Digital Broadcasting in Lao PDR

AIBD/ITU/ABU Regional Workshop on Digital Terrestrial Broadcasting TV and Radio Policy and Transition

05 June 2017, Qingdao, China

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1. Country Profile
2. Organization of the Administration
3. Digital Broadcasting TV and Radio status
4. Issue and Challenge on ASO in Lao PDR
1. Country Profile

- Located: South East Asia (ASEAN) Laos is land-lock country and mountainous
- Population: 6.9 Millions (Urban 30%)
- Capital: Vientiane
- Area: 236,800 Square Kilometers
- Currency: LAK (8,500 Kip/USD)
- Religion: Buddhist
2. Organization of the Administration

1. Ministry of Post and Telecommunications (MPT)
   - Spectrum Management
   - Frequencies Licensing
   - Interference Monitoring

2. Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism (MICT)
   - Contents of Programming
   - TV/Radio Station Licensing
   - Digital TV Consumer Statistics
   - Network Development
3. Digital Broadcasting TV and Radio status

3.1. History of TV Broadcasting in Lao PDR
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3.3. Overview Radio Broadcasting in Lao PDR
3.4. Policy and Regulation
3.1. History of TV Broadcasting in Lao PDR.

- 1983: Lao National TV established
- 1994: Lao National TV Ch3 Started
- 1998: Lao Star Channel (Satellite)
- 1998: Cable TV
- 2007: Terrestrial Digital TV (Lao Digital TV)
- 2011: Lao PSTV (Satellite)
- 2012: MV Lao (Satellite)
- 2012: TV Lao (Satellite)
3.2. Digital Broadcasting in Lao PDR

- Digital Satellite Television
- Digital Terrestrial Broadcasting Television
- Cable Television
- IP Television
3.2.1. Digital Satellite Broadcasting Television

- Most Lao TV stations are uplink to Thaicom and LaoSAT-1 satellite both C-Band and Ku Band.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>TV Station</th>
<th>ThaiCom C-Band</th>
<th>ThaiCom Ku-Band</th>
<th>LAOSAT-1</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lao National TV</td>
<td>C-Band</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lao National TV (CH3)</td>
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<td>Lao PSTV</td>
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<td>MPEG-2</td>
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3.2.2. Digital Terrestrial Broadcasting

- Digital Terrestrial TV Broadcasting is started in 2007 which is Joint-Venture between Lao National TV (LNTV) and Yunnan TV, China.
- Standard: DTMB (China standard), DVB-T
- Spectrum Bandwidth: 8 MHz
- Program: 54 Program Channels (SD system)
- Receive the Signal through Set-Top-Box as in 04 stations and in 04 Provinces (Vientiane, Luang Prabang, Savannakhet and Champasak.
Existing Analog Terrestrial TV Broadcasting

- Lao National Television  VHF band
- Lao National TV (CH3)  VHF band
- MV Lao  UHF band
- CCTV4 & CCTV news (China) relay station  UHF band
- VTV (Vietnam) relay station  VHF band

The TV Station are 37 stations including:
1. Analog (18 Provinces)
2. Digital (04 Main Cities in 04 Provinces)
The TV Channel Nationwide:
1. LNTV: 30, 33   Analog System
2. LDTV: 21, 25, 37, 41, 45, 49   Digital System

The TV Band: Band III (174-230);
Band IV (470-614)
Band V (614-862)

Note: For the Channel 49 to 62 (694-806 MHz) the MPT has plan to be reserved for IMT 700 MHz band plan that was approved by APT.
3.2.3. Cable TV

- The 1st subscription Television service in Lao PDR was launched in 1998
- System Operators & Channels
- 2 System Operators as market leaders
- More than 50 channels
- About 1.5 Million subscribers nationwide.
- Trying to transit to digital services
3.2.4. IP TV

- Internet Protocol television (IPTV) is a system through which television services are delivered using the Internet protocol.
- IPTV is the delivery of programming by video stream encoded as a series of IP packets. IPTV is distributed by a service provider.
  - Service Provider: 1. ETL Public company
    2. Lao Telecom Company
    3. Vimpelcom Lao Company
    4. Star Telecom Company
    5. SKY Telecom Company
3.3. Overview Radio Broadcasting in Lao PDR

- Radio Band: AM, MW, FM(Band II)
- Radio Transmitter Sites: 87 sites
- Radio Stations: 63 stations
- Nationwide Channel Frequencies:
  - 99.7 MHz
  - 103.7 MHz

For the Radio ASO is not yet determine. It depend on the policy of MICT.
3.4 Regulation and Policy

Regulation:
1. Mass Media Law (Improved) 2016
2. Telecommunication Law (Improved) 2011
3. Radio Degree 2014 (To be Law in 2017)

Policy and objective:
- The DTTB Development in present, we can service to the family household 25% in both 2 standards (DTMB & DVB-T) in the 04 main cities and will be expand the network to 14 other provinces in the country within 2018 and Nationwide in 2020 by National Road Map.
- To support DTMB Technology is the priority project and Network Development to rural area.
4. Issue and Challenge on ASO in Lao PDR

• Issue:
  - To expand the DTTB network nationwide within 2020;
  - National Radio should be issue the policy oriented;
  - International corporation

• Challenge:
  - Trend on new Technologies such as IP TV Service, HD digital Satellite Service (HD-DVB-S2);
  - Budget (Loan, Joint-Venture, ODA Project);
  - Human resource;
  - Marketing;
  - Regulation;
  - Network Development Implementation.
Thank you for your attention

Plain of Jars
XiengKhouang Province