# SRI LANKA TELECOM PLC





## The market leader in growing fixed services

## Fixed (wired and wireless) broadband subscriber market share (Q1 2023)



Value proposition : SLT offers an integrated array of services; it has a strong fixed-services legacy, with a large base of deeply-rooted Government and institutional clients.

**Strengths:** SLT's migration to higher-revenue-generating and

such

mobile market environment.

contribute to offsetting weaker demand in the more competitive

cost-saving

networks

next-generation

FTTH,

as

SLT-Mobitel Dialog Axiata Lanka Bell





Hutchison Telecommunications Lanka
Bharti Airtel Lanka
Source : TeleGeography

SLT Factsheet - October 2023

**Envisaged transaction** 

- The Secretary of the Treasury of the Government of Sri Lanka ("GoSL"), wishes to divest a controlling stake of 50.23% in Sri Lanka Telecom PLC, i.e. SLT Group ("SLT") to an experienced telecom investor to be selected through an open, transparent and competitive tender process (the "Transaction").
- The State-Owned Enterprises Restructuring Unit ("SOERU") of the Ministry of Finance, Economic Stabilization & National Policies of the GoSL is the agency mandated to implement GoSL's SOE reform program.
- The investor shall support SLT's growth trajectory as well as Sri Lanka's digitalization efforts to connect millions with reliable fast telecommunication services, to enable the country's digital economy.



## **Resilient financial performance**

In FY2022, SLT delivered an overall EBITDA margin of 38% which is broadly consistent with peers.



## EBITDA, PAT (LKR Bn.)



#### Revenue, Profit, Borrowing and Cash & Equivalents



SLT's standalone credit profile is strong, and is rated A(lka) by Fitch; a change in majority shareholder and/or upgrade in Sri Lanka's sovereign rating could lead to an upgrade. SLT recorded EBITDA net leverage of 1.5 in 2022.

Source : SLT Reports - www.slt.lk

Source : SLT Reports – www.slt.lk

Considerable strategic network assets

#### Submarine cable systems

SLT controls 5 of the 8 international submarine cable systems connecting Sri Lanka to the world:BharatLanka,Dhiraagu-SLT,SEA-ME-WE3,SEA-ME-WE4 and SEA-ME-WE5 (with capacity of 1.45Tbps to France & 2.5Tbps to Singapore and 0.15T to Italy). SLT has invested in 6.6 Tbps for each east and west sides of additional capacity on the upcoming SEA-ME-WE6 cable expected to be ready for service in Q42025.

#### National backbone network (NBN)

SLT operates the only nationwide National Backbone Network in Sri Lanka with a total fibre cable distance of nearly 65,000km across the country.

Built on100G technology, its IP network is the largest in the country. It connects 75 SLBN nodes and 500IP nodes across the country.

### **Fixed access network**

SLT is deploying a FTTH network with a capacity of 1.2 million fibre ports at the end of 2022. SLT operates the only fixed copper access network (>360 towns/cities in all 25 districts) based on which it provide DSL services.

#### Mobile and fixed wireless networks

SLT-Mobitel 3G and 4G mobile networks provide coverage to 95% and 90% of the population respectively. SLT also launched 5G on trial basis.





**Corporate Governance and ESG** 

SLT is listed on the Colombo Stock Exchange (www.cse.lk), trading under the code SLTL.N0000.

As per the Take-overs and Mergers Code of 1995, a mandatory offer will be required to be extended to minority shareholders upon acquisition of at least 30% of the voting rights of a listed company, as will be the case in this Transaction.

SLT's financial statements, available on the CSE website, are audited by Ernst & Young.

SLT follows the four strategic good components of corporate governance - namely accountability, fairness transparency, and responsibility.

SLT has recently implemented a series of HR-related improvement measures to create and maintain the right corporate environment for employees to thrive. promoting talent development and retention, allowing employees to work at their highest levels of productivity in a healthy and safe environment.

SLT strives to achieve carbon neutral operations through energy efficiency measures (Obtained the certification ISO 14064:1:2018 according to standards), waste management strategies, and conservancy measures. SLT follows the ISO 31000:2018 Risk Management guidelines.



## Sri Lanka on the path to sustainable recovery

- **Pursuing economic growth** : The GoSL has taken major actions to return to positive growth. Sri Lanka is an attractive emerging free-market economy, with a GDP of USD74.4 billion in 2022. The current economic downturn comes after a decade of strong growth that is expected to return in the medium-term through increased exports and consumption; the EIU forecasts real GDP to growth at an annual average of about 3.5% in 2025-2027.
- **Proactively safeguarding public finances** : The IMF Board approved a USD3billion package in Mar 2023 to restore macroeconomic stability and debt sustainability, safeguard financial stability, and step up structural reforms to unlock Sri Lanka's growth potential. The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) forecasts an improvement in public finances in 2024-2027 as the GoSL is coming to an agreement with lenders to restructure its foreign debt and is steadfastly implementing austerity and improved governance measures.
- **Controlling Inflation** : Proactive fiscal policy reforms are being implemented by GoSL to manage inflationary pressures, aided by factors such as stabilizing commodity prices have resulted in a significant improvement in 2023. The EIU forecasts inflation to return to ~3-4% from 2024.
- **Politics** : next Presidential elections are scheduled to take place in H2 2024; the current President is eligible to run for a second term. Parliamentary elections are due in 2025.
- **Key data** : 22.1M inhabitants (est. 2022, source : Department of Census and statistics); land area : 65,610 km2; density : 349 persons per km2

Key Indicatorss	2022	<b>2023</b> f	<b>2024</b> f	<b>202</b> 5f	<b>202</b> 6f	2027f
Real GDP Growth (%)	-7.8	-4.8	5.6	3.6	3.5	3.6
Consumer price inflation (av; %)	45.2	18.3	3.3	3.7	4.5	4.2
Short-term interest rate (av; %)	13.5	13.6	6.9	5.6	5.0	4.8
Unemployment rate (%)	4.7	6.4	6.0	5.5	5.3	5.0
Exchange rate SLRs:US\$ (av)	322.6	297.0	225.5	204.5	200.5	198.5

Source : EIU; Aug 2023

Indicative divesture process



## All public announcements related to the divestiture process will be published on SOERU's website:

https://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/sru/section/divestitures



## Contacts

Questions on the Request for Clarification may be addressed only to:

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SLT@sru.gov.lk

The anticipated transaction is a shareholder level transaction, not a company level transaction, and as such SLT is not to be contacted during the process.



### Disclaimer

This document (the "Factsheet") has been prepared by State-Owned Enterprises Restructuring Unit ("SOERU") of the Ministry of Finance of the GoSL solely for the purpose of assisting prospective investors to preliminarily assess the opportunity ("Opportunity") to take part in the bidding process for the acquisition of the Government of Sri Lanka ("GoSL")'s shares in Sri Lanka Telecom PLC ("SLT") ("Transaction").

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## **Additional information**

#### For more information, please visit :

#### SOERU's website at:

https://www.treasury.gov.lk/web/sru /section/divestitures

SLT's website at : www.slt.lk

CSE's website at : www.cse.lk

