

Recommendations

A digital radio technology workshop hosted by the regulator KOMINFO and public broadcaster RRI held in Jakarta this week and attended by public and private broadcasters from Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia recommend that broadcasters in the region start planning for the digitisation of radio.

To move forward in their planning for the successful implementation of DAB+ digital radio in Indonesia, the workshop outcomes recommend the following:

1. Consider DAB+ Digitalisation a National Project

Digital radio DAB+ countrywide rollout should be implemented as a national project.

2. Establish a National Steering Committee

A National Steering Committee comprised of public service and private broadcasters, the regulator and the Ministry should be established and must set the timetable for implementation of digital radio rollout.

The National Steering Committee should set up national subcommittees reporting back to the Steering Committee on the following issues:

3. **Spectrum and Network Planning Committee** including ensuring the highest power possible for each transmitter site to obtain maximum coverage and robust signal.
 - a. **Policy and Regulation Committee** including incentives to invest for private broadcasters; allocation of bit rate.
 - b. **Tender Committee for Network Build** including planning for shared sites and transmission equipment.
 - c. **Promotion and Marketing Committee**
 - d. **Receiver Manufacturers and Retailers Advisory Committee**
 - e. **Motor Vehicle Committee**, including consideration of legislation for digital radio in cars
 - f. **Mobile Handsets Committee** to facilitate inclusion of DAB+ broadcast chips in mobile phones.

- g. **Resource Management Committee** to obtain funding and resources for, and manage resources during, the rollout.
 - h. **Content Development Committee for DAB+** to sample content from overseas listen here <http://www.digitalradioplus.com.au/player/player.cfm> or WorldDMB can provide other links.
 - i. **Rollout Project Committee** to oversee any trial activities that are built in the planning phase and to use these to inform the national steering committee on planning for full digitisation. This committee can monitor progress and handle any obstructions or barriers to full digitalisation.
- 4. Incentives for Broadcasters** to be considered, if necessary through legislation:
- a. Incumbent broadcasters allowed to keep analogue spectrum for 10 years as an incentive to invest in digital infrastructure.
 - b. Free digital spectrum for the large private and public incumbent broadcasters to ensure that the stations with the most listeners encourage the most people to adopt digital – ie public and major private broadcasters.
 - c. Tax relief on purchase of transmission and studio equipment for digital radio rollout and communications links.
 - d. Content development fund to facilitate new content for digital radio.
 - e. No new digital only entrants for 6 years, conditional on incumbent broadcasters developing new content and services and promoting DAB+ on their analogue services.
- 5. Form a Consumer Launch Project Group** comprised of broadcasters, retailers and manufacturers to plan the consumer launch
- 6. Multiplex Licences** to be issued to operating broadcasters only. The broadcasters to form a consortium to hold the multiplex licence. If there is excess capacity on a multiplex after existing broadcasters take up a standard entitlement, the consortium should be able to accept additional paid content to be broadcast on the multiplex but the fee to be paid by the additional content provider is set by the competition regulator.
- 7. Timetable for Rollout.** Rollout should commence with high density population centres, cities and towns and then progress further into the countryside.