

#### **Telecom Infrastructure & DFS Initiatives in Pakistan**

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#### **Telecom Sector Infrastructure Highlights**

- Teledensity (Mobile + Fixed) 71.75%
- Cellular Mobile Subscribers (Biometrically verified) **140.7** Million
- Broadband Subscribers 48.1 Million
- "Broadband Growth (Mobile + Fix) during last two years
  - 187%
- Access to 3G and 4G services (Mobile signal)
  - 72% and 4G/LTE 38% of Population
- Mobile Signal access to total Population 85%
- Optic Fiber Length 85,549 Kms
- International Connectivity
  - 6 submarine cables operational and 2 expected to be commissioned in 2018
- FDI in Telecom sector in last 5 years US\$ 2.5 Billion
- Telecom Sector contribution in terms of taxes and levies 2016-17
  - oyer US\$1.5 billion

## **Digital Financial Services in Pakistan**

27 million m-wallet accounts

402,710 m-banking agents

US \$2.4 billion transacted through mobile banking 2016-17

14,069 bank branches

12,515 ATMs 52,854 POS machines 37 million plastic cards

**140 million** BVS SIMs Unique database for e-services

**43 million** mobile broadband subscribers

Less costly smartphones

Approx. 80,000 SECP registered companies

Nearly 2 million merchants / shops

Switches
(1-LINK, MNET),
(only 1-Link is linked to mobile payments)

INTEROPERABILITY (TPSP LICENSING)

## **Regulatory Challenges for DFS**

- "Overlap of regulatory ambits (PTA, SBP, CCP)
- Significant growth of Broadband but Penetration is still low (22%)
- " High Share of OTC Transactions
- Low activity of mobile wallets
- Low digital literacy and Lack of local content
- " Lack of awareness and adaptation to digital financial services

#### **Way Forward**

- Expansion of the communication infrastructure
  - . Efficient use of spectrum resources
  - . E-payment Gateway
- " Implementation of Interoperability (TPSP licenses)
  - . Issuance of licenses
  - . Ensure interconnection among the CMOs and FIs
  - . Resolve inter-operator issues
- Asaan Mobile Account campaign
- Continued collaboration between Regulators
- Security and Stability of the Payment system infrastructure
- " Local content development
  - . DFS based Mobile App Awards
  - . Incentives to the local developer community

# Thank You