Riyadh Internet Exchange
Better Late Than Never
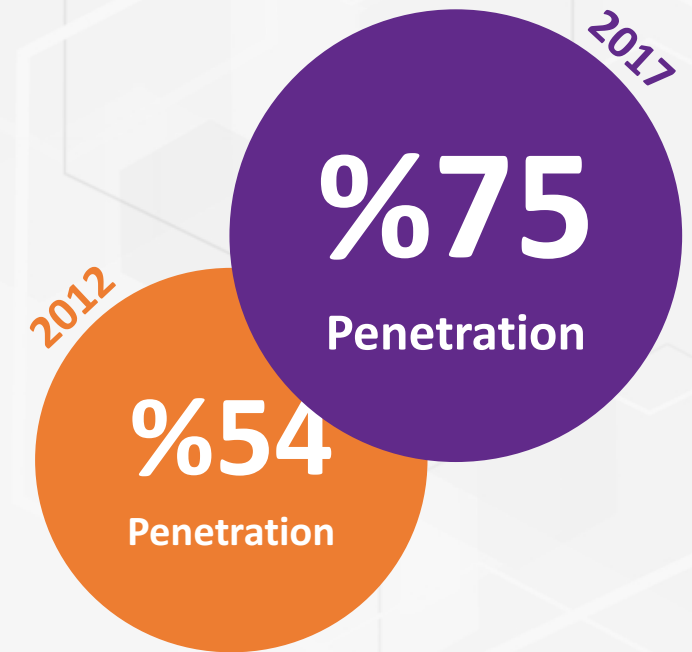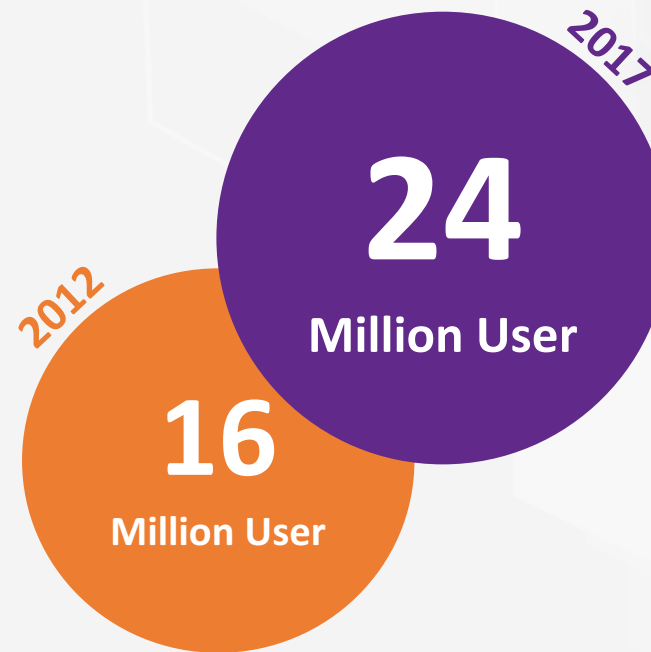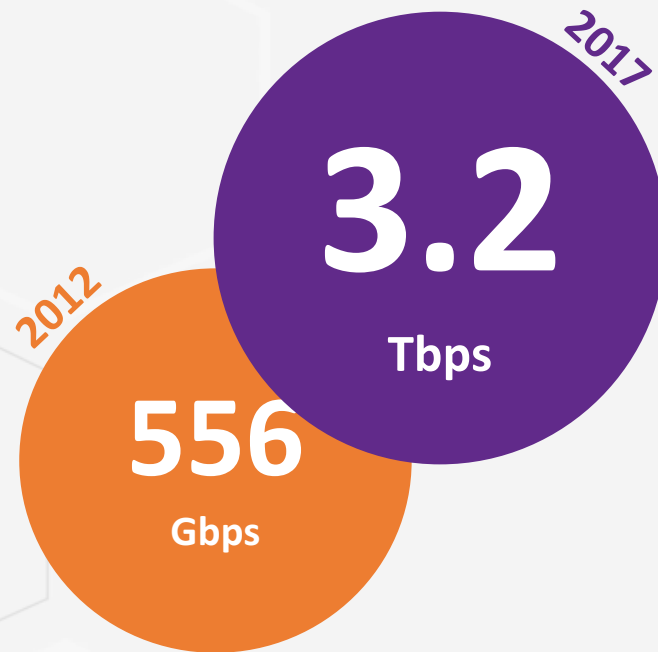
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Saudi Internet Growth (2012-2017)

2017
3.2
Tbps

2012
556
Gbps

2017
24
Million User

2012
16
Million User

2017
%75
Penetration

2012
%54
Penetration

Saudi Internet Timeline

International Internet
GW Privatization

IXP

Internet Introduced
Operated by ISU/KACST

Direct Peering

One International Gateway

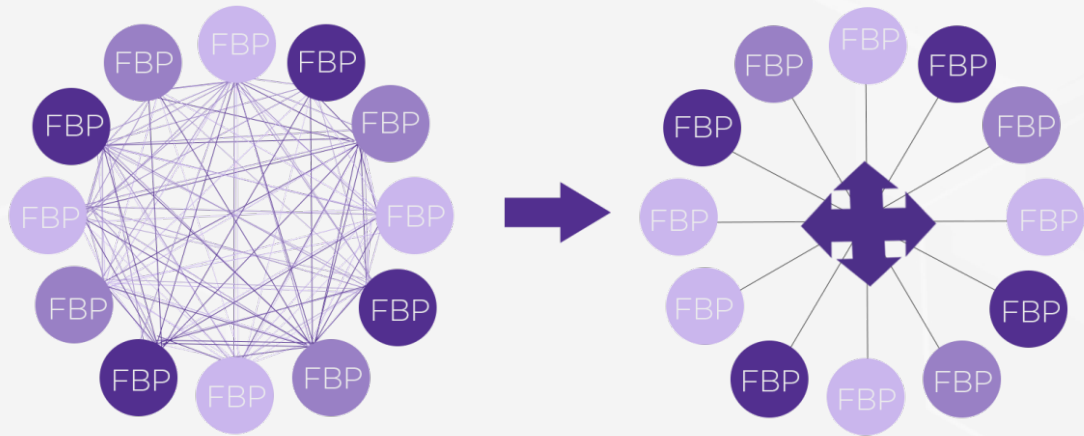Many International Gateways

1997

2006

2017

ISP

FBP/DSP
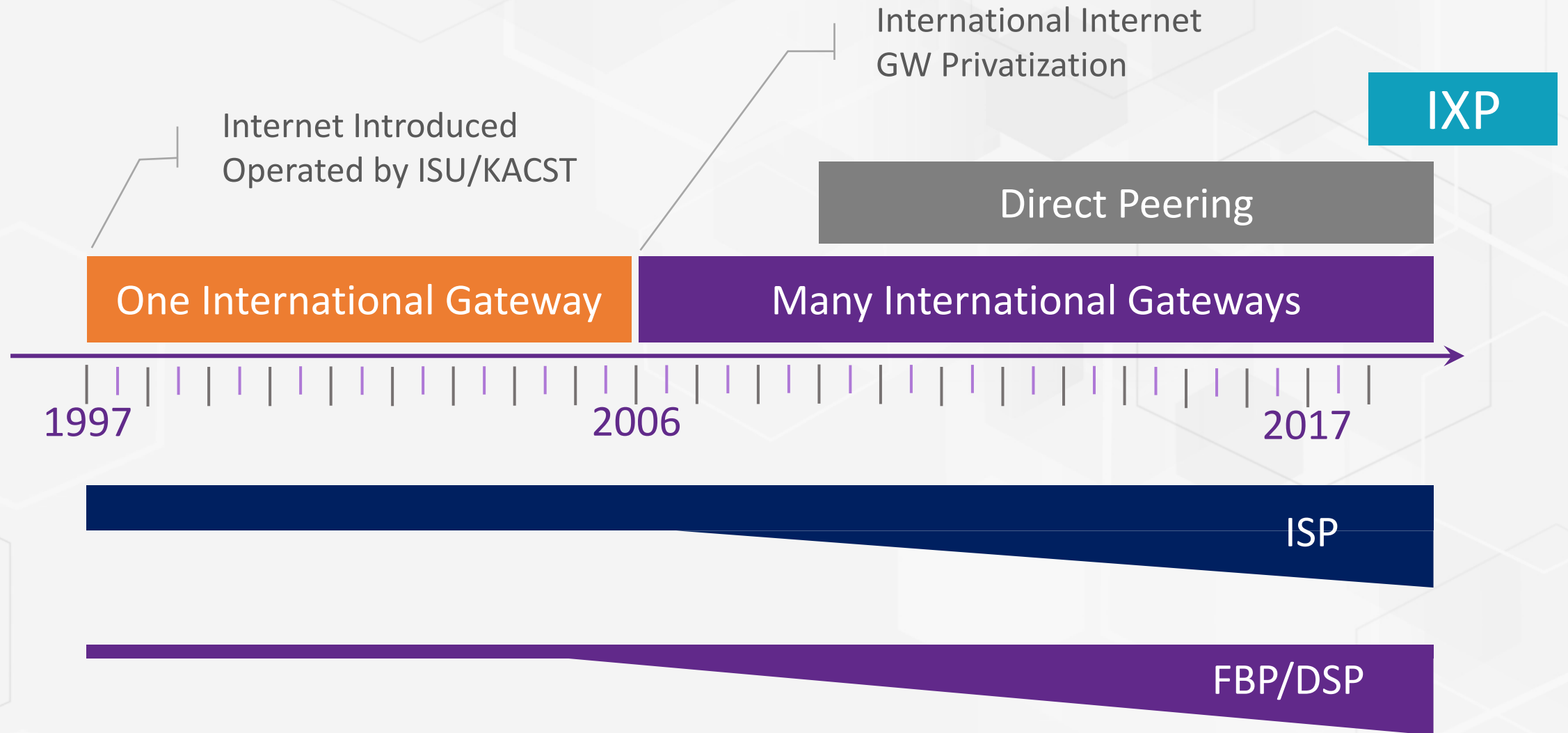
Current State

- Partial-Mesh Topology between DSPs

- Some local traffic is being routed via International Transit

Riyadh Internet Exchange

- Government Driven Initiative

- Commercial Colocation Sponsor & Operation at KACST

- Architecture:
  - Layer 2 Base Model
  - Spine-and-Leaf Architecture
  - Connections: 10, 40 and 100Gbps
  - Throughput Capacity: 400 Gbps -> 2.4 Tbps
  - Dual Stack (IPv4/IPv6)

- Planned Official Launch in Q1
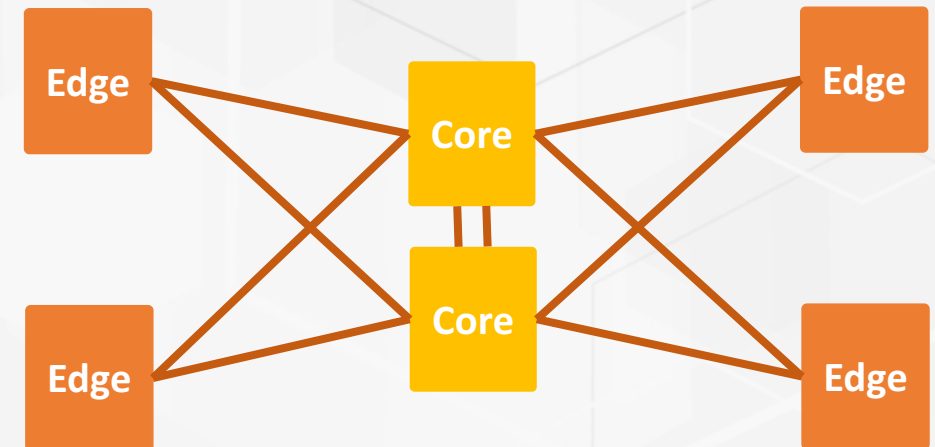
How can a Government Backed IXP work in the long run?

- What needs to be done to ensure its success and benefits for the local Internet community?
- What should the governance model look like?

Thank You

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