

# Building Digital Infrastructure for a Digital Philippines

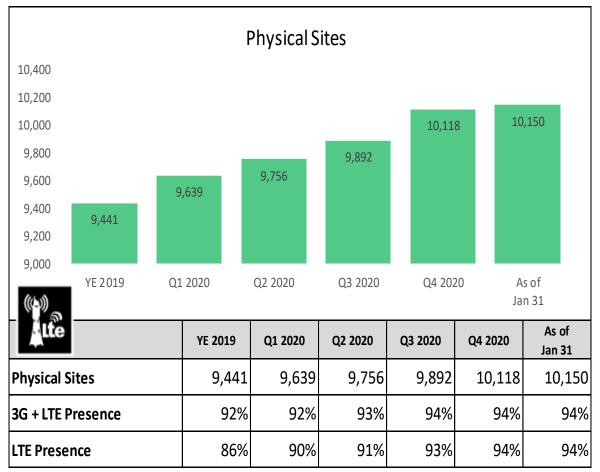
Atty. Roy D. Ibay
VP & Head,
Regulatory Affairs SMART

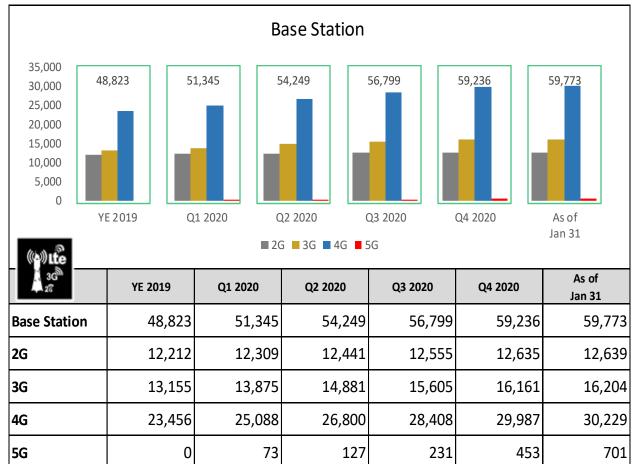
"Advances in the technology of telecommunications have proved an unambiguous threat to totalitarian regimes everywhere."

Rupert Murdoch



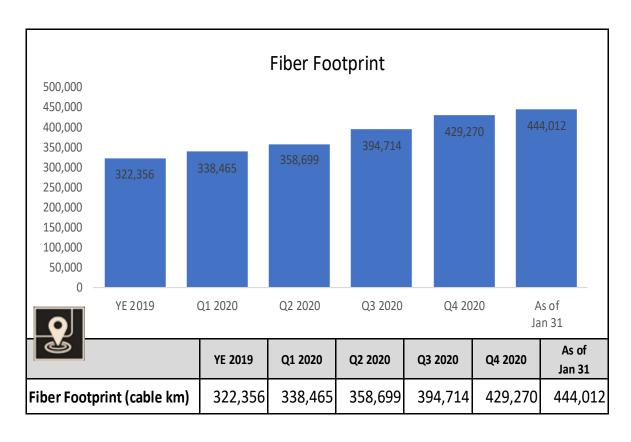


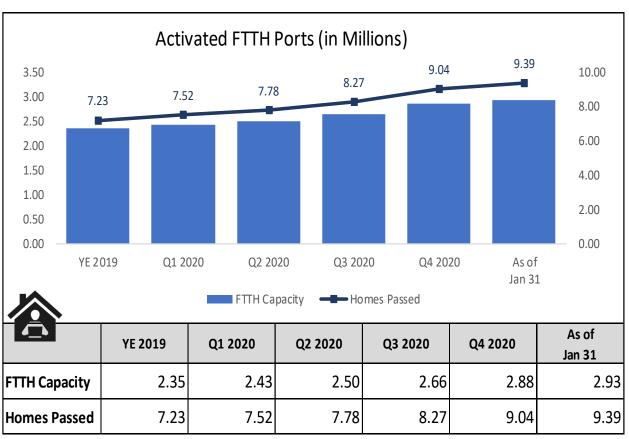






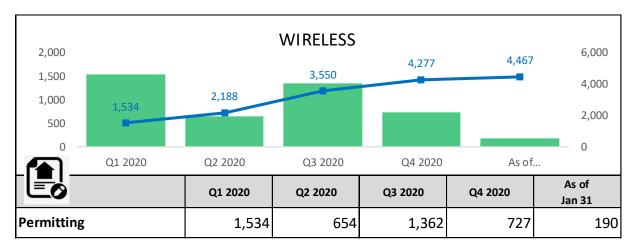


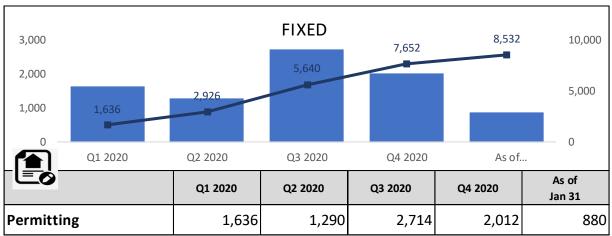






#### **PERMITTING**





Wireless permits includes Barangay Resolution (BR), Building Permit (BP), CFEI and Work Permits (WP). Fixed permits includes Barangay Resolution (BR), DPWH, LGU, Right to Attach (RTA) and Right of Way (ROW).

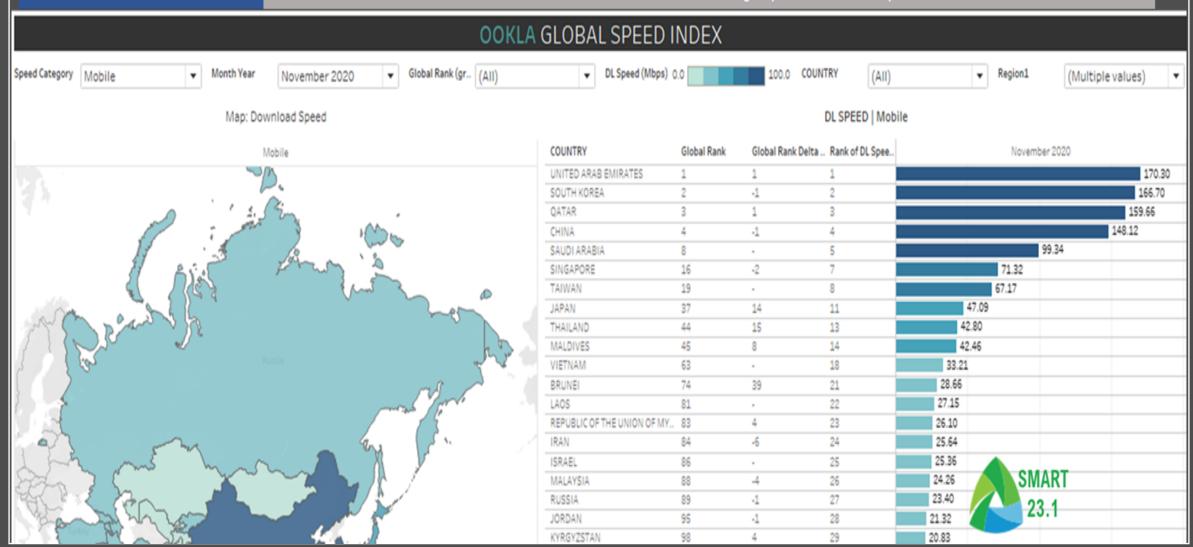
The various programs of the government like Bayanihan Act and ARTA helped accelerate our roll-out by streamlining the permitting process, requiring only municipal permits.

However, there are still a number of barangays that do not honor the JMC Guidelines and continue to require permits. We would also like to seek clarity on the new Bayanihan Act 2 guideline that HOAs may now require consent contrary to the ARTA directive.



#### OOKLA GLOBAL SPEED INDEX MOBILE: ASIA

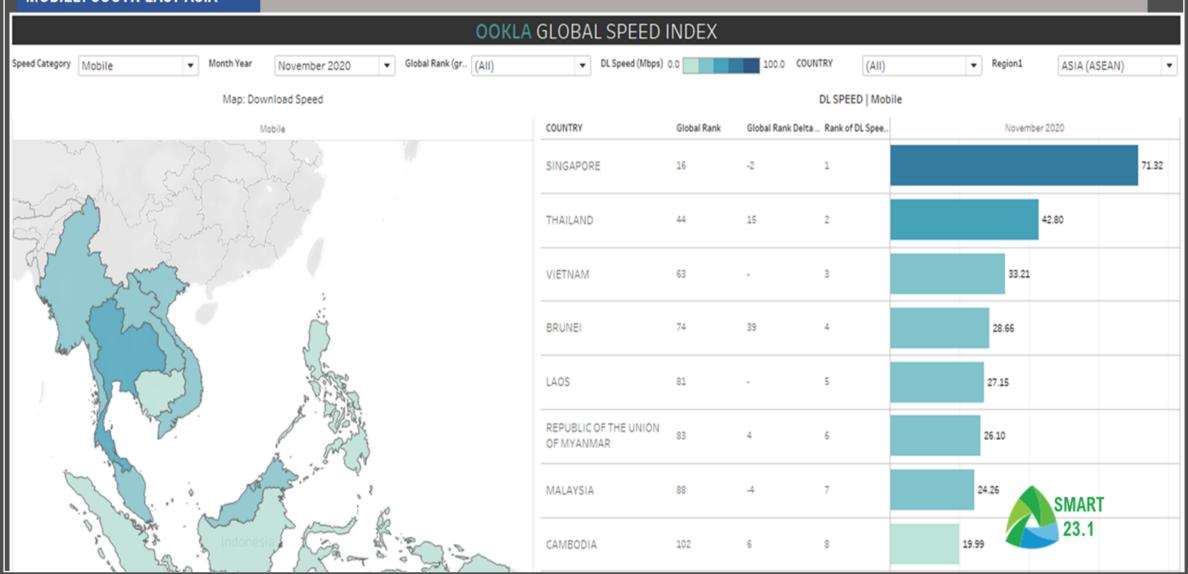
- PHILIPPINES Ranks 110<sup>th</sup> (+1) out of 139 in Global Ranking while it ranks 34<sup>th</sup> in Asia with speeds of 18.49Mbps
- SMART would have ranked 28th in Asia behind Russia with average speeds of 23.1Mbps





#### OOKLA GLOBAL SPEED INDEX MOBILE: SOUTH EAST ASIA

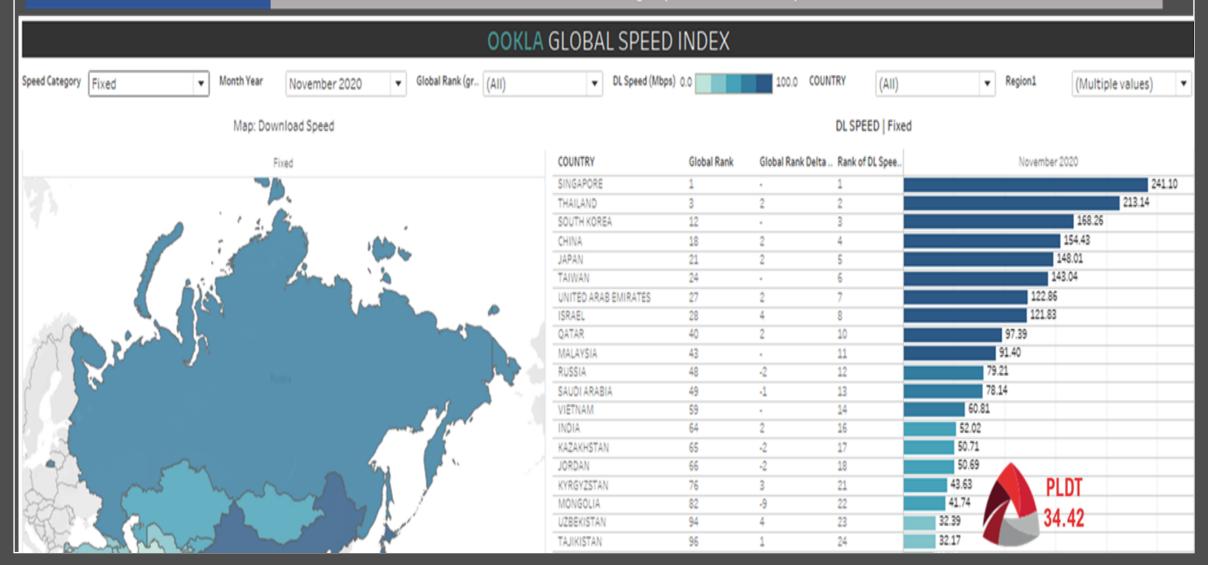
• PHILIPPINES Ranks 9th in South East Asia while SMART would have ranked 8th with an average speed of 23.1 Mbps





### OOKLA GLOBAL SPEED INDEX FIXED: ASIA

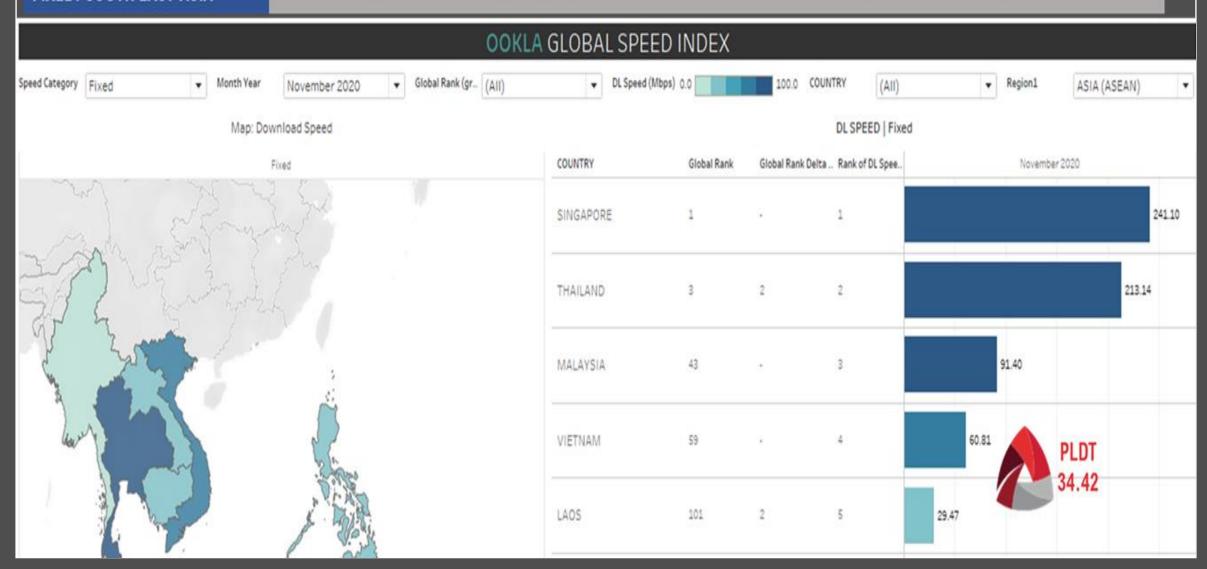
- PHILIPPINES Ranks 103 (+4) out of 176 in Global Ranking while it ranks 29th in Asia with speeds of 28.69Mbps
- PLDT would have ranked 23rd in Asia with average speeds of 34.42 Mbps





#### OOKLA GLOBAL SPEED INDEX FIXED: SOUTH EAST ASIA

PHILIPPINES ranks 6th in South East Asia and PLDT would have ranked 5th with speeds of 34.42 Mbps





#### **Problem Areas**

- 1. Some LGUs are imposing unjust, excessive, oppressive and confiscatory regulatory fees. They use the non-payment of these regulatory fees to withhold issuance of building and/or other local permits.
- 2.1. Some LGUs require that permit applications should be approved by the city/municipal council.
- 2.2. The ordinances that require Special Use Permit (SUP) before telcos can secure a building permit are still in effect. A few are even collecting unreasonable fees.
- 3.1 Some barangays insist that telcos should apply for resolution, instead of barangay clearance, which may only be secured after public hearings.
- Department of Human Settlement and Urban Development (DHSUD)'s Department Order No. 2020-009 on Revised Locational Guidelines, requires barangay clearance in lieu of barangay resolution.
- 3.2 Some barangays refuse to issue clearance/resolution due to telcos' failure to secure neighbors'/HOAs' consent.
- 4.1 Some HOAS are still objecting/opposing the construction of telecommunications towers within their subdivisions despite the fact that there are no other available or suitable sites within the coverage area except the subject properties and said location will best serve the purpose of interconnectivity, effectively and efficiently.



- 4.2 HOAs are collecting excessive fees (eg. business clearance fee, profit sharing agreements) some of which are recurring. These fees if not paid would deny us access to do installation, repair and maintenance works within the subdivision/ village premises.
- 5. DPWHs Department Order Nos. 73 (s. 2014) and 26 (s. 2011)
- 6. Some LGUs are requiring telcos to remove overhead cable connection and to place them underground using fiber optic and to fix or remove dangling cables and dilapidated poles, prior to issuance of permit
- 7. A few LGUs are implementing one pole policy, favoring specific telcos in violation of competition laws.
- 8. Several pending applications for Special Land Use Permits (SLUP) and Special Use Agreements in Protected Areas (SAPA) with DENR.
- 9. NCIP has a long and tedious process on securing permits.
- 10. Some LGUs are withholding permits due to non-payment of real property tax on machineries and local franchise taxes despite the exemption granted to telcos pursuant to their franchises and existing laws.

## Massive Network Investments will continue

#### P260 billion

in the past 5 years

#### P73 billion

in 2019 alone

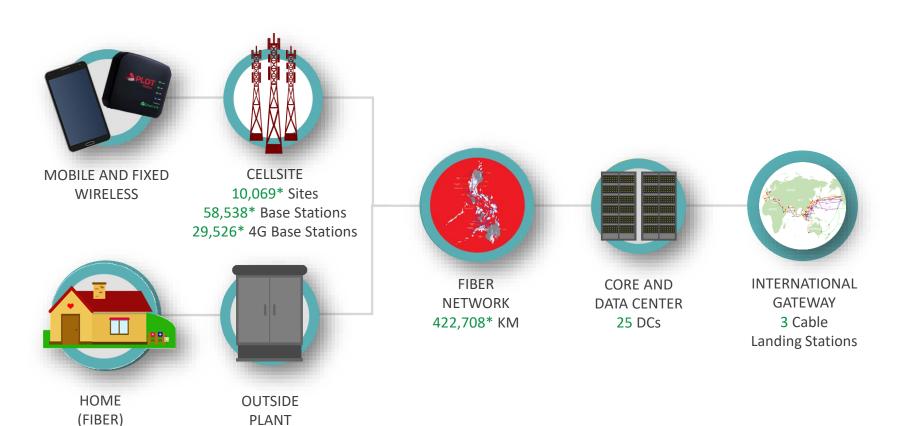
45% of total service revenues

## Up to P92 billion

In 2021



## Wireless population coverage: 96% of PH with an average download speed of 23 Mbps\*\*



Present in **95%** of cities and municipalities

Metro Manila: 32.8

Mbps average download speed

3.94\*M Ports

<sup>\*</sup>as of November 2020

<sup>\*\*</sup>according to Ookla

#### To elevate PH to Global Standard

#### **MOBILE**

#### Minimum Average Broadband Speed

- 2021: Metro Manila and key cities at 30Mbps\*
- 2022: 51% population coverage at 60Mbps\*\*
- 2023: 70% population coverage at 60Mbps\*\*
- 2024: 80% population coverage at 60Mbps\*\*
- 2025: 84% population coverage at 60Mbps\*\*

\*30Mbps using LTE-A CA device on LTE network



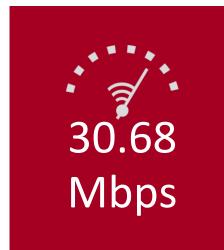
#### **FIXED**

- Minimum Average Broadband
   Speed of <u>20 Mbps</u>
- Legacy DSL <u>Copper Subscribers</u>
   <u>migrated</u> to Fiber and Fiber-like
   services
  - 18% end of 2020
  - 85% by end of 2021
  - 100% by mid of 2022

## **Newer Devices = Faster Speeds**

<sup>\*\*60</sup>Mbps using 5G capable device on 5G network

## Leading in Independent Studies



Fixed Network:
PLDT's Average
Download Speed of
30.68 Mbps is higher
than the PH average
of 26.08 Mbps



**PLDT-Smart** is **PH's fastest fixed and mobile networks** for
the first six months
of 2020 according to
Ookla®.



19.45Mbps

Wireless Network:
Smart's Average
Download Speed of
19.45 Mbps is higher
than the PH average
of 16.89 Mbps



Umlaut: Smart wins
'Best in Test' award.

Best-rated
broadband coverage,
download and
latency experience.



Smart garnered a video experience score of 42.2-- better than competition and national average.



## THANK YOU

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