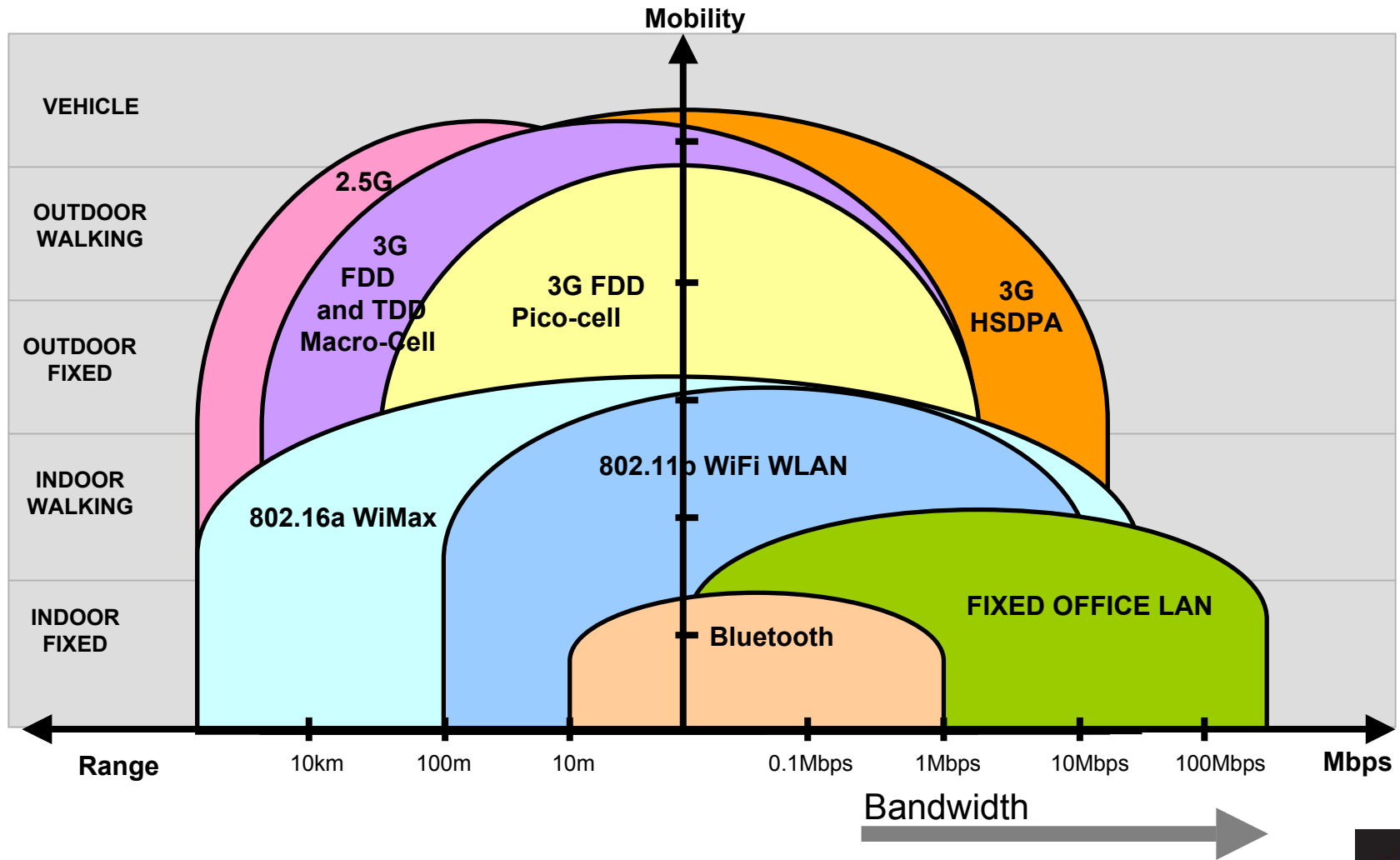


Wireless Networks - Regulatory Good Practice

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**WHO Base Stations and Wireless
Networks Workshop, 15-16 June 2005**

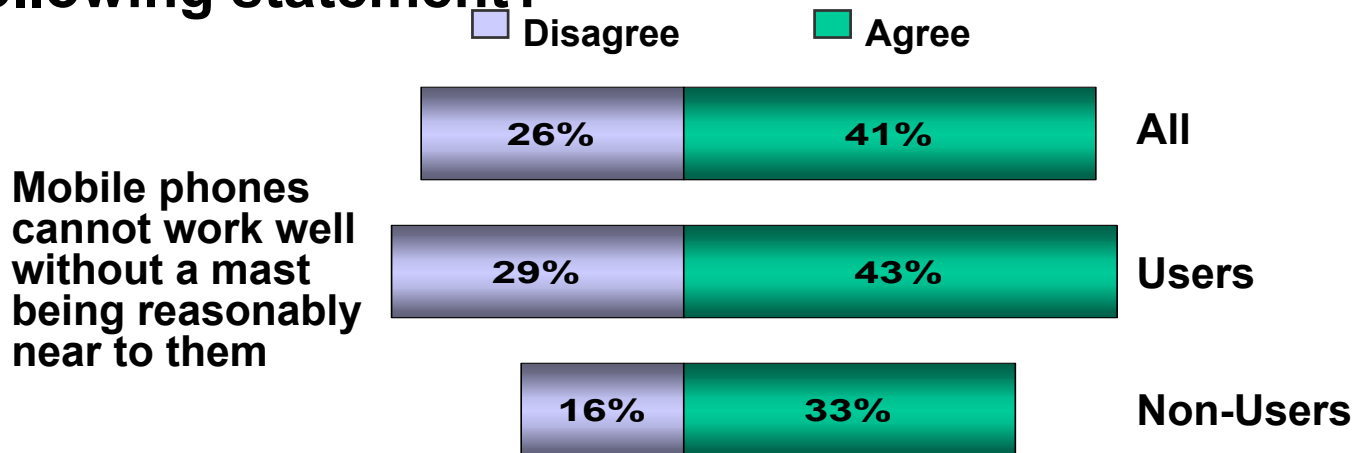
Variety of RF Access Technologies



Understanding The Need for Masts

- Initial deployments are driven by coverage.
- Subsequent sites are driven by capacity.

Q. How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statement?



Source: MOA/MORI. Base: All GB adults aged 15+ (2,046) September 2003.

Public Wireless Networks (1)

- Local government is not the place to develop RF standards.
 - More sites, co-location problems, discriminatory.
- Standards based on international scientific consensus and adopted at national level.
 - *'...science-based exposure limits should not be undermined by the adoption of arbitrary cautionary approaches.'* (WHO, 2000)
 - *'...any precautionary policy should consider possible countervailing risks such as increasing fear and unnecessarily spreading anxieties.'* (Wiedemann, 2005).

Public Wireless Networks (2)

- Siting rules should take account of equipment physical characteristics.

- Conditions requiring measurement are of limited value.
- Consultation mechanisms at local level consistent with other types of infrastructure.
- Transparent appeal process to independent body that can make enforceable decision.



Occupational Exposures

- The RF employee:
 - Information on exposures, accessible areas,...
 - Training for awareness and understanding.
 - Equipment – RF survey meters or go-no-go detectors.
- The non-RF employee:
 - Easily understood information.
 - Signage, barriers, materials for building owners.
- Investigations of suspected over-exposures:
 - Lack of evidence for specific medical follow-up.
 - Information and reassurance may be needed.

Private Networks

- Typical exposures are very low.
 - Comparative data useful for explanation.
- Equipment based compliance framework.
 - Compliance will generally be assured by equipment design or recommended installation practice.
- Clear instructions needed for the end user.
- In hybrid situations consultation and information provision may be needed.

Conclusions

- For national authorities:
 - Avoid fragmentation of authority.
 - Separate health from planning.
 - Consultation should be real and appropriate.
 - Transparent process leading to decisions.
- For the WHO:
 - Improve understanding of the relationship between networks and services.
 - Bridge gap between reality of low scientific uncertainty and perception of greater uncertainty.
 - Be inclusive of all radio technologies.
 - Audience specific information is important.