

I would like to shed the light on the situation of DAB+ in the Arab Region.

ASBU adapted the DAB+ system years ago, and since then, ASBU worked towards ensuring its widespread implementation over the Arab region, and it is now witnessing a remarkable development in this field.

ASBU has sent a questionnaire to its members in order to update the information about the status on FM and DAB+ in the Arab region . We didn't receive the new information yet, so for this briefing, I am going to use the information available from the last year, updated by some information received from WorldDAB .

In the next slides, we can notice the development of implementing DAB+ in Arab Region.

DAB+ in the Arab States



ASBU

Arab States Broadcasting Union
الإذاعة العربية

**Arab States
Broadcasting
Union
recommends
DAB+**



Algeria :

- Trial launched in 2018 and ongoing
- 68% population coverage
- Planning underway to migrate from FM to DAB+

Tunisia :

- **Regular DAB+ services launched in June 2019**
- **51% population coverage**
- **18 stations on air**
- **Aiming for FM switch off by 2025**

Saudi Arabia :

- **Draft regulation put forward by Saudi Broadcasting Authority, starting from January 2021,**
- **Radio receivers are required to include DAB+**
- **Draft regulation applies to automotive, home and portable receivers**

Kuwait :

- **Regular DAB+ services launched in 2014**
- **100% population coverage**
- **16 DAB+ stations on air**

UAE :

- **Trial since 2014**
- **1.8 population coverage**
- **DAB+ receiver specifications published**

Bahrain :

- **Trial since 2016, 4 Services ,**
- **40% population coverage**

Oman :

- **Trial launched 2019**

Qatar :

- **Trial on air launched July 2019**
- **10 DAB+ services on air**

Jordan :

- **5 DAB+ services on air since 2017**

Radio receivers for the Arab region

The technical committee of ASBU put forward the specifications of the DAB+ receivers and approved it from 2018.

ASBU recommends the members to apply these specifications from 2020.

The specifications which is approved by ASBU meet as much as possible the European requirements that responds to Standards : ETSI TS 103 461 and ETSI TS 103 176

But with three important exceptions where all the receivers should:

- **Have the criteria to use the Arabic text**
- **Provide an AM reception**
- **Provide an FM reception**

Thank You for listening