

High speed internet and economic recovery

Issues at stake

EUROPEAN REGIONS FOR BETTER ICT CONNECTIONS

Broadband and EU action in the recovery plan

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Lingotto Conferente Mentre

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- **Europe needs to restructure its economy now**
 - To be strong in the high-speed and low-carbon post-crisis economy.
- **Europe world leader in broadband take-up:**
 - July 2008 penetration rate 21.7%
Denmark, The Netherlands, Sweden and Finland among world leaders

But:

- **Large gaps between Member states and between regions:**
 - Income, PC ownership, digital literacy, education, demographics, personal attitudes, cultural differences
- **Europe is falling behind on high speed broadband**
 - P2P, Social Networks, IPTV, etc
- **Coverage of rural areas not complete**
 - Average EU Member State coverage 93%.
30% of rural population no high speed internet

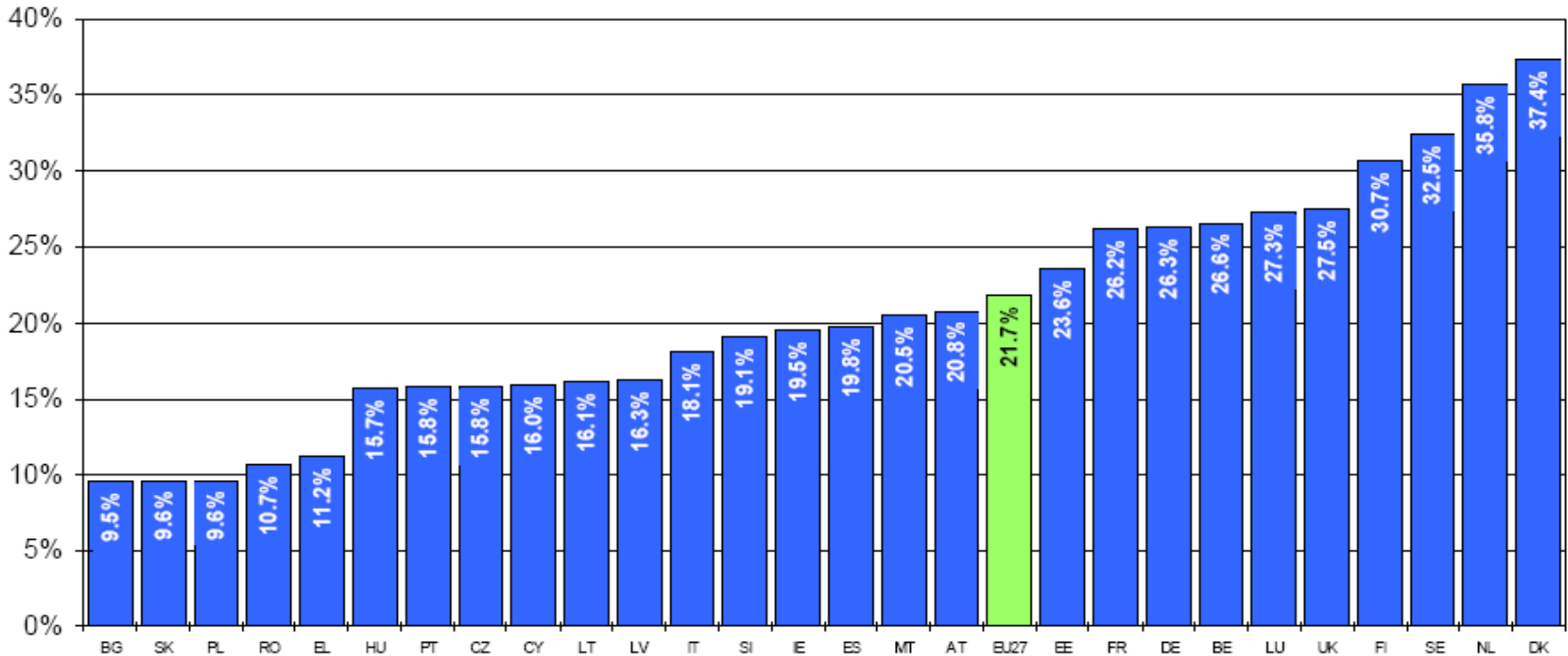




EU Broadband Penetration Rate July 2008

EU penetration average: 21.7%

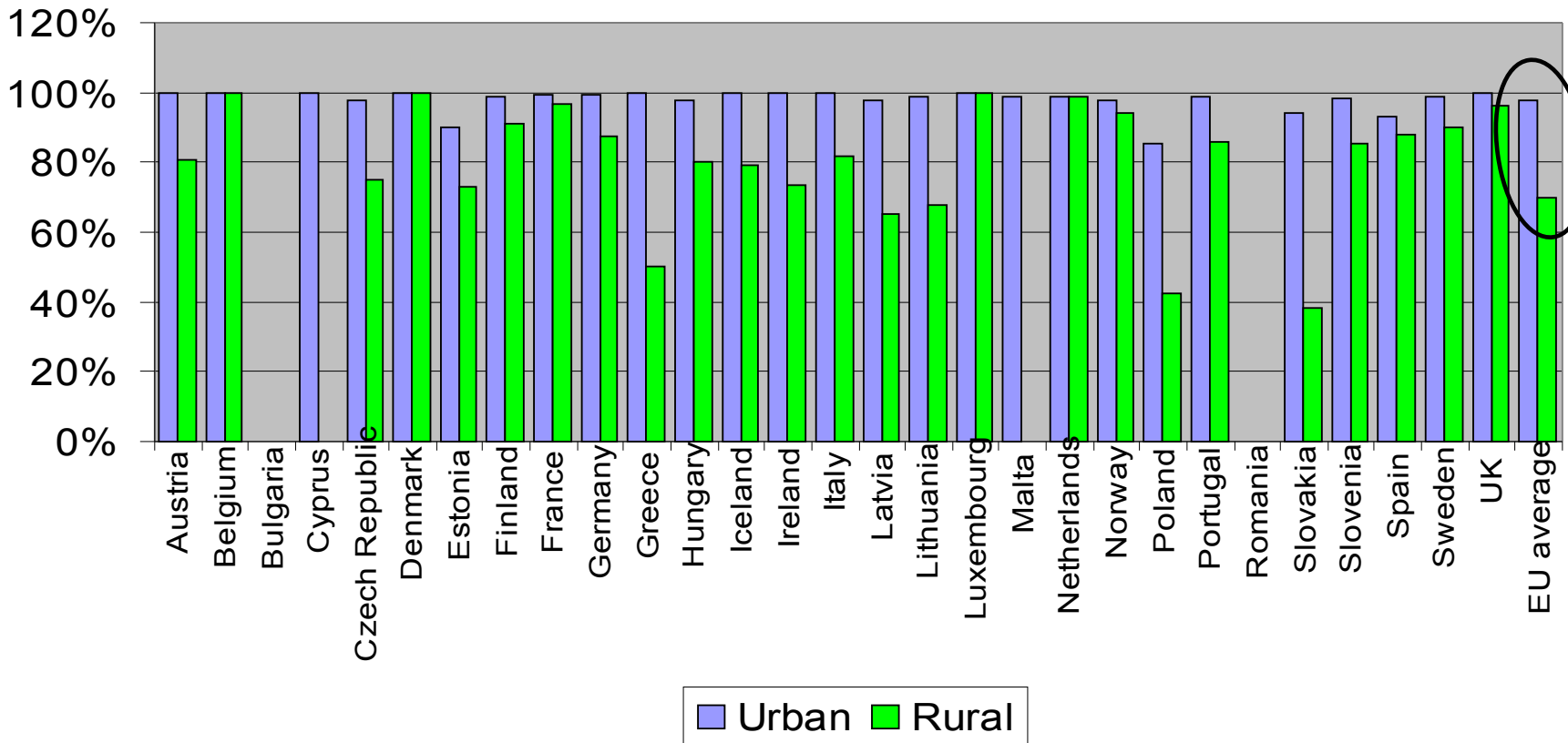
EU Broadband penetration rate (July 2008)





Urban-Rural Gap

Broadband Coverage Urban V Rural (Dec 2007)



BB Challenges ahead

Broadband for All

- **BB is still unavailable to 7% of Europeans and to 30% of the rural population**
- **Risk of less developed regions falling behind**
- **Several Member States have put 100% targets in their national broadband strategies. UK, Finland, France etc**
- **Targets for coverage, speeds (upload/download), penetration**
- **Inclusion of BB as US?: an on-going discussion**
- **Public support for BB: The role of public authorities and public utilities**



Policy:

- **May 2009 : Public consultation on post i2010**
- **June 2009: BB Communication**
- **November 2009: post i2010 event in Sweden**

Further information

- **i2010:**
http://europa.eu.int/information_society/europe/i2010/i2010.htm
- **Digital Divide:**
http://europa.eu.int/information_society/europe/i2010/digital_divide.htm
- **European Broadband Portal:**
<http://www.broadband-europe.eu/>)

