

International Telecommunications Society Webinar
on
Driving Digital Transformation: International Comparisons of Spectrum Policy

Registration: On Eventbrite - https://Driving_Digital_Transformation.eventbrite.ca

Sponsors: Academic Host – Institute of Fiscal Studies and Democracy, University of Ottawa
Corporate Host – TELUS Communications

Length: 60 minutes

Date: November 15, 2022, 9:30 – 10:30 AM ET

Structure: Three short presentations followed by moderated Q&A

Summary: Spectrum, the radio waves on which wireless technologies depend, presents a multifaceted problem for governments across the globe. Who should get to use scarce radio frequencies, where, for how long, for what purpose, and on what conditions represent a difficult balancing act for policymakers. Doing too little could lead to interference across radio waves undermining immensely valuable uses of wireless technologies, whereas too much intervention could stifle innovation and competition by artificially raising prices and/or allocating spectrum to operators with insufficient incentives to invest. As the world undergoes a rapid digital transformation, spectrum policy is increasingly a key driver of the economic, environmental, and social progress across nations.

Spectrum policy requires taking stock of international experiences to expand the pool of knowledge and identify global best practices. While no two jurisdictions are entirely alike, drawing on the global experience in the design of spectrum is critical to ensure that nations can benefit fully from their spectrum resources. Featuring four international experts, this webinar will compare international spectrum policies, including assignment mechanisms, deployment conditions, and governance frameworks. In doing so, these global experts will reveal lessons for governments and others involved in spectrum policymaking, as well as the implications for the global digital transformation.

Speakers: **Dr. Helaina Gaspard** is a co-founder and Director, Governance & Institutions, of the Institute of Fiscal Studies and Democracy (IFSD) at the University of Ottawa. Her work centres on key actors of fiscal ecosystems, while leveraging relationships with partners such as the World Bank, the National Governors Association, the OECD and the International Budget Partnership. The IFSD recently completed a [report](#) for comparing spectrum assignment mechanisms across countries.

Dr. Marja Matinmikko-Blue is a Research Director of Infotech Oulu Institute and Director of Sustainability and Regulation of 6G Flagship at the University of Oulu. She coordinated the writing of twelve 6G White Papers that were published and led the development of the White Paper on 6G Drivers and the UN SDGs. Marja has published over 170 scientific papers.

Dr. Petrus Potgieter is a Professor in Decision Sciences at the University of South Africa and a researcher at the Institute for Technology and Network Economics. He conducts research on the impact of new technologies to the economy, policy and society. Petrus is a board member of the ITS, and editorial board member of the Journal of Telecommunications Policy.

Ms. Janette Stewart is one of Analysys Mason's senior spectrum experts, with 25 years' experience in radio engineering, wireless technologies, spectrum policy and spectrum management. Prior to 2001 she worked for the UK Radiocommunications Agency (now Ofcom). Janette's expertise lies in mobile, wireless and broadband technologies and markets.