



European
Commission



Broadband Competence Offices Network

Connectivity in Rural Areas

Sofia 20 April 2018



The Connectivity Objectives

DSM targets for 2020:

- 30 Mbps or more for all citizens
- 100 Mbps or more by 50% of households

Gigabit Society targets for 2025:

- 1 Gbps for all schools, transport hubs and main providers of public services and digitally intensive enterprises
- 100 Mbps to be upgraded to 1 Gbps for all European households

**76% EU citizens
NGA connected,
BUT only 40% in rural areas.**

**Market failure
due to lack of business case
in some areas.**

**Intervention needed
on selective basis.**



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The BCO Initiative

The **European Commission** called on **Member States** to create a **network of Broadband Competence Offices** to address these issues.

Indeed some of the hurdles seem recurrent:

- Regulatory
- Technical
- Finance



Approx Euro 6 billion from EU
Risk of non-utilisation, while
still missing connection targets



The BCO Network

A 27 EU Member States Network to:

- Share good practices
- Learn from each other
- Develop common tools and resources
- Build competence

At **national** and **regional** level

Accelerate uptake
of public funds for broadband



Action Plan for Rural Broadband Priority 2018

1. Grow and strengthen BCO Network
2. Improve mapping
3. Common Methodology on Planning, reporting and monitoring
4. Rural proof test
5. Guide on very high speed Broadband
6. Rural broadband project framework





Thank you

