

5G COVERAGE INFORMATION

BEREC WORKSHOP ON NRA EXPERIENCES WITH 5G

Telefónica S.A. September 23 2021

Principles for the requirements

Regulatory burden for operators and Public agencies should be minimised

- There is a regulatory need for a consistent and coherent information of coverage for 5G deployments.
- Telefónica already provides coverage maps in 2G, 3G, 4G and 4G+ on its webpage.
- The request should be:
 - Proportionate, objectively justified and limited to what is strictly necessary.
 - Confidentiality should be guaranteed.
- Duplications should be avoided and synergies should be found among the different objectives:
 - i. Monitoring connectivity targets Digital Compass 2030
 - ii. Identification of coverage gaps & allocation of public support funds
 - iii. Monitoring compliance with operator commitments (spectrum licences, public support schemes)
 - iv. Information to end users to facilitate choice of operator
 - v. Information to developers and verticals to facilitate innovation

Coverage information gathered by NRAs is valuable mostly for developers and verticals that do not have a direct relationship with MNOs

Simple general purpose information is sufficient for that target audience

- Mobile Operators already have incentives to provide accurate information to verticals, in order to gain customers on the end user side and promote innovation on the developer/content provider side.
- All the use cases cannot enter in a simple and harmonised definition of QoS
- Verticals that have a direct relationship with MNOs are able to negotiate bespoke deals and gather in the negotiation the information they require
- Arguably, there could be value in NRAs harmonising and gathering information for verticals and developers that interact with end users through the internet. However:
 - Developers can also access information on coverage / QoS through their apps
 - Private parties are also gathering and publishing information on coverage (Point Topic / Open signal ...)
 - Information on coverage can be a competitive tool for verticals and developers

5G COVERAGE INFORMATION Best practice: The Spanish case

We see the Spanish case as a maximum request.

- The requirement takes into consideration the BEREC Guidelines on Geographical surveys of network deployments and Common Position on information to consumers on mobile coverage.
- The purpose is to identify areas with no 4G coverage.
- It is addressed to the 4 mobile network operators.
- The periodicity is annual. First requirement: June 2021.
- An independent entity collects and aggregates the coverage information from individual operators.

Operator 1				Aggregator	NRA
Base stations	Simulation tool and calculation method	Maps (area of presence – power)	Maps (troughput per área) (.tif)		+ •
				 Operator n	

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