

# 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**

*By: Mr. Xaiyakone Xaibounheuang  
Department of Telecommunications  
Ministry of Post and Telecommunications*



**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
- 3.2. Digital Broadcasting in Lao PDR
- 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.

TV Station	ThaiCom C-Band	ThaiCom Ku-Band	LAOSAT-1	Compression
Lao National TV	C-Band	-	Ku-Band	MPEG-2
Lao National TV (CH3)	C-Band	-	-	MPEG-2
Lao Star Channel	C-Band	Ku-Band	-	MPEG-2
Lao PSTV	C-Band	-	-	MPEG-4
TV Lao	C-Band	Ku-Band	-	MPEG-2
MV Lao	C-Band	-	-	MPEG-2



## 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:**

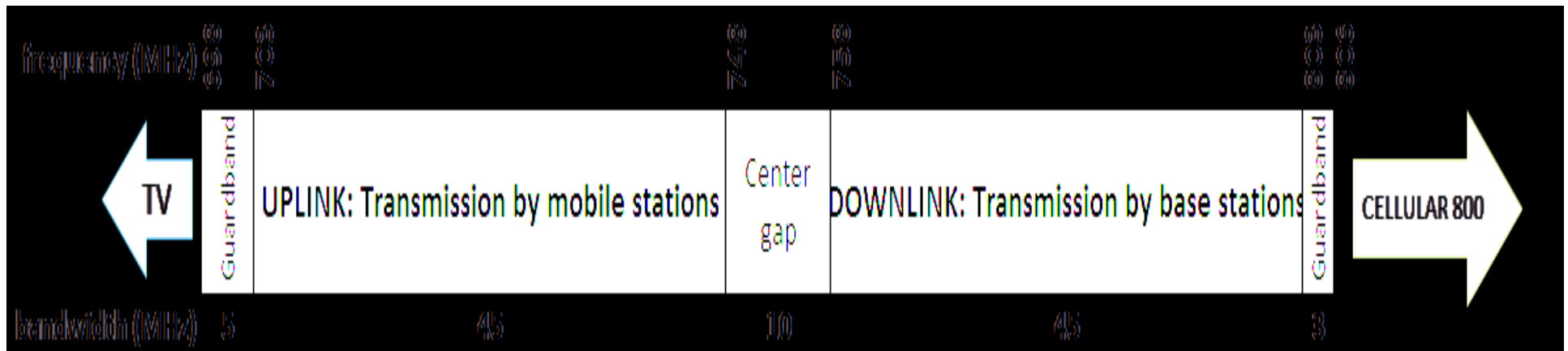
1. Analog (18 Provinces)
2. Digital (04 Main Cities in 04 Provinces)

## 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*

