



BEREC WORKSHOP

The market players' views on international submarine
connectivity in the European Union

Introduction by the European Commission

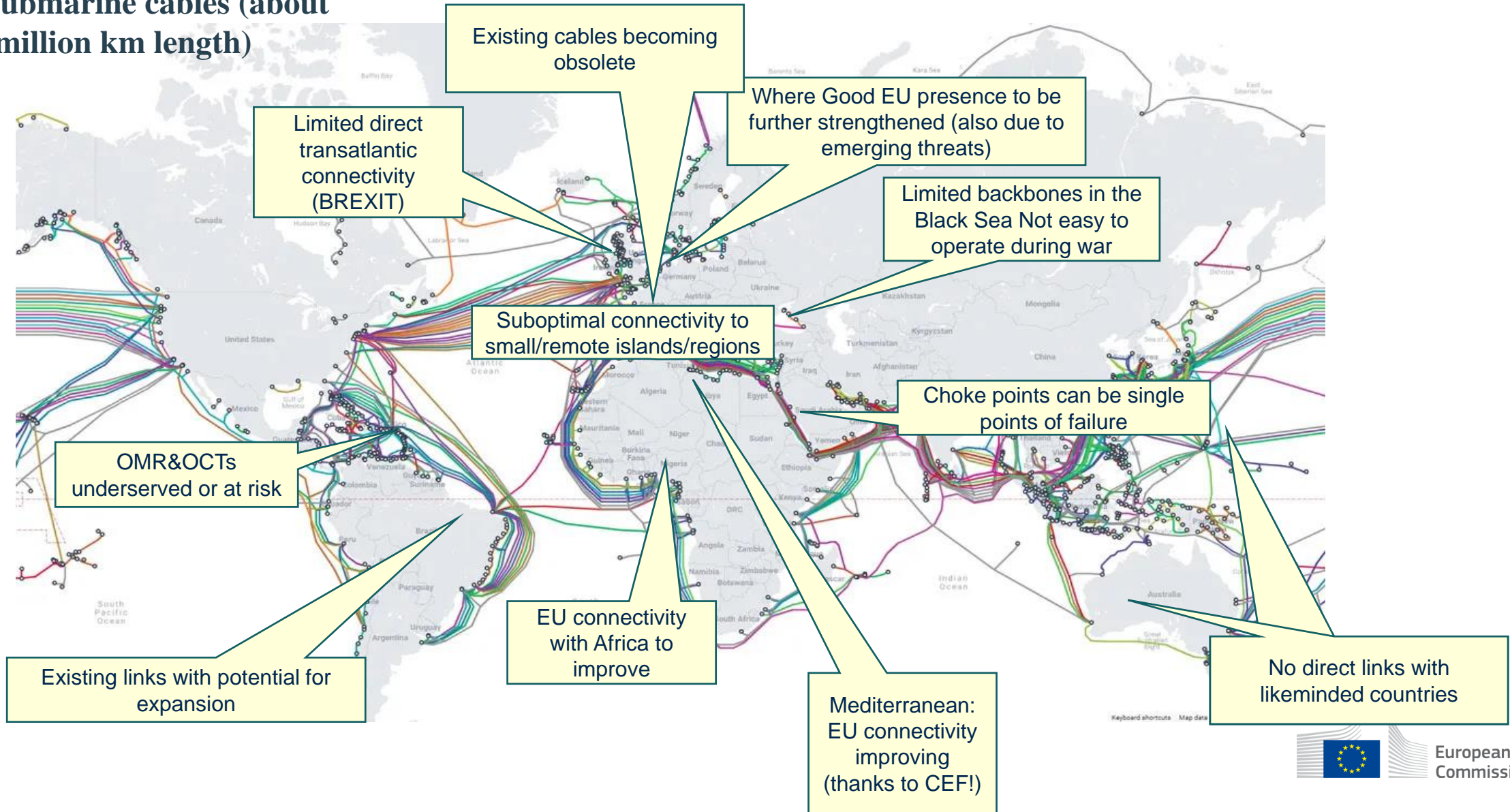
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Date: 21 September

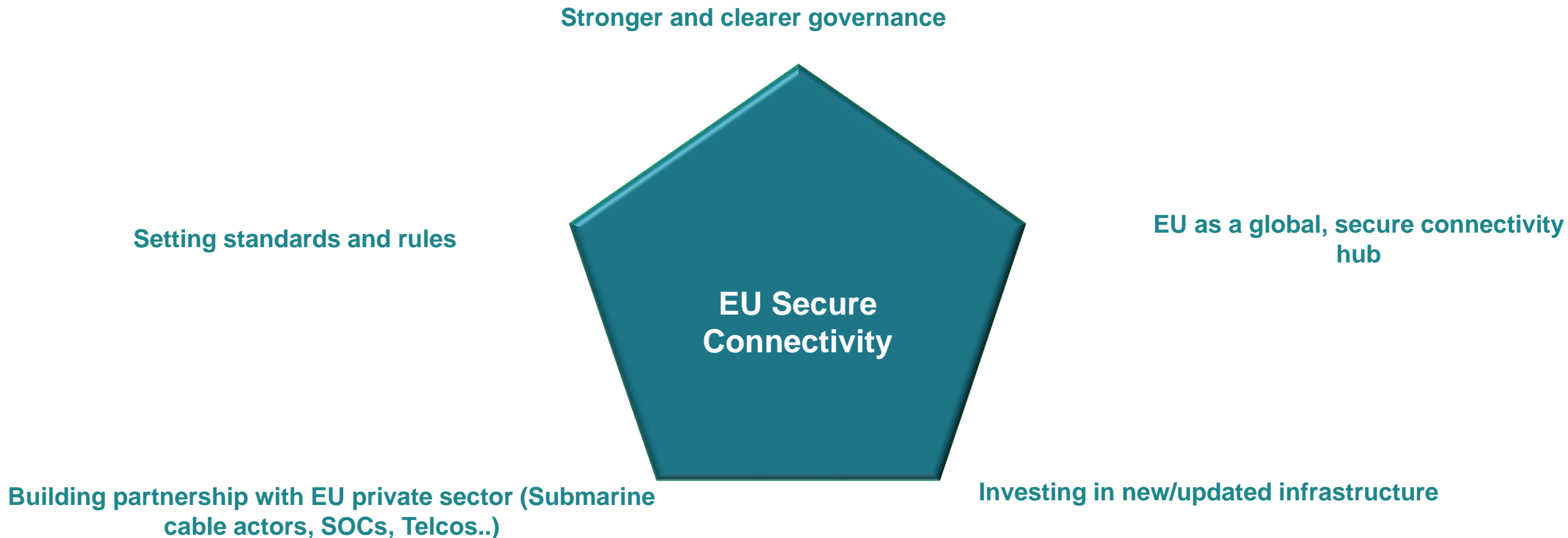
Time: 09:00 – 16:45 CEST Online

Today: a global vulnerable submarine cable infrastructure -potential to improve

97% of total data traffic flows on submarine cables (about 1.4 million km length)



Context and political ambition



Secure Connectivity

- The [Nevers Call](#) of 9 March 2022:
Recognise the importance of critical infrastructures such as telecommunications networks providing critical functions to our societies which can be threatened by cyberattacks.
- At the October 2022 EP Plenary, [President von der Leyen presented a 5-point plan](#):
 - 1) Enhance our preparedness
 - 2) Stress-test our infrastructure
 - 3) Increase our capacity to respond through the Union Civil Protection Mechanism
 - 4) Make better use of our satellite surveillance capacity, and
 - 5) Strengthen cooperation with NATO and other likeminded countries.
- The Council in its [Critical Infrastructure Resilience Recommendation](#) of 8 December 2022 set out targeted, voluntary actions at EU and national level for enhanced preparedness, response and international cooperation with a focus on critical infrastructure (incl. digital).

CEF 2 Digital Programme 2021-2027

The digital part of the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF Digital) to support and catalyse both public and private investments in digital connectivity infrastructures between 2021 and 2027

Main actions of CEF Digital:

- [5G connectivity for smart communities](#) Indicative resources allocated (2021-23): EUR 111,7M
- [5G coverage along cross-border corridors](#) Indicative resources allocated (2021-23): EUR 229,6M
- [Backbone connectivity for Digital Global Gateways](#)* Indicative resources allocated (2021-23): EUR 295M
- [European Quantum Communication Infrastructure Initiative](#) Indicative resources allocated (2021-23) EUR 0M
- [Backbone networks for pan-European cloud federations](#) Indicative resources allocated (2021-23) EUR 26,3M

* Out of EUR 389M for the whole duration 2021-27 of the programme.

Backbone connectivity for Digital Global Gateways

1. Objective

Support the deployment of strategic networks as part of the Digital Global Gateway Strategy of the EU:

- (1) **Connect territories of the EU** including its Outermost Regions.
- (2) **Support connectivity needs of the Member States**, which are islands themselves, or have islands as part of their territory.
- (3) **Interconnect major connectivity points** in the EU.
- (4) Address the specific needs of **Overseas Countries and Territories** in the EU.
- (5) Ensure **international connectivity** to EU partners worldwide.
- (6) Promote **synergy** projects addressing other objectives of CEF Digital.

Backbone connectivity for Digital Global Gateways

2. Scope

Support the deployment of backbone connectivity for routes within Member States, between Member States, and between the EU and third countries, including to remote territories where:

- (1) there is a lack of **redundancy**, or
- (2) existing infrastructure cannot satisfy **demand**, or
- (3) the users in the territories suffer from suboptimal **services** and **prices**.

3. Security requirements

- **Exclusion of non-EU** controlled entities (art. 11.4 CEF regulation).
- **Exception** for infrastructure connecting EU with third countries: legal entities in that third country where their participation is indispensable for the achievement of the objectives can participate subject to security guarantees approved by the third country.
- Security declaration that no **security sensitive equipment** or **services** procured from third country suppliers.

Backbone connectivity for Digital Global Gateways

4. Technology neutral call

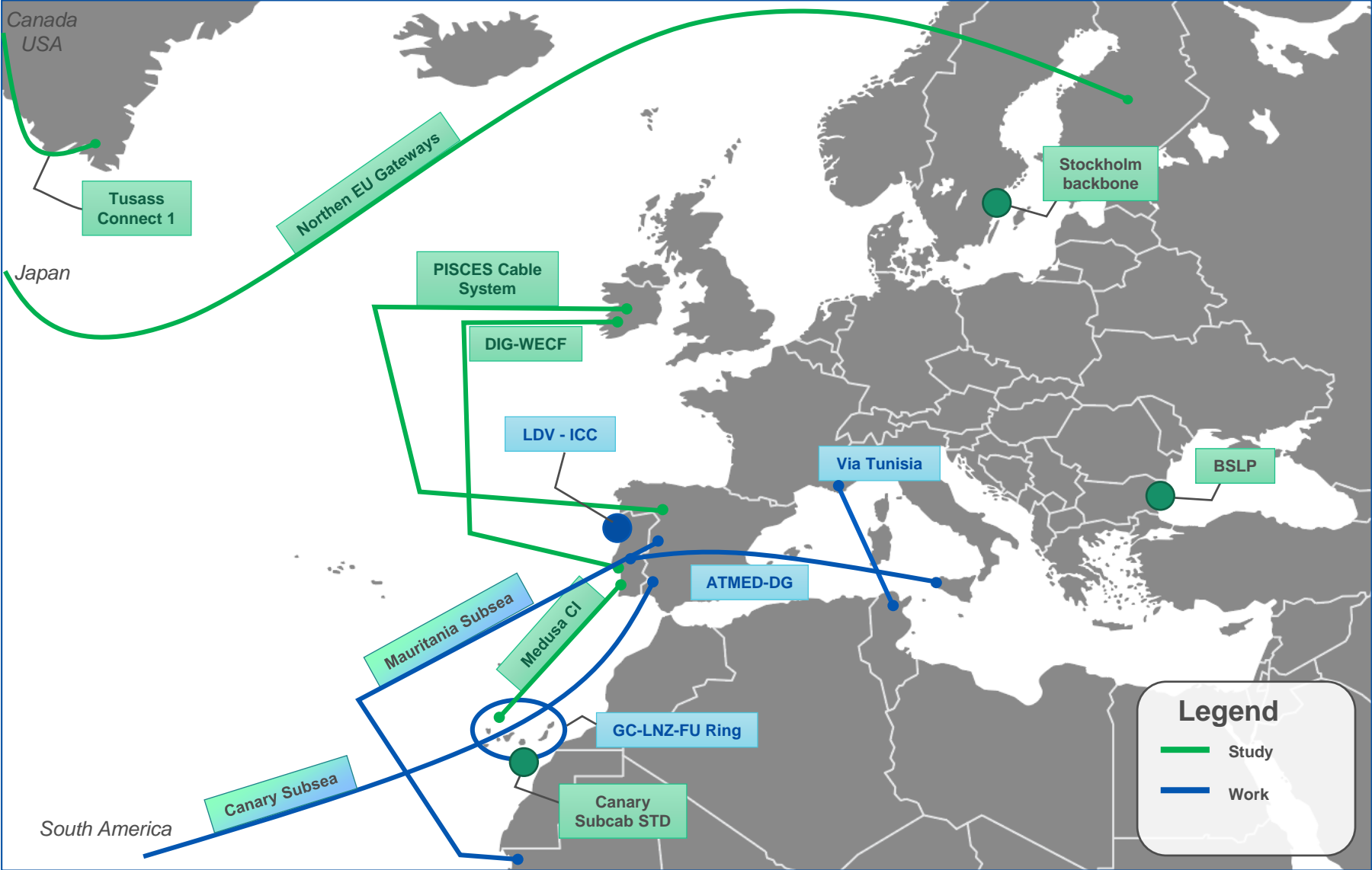
Digital Global Gateways can be provided with the technology best suited including e.g.:

- **Submarine Cable Systems,**
- **Satellite Infrastructure,**
- **Connectivity to internet exchange points,** and
- **Inter-Connection of Backbones** with networks within the supported territories

5. What is co-financed

- For **works**: Total project costs required to construct and deliver the described infrastructure for the foreseen lifetime, from end to end, including cable landing station and their connectivity. Operating costs, and costs for the land ownership excluded.
- For **studies**: All preparatory work required to design, deploy and deliver a backbone network, e.g., marine ground surveys for submarine cables, the application for required permits, technological solutions, including any step prior to signing a contract with a supplier, etc.

Digital Global Gateways – Call 1 portfolio



Questions?



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