WORLD BANK GROUP
Transport & ICT

Unleashing infrastructure synergies: *Connecting to opportunity*

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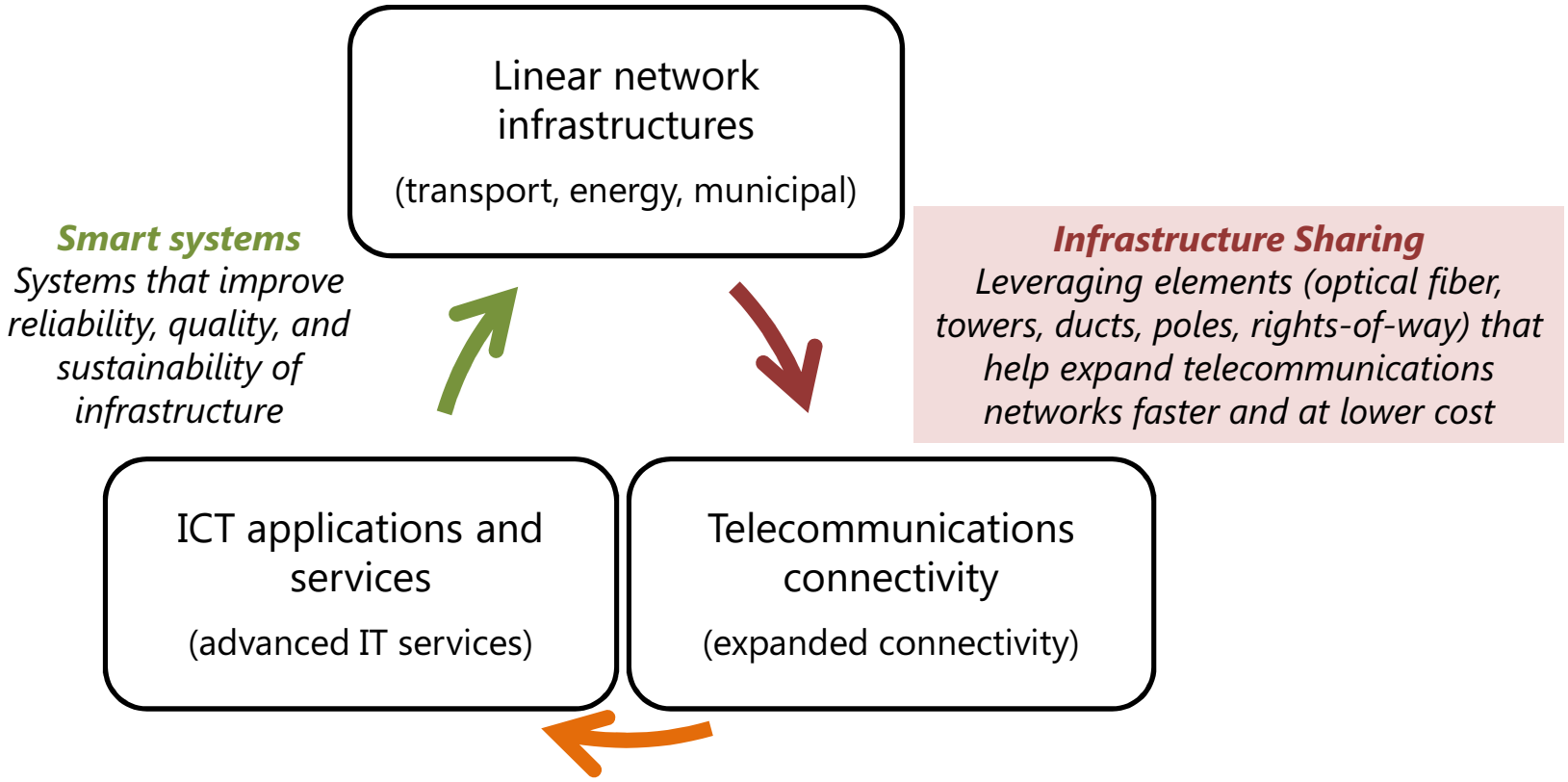
The opportunity

Transport and ICT are about connecting people and businesses to each other, to public and financial services, and to economic opportunities.
We can define a *common future* for both sectors—unleashing *synergies* and unlocking significant *benefits*—connecting more people to opportunity!



Where is the opportunity?

	Utility has existing infrastructure that telcos can use (*by default*)	Utility can develop infrastructure that telcos can use (*by design*)
Railways	Railways have optical fiber cable networks—used for signaling—can be used for telecom (e.g. RailTel India; Georgia RT; Poland RT; Adif Spain; Morocco) Some lease out ducts (Tunisia SNCFT)	Railways have ROW that can be made available (common); can develop ducts/fiber
Roadways	Some lease out ducts (e.g. Georgia; Poland; Lithuania) As ITS becomes more popular, administrators are deploying OFC that can be used by telcos (e.g. MSRDC India, France)	Roadway ROW is the usual deployment pathway for telcos (very common); can develop ducts/fiber (e.g. Vermont)

Why do this?

	Utility perspective	Telecom perspective
Benefits	• Additional revenues, at relatively low cost • Uses excess capacity on existing fiber, utilizes underused assets (e.g. ROW) • Dig once, use multiple times—less social and environmental impact • Potential to use improved connectivity for smart systems • Possible to spin off/privatize the business	• Significant cost savings—between 50 and 80% • Increases ability to reach rural and remote regions • Improves redundancy • Can support and promote competition in the market • Reduces time-to-market, due to access to passive infrastructure, simpler (or no) ROW/site acquisition processes
Risks	• Could burden the institutional capacity of the utility • Joint deployment timing • Demand assessment gaps • Regulatory considerations	• Lack of information on availability of infrastructure • No clear rules on process, pricing, contracting • Timing and regulatory concerns

How to do this?

Policy and regulation

- Open up telecommunications markets—allow utilities to enter (at least some segments) of the telecommunications business
- Set clear utility regulation, including cost apportioning, rate base calculations or tariff for access
- Set up an institutional coordinator/issue a relevant policy

Information and process

- Create maps of infrastructure, provide access to information on infrastructure presence and use to any licensed operator
- Share information on planning of new infrastructure, enable joint deployment
- Create standardized mechanisms of requesting and pricing access

Dispute settlement

- Have a clear dispute settlement process, identifying which regulators/agencies are involved—*maybe setup a coordinator*

Standards and SOPs

- Develop standards for new infrastructure to include ducts/fiber optic
- Develop SOPs for updating infrastructure to include sharable elements
- Create SOPs for physical access, maintenance, and operation

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