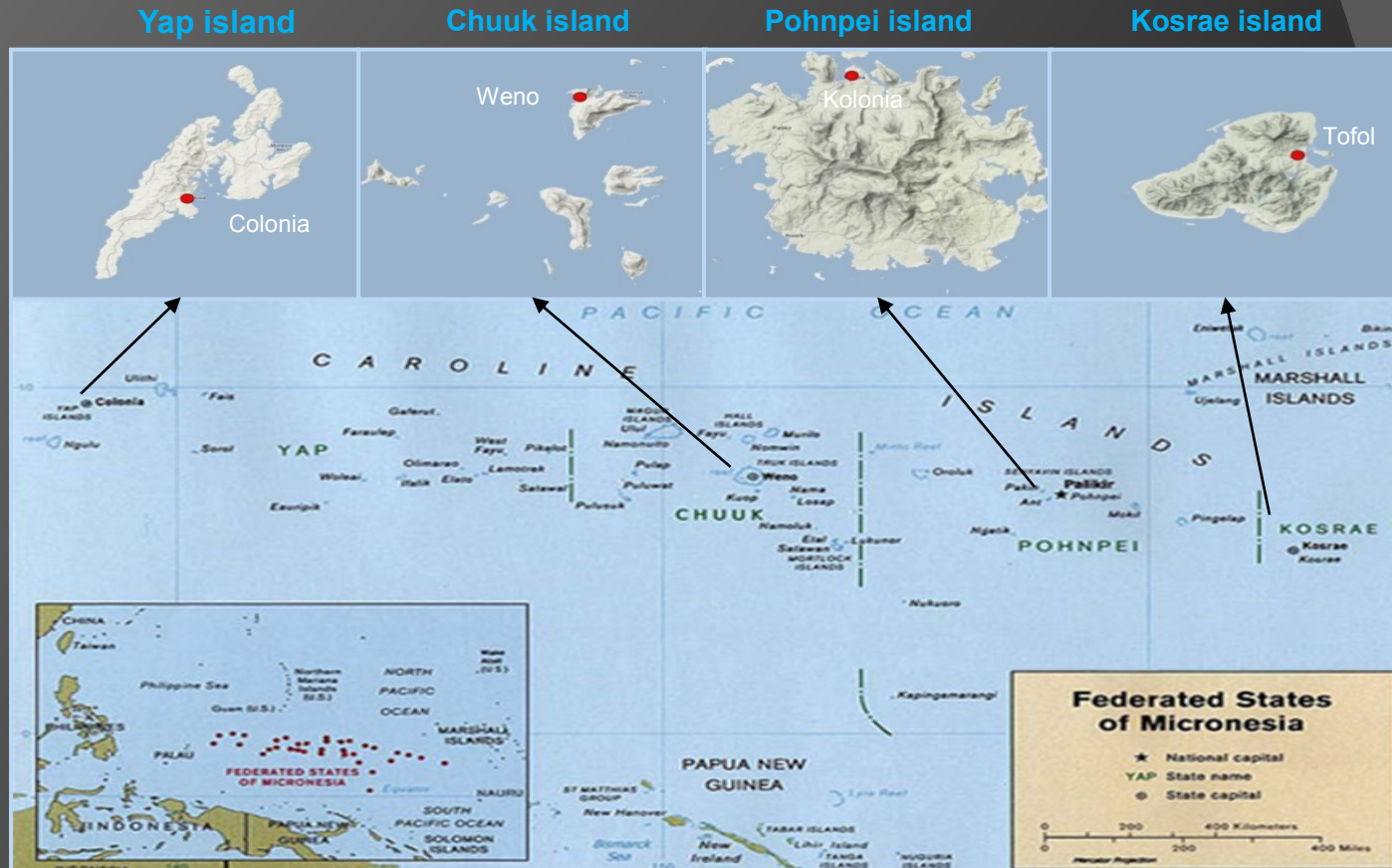


FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

The Status of FSM's Transition from Analog to Digital Television Broadcasting



Overview

- The FSM is located in the Pacific Ocean consisting of 607 islands distributed over 2,700 km. The country is composed of four states: Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae.
- The entities in FSM that have experiences in television industry are FSM Telecommunications Corporation and its associated company, Island Cable TV.
 - 1) FSMTC is a public corporation established by Government and is operated commercially; offers TV service in Kosrae, Yap, and Chuuk.
 - 2) The ICTV is a private company, 50% of which is invested by FSMTC and the remaining 50% by individuals; offers TV service in the island of Pohnpei.

If they conduct DTTB service, they need commercial income and would apply a subscription based business model, which is the only possible way to earn commercial income in the business environment of very limited advertising market in FSM.

FSM's Transition to Digital TV

- FSM's migration from analog to digital TV began in 2011. For commercial reasons and out of necessity FSM Telecommunications Corporation (FSMTC) launched a digital terrestrial television service using DVB-T standard in Yap and Chuuk islands.
- Analog cable television services have been and are still carried out in the two remaining islands, Pohnpei and Kosrae, of which coverage is limited in the population centers and nearby areas.

Challenges & Support for reaching ASO

- ⦿ There are no major setbacks for FSM in being able to achieve analog switch off.
- ⦿ There is sufficient spectrum in order for complete roll out of DTTB and even Mobile TV.
- ⦿ In August 2013, the FSM National Roadmap Team began working with ITU on their DSO roadmap. The FSM NRT decided that service development for digital switch over should be left to the market and technology standards should not be specified by a regulator. An operator can choose a set of standards that best fits its own business plan/model.

Current broadcasting issue: coverage



- ◎ Even with existing DTTB service, coverage is limited due to geographical barriers:
 - 1) Mountainous topography exists in all 4 states and divides the radio coverage into several small areas;
 - 2) There are a lot of remote islands where no terrestrial broadcasting services cover.

ASO Date

- In November 2013, the NRT completed its roadmap report and created a list of objectives for digital switch-over, but did not find the need to establish an ASO date.
- FSM Telecommunications Corporation, a public corporation aware of the benefits of digital TV, has set its own ASO deadline for end of 4th Quarter 2017.
- FSMTC has decided to complete its digital migration by replacing existing systems with DTH (Direct to Home) TV service. Although DTH is not terrestrial based, it will provide coverage for all four states and all remote outer islands in the country; therefore it will ensure analog switch off as there will be no need for the current analog TV service.



Thank you

