

24 August 2020

Budget Policy Division

The Treasury

Langton Crescent

Parkes ACT 2600

Brendon Agpasa - 2020/21 Federal Budget Submission

Brendon Agpasa welcomes back the opportunity to contribute to the discussions about digital radio rollout in media diversity and development of the 2020-21 federal budget.

The Government's commitment to digital radio broadcasting, it seems timely to make a permanent commitment to digital radio by moving the sector's funding allocation from budget cycle process and making it ongoing to Communications Minister Paul Fletcher MP from Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.

The ACMA, ABC, SBS, commercial radio, community radio, narrowcast radio, narrowband radio and DRM Project Office are committed to working with Government to create a more certain funding environment in order to fund it's extending DAB+ and Digital Radio Mondiale rollout.

About digital radio through Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

Digital Radio services have commenced in some parts of Australia, where they operate alongside existing analogue AM and FM radio services. While digital radio technology offers higher audio quality and more services, it does not always achieve the same coverage as AM radio services. Unlike television, there are no plans to switchover to digital-only radio.

Greater support and certainty needed for digital radio broadcasting in Australia

We are extremely appreciative of the government's decision to reinstate funding cuts in the new 2020-21 budget (\$3.5b over the year), in response to COVID-19's media sector relief package and for the provision of additional funding during this year for digital radio rollout, improved crystal clear reception, introduction of new DAB+ satellite services in remote areas and industry skills development. These new additional resources have been warmly welcomed by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.

To ensure digital radio rollout remains viable and can operate in an environment of certainty, our request in the 2020-21 Budget is that our funding becomes ongoing success, rather than an allocation which happens according to the annual Budget.

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications will be considering Digital Radio rollout's funding for the year period late 2020-end of 2023, there will be extending into regional Australia, sub-metropolitan areas, remote and rural areas, Australian island territories and surrounding regions.

The Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Radio) Act 2018 and Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Radio) Bill 2017 to legislate for the digital radio rollout to expand and maintain the digital radio services extends into regional, sub-metropolitan, remote, rural and surrounding areas for parts of Australia, as well as Australian island territories.

We have developments in new technologies of digital radio technologies of digital radio services, including improve the crystal clear reception of DAB+, DRM30, HF DRM and DRM+, more choice of radio stations such as a range of simulcasts analogue stations from ABC, SBS, commercial, community, narrowcast (LPON, HPON) and narrowband (MF-NAS) services, slideshow data, new digital radio receivers, electronic program guides, DAB+ satellite radio to deliver the VAST services, AMSS, RDS, multiplex licensees of digital radio transmitters offers categories 1 to 3, in-car coverage, new secondary services, DRM transmitters, data services, new digital radio repeaters, new translators of digital radio relay transmitters, transmission and satellite equipment, new DAB+ satellite distribution systems, single and multi frequency networks, niche formats, free to air, exceptional sound quality and on-screen information, as well

as automatic frequency checking and switching, satellite uplinks and downlinks, in-band on channels and technical systems.

The cost for reinvestment of the digital radio rollout was over \$3.5 billion dollars in total, including digital radio transmission and satellite equipment, DAB+ and DRM carry analogue stations digitally, direct to home satellite delivery of digital radio, digital radio retransmission services, Digital Radio Mondiale was exported to Australia and lots more.

The ABC is looking up for both ABC North Queensland domestic transmitters and ABC Radio Australia's international shortwave transmission facilities at Brandon in Queensland, which plans for its upgrade to new AM tower and smaller FM transmitters to expand the Digital Radio Mondiale services, a proposed transmitter licences of digital radio multiplex services, as domestic audiences transitioned to newer radio technologies, including DAB+ and DRM simulcasts AM and FM transmissions.

New digital radio transmission and satellite equipment went to the old ABC shortwave transmitters at Roe Creek (Alice Springs), Katherine, Tennant Creek, Shepparton (old Radio Australia transmitter site), Brandon (home to ABC 4QN transmitter site) and Carnarvon for installation of expanded digital radio services.

The ABC, working alongside SBS, is planning to extend digital radio services in regional and remote Australia. In Asia-Pacific, ABC Radio Australia is expanded the improved digital radio broadcasting capabilities to some of the regions currently relying on FM, satellite and online streaming as part of this reinvestment.

Went to the ABC activated its Emergency Broadcast Services and utilising its ABC Local Radio, Radio National, ABC News on Radio and digital radio transmitters in all of Australia plans to extend its new digital radio broadcasts into the affected areas. The service provides emergency news and information, the transmissions could be heard on DAB+ secondary services will simulcast with AM and FM frequencies, this allows listeners with digital radio receives in the region to listen to our coverage, in the event that the bushfires damages ABC transmitters or power and telecommunication sources.

Satellite uses direct to home (DTH) delivery of radio is coming to new DAB+ platforms was extending coverage footprint is limited to the satellite radio footprint, we use the DTH satellite reception equipment in remote communities. Its direct to home satellite receivers will also benefit because of new DAB+ satellite platform will carry the VAST radio services. New DAB+ satellite service will also carry Raw FM and 3ABN Australia Radio for the first time, as well as SCA Radio 1, SCA Radio 2, RSN Racing and Sport, Sky Sports Radio, WA TAB Radio, Nine Radio Syndication's national satellite distribution, Hit FM WA (ex-Red FM), Triple M WA (ex-Spirit Radio), HIT 99.7 Carnarvon, MMM 666 Carnarvon, Flow FM, The Breeze and Rebel FM. This will be extending digital radio via satellite will be rolled out into remote and rural areas.

Additionally, new DRM transmitters and multiplex licences of DAB+ transmitters carrying shortwave stations such as Reach Beyond Australia (HCJB), 4KZ Shortwave, Ozy Radio and more on HF band and VHF NAS broadcasting licences to simulcast in same as multiplex services on both DAB+ and DRM radio.

Remote area commercial broadcasters SCA's ex-Redwave Media (Red FM and Spirit), Flow FM (South Central/East) and Rebel Media (Rebel FM and The Breeze) Qld, should be allowed to transmit using high frequency DRM in some regional areas.

The transmission systems receives a new digital radio formats of old analog signals (AM, FM, Shortwave), terrestrial DAB+, DAB+ satellite, MF DRM30, HF DRM30 and DRM+. This coverage is suitable for live national and remote coverage of ABC Radio stations, Parliamentary News Network, SBS Radio stations, commercial stations, community stations and emergency warning system was adopt DRM in regional and remote areas.

For example, the expansion of digital radio services across New England (NSW and Granite Belt (QLD)), these include the simulcasts of analogue stations in Tenterfield (ABC North Coast, ABC New England North West, Radio National, Rebel FM, The Breeze, Ten FM, Vision Christian Radio, Sky Sports Radio) and Stanthorpe (Rebel FM, The Breeze, ABC Southern Queensland, ABC Classic FM, Radio National, Triple J, 4AK, 4WK, Hit100.7 Darling Downs, Triple M 864 Darling Downs, Triple M Country, Ten FM, Radio TAB, Vision Christian Radio, Adventist Radio Australia, 3ABN Radio Australia), while the transmitters are located at Mount Mackenzie and Mount Marlay.

If possibly new digital radio multiplex transmitter licences, DAB+ repeaters and digital radio translators should extends into Gold Coast, Newcastle/Lower Hunter, Sunshine Coast, Central Coast NSW, Illawarra, Geelong, Queanbeyan (same as Canberra's digital radio multiplex services in metro areas), Cairns, Townsville and more.

Here are some of the radio networks will be able to expand the digital radio services in your local areas.

They include:

- ABC Local Radio's 45 regional stations in 52 locations expands to DAB+ and DRM, to complemented with RN, ABC News, ABC Classic and triple j expands to DAB+ and DRM in regional areas and 6 ABC digital-only stations extends into regional areas.
- SBS Radio's National Network is a combination of programs from SBS Radio 1 and SBS Radio 2 expands to DAB+ and DRM in regional areas, to complemented with SBS Radio 3, SBS Arabic24 and 3 SBS music stations extends into regional areas.
- Crocmedia expands to digital radio to include simulcasts of Adelaide 1629AM, 25 radio licences including Hobart 1629AM, 23 narrowband radio licences, Darwin 90.7FM, Melbourne 1593AM, Sydney 1539AM and Bunbury 621AM through 1116 SEN, SENTrack, SEN SA and SEN WA, as well as SEN will also pick up Sydney's 2CH to provide classic hits music and additional sports content.
- Melbourne's 3MP 1377 AM is now in crystal clear on Digital Radio, Rete Italia frequencies carried Niche Radio Network expands to Digital Radio in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Canberra, Adelaide, Darwin, Perth, Hobart and 22 regional centres.
- Digital radio licence areas and in car coverage extends into surrounding regions, regional areas and remote areas.
- DAB+ only stations extends into regional areas: Including Nova Entertainment's Coles Radio extends into Central Coast and more regional areas, SCA's 10 digital radio stations from Hit and Triple M brands extends into regional areas, Kix Country extends into regional areas from Ballarat to Devonport, Sky Sports Radio's 2 digital-only stations extends into NSW/ACT, 4TAB Digital 2 extends into QLD, SA, TAS and NT, RSN Carnival's 2 channels extends into VIC, RSN's TAB Live extends into VIC, TAS and WA, 2SM Super Network's 4 digital radio stations extends into NSW/QLD and Rythmos, SEN 2 and SEN 3 extends into across Australia.
- New Digital Radio Mondiale services offers DRM30 and DRM+ in regional licence areas, new DRM transmitters in Kulgera NT, Newman WA and Liena TAS, we offers SBS and ABC stations in national coverage, remote local radio receives ABC Local Radio and commercial stations can be received in local coverage of regional areas.
- AM-FM conversions of radio stations should expands to DAB+ and DRM, including Warrnambool's 3YB FM 94.5, Bathurst's 2BS Gold 95.1 and more.
- DAB+ Satellite uses a satellite footprint extends into regional areas, including the VAST radio channels extends its reach to provide a local communities.
- Radio stations in Australian Territories (Christmas Island, Cocos Keeling Island, Lord Howe Island, Norfolk Island) extends to digital radio (DAB+, DRM)
- Vision Christian Radio extends to Canberra, Darwin, Geelong and more regional centres is digital only station, and Vision180 Radio extends into all of metropolitan and regional areas.
- ABC Local Radio's outback services in Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs has been expands to digital radio as a new HF bands to DAB+ and DRM.
- Digital Spectrum and licensing offers DAB+ multiplexes, in preparation for DRM frequencies, a supplementary DAB+ transmission services, proposed digital radio coverage in crystal clear reception to regional areas and to cover the whole of Australia from remote areas to national coverage.
- 96.7 QBN FM Queanbeyan, Mount Isa's Radio Rhema 105.7FM and Melbourne's 3WRB Stereo 974 was transition to digital radio, along with Starter FM to join forces with WHCR 89.9, Hawkesbury Gold, Hawkesbury Radio and Harmony FM 89.9 expands to digital radio in Windsor in NSW.
- Australian shortwave radio services and VHF NAS broadcasting licences should be expanded to digital radio, that come of favourite stations from Reach Beyond to Galaxias greek radio.
- 2ME Radio Arabic expands to digital radio across 8 capital cities.
- Remote Indigenous Broadcasting Services expands to digital radio, along with sub-metropolitan licence areas of community radio stations expands to DAB+ and DRM in all capital cities.
- ABC Radio Australia's expanded new digital radio broadcasting capabilities to across the Pacific and Asia regions.
- Hobart's Pulse FM Tasmania expands to digital radio in metropolitan areas.
- Regional Australia's small communities to offer community radio stations such as Bourke's 2WEB Outback Radio, Tenterfield's Ten FM and more expands to DAB+ and DRM radio.

AM Signalling System (AMSS) and Radio Data System (RDS) can also be encoded into new digital formats are coming to both DAB+ and Digital Radio Mondiale in the future plans, new digital radio multiplex retransmission services for your local community and visitors enjoy, digital radio is simulcasting the transmitter licences to provide high-power open (HPON) narrowcasting services in Gosford NSW (747 kHz) and Hobart TAS (104.3 MHz), complement the relays of AM to FM conversions in solo markets including 2GN Goulburn, 2XL Cooma, 2ST Nowra, 2EC Bega and more.

We have additional digital radio repeaters will be required on new DAB+ repeaters, existing DAB+ on-channel repeaters, TV translator sites and co-located at AM and FM transmitter sites, these include Sydney North West, Brisbane South East, Port Melbourne, Geelong, Perth City, Adelaide Foothills, Gregory Hills (Picton), Rosebud, Warburton, Mornington Peninsula and more.

For disabilities, RPH Australia completes the expansion of more digital radio services of RPH stations in Darwin, Wagga Wagga, Newcastle, Mildura, Albury-Wodonga, Shepparton, Geelong, Bendigo, Warragul, Warrnambool, Launceston and Devonport to provide a mix of news, information, entertainment, lifestyle, features, magazine programs, music and sport, adding the suite of RPH stations in Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne, Hobart, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth, with a more youthful focus on each station.

Stations include Pines FM 99.9 Norfolk Island, Radio Norfolk 1566 and 89.9, 6RCI Radio Christmas Island, Voice of the Cocos [Keeling] Islands (6CKI), Lord Howe Island Radio and Norfolk Island's Tourist information had expands to digital radio, as well as ABC Local Radio, Radio National, ABC FM, JJJ FM, RED FM WA and Flow FM will use the satellite relays in your regions.

WYN FM 88.9 in Werribee will deliver the direct relays via satellite feed of Voice of America's VOA1 is a music station airs Top 40-formatted music, 5 minute newscasts and special programming is broadcasting all day across west Melbourne, went plans to expand the digital radio rollout in near future.

Recently, Southern Cross Austereo completes the expansion to regional WA coverage to acquisition of Redwave Media and Carnarvon Communications will see Red FM and Spirit Radio Network stations are becoming Hit Network and Triple M, as well as Classic Hits 666 and Hot Hits 99.7 will latter becoming Hit 99.7 and Triple M 666 to our reach and connection with local communities.

Vision Christian Radio expands to digital radio to provide the Vision Christian Radio, Vision Radio AM and Vision180 Radio stations broadcasting nationally with over 730+ locations including Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne, Hobart, Adelaide, Darwin, Perth, Geelong, Sunshine Coast, Gold Coast, Newcastle, Wollongong, Townsville, Central Coast, Gladstone, Gympie, Taree, Tamworth, Wagga Wagga, Port Macquarie, Orange, Dubbo, Albury-Wodonga, Ballarat, Bendigo, Gippsland & Sale, Launceston, Mount Gambier, Riverland, Coffs Harbour, Grafton, Geraldton, Victor Harbor, Esperance and other regional centres, Vision on digital radio is simulcasting AM and FM frequencies in over 730+ locations, simulcast of Vision180 on 87.6FM in St. George, and digital radio is delivered via satellite in remote areas, the Christian community radio stations and Vision Christian Radio's 2 stations will be expanded to digital radio at the same time by 2021.

Southern Cross Austereo announces the digital radio rollout will be expanding to regional Australia, including simulcasts of Triple M Country 91.5 Darling Downs, Triple M Dubbo 93.5, Triple M Gippsland 94.3 and 97.9 and more, it has reached out to SCA for future of Kids FM in Leongatha, Coalville and Toowoomba had yet to decide to jump to Hit Network's new home of kids music content designed to keep children under ten entertained whilst Digital Radio receives Hit Network provides hit music as well as Triple M offers the best of rock's greatest hits of music variety includes mainstream rock in over 39 stations and adult contemporary format in Perth, sport and comedy.

The use of digital radio broadcasting through Parliament of Australia's ParlTV plans to retransmits it's digital radio services in Canberra, list of radio stations in Canberra are Parliamentary News Network, ABC Radio Canberra, ABC Radio Australia, ABC Classic FM, RN, Triple J, 2XX, 2CA, 2CC, Hit104.7, ABC South Eastern Regional Network, SBS Radio, Mix 106.3, 1RPH, Raw FM, UCFM, Austral FM, C Radio 88.0, ACTTAB Radio, 89.5 Valley FM 1CMS, 1WAY FM, ArtSound 92.7, 96.7 QBN FM, Kix Country, Sky Sports Radio, STAR FM 1323, Niche Radio Network, ACR Chinese Radio 1647, Vision Christian Radio, 2ME Radio Arabic, 3CW Canberra 1620 and DAB+ only stations.

New secondary services which only operate on both part-time basis and provide alternative programming to main service, it will be able to offer new formats and pop up programming to celebrate festival, tour, news or sports event, alongside ABC's emergency broadcasting services, ABC's Parliamentary News Network and SBS National Radio Network became a full-time basis of Digital Radio secondary services.

The proposed Digital Radio retransmission services for your communities and visitors to enjoy, but the popular choices are ABC Country, ABC Jazz, ABC Grandstand, Double J, Triple J Unearthed, Red FM, Spirit Radio, Hit FM (ex-Hot FM WA), Rebel FM, The Breeze, National Indigenous Radio Service News and Music, SBS Radio and more, are also expands to DAB+ relay transmissions in remote and rural areas by the next few years.

Another retransmission sites of proposed DAB+ radio services in most areas was established by STRA for simulcasting of retransmission radio frequencies, this system now transmits Red FM, ABC National, ABC Regional, Triple J and more.

It will be used for retransmission by self-help community groups to provide the Retransmission of analog radio services would expands to digital radio.

ABC and SBS should take the lead via their high power sites.

According to the chair of the Digital Radio Mondiale Consortium, Ruxandra Obreja has contributed to the DRM digital standard can carry up to 3 digital radio programs along with data services on a single radio frequency.

DRM for FM to digitise the sub-metropolitan community radio services that generally do not have DAB+ access, to provide additional digital radio services.

In markets where ABC carries all four national networks (Classic, RN, NewsRadio, Triple J) plus Local Radio, that gives them potentially 15 digital radio stations. Currently the ABC broadcasts six of digital only stations – such as Country, Grandstand, Jazz, Kids Listen, Double J and Triple J Unearthed – plus the five simulcasts.

If DRM was adopted, increasing the rollout of NewsRadio and expanding digital radio could be rolled into one for the ABC.

Whether variations to the Digital Radio Channel Plans for Brisbane, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast are appropriate to completion of improve digital coverage.

The emerging satellite technologies will provide the complete copy of VAST radio services had expands to DAB+ satellite in remote areas by 2021.

The beauty of going to a combination of digital standard, DRM for large coverage (DRM30), DAB+ for key cities, and DRM for local coverage (DRM+) and community stations was expanding to regional and metropolitan Australia, DAB+ through the use of 2 or 3 transmitters in each capital city are able to carry all existing metro wide AM and FM programs, for example an example two DAB+ digital transmitters carry 17 existing AM/FM commercial programs along with 8 existing community transmitters.

The third transmitter carries the 6 existing ABC and SBS AM and FM programs all with additional unique to digital programs.

For regional areas a newer technology is required to cover large areas. DRM+ can use the frequencies vacated by analog TV's old channels creating 168 DRM+ channels. With so many channels the ABC/SBS can transmits all the programs for metro areas in regional area on a single transmitter per TV site, substituting the local radio for the region. Commercial station have dual programs can transmit their signal from their current site on a single DRM+ transmitter.

For remote areas, DRM will also operate at HF as well with a crystal clear stereo sound just like the city people are used to. Australia is 4,000 x 3000 km in size. The ABC state program, Grandstand and News on radio along with encrypted commercial broadcasting should be available to the 470,000 remote Australians. These signals will also fill in blackspots. Alongside the alerts and warnings of Emergency Warning System provides bushfire, storms and more to join the new DRM services, an extra programming on each station and additional content will help national, commercial and community radio's recovery from bushfires crisis now and into the future.

Working with ACMA secures new DAB+ and DRM retransmission services for local areas to expand the re-broadcasting antennas to relay transmitters for 24 hour access to emergency radio coupled with simulcasting the AM/FM services of national, commercial and community broadcasters.

Listeners that in addition to DAB+ services in all capital cities and Mandurah, although VAST in remote areas were carrying radio channels, the regional rollout of ABC Digital Radio and SBS Digital Radio which also extended to over 52 locations of regional centres in 2021 and beyond, it marks the radio history.

Across remote Australian communities, we need a federal funding is around 100 per cent of each service comes new digital radio transmitters carrying relays of ABC and other programming originating from radio studios are linked to old Radio Australia transmitters in Shepparton and Brandon as well as old ABC shortwave transmitters in Tennant Creek, Alice Springs and Katherine.

Catholic station Radio Maria Australia is broadcasting on DAB+ in Sydney and Melbourne, which provides the best content from Catholic church programming.

In addition to community radio stations are found on DAB+ in over 8 capital cities, we plans for an expansion of community radio stations to digital radio services in sub-metropolitan, regional, rural, and remote areas as proposed.

In Melbourne, the narrowcast radio services expands to digital radio including Niche Radio Network (Rete Italia, now on-air), they joined by few stations are 3XY Radio Hellas, Vision Christian Radio, Vision180 Radio, 3ACR 1629, 3CW Chinese Radio, 2ME Radio Arabic, Radio Rhythm, Radio Haanji/Surf City Sound, Faith FM, 3ABN Australia Radio, Islamic Voice Radio, J-AIR 87.8FM, Kiss FM and The Hellenic Radio Station of Australia, as well as Surf FM and Middle East Radio 87.6. In other capital cities, Rete Italia's 1539AM in Sydney is also expected to move onto DAB+, as well as all of narrowcast and narrowband stations expands to DAB+ in interstate Australia.

In Wagga Wagga, new Digital Radio services expands includes a simulcasts of SBS's National Radio Network, ABC Riverina, Radio National, ABC Classic, ABC NEWS on Radio, Triple J, Hit93.1 Riverina, Triple M 1152 Riverina, Radio 1RPH, Wagga's Life FM 101.9, 2AAA FM, Sky Sports Radio, Vision Christian Radio and Rete Italia, as well as digital-only stations are SBS Radio 3, SBS Arabic24, SBS Chill, SBS PopAsia, SBS PopDesi, ABC Grandstand, ABC Jazz, ABC Country, ABC KIDS Listen, Double J, Triple J Unearthed, Hit Easy, Hit Oldskool, Hit Buddha, Hit Dance, Hit Urban, MMM Soft Rock, MMM 90's, MMM Classic Rock, MMM Hard n Heavy, MMM Country, Sky Sports Radio 2, Sky Thoroughbred Central and Vision180 Radio, the new digital radio transmitter is yet to be planned as located at Willans Hill in NSW.

The technical systems for community broadcasters had worked with sources from BBC World Service, CBAA's Community Radio Network, National Indigenous Radio Service, RPH Australia and other sources, while the new digital radio services on each antenna is shared with AM/FM radio broadcasters. We're suggested that over 450+ community radio services was increased through it's expands to digital radio by over the four year period.

DAB+ Digital Radio and Digital Radio Mondiale has expanded it's regional coverage which covers the regions from Mount Gambier to Tenterfield, Gold Coast to Regional WA, and Geelong to Burnie, Transmission technologist Alan Hughes will discuss the Digital Radio rollout in Budget 2020-21, we have Digital Radio simulcasts AM to FM conversions in solo markets, improving the coverage of digital radio services where spectrum is readily available, making digital radio channel plans for regional DAB+ and DRM is planned rollout and supporting trials of new digital radio broadcasting technology are also used in the future delivery of radio services.

The new Emergency Warning System can be broadcast by all ABC digital transmitters in Australia, the DAB+ and DRM receivers will be select the most reliable signal automatically. The new DAB+ satellite service (also contains VAST radio channels and other stations) for remote areas and blackspots should also carry the EWS signal.

The reinvestment will have receive Radio National, ABC Regional Radio, ABC Metropolitan Radio, ABC-FM, JJJ, Flow FM (8SAT), The Breeze (4BRZ), Rebel FM (4RBL), Red FM (6RED, 6HED, 6FMS, 6GGG), Spirit Radio (6KA, 6NW, 6SAT, 6BAY, 6EL), along with SBS, RIBS, Community, Narrowcast and Narrowband is looking up to accommodate new services of digital radio rollout in metro, regional, rural and remote areas, as well as VAST radio services.

Costs of transmission via analog radio will be reinvested in extending digital radio services into regional Australia.

ABC International radio funding

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications supports the pivotal work that the ABC International is looking up an developments of digital radio rollout in overseas.

The ABC is planning to extend it's new and improved digital radio broadcasting capabilities to some of the regions across Asia and the Pacific currently relying on 24-hour FM stations, local relay stations, live satellite and online streaming.

A new strategy for operations to have technology rollout of digital radio services, an amalgamation of RN, ABC Local Radio, ABC Kids Listen, ABC Grandstand, ABC News on Radio and radio news and current affairs content.

Over 40 countries across the Pacific and Asia, ABC Radio Australia is expanded transmission and rebroadcast arrangements will be reinvested in Asia and the Pacific for cost of \$2.4 million dollars.

The partnerships had includes almost 300+ partner radio stations around the world and international broadcast partners of English and multi-language services such as BBC World Service, CNN, Deutsche Welle, NPR, Voice of America, Radio New Zealand, WRN Broadcast, Mediacorp Singapore, ABS-CBN, NHK World Radio Japan, World Radio Paris, FBC Fiji's radio stations, SIBC's Wantok FM, National Radio (2AP) Samoa, Radio Tonga, NBC PNG radio stations, Radio Vanuatu, Radio Canada International, Radio France Internationale, Radio Sweden, NPO Radio Netherlands and more to provide program materials is distributed via satellite feeds and syndicated to other radio stations through partnerships of ABC News Radio and ABC Radio Australia.

In addition to ABC Five-Year Plan 2020-2025, the audience reach of ABC Radio Australia is estimated at 407,000 monthly listeners 7% of the adult population (14+ years) in PNG, and 3% in Fiji have listened to ABC Radio Australia in the past 30 days during COVID-19.

Alongside produced programming of ABC Radio Australia, Radio Australia has broadcast many well-received programs in the Pacific region including many programs from Radio National, some Local programs, sport from Grandstand, rolling news from News on Radio and current affairs programs AM, PM and The World Today.

Pacific Beat continues, as well as RA's hourly news bulletins, Radio National news and ABC Radio Sydney news.

ABC Radio Australia continues to broadcast a 24/7 schedule built on a deeper collaboration with ABC Radio, radio programming from ABC News and SBS Radio.

Language services in Tok Pisin, French, Chinese, Burmese, Khmer, Indonesian and Vietnamese will be delivered through a mix of reduced original content coupled with translated content from ABC and SBS.

FM transmission of ABC Radio Australia remains unchanged for the time being.

A draft digital radio services which shows DAB+ and HF DRM is going international to simulcasts of 24 FM radio English frequencies, part rebroadcast of Radio English stations, Language other than English – rebroadcast partner stations, Satellite distribution and online streaming in Asia and Pacific by a five year period.

The ABC Radio Australia satellite service is distributed by Intelsat and is downlinked by expanded digital radio service in the Asia Pacific region by 2021, relaying from Australia.

Under the new Five-Year Plan, the English and Multi-language services of ABC Radio Australia has a online streaming and live satellite coverage was expands to DAB+ via satellite and HF DRM in Australia's remote and rural areas by now until 2025.

The proposals have announced that the ABC Radio Australia considers a broader range of bespoke content would be more effective means for connecting with overseas audiences in Australia, Asia and the Pacific was funding from both improved FM broadcasting capabilities and closure of shortwave radio transmission services will be reinvested in expanded relayed digital radio services across Asia, Pacific, India and the Middle East.

Back in March 2020, the Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club organised a special event station VI3RA to communicate with amateur radio operators worldwide.

When the new digital radio services expands is finalised we will circulate it, the Radio Australia transmission and rebroadcast services remains under consideration.

The equipment to the disused antenna arrays at the Shepparton site of old Radio Australia shortwave transmitters will relocated to expands it's DAB+ and DRM services, co-located with ABC Radio and Triple J transmitters in regional areas of Australia.

ABC/SBS digital radio funding

The ABC and SBS had plans to receive a frequency 206.352 MHz on DAB+ channel block 9C went extends into regional Australia, but the Government was a federal funding in costs of reinvestment.

Broadcast Australia completed its radio transmission services, we can deliver the upgrading to new digital radio transmitter sites across the country, including the new mast of upgraded ABC Local Radio tower in Townsville area.

The new DAB+ and Digital Radio Mondiale transmitters at its various sites across regional Australia, ABC and SBS radio stations which improve the crystal clear reception for expansion of digital radio at increased 700+ sites.

These services will match the coverage provided by commercial radio services in these areas.

We plans to expand the digital radio services is improve digital radio reception in surrounding areas of all capital cities and some regional centres to get on-channel repeaters for extending coverage of the existing digital radio services in Sydney, Canberra, Brisbane, Melbourne, Hobart, Adelaide, Darwin and Perth.

This enabled the ABC and SBS to provide more locally appropriate content to listeners on the AM and FM transmitters of ABC and SBS in 60 locations, which now receive the roster of ABC and SBS radio services expands to DAB+ via satellite service across remote and rural areas as their new program source for transmission.

ABC's Parliamentary News Network and SBS's National Radio Network will join the DAB+ and Digital Radio Mondiale services across metropolitan and regional areas during the five-year period 2020 to 2024.

Analogue stations ABC Radio's 45 regional stations, Radio National, ABC Classic, ABC News Radio, Triple J, SBS Radio 1 and SBS Radio 2 expands to digital radio rollout.

While Digital-only stations ABC Grandstand, ABC Jazz, ABC Country, ABC Kids Listen, Double J, Triple J Unearthed, SBS Radio 3, SBS Arabic24, SBS Chill, SBS PopAsia and SBS PopDesi extends into regional and remote areas.

Retransmission services of ABC and SBS stations on the analog frequencies had also expands to digital radio in surrounding, remote and rural areas.

BBC World Service funding

The BBC has a partnerships with ABC, SBS and community radio stations will be expansion of the BBC World Service to a transmission of the new service can be received at DAB+ via satellite in remote areas.

The direct relay of BBC World Service is broadcast in direct-to-home via satellite on the new DAB+ digital radio platform across remote and rural areas of Australia.

It has numerous local AM and FM partner stations which broadcast the BBC World Service in English and languages other than English will be expands to DAB+ and Digital Radio Mondiale across Australia, including ABC Radio National, ABC News Radio, SBS Radio, various community radio stations, narrowcast stations and narrowband stations, as well as live online streams.

Alongside SBS Radio 3 broadcasts the BBC World Service African English service is also heard on DAB+ in major cities across Australia, plus new DAB+ satellite will copy the BBC World Service station through VAST channel.

ABC News Radio broadcasts BBC programmes every week, RPH Australia stations now carry the World Service of BBC overnight, SBS Arabic24 relays the BBC Arabic service and SBS Radio broadcasts BBC World Service languages throughout the overnight.

Deutsche Welle funding

The local partner stations expands to digital radio which broadcast Deutsche Welle programming is being heard every week on ABC News Radio, SBS Radio and various community radio stations at least, no charge.

An partnership with ABC, SBS & community stations discuss DW to offer few radio programmes on digital radio.

Brendon Agpasa and Communications Minister Paul Fletcher MP are committed to working with the Government to create a more certain funding environment and would welcome a partnerships with the Government and radio broadcasters to ensure the student's public good contributions for all Australians can continue.

For more information: <https://www.acma.gov.au/consultations/2019-08/future-delivery-radio-services-australia-consultation-132019> submissions, also www.drm.org, www.worlddab.org, www.digitalradioplus.org.au, www.communications.gov.au/what-we-do/radio/digital-radio, www.acma.gov.au/digital-radio-broadcasting.

Kind regards,

Brendon Agpasa