**Reviewing DTT uses, innovation and investments - What’s next after WRC-19?**

Jaume Pujol, the Head of Policy at BNE, spoke at Forum Europe’s 5G conference 29-30 January. He summarized the conclusions of the WRC-19 conference, asking for a review of the uses and needs of DTT and mobile for the 470-960MHz band, and reminded the audience of how much DTT needs and uses the 470-694MHz band.

Numbers speaks for themselves and reviews of use and needs will have to be based on real facts and take all stakeholders into account:

* DTT covers 90% of the world population in 150 countries - including 98 countries in Region 1 with  an average penetration of 45% and typical coverage ranging from 70 to 98%.
* Europe alone has 2000 TV channels and 250 million viewers who watch TV an average of 3:40 hours per day.
* The 470-694MHz spectrum band is a great example of shared use : DTT shares it with programme-making and special events, scientific and aeronautical services - sectors that are not always heard but whose contributions are key for the world as we know it.

He reminded all corporate, media and policy stakeholders present of two important things :

More than ever, [broadcast network operators are innovating to improve user experience](http://www.broadcast-networks.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/bne_infographic_22_01_2020_with-5G.pdf) : This is obvious with migration to DVB-T2, HD & UHD contents, interactive services. 5G broadcasting options are being explored, to provide viewers with innovative options that fit within Europe’s regulatory framework.

In 2017, a decision was made by the European Parliament, Commission and Council on the future of the UHF band. The decision is binding and it says 2 things :

* Broadcasters are to invest to migrate their networks from the 700MHz before June 2020 (with a margin of flexibility of 2 years).
* The sub 700MHz band (470-694MHz) is to be used by the broadcasting sector exclusively until at least 2030.

Broadcast network operators are investing heavily in the 700MHz migration. They are clearly delivering their part of the deal and are expecting all sides involved to do the same.

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