
- Spectrum is applied in a number of different ways

Spectrum

Active radio equipment Can be owned, shared by operators **Spectrum** is emitted; Capacity is created; Operated by outsourced third parties (e.g. **Access** to that capacity OEM, Third Party Professional Services) or is monetised Other Operators and operated under an MNS arrangement at wholesale or retail levels Internet connectivity **Transmission Infrastructure** Physical site infrastructure Self provided or third party connectivity - link connectivity or Can also include power, access, end to end security. Can be owned, shared with other MNOs, accessed via third parties **Core Network** (e.g. ATC) Mobile Voice and Data Core Network

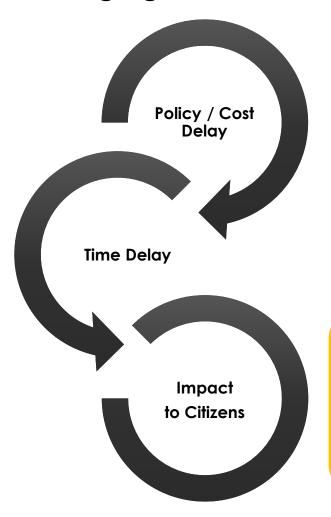
Key constraints

Spectrum, and connecting rural broadband



Site acquisition, and encouraging efficient investment

- Site acquisition processes should be standardised across SA
- Infrastructure sharing should be encouraged e.g. streetlamp poles



 Delays with site permits / zoning / approvals

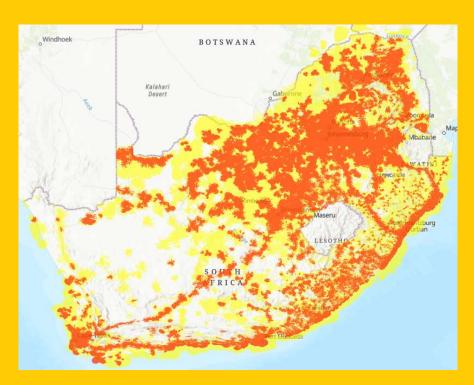
- Lost opportunities for Connectivity / Business / Growth
- Delay in achieving SMART city status
- All citizens connected could be connected sooner

In Conclusion

- Operators desperately need new spectrum
- The key to long term competition is the continued existence of national infrastructure competition. MTN operates as an essential counterweight, and outside option, to the far more profitable first mover, Vodacom
- MTN creates network competition, which allows the intensely competitive wholesale space that has emerged over the past decade

Current and future spectrum allocation must preserve (and enhance) this national infrastructure competition.

Everyone deserves the benefits of a modern connected life





Spectrum

