

# Scaling up digital solutions across Asia & the Pacific: the digital divide challenge

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# Digital: new normal and weapon of combat

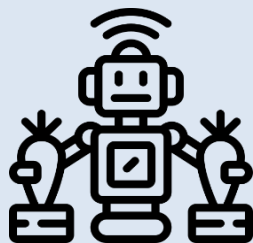
IoT



Telecommuting  
Online lecture

Viet Nam  
Pakistan  
Nepal etc.

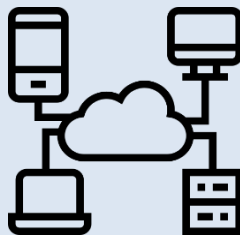
Robot



Medical supply  
Drone Delivery

US  
UK  
Italy etc.

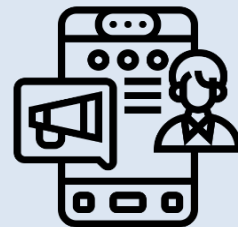
Cloud



Information sharing  
Quantification

Thailand  
Korea  
Singapore etc.

Big Data

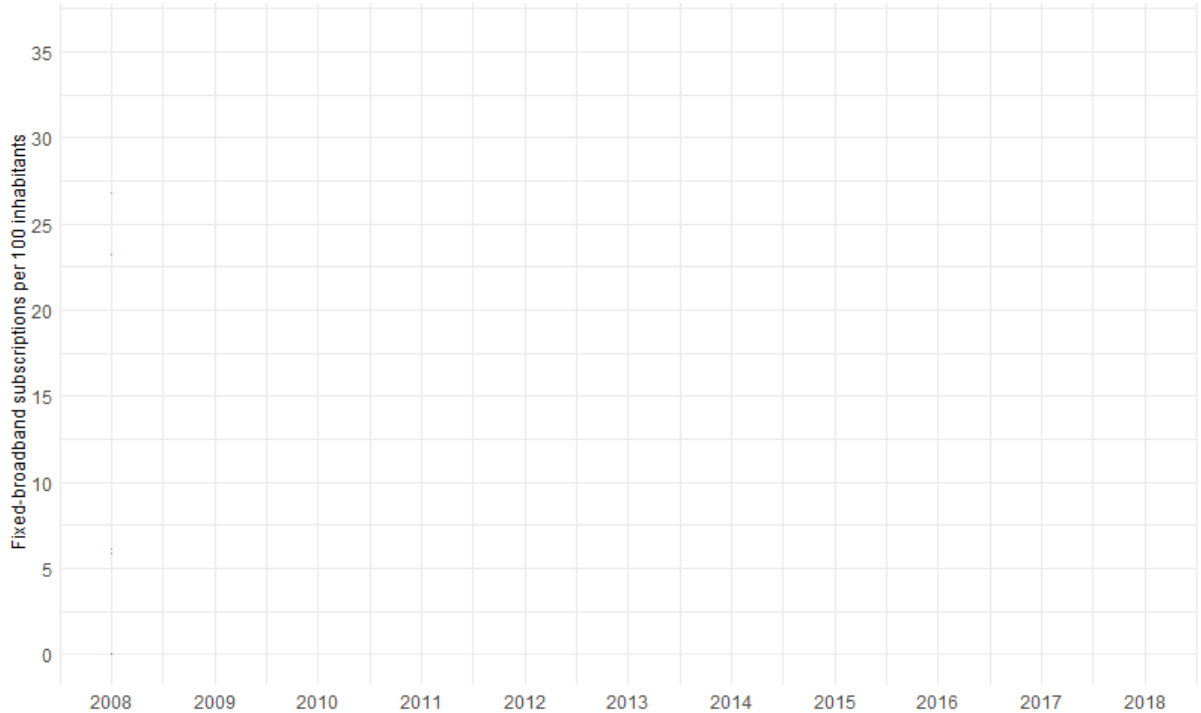


Tracking App  
Warning System

China  
Ghana  
Switzerland etc.

# Challenge: digital divide

Asia-Pacific fixed-broadband connectivity by income groups  
2008-2018 (weighted average)



Access

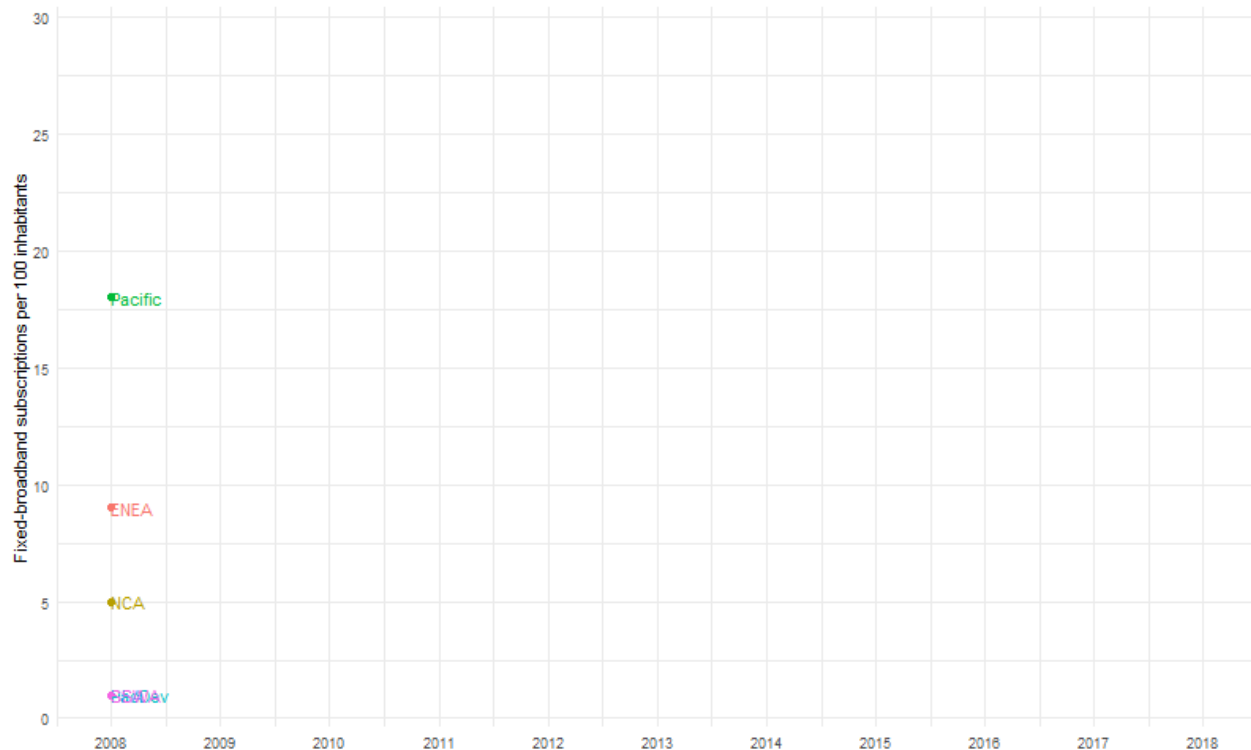


Note: Width of the line indicates GNI per capita (weighted average) of income group proportional to other income groups.  
Source: ESCAP's calculation based on the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators database 2019 (23rd Edition/December 2019)

# Challenge: digital divide

Fixed-broadband connectivity in Asia-Pacific subregions

2008-2018 (weighted average)



Subregion

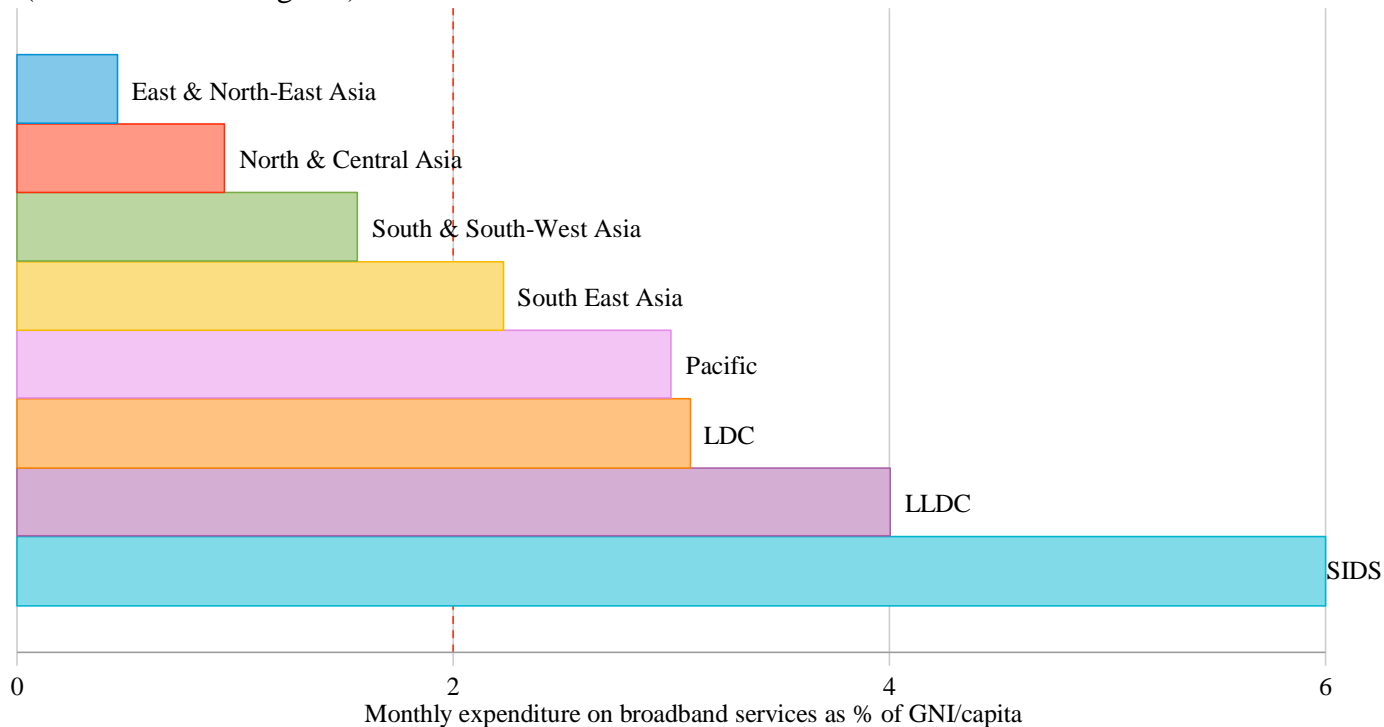
- East & North-East Asia (ENEA)
- Pacific (including Aus & NZ)
- South-East Asia (SEA)
- North & Central Asia (NCA)
- Pacific Developing (excluding Aus & NZ)
- South & South-West Asia (SSWA)

Access



# Challenge: digital divide

Affordability: Mobile-broadband services  
(Asia-Pacific subregions)



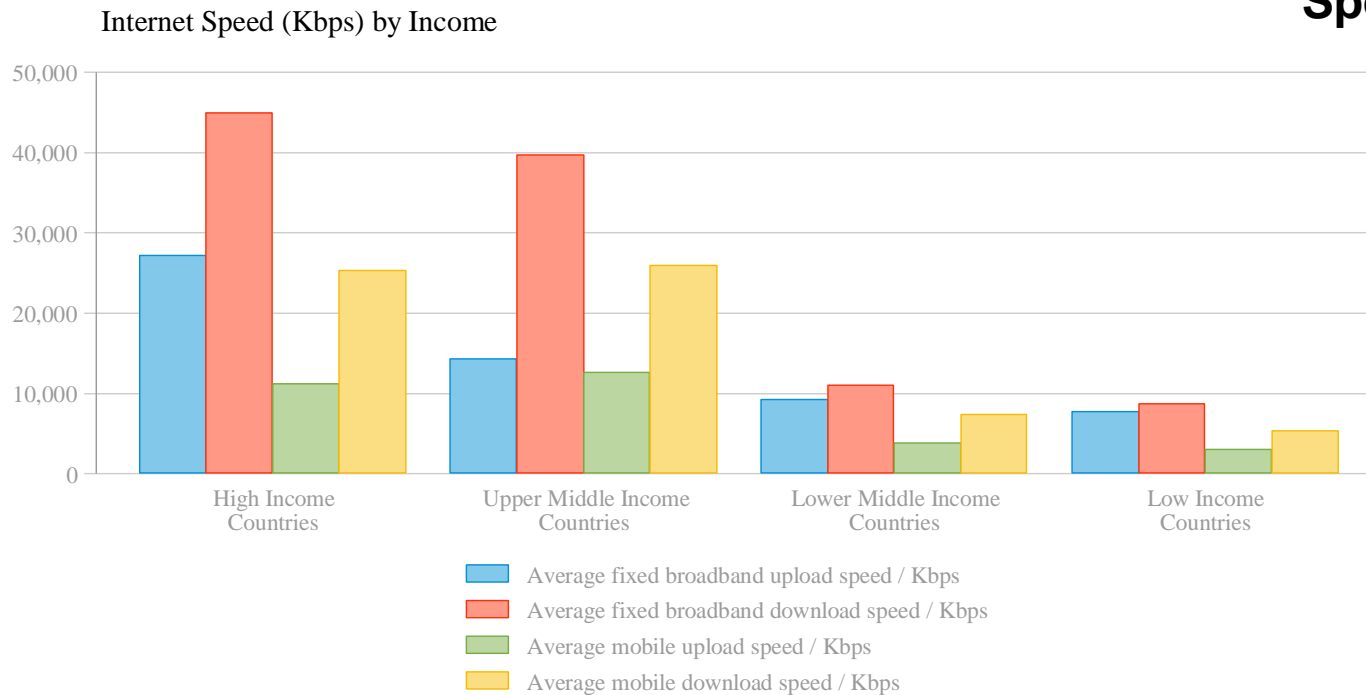
Source: Produced by ESCAP based on ITU's World  
Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Database (Dec 2019 Edition)

Affordability



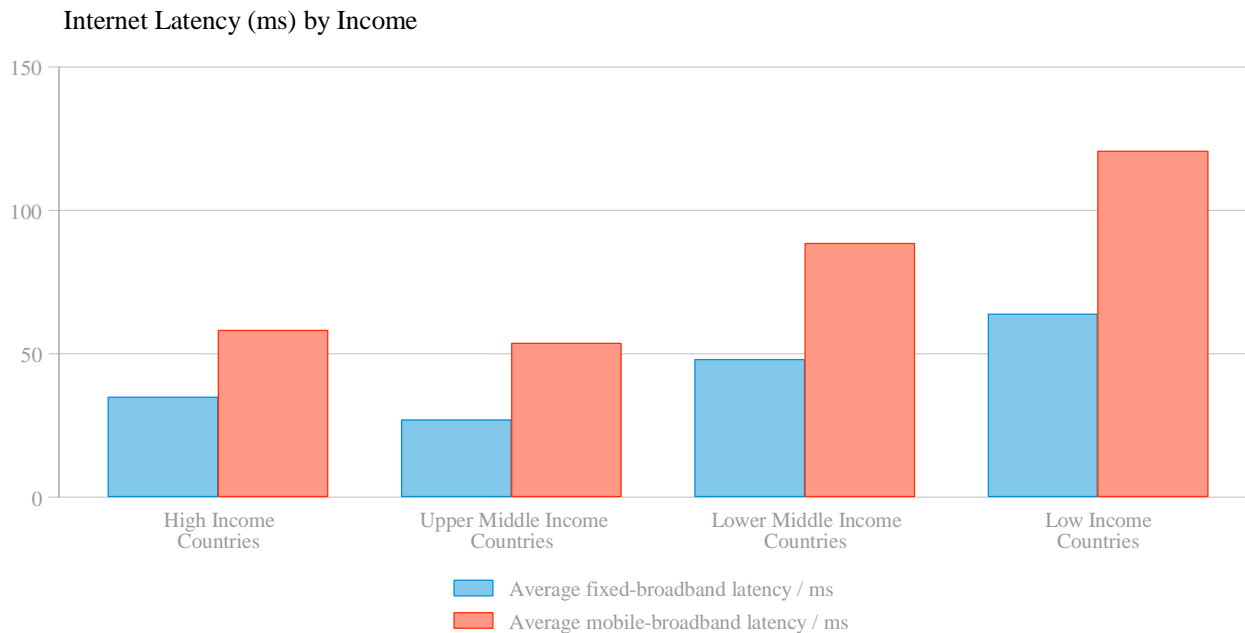
# Challenge: digital divide

Speed



Source: Produced by ESCAP based on data from the Economist Intelligence Unit's 'Inclusive Internet Index 2019', Online Database, available from: <https://theinclusiveinternet.eiu.com/> (accessed 28 October 2019)

# Challenge: digital divide



Source: Produced by ESCAP based on data from the Economist Intelligence Unit's 'Inclusive Internet Index 2019', Online Database, available from: <https://theinclusiveinternet.eiu.com/> (accessed 28 October 2019)

Latency



# Opportunities

- Subregional/Regional cooperation (Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative);
- Big push in investment in **digital infrastructure**
- Universal access to affordable broadband as **a fundamental human right?**







# Thank you!

More info: <http://www.unescap.org/our-work/ict-disaster-risk-reduction/asia-pacific-information-superhighway/resources>

[www.drrgateway.net](http://www.drrgateway.net)

