



# **French perspective on spectrum issues**

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*Spectrum 5.0 : New Directions in Spectrum Award for 5G*

Paris, 5 october 2018

# Looking back to the past awards

## Spectrum award objectives

# How national objectives have been taken into account in past spectrum awards

	2001 to 2010	2010	2011	2012	2015	2018
<b>MONETISING THE STATE'S INTANGIBLE ASSETS</b>	<b>3G</b> 2.1 GHz (4 awards) Fees fixed <i>ex ante</i>	<b>3G</b> 2.1 GHz additional blocks sealed-bid auction	<b>4G</b> 2,6 GHz FDD sealed-bid auction	800 MHz sealed-bid auction	<b>4G</b> 700 MHz Multi round auction	900 MHz, 1800 MHz and 2.1 GHz
<b>DIGITAL DEVELOPMENT</b>				Coverage: ✓ Nationwide ✓ Priority rollout zone ✓ Departmental area	Coverage: ✓ Same as 800 MHz ✓ on-board coverage of everyday trains	Coverage obligations
<b>COMPETITION ISSUES</b>	Room for a 4 <sup>th</sup> entrant with conditions favouring its expected arrival	MVNO access criteria	MVNO access criteria	MVNO access criteria	Multi band spectrum caps	
<b>INNOVATION</b>			Minimum data rate registered in the licences	Minimum data rate registered in the licences		
<b>OTHER OBJECTIVES</b>	14 technical and economic criteria, including : network quality, service offering and corresponding price, rollout speed...					

# 800 MHz and 2.6 GHz auctions

2011-2012

800 MHz / 2.6 GHz

## Three core objectives

Digital development of the territory = primary – ambitious - objective of the digital dividend

	T + 12 years	T + 15 years
Overall metropolitan coverage	98%	99,6%
Departmental coverage	90%	95% (*)

+ “priority rollout zone” corresponding to the sparsely populated areas

### Competition in the mobile market : a balanced portfolio

Equitable access to spectrum by mobile operators

- Limits on the **maximum amounts of frequencies** that can be granted:
- guarantee of a **minimum amount of spectrum** in the 2.6 GHz band if four players or less are qualified
- **Roaming access** to the 800 MHz network in the “priority rollout zone”

On the other hand, provisions in favour to the **MVNO access**

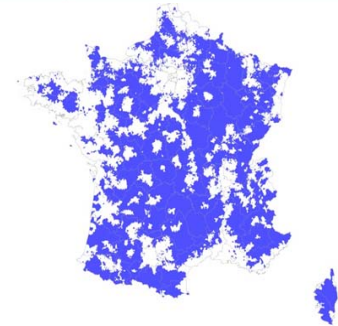
### Maximizing income

This result was among the upper range of European 4G award.

**one-turn combinatorial seal-bid auction**

**bids rated on several criteria**, including the candidate pricing:

**A score** taking into account all the criteria, as the product of the price proposed by the corresponding multipliers



# 700 MHz auctions

2015

## Objectives



### Monetizing intangible State assets

**Reserve price** of 2.5 billion euros for the entire band.



### Effective and fair competition

**Transparent procedure** that allows mobile operators to manage their outcome.

to prevent a squeeze-out strategy by the 3 MNO granted with 800 MHz frequencies

**Spectrum caps + whole 30 MHz granted in a unique procedure open to the 4 MNO**



### Stimulating investment and regional development

**Coverage obligations** as strong as those attached to the 800 MHz band

**New obligations** pertaining to on-board coverage of everyday trains.



# The procedure

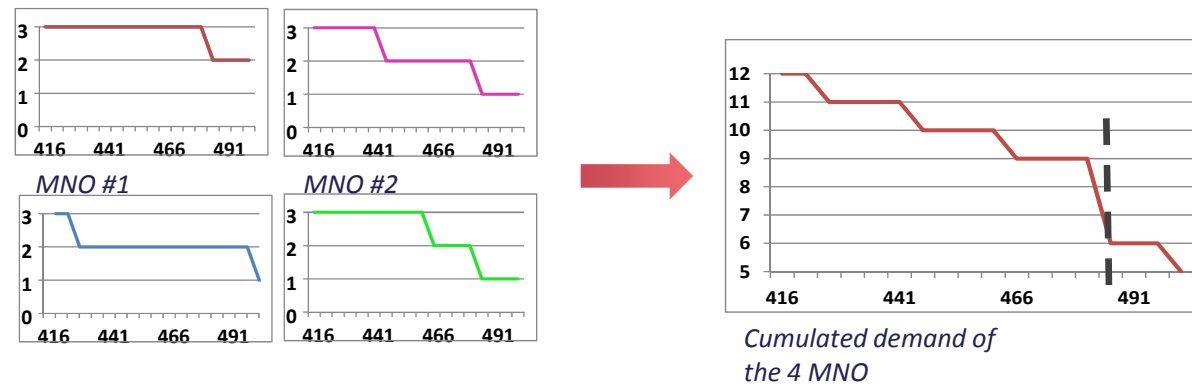
## Spectrum Cap

700 MHz spectrum cap : Maximum 2×15 MHz (3 blocs) per candidate in the 700 MHz band.

< 1 GHz spectrum cap : Maximum 2×30 MHz per candidate in the 700 MHz, 800 MHz and 900 MHz bands (2×95 MHz in total).

Process : a combinatorial clock auction (CCA) to determine the quantity of frequencies allocated to MNOs

End of the auction : when the total demand reaches 6 blocs.



**Total : 466 M€ per bloc of 2×5 MHz = 2,8 G€**



# 900 MHz, 1800 MHz and 2.1 GHz renewal

2018 - New deal for mobile coverage : Historic agreement between the Government and mobile operators that aims to ensure the availability of high standard mobile coverage for everyone in France

# Context of the mobile coverage : why a “New deal” ?

Context of renewal of the 900, 1800 and 2100 MHz band frequency licences expiring between 2021 and 2024 with a 2018 reassignment procedure conducted by Arcep

- 1. Mobile coverage situation**

Regarding the population, good mobile coverage for 2G,3G and 4G



Regarding the geographical area, unsatisfying mobile coverage especially for 4G technology

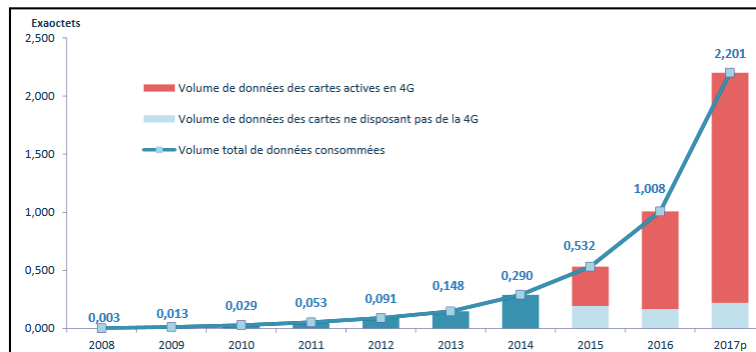


	Population	Area
Orange	92%	65%
SFR	91%	65%
Bouygues	90%	61%
Free	82%	48%

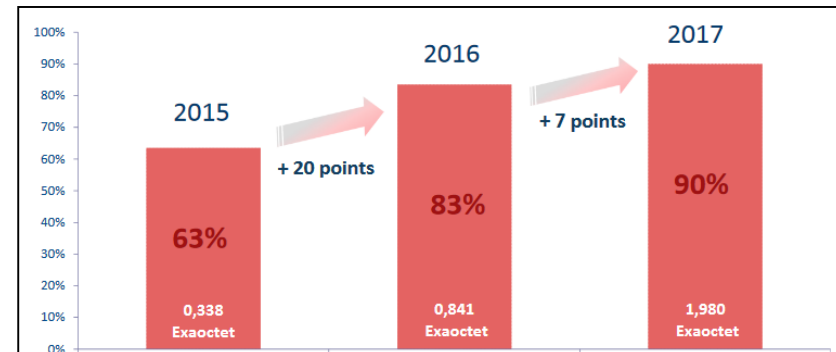
4G Mobile coverage in July 2017

- 2. Mobile traffic explosion**

Data traffic consumption in 2017, in France, has doubled comparing with 2016 (+118,3%)  
--> the consumer needs more data everywhere!



arcep Traffic generated by using all the mobile technologies



Traffic generated by using 4G technology



## Implementing 4 new principles to generalize a good quality mobile coverage for all

### 1. **Change of paradigm for the State**

For the first time in a frequency allocation, the digital coverage of the territory takes precedence

### 2. **Operators' commitments for a gradual improvement of mobile coverage in the daily life of the people**

Generalization of 4G coverage, coverage of major roads, indoor coverage, no more obligation of coverage expressed in terms of a % of the population

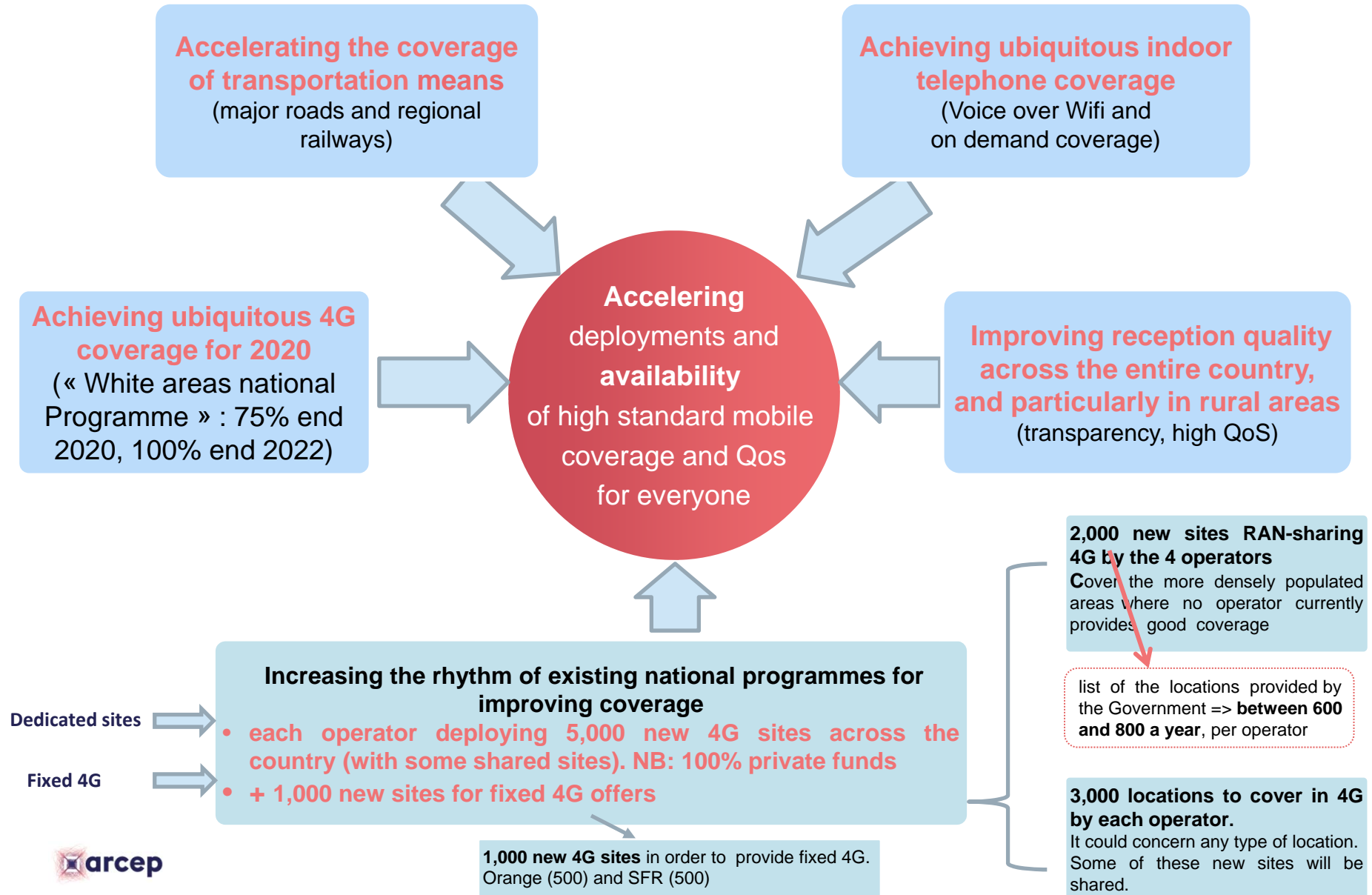
### 3. **A solution for challenge areas**

Operators will use their own funds where the authorities have identified coverage needs

### 4. **Acceleration of digital coverage throughout the country**

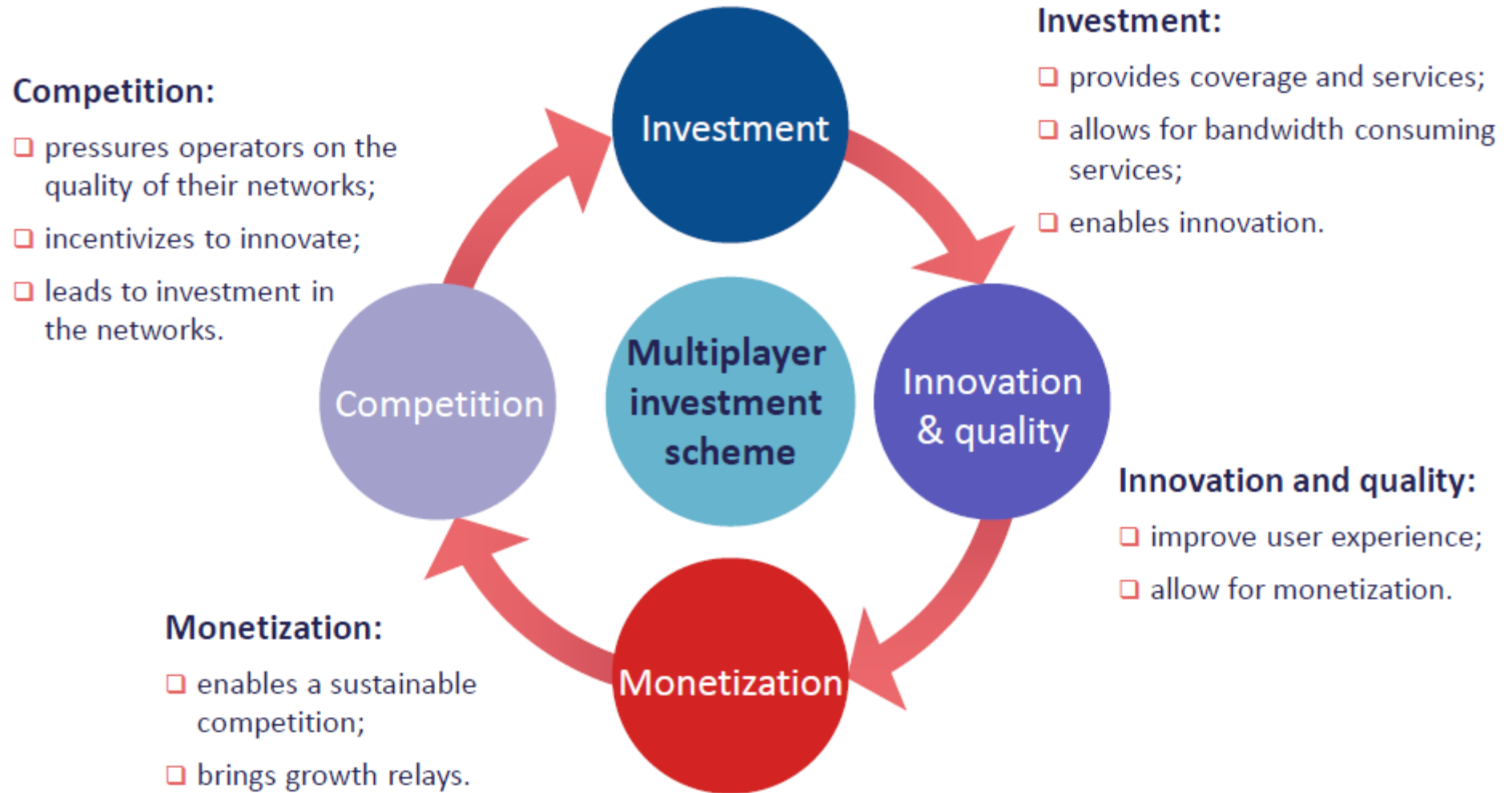
The Government will implement measures to simplify deployments under the Housing Bill; other regulatory measures will follow.

# Intended - legally binding and controllable - new commitments for mobile operators



# Looking forward for the future 5G bands... and new challenges

# The ultimate goal : a sustainable multiplayers scheme



# Spectrum issues

- **Spectrum management/ harmonization**
  - Availability of frequencies and technological neutrality
  - A spectrum review ; introduction of new bands and multi carrier aggregation
    - 3,5 (3.4-3.8) : core of the 5G, the 1st deployed in Europe / up to 400 Mhz blocs / for telco or specialized service providers ?
      - Currently Internal Affairs/ THD radio
    - 2,6 : Professional Mobile Radio (currently Defence)
    - 700 : Golden frequency
    - 1.4 (L band) : Supplemental down link + Pb of radio relays and Defence use
    - 26 Ghz : Pioneer band, millimeter, Width + 3Ghz . But problem with radio links and observation satellites
    - Free bands
      - around 900 MHz for IoT
      - around 5.9 GHz, for connected vehicles (ITS or Intelligent Transport Systems) and connected trains (CBTC train autopilot system, already used for example on line 1 of the Paris metro) which are very large objects.
    - Satellite connections for specific needs
  - Frequency refurbishment
  - Coverage requirements
  - How to address verticals and industrial users demand
- **the impacts of the multiplication and transformation of numerous small cells**
  - Regulation, mutualization, investments and roll out...
  - Street furniture access
  - Sharing of physical infrastructure among multiple providers
    - Need to change network sharing guidelines?
    - Sharing everywhere or in town ,
    - Roaming and coverage
  - The backhaul
    - How much does it cost and who pays
- **Timeframe**
  - 2018 : year of the pilots
  - 2019-2020 : allotments of frequencies
  - Frequency release and refurbishment
  - Allocation

# Economic challenges

- **Financing infrastructure investments**
  - Avoiding the winner takes all and first mover advantage
  - Who will pay? Operator / transport operators / civil engineering or road infrastructure ?
- **Value sharing**
  - Data monetization
  - Customer control
- **A form of paradox**
  - Commoditization risk
    - « Neutral small cell as a service” ?
    - Wholesale operators ?
  - Emergence of intermediaries, platforms, consortia to capture value
    - Who will capture value: manufacturers, telcos, OTT, service providers
    - Competition between different ecosystems
- **Pricing models to be designed**
  - applied to micro communications





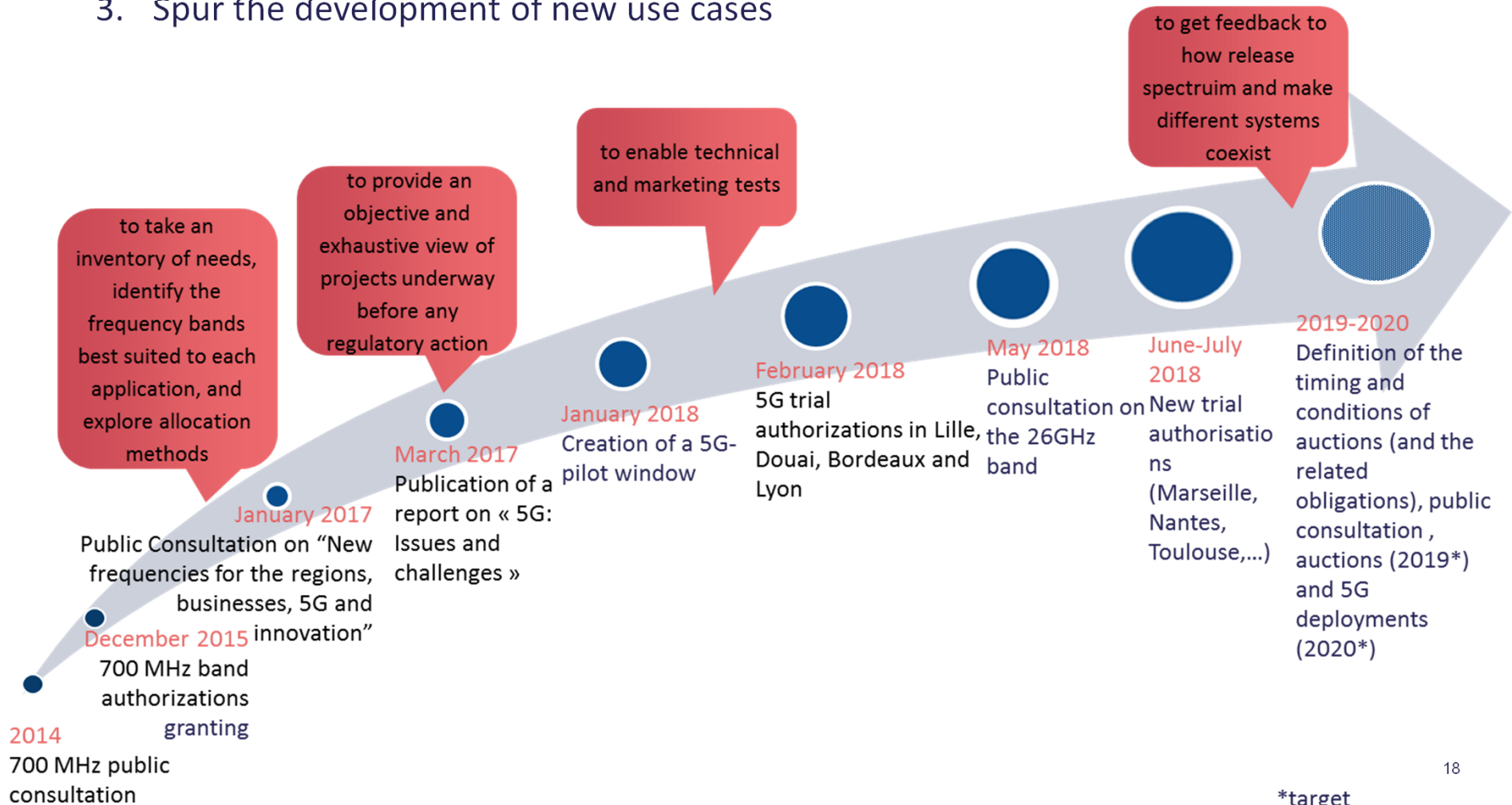
## Other regulatory challenges

- **Data-based regulation and control**
  - Coverage
  - Variability of QoS (latency, energy, flow, symmetry)
- **Net neutrality (network/service link, traffic differentiation)**
  - "network slicing", used in future 5G deployments, a priori to comply with BEREC recommendations.
  - The subject of net neutrality applied to future 5G networks is still open:
    - new analyses to be carried out, in parallel with the 5G definition.
- **Specific scopes of intervention**
  - Infrastructure economics v. Data economics
  - Privacy
  - Social acceptance of waves
    - Anses, same framework for wave exposure

# Arcep's spectrum work on 5G since 2014

## Action plan:

1. Release and allocate spectrum
2. Support the improvement and simplifications of the rollout conditions
3. Spur the development of new use cases



Thank you for  
your attention

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