

Issue 1, October 2007

Welcome to the first issue of the monthly newsletter published by DTT Forum BiH (Digital Terrestrial Television) which provides you with concise information on the Forum's work, results and events of the past month, as well as upcoming activities. Newsletter also includes short glossary of digital technology and important dates in the introduction of digital television in BiH, as well as brief information on digitalisation processes worldwide.

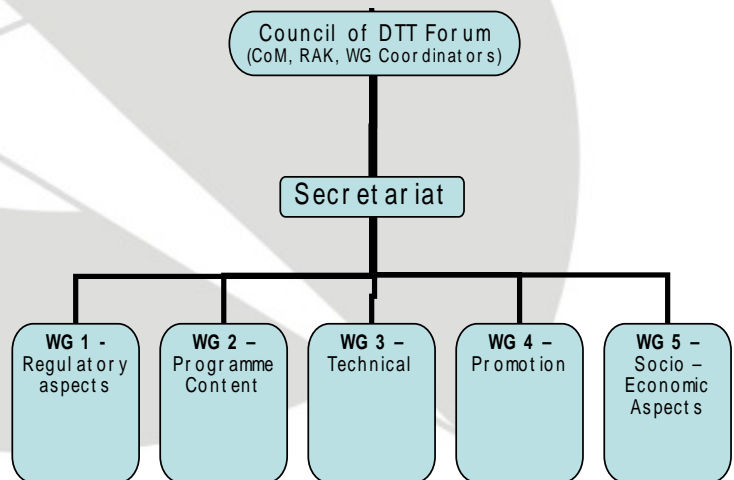
On basis of the expert discussions and conclusions, the Forum is expected to propose a final date for termination of the analogue television in BiH, set a transition period, educate public and contribute to harmonization of regulations that will follow the process of introducing digital television in BiH. In addition, it is Forum's task to define and advise on technical aspects of introducing digital television, compression system to be used, as well as to analyse social and economic aspects of introducing digital television in BiH.

DTT Forum Secretariat stands at your disposal for any enquires; you can contact us at dtforum@rak.ba. We welcome all your suggestions and feedback.

Emir Vajzovic, MA
Secretary of DTT Forum BiH

DTT Forum BiH

Forum on Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) of Bosnia and Herzegovina was established on 8 May 2006 in Sarajevo. DTT Forum is based on conclusions and recommendations adopted at the conference "Introduction of digital television in Bosnia and Herzegovina" held on 30 March 2006 in Sarajevo, as a part of the twinning project between the Communications Regulatory Agency and Italian regulator AGCOM, under auspices of the European Union. Forum's task is to prepare national strategy for introducing of DTT standards in BiH and forward it to competent state institutions for adoption.



Coordinators:

WG1 Regulation - Tarik Jusic, PhD
WG2 Programming - Zoran Popovic, MA
WG3 Technology - Mirko Skrbic, PhD, Professor
WG4 Promotion - Drazen Gagulic, MA
WG5 Social and economic aspects - Melika Husic, MA

DTT FORUM's mission statement:

- Prepare strategy for digital TV in BiH
- Draft DTT legislation
- Prepare for technical realization of DTT
- Set up programming content and services
- Study economic aspects of introducing DTT
- Promote and present DTT Forum
- Set deadline for switchover from analogue to digital television.

Broadcasting Sector Policy (Official Gazette, 18/07; 13 March 2007), among others, reads:

«Basic principles of switchover to the digital broadcasting are contained in a well defined strategy that affirms cooperation among operators, mutual amending of platforms, compatibility of decoders, wide spectrum of contents as well as a fast switchover to the digital broadcasting.»

DIGITAL TERRESTRIAL TELEVISION

Introducing digital TV in BiH and a period for switchover from analogue to digital terrestrial broadcast is obligatory for BiH, and it needs to be harmonized with European timelines. As of June 2007, new plan of frequency spectrum usage is in place in Europe, Africa and partly Asia. The plan adopted at the Geneva conference is in force as the international agreement.

Introduction of digital and termination of analogue television in Europe, Africa and partly Asia is scheduled for June 17, 2015.

According to the recommendation issued by the European Commission, all EU member states must terminate analogue television and switch over to digital latest by 2012.



HDTV – High Definition Television gives quality of image and sound much closer to standards of cinematographic production

What is digital television?

Digital television is relatively new technology for transmission of TV signal. In comparison with the analogue transmission still in use, digital television gives better and enhanced images with little noise, as well as improved sound. Digital TV is flexible and interactive, and it enables wide screen format (16:9) unlike old analogue systems using 4:3 format. Improved usage of radio-frequency spectrum allows more TV channels. In addition, viewers will have more television services at their disposal, that will include subtitles, audio channels, more detailed information on programming offered through electronic programming guide, and many others.

September events

- 13 September 2007, DTT Forum meeting held in the CRA
- 19 September 2007, DTT Forum meeting held in Hotel Bosna
- 20 September 2007, DTT Forum, round table held in Hotel Bosna „Digital transmission in Bosnia and Herzegovina “
- 21 September 2007, DTT Forum meeting in held Hotel Bosna
- 26 September 2007, Press conference, Council of Ministers of BiH



20 September 2007 - DTT Forum round-table held in Hotel Bosna:

Speakers:

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>Emir Vajzovic</u> | Secretary of DTT Forum BiH
<i>Presentation of DTT Forum BiH</i> |
| <u>Senad Namgalija</u> | Radio Frequency Spectrum Department, CRA
<i>BiH frequency plan and RCGE06 results</i> |
| <u>Giulia Berni</u> | Trends and challenges in regulating and introducing
DTT In Europe |
| <u>Mirko Skrbic</u> | Coordinator of the Working Group for DTT technology
<i>Technical aspects of introducing DTT</i> |
| <u>Malin Wallin</u> | <i>DTT in Sweden</i> |
| <u>Roberto De Martino</u> | <i>Switchover to DTT in Italy</i> |

Important dates:

15 May - 16 June 2006 - Geneva, Regional Radio-communication Conference (RRC-06) on introducing digital and terminating analogue television in Europe, Africa and partly Asia
17 June 2015 - Regional Agreement (GE-06) set this date as the end of transition period after which analogue frequency usage plan will become invalid
2012 - European Commission's recommendation on deadline for a switchover to digital transmission

Glossary:

Digital television - digital television is relatively new technology in transmitting television signal. It differs from current transmission method known as "analogue televisions". In analogue transmission, a signal is presented as continuous wave, while digital signal is transmitted in a form of discrete bits containing information.

Pixel stands short for picture element. Pixel is the smallest graphical element of image, specific for bitmap images, unlike image of vector graphics. For it to be converted to digital form, image must be stored as a sequel of bits (as it is the case with, for instance, digital cameras) for which they must be "translated" into several smaller parts, each of specific colour. These parts are called pixels and their quantity in certain image determine, among others, quality of image, but also directly influences a size of database and its real dimensions (width and heights of the image).

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Secretary of DTT Forum BH Emir Vajzovic - assistant of Secretariat of DTT Forum BH Indira Vaskovic.