

Municipalities and regions key players for broadband rollout?

The 21st century has presented a major shift into the digital age and enabled us to make fundamental progress in areas such as connectivity and sustainability. Access to the digital age is to a great extent made possible thanks to high speed connectivity through fibre infrastructure. Experience and international ranking show that fibre roll-outs and open networks are crucial in order to fully exploit the possibilities a connected society offers – stronger regional development, increased growth and sustainability. It is therefore a challenge for the EU to fasten the rollout of high capacity broadband infrastructure in order to strengthen its competitiveness against the US and Asia. A primary goal for the new Commission is therefore to stimulate the deployment of high capacity broadband infrastructure and promote competition on the service level.

The Swedish association of local authorities and regions (SALAR) and Stokab (The City of Stockholm IT infrastructure company) invites you to a seminar exploring how the collaboration and involvement of municipalities and regions can foster broadband deployment and help the Commission to reach its goal. Several studies shows that municipalities and regions can be key players for broadband rollout.

Programme

13.30 - 14.00 Registration and welcome coffee

14.00 - 17.30 Seminar

Discussion points

- How should the telecom market be structured in order to encourage service-based competition and innovation?
- How can municipalities and regions engage in fibre deployment without risking to harm competition and making private companies less willing to invest?
- Does the interest for investments in broadband and OTT services increase if it is possible to get access to fibre by municipalities and regions, not providing services themselves?

Speaker line-up



Welcome
"Municipalities and regions key players for broadband rollout!"

Mrs. Ulla Hamilton

Member of SALAR's (Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions) *Growth and Regional Development Committee*



"The State of Broadband in the United States: Cities struggle for fibre rollouts"

Mr. Christopher Mitchell

Director, Telecommunications as Common Initiative, Institute for Local Self-Reliance



"How can Europe benefit from the Stokab Model?"

Mr. Benoît Felten

Chief Research Officer, Diffraction Analysis



"Communication infrastructure and its importance for broadband markets, a special study from Deloitte"

Mr. Jonas Malmund

Partner, Consulting, Deloitte AB



"A guide to broadband investment, a report to the European Commission"

Mr. Crister Mattsson

Senior Adviser, Acreo Swedish ICT



"How will the Commission work to foster a radical increase in broadband infrastructure?"

Mr. Anthony Whelan (TBC)

Director, Electronic Communications, Networks and Services. DG CONNECT, European Commission



"Achieving the 1 Gbit vision for growth and jobs"

Mr. Gunnar Hökmark (TBC)

Vice President EPP, European Parliament

17.30 - 18.00 Afternoon coffee

INVITATION

Maximizing fibre infrastructure investment in Europe

Wednesday, 19 November 2014

14.00 - 18.00

Radisson Blu EU Hotel, Brussels

Contact

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Registration

Click on the 'Register here' button below or simply send us an email at register@qed.eu. The seminar is free of charge. Closing day for registration is Monday, 17 November 2014.