

FTTH Conference 12 March 2019

Closing the Digital Gap – Finnish Perspective

Maija Ahokas, Director of Unit
Ministry of Transport and Communications
Networks Regulation Unit
@mmaija

The world is changing – how does the EU maintain its competitiveness?



Services

Data

Climate

Networks

Strategy for Digital Infrastructure

- determines objectives for the development of the digital infrastructure in Finland by 2025 as well as the methods for achieving this objective
- promotes both fixed and wireless connections
- aims for the development connections in accordance with the objectives of the European Commission.

> By 2025 all households should have access to at least 100 Mbit/s connection



**Finnish broadband
policy builds on
technology neutrality
and market-based
solutions.**

Finnish mobile market: competition and innovations benefits the consumers

The fierce competition in the mobile markets ensures good services for the consumers:

- 3G/4G networks cover over 99% of the population
- Unlimited data plans are affordable and widely used

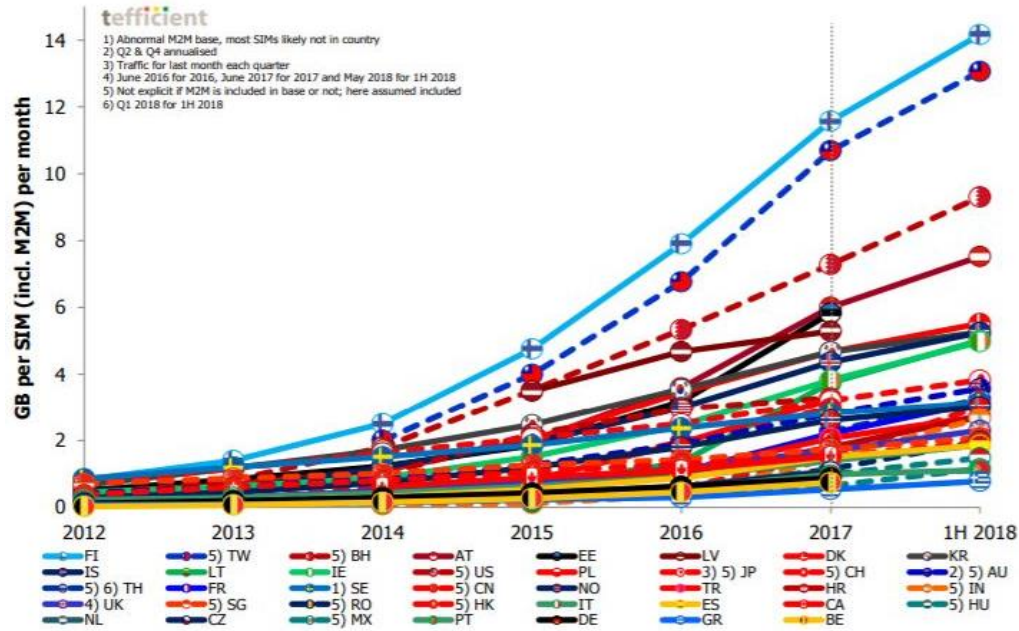
Forward-thinking regulation ensures that test licences facilitate innovation.

Allocating as much spectrum for mobile broadband as possible a key priority for Finland.

Universal service obligation includes:
2 Mbit/s internet access to permanent place
of residence or location.



Finns use most mobile data per subscription



The average Finnish SIM card carried 14.2 GB of data per month in the first half of 2018.

57% of the Finnish SIMs had unlimited data volume in June 2018

Development of mobile data usage per SIM (incl. M2M) per month

Finland as a forerunner in 5G

The auction of network licences within the 3,5 GHz was concluded on 1st October 2018

Aim to position Finland as one of the international leaders in testing, developing and introducing 5G networks

The licences are valid for 15 years starting from January 1, 2019

5G brings new services and more business opportunities



5G testing and innovation

Frequencies available for research and trials. About 30 licences issued for 5G testing so far

The Finnish Transport and Communications Agency has created a 5G Momentum Ecosystem to facilitate collaboration and accelerate the development of new services

Members of the ecosystem include cities, ports, research centers and teleoperators



New innovations require extensive fibre network

The availability of 100 Mbit/s fixed broadband
52% of the population

Fibre mainly built on market terms

In the future the need for fibre network will only
increase: new innovations and services will
require higher data rates.

Also 5G will require optical-fibre networks



Enhancing fixed broadband in sparsely populated areas

Fast Broadband project aims to ensure that fast broadband networks are built in sparsely populated areas where their commercial availability is unlikely

A total of EUR 130 million of public aid available to fixed broadband projects.

Access to fixed broadband brought to over 80 000 end users (130 000 expected to be reached within the project)

Deadline for new applications 31st Dec 2018: construction expected to continue until 2021.



The theme year of joint construction 2019

The Finnish Transport and Communications Agency has launched a competition to reward exemplary joint construction projects.

The goal is to share best practices and innovative operations models

Partners include for example major telecom companies and public authorities.



Networks goals: well functioning transport and communications networks

Transport and communications networks provide the basis for prosperous economy

The speed and quality of the communications networks must be sufficient to meet the needs of future services and innovations

High-speed 5G networks deployed EU-wide



Thank you!

lvm.fi  @lvmfi

LVM MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT
AND COMMUNICATIONS