

The European Broadband Competence Offices Network

15 May 2024

Presentation to the EU CAP Network



BCOs...

BCOs advise policy makers, project promoters and citizens on broadband and the technological, legal and financial challenges of broadband projects.

Broadband Competence Offices (BCOs) are the national and regional public authorities responsible for broadband deployment.



Connectivity targets

2020

NGA targets

30 Mbps

minimum for all citizens

100 Mbps

minimum for 50% of households

2025

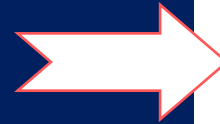
Gigabit targets

100 Mbps upgradable to **1 Gbps** for all households

1 Gbps

for all schools, transport hubs, main providers of public services and digitally intensive enterprises

5G wireless broadband coverage for urban and rural areas



2030

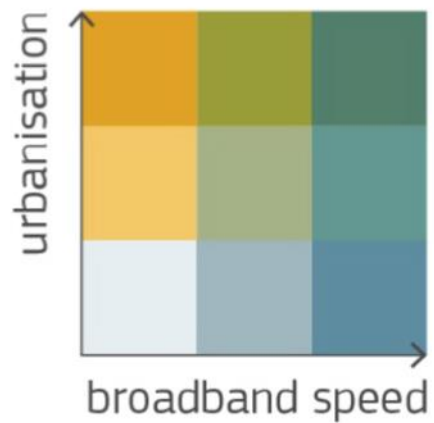
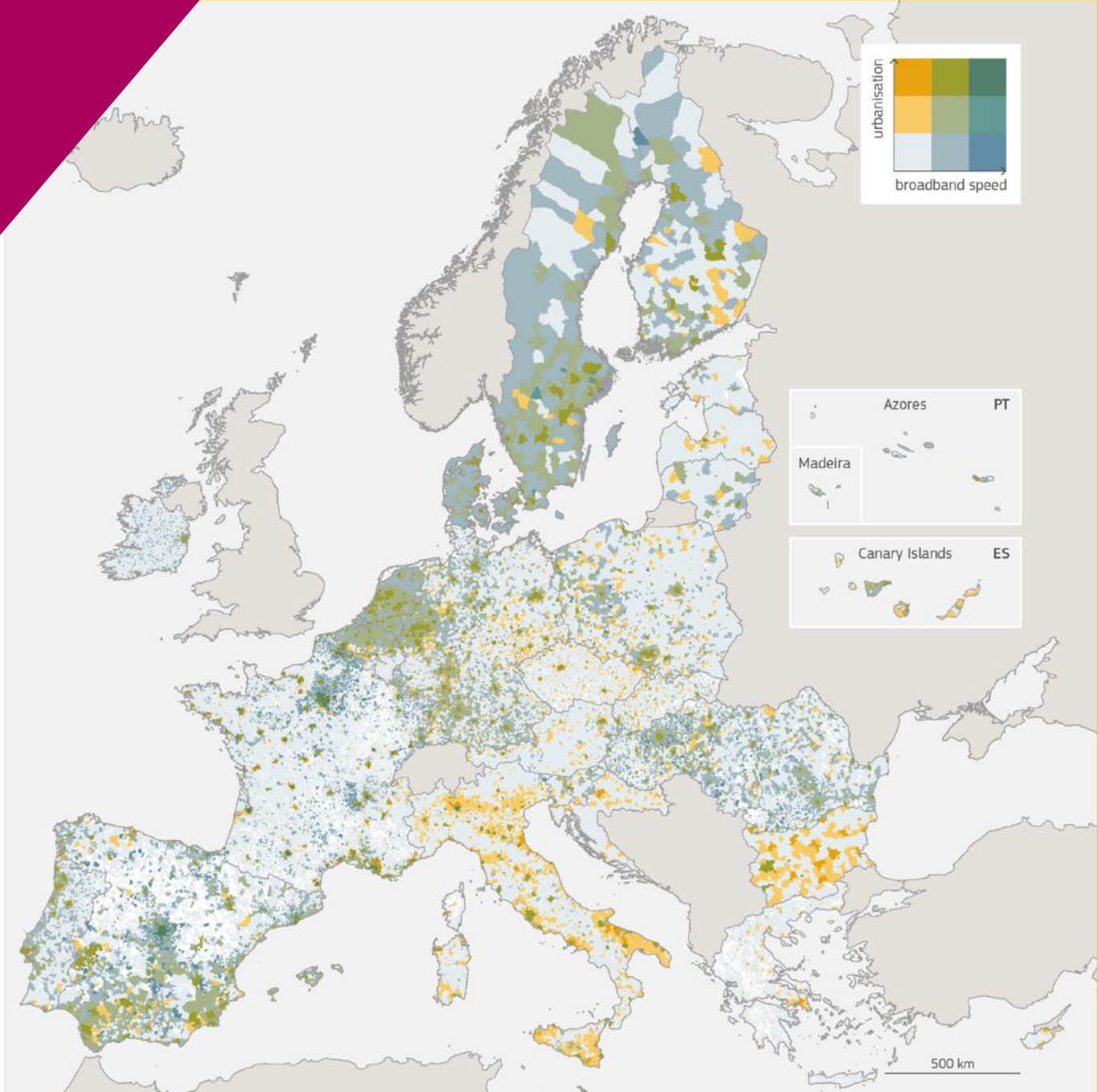
Digital Decade targets

1 Gbps for all

5G everywhere – urban and rural areas



Urbanisation / Broadband speed



Rural and remote areas

Investment is private sector driven, therefore **business case** driven.

Regions that are **less populated**, or where the population is **more spread out**, or where the **topology is challenging** can be deemed **too expensive to connect**: market failure.

→ **Role of BCOs**

BCOs focus on **market failure** areas

Provide
Technical Assistance

Improve
broadband mapping / needs identification

Accelerate
public fund allocations

Support
EU fund programming

Exchange
good practices
cross-country
and cross-border

Address
State aid hurdles

Develop
and share
innovative aid schemes

Provide
technology insights to
stakeholders

Possible actions to accelerate rural connectivity

- **Rural proofing** of all digital policies
 - Connectivity **demand stimulation** in rural areas
 - Accelerate / facilitate **infrastructure sharing**
 - Streamline / facilitate construction **permits**
-
- Reflect the above in **National Broadband Plans**, that should be **aligned with rural priorities**
 - Sustain and strengthen BCOs in countries / regions to support these measures

Supporting BCOs & stakeholders

Capacity building
Knowledge exchange
Connection

Events

Workshops

Outreach

Online or in-person

**Information sharing
resources**

*Videos, studies,
publications, articles*

Focus areas of 2024-25 include:

- Submarine and satellite connectivity
- 5G
- Territorial connectivity: *coverage with mobile technologies*
- Connecting the last '1%'
- The EU's long-term vision for rural areas
- Rural applications (*agriculture, environment, health, education, mobility, employment...*)

Policy, funding, good practices

BCO
Network

WORKING FOR
EUROPEAN
CONNECTIVITY

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