

TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION STRATEGY ROADMAP



ABOUT THE EBU

The **European Broadcasting Union (EBU)** is the world's foremost alliance of public service media (PSM). Our mission is to make PSM indispensable.

We represent more than 100 media organizations in 56 countries in Europe, the Middle East and Africa; and have an additional 34 Associates in Asia, Africa, Australasia and the Americas.

Our Members operate nearly 2,000 television and radio channels alongside numerous online platforms. Together, they reach audiences of more than one billion people around the world, broadcasting in almost 160 languages.

We strive to secure a sustainable future for public service media, provide our Members with world-class content from news to sports and music, and build on our founding ethos of solidarity and co-operation to create a centre for learning and sharing.

We have offices in Brussels, Rome, Dubai, Moscow, New York, Washington DC, Singapore, Madrid and Beijing. Our headquarters are in Geneva.

Discover more about the EBU at www.ebu.ch

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Public service media companies are undertaking a continued and significant transformation of their operations to strengthen their digital platforms, reduce costs, and simultaneously improve quality, reach and engagement with all audiences. At the same time, the recent sequence of crises has encouraged Members to rethink strategies for resilience and business continuity in production and distribution.

The EBU and its Technology & Innovation (T&I) department are dedicated to addressing Members' strategic and business needs. T&I facilitates Members' responses to these challenges by providing a powerful platform to address gaps and common issues collectively, by overseeing the creation of impactful guidance and solutions, by facilitating the exchange of knowledge, and through advocacy within international forums that drives and influences policies – helping Members to achieve outcomes that individual players could not hope to achieve on their own.

This work is guided by the EBU Technical Committee (TC), a body of elected representatives from EBU Member organizations, which identifies issues of importance to the membership. The TC prioritizes and delegates this work to five Strategic Programmes (SPs), the engine rooms generating value for Members. The SPs oversee relevant working groups, collaborative developments and innovation projects. SPs are chaired, attended and run by expert representatives from the membership and coordinated by T&I.

This EBU Technology & Innovation Strategy Roadmap outlines the work foreseen by the EBU's Technical Committee (TC) and EBU Technology & Innovation (T&I) for the period of June 2023 to June 2025. It uses an 'activity-guiding framework' (Figure 1) to map the work that is overseen by T&I onto domains along a media organization's value chain. While technology is the focus of this Strategy Roadmap, the TC considers every activity in the context of business strategy.

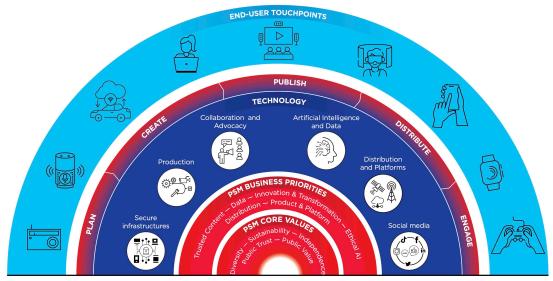


Figure 1: activity-guiding framework

The framework shows public service media (PSM) values and business priorities at the core of all operational and transformative activities, and end-user touchpoints with the audience as the ultimate delivery point for added value generate by an organization. Technology is the essential glue that connects a public service media organization's goals, its value chain, and its users. The work done by EBU TC working groups and T&I supports and improves the value chain at every stage, from planning to creation, publishing, distribution, and audience engagement.

The EBU Technology & Innovation Strategy Roadmap describes each of the EBU Strategic Programmes, listing their activities, and mapping them onto the relevant domain in the value chain.

The TC is aware that certain transformational activities as described above cannot be achieved in a siloed manner. When certain activities touch upon the work of other EBU Committees (e.g. Digital, Legal and Policy, TV and Radio, Academy, News, Sports) or other broadcasting unions, the TC proactively establishes collaborations with those Committees.

INTRODUCTION AND CHANGES TO THE PREVIOUS WORKPLAN

Formerly known as the EBU TC Workplan, this EBU TC Strategy Roadmap outlines the planned activities of the EBU Technical Committee for the period of June 2023 to June 2025. The present version contains changes made in spring 2023 by the elected members of the TC, in collaboration with the Chairs of its Strategic Programmes. The Strategy Roadmap is updated and endorsed by the EBU Technical Assembly (TA) every two years.

The Strategy Roadmap and the targets listed therein are put into action by the TC, its Strategic Programmes (SPs), and their working groups. The TC, its SPs and all working groups are attended by expert representatives from the EBU membership. Their day-to-day work is coordinated by the EBU Technology & Innovation department, in collaboration with other Committees and departments of the EBU.

Deliverables shown on the respective web pages of the SPs and their working groups and are continuously updated.

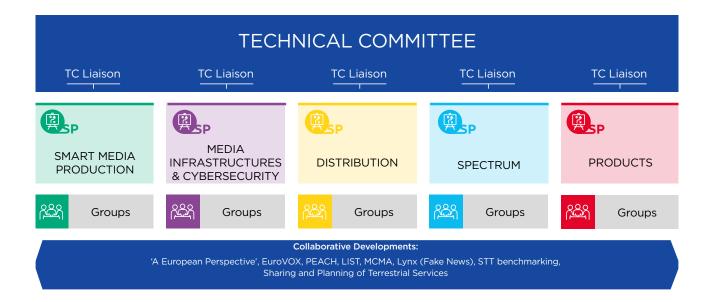
Note that the activities of the Technical Committee also depend on available resources from Members, including sufficient interest, commitment, and engagement.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES FROM THE PREVIOUS VERSION

- New name for the Strategy Roadmap (formerly Workplan).
- New activity-guiding framework.
- Throughout the document, changes that reflect new Member requirements and priorities arising from the accelerated digital transformation of PSM organizations.
- A much stronger emphasis on collaborative developments and transversal actions of all EBU Committees and EBU departments.
- Updates of the scope, objectives and deliverables of SP, and their mapping onto the activity-guiding framework. The number of SPs remains unchanged.
- Examples of major changes include:
 - New name and scope for the SP Products (formerly SP Platforms).
 - New name for the SP Smart Media Production (formerly SP Digital Media Production) to emphasize the work on AI.
 - Closure of the groups on Implementing Open Innovation and Loudness
 - Even stronger focus of SP deliverables on PSM goals in the digital era.
- Establishment of a 'Think Tank' advisory body for the Technical Committee, with the goal to fast-track young technology talent and ideas.
- New name for the Media Technology Futures group (formerly Broadcast Technology Futures group)
- Former 'Communities of Practice' are now simply listed as groups. They function much as working groups, but with an extended scope.

WORKING STRUCTURE

The TC activities are carried out through the TC's Strategic Programmes (SPs) and their working groups. This work is supported by a range of Ancillary Activities.



STRATEGIC PROGRAMMES

The Technical Committee has defined a comprehensive set of primary strategic goals, grouped under **five overarching Strategic Programmes (SPs)**.

| Purpose: | To consider technological and economic aspects in addressing the mid and long-term strategic challenges of EBU Members |
|----------------------|--|
| Leadership: | Chair and one or more Vice-Chairs from EBU Members |
| Coordination: | EBU T&I staff |
| Participants: | Employees of EBU Members |
| Oversight: | Technical Committee and dedicated TC Liaison |

Each SP is tasked with organizing itself to meet the goals set in the Strategy Roadmap in the most efficient way, and in line with the available resources from Members and EBU T&I. Agile practices and working methods shall be applied where possible.

Each SP shall maintain a list of deliverables and actions, for reference by the Technical Committee, Technical Liaison Officers (TLOs) and EBU Members, on the groups' respective web pages.

WORKING GROUPS

SPs create **working groups**, gathering Members and industry experts to undertake activities in specific areas, with the parent SP retaining overall responsibility for those activities. Generally, one or more deliverables and an associated timeline are defined. Groups can also work with high levels of confidentiality or as open forums. While linked to a specific SP, they can operate transversally across all SPs and together with other EBU departments.

| Purpose: | Carry out dedicated tasks and undertake R&D in specified areas of |
|----------------------|---|
| | the parent SP's domain and facilitate also sharing and learning |
| Leadership: | Chair (EBU Member) |
| Coordination: | EBU T&I staff |
| Participants: | Employees of EBU Members and/or relevant industry experts |
| Oversight: | The group's parent SP |

COLLABORATIVE DEVELOPMENTS

Collaborative Developments are established by EBU T&I or based on the EBU's strategic planning in agreement with the Technical Committee. They are designed to generate innovations, respond to needs for prototyping, the creation of minimum viable products, and longer term product development. They may call on expertise from SPs and other EBU statutory Committees.

| Purpose: | Contribute to specific products or services |
|----------------------|---|
| Leadership: | EBU staff with a steering board of relevant experts, including from Members |
| Coordination: | EBU T&I staff |
| Participants: | Employees of EBU Members who contribute to the work |
| Oversight: | Regular reports to a specific SP and to the TC |

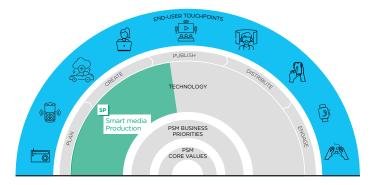
ANCILLARY ACTIVITIES

This strategy roadmap also outlines other activities of EBU T&I, such as Research & Development & Innovation (R&D&I) coordination, interdepartmental work, leadership of, and contributions to, external organizations, EU projects, regular and one-off conferences, and a wide range of publications. The website tech.ebu.ch contains the most up-to-date information about ongoing work.

The following pages outline the scope and primary goals of each SP and list the related Groups and Collaborative Developments.

Additional goals, as proposed in surveys or identified by SPs, will be published on the website. The corresponding deliverables for the primary goals will be defined by each SP and published on their respective web pages.

SP SMART MEDIA PRODUCTION



The main objective of the SP Smart Media Production is to facilitate a shift away from the traditional dominance of linear production methods in Radio and Television towards multi-service and audience-centered smart media production, new ways of storytelling, and the creation of innovative media experiences. The SP covers video and audio, but also pays particular attention to the growing role of data, artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML), as well as workflows that leverage these new capabilities. It also considers the bridges that will need to be built between old and new to enable a smooth transition and avoid the emergence of new silos.

The work of the SP emphasizes support for technology roadmaps that empower creatives as part of both linear and digital media supply chains. Its work objectives center on concrete technology deliverables that enable new, more efficient and flexible workflows, and on continuously enhancing the technical quality of content to audiences. Located at the frontline of innovation, the SP also works to analyze the impact of emerging media technologies, engages on new standards and with industry groups, and facilitates concrete collaboration and co-development between Members.

The SP Smart Media Production anchors the transversal projects on Sustainability and Accessibility. Both of these projects undertake a variety of activities, addressing all areas of production and distribution, and across several SPs.

PRIMARY STRATEGIC GOALS

- Assist Members in developing and using efficient production workflows
- Ensure and improve the end-user Quality of Experience
 - Provide a common Quality Control language and a database of QC terms, templates and initiate a developers' area
- Track the evolution of media creation technologies and the production ecosystem (e.g. postproduction, news systems, AI-enabled cameras and production tools, and archive systems)
- Enable Members to make the right investment and transformation decisions for their...
 - transition toward UHDTV, including HDR and live production workflows
 - transition to Personalized Sound Experiences, including ADM-based tools development and implementation
 - implement flexible and adaptable production workflows for audio, video, data and AI
- Provide guidance, best practices and hands-on workshops for Members on
 - Production and contribution codec quality, based on testing and benchmarking
 - cloud-based production and future newsroom systems
 - LED wall-based virtual production and CG animation in real-time without mocap suits
- Investigate the benefits for Members regarding...
 - multi-cloud environments and microservice frameworks for media
 - the evolution and impact of Metaverse/Multiverse technologies, NFTs, and Web3
 - object-based media, including for accessibility
- Trend-scout and perform studies to build Member knowledge regarding...
 - developments in volumetric production and spatial media
 - improved accessibility through 'Seeing, Hearing, Participating and Understanding' personalized services, incl. a focus on moving from linear to non-linear services
 - sustainability matters, including policies and organizational strategies, but in particular the impact of production and technology choices (e.g. the use of AI, streaming, the cloud, etc.)
- Trend-scout, create and share knowledge on the topics of data, AI/ML, and computing architectures

- Leverage AI to support all aspects of content production, including the areas of...
 - fake news detection (including relevant product development)
 - serverless cloud workflows
 - generative AI in media production (in liaison with other groups)
- Development of...
 - AI benchmarking framework for facial recognition
 - EBU metadata standards (EBU Core, EBU CCDM)
 - cloud-hosted metadata exchange platform for archives

CO-CHAIRS

Stephan Heimbecher (SWR), Tatjana Mladenovic (BBC)

VICE-CHAIRS

Daniele Airola Gnota (RAI), Werner Bleisteiner (BR), Morten Brandstrup (TV2 Denmark), Florian Camerer (ORF), Alberto Ciprian (RAI), Ultan Courtney (RTÉ), Eileen Duggan (RTÉ), Andrew Dunne (BBC), Jürgen Grupp (SWR), Philip Holdgate (ITV), Xaviere Farrer Hutchinson (France Television), Roberto Iacoviello (RAI), Philip Klenk (SWR), Dave Marston (BBC), Jeremy Mathieu (BBC), Nigel Megitt (BBC), Alberto Messina (RAI), Karl Petermichl (ORF), Andy Quested (ITU), Wolfgang Rein (SWR), Simon Thompson (BBC), Kim Viljanen (YLE)

TC LIAISON

Robin Ribback (SRG SSR)

WEBSITE & CONTACTS

tech.ebu.ch/production

GROUPS OVERVIEW

Audio

- Audio Systems and Workflows
- Personalized Sound Experiences
- Video
 - Video Systems and Workflows
 - UHD TV Strategy Support
 - HDR Implementation Task Force
 - HDR Downmapping
 - Video Evaluation
 - Quality Control (qc.ebu.io)

• Data

- Metadata & Al
- Metadata Models
- Al Benchmarking
- Media Cloud & Microservices (MCMA)
- Metadata Developer Network

Accessibility

- Timed Text
- Sustainability for PSM

Green Production Workflows

- Newsroom Workflows
- LED Virtual Production
- CG Animation in real-time
- Mediaverse
 - Media Technology in the Metaverse
- Hybrid Cloud-based Production (transversal with SP Media Infrastructures

& Cybersecurity)

COLLABORATIVE DEVELOPMENTS

AI Benchmarking

Develops an open source software to allow for a more objective performance comparison of AI facial recognition, speech-to-text, and Generative AI systems.

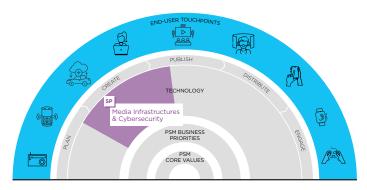
LynX

Develops a tool for the detection of fake news as well as other applications such as author identification.

MCMA

Develops a cloud-agnostic microservice framework for media and works towards the standardization of key aspects to facilitate the creation of bespoke workflows by users.

SP MEDIA INFRASTRUCTURES & CYBERSECURITY



The focus of the SP Media Infrastructures & Cybersecurity is on the evolution of broadcasters' media production infrastructures and architectures to enable greater efficiency, flexible and secure on-site and remote workflows, as well as greater shareability and findability of content.

Driven by the business needs of a modern PSM organization, the primary objective is the transformation from traditional broadcast media production infrastructures towards network, software, and cloud-based architectures, as well as a much higher degree of automation in digital media production workflows. In addition, media cybersecurity and trusted data exchanges and data management are also key topics, especially in the context of this transformation to software, IP-based, cloud, and data-driven workflows.

As global industry players provide the hardware and software for media infrastructures that Members deploy in their media organizations, the SP engages with the industry in the very early stages of the development of emerging technologies, in standards development, and with EU bodies and industry groups. It also facilitates concrete innovative collaboration and co-developments between Members.

This SP anchors the transversal activities on Media Cybersecurity and Media Data Spaces.

PRIMARY STRATEGIC GOALS

- Enable Members' transition to IP and software-based facilities as well as on-premise and public cloud-based production environments, to increase efficiency, reduce cost and provide scalability and flexibility in production.
- Ensure that Members have access to on-premise and cloud-based media production platforms that are secure, interoperable, portable and energy efficient, and that guarantee data privacy and data sovereignty.
- Consolidate and share knowhow among Members.
- Create technical recommendations and profiles for example Live IP-based architectures to assist Members' investment strategies.
- Ensure that Members can fully leverage their data and exchange it with partners within trusted data spaces.
- Investigate and assess production connectivity solutions (e.g. SRT, RIST, and 5G and satellite in collaboration with SP Distribution).
- Influence the standardization of new infrastructure technologies in line with the requirements of EBU Members, and perform interoperability testing and associated development.
- Improve cybersecurity across the media supply chain, by raising awareness across the industry and within EBU Membership, and by developing cybersecurity best practices and strategies. Assist Members' strategic planning with frameworks and tools to improve the maturity of core organizational functions.
- Trend-scout, create and share knowledge on topics from the wider technology sector.

CHAIRS

Phil Tudor(BBC)

VICE-CHAIRS

Willem Vermost (VRT), Peter Brightwell (BBC), Rainer Jochem (ARD/SWR), Nick Hopewell (BBC), Juergen Grupp (SWR), Regine Carpentier (RTBF)

TC LIAISON

Brian Wynne (RTÉ), Robin Ribback (SRG), Willem Vermost (VRT)

WEBSITE & CONTACTS

tech.ebu.ch/infrastructures

GROUPS

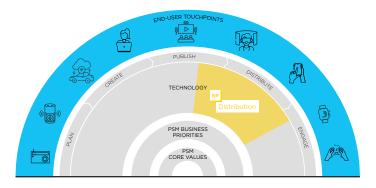
- System Design & Automation
- Media Cybersecurity (transversal across SPs)
- Gaia-X
- Capability Framework
- New Builders (jointly run with EBU Academy)
- Hybrid and Cloud based Production (Transversal with SP Smart Media Production)

COLLABORATIVE DEVELOPMENTS

EBU Live IP Software Toolkit (LIST)

The Live IP Software Toolkit enables advanced measurements in IP-based and cloud-based live production facilities, including contribution links via SRT and RIST protocols. LIST is being prepared for the transition into a joint user and industry association.

SP DISTRIBUTION



This SP investigates and influences the evolution and development and of media transmission and distribution network technologies. The overarching objective is to ensure that these technologies are capable of meeting EBU Members' distribution requirements. The scope of the SP Distribution covers Radio, TV and other media services.

PRIMARY STRATEGIC GOALS

- Study the relevance and benefits of different media distribution options for EBU Members, including conventional broadcasting and fixed and mobile communications networks, as well as their evolution, in particular in terms of reach, quality, costs, and market position.
- Influence the standardization of new distribution technologies and build cross-industry support for solutions in line with EBU Members' requirements.
- Assist EBU Members in assessing emerging distribution technologies, including 5G, aiming to increase reach, address new markets, and provide improved services. This includes the technical, economic, and regulatory framework for the distribution of content and services and 5G-based production and contribution.
- Investigate broadband distribution architectures including CDN-based solutions and possible alternatives, gather best practices and facilitate information sharing among EBU Members.
- Investigate the opportunities and threats of OTT-only based distribution of EBU Members' content and services including PSM's own platforms and third-party platforms.
- Share and document best practices in phasing out legacy distribution technologies
- Investigate the resilience-related aspects in distribution.
- Investigate the sustainability-related aspects in distribution.

Some of these goals require appropriate collaboration with other Strategic Programmes and with the EBU Legal & Policy and Media communities.

CHAIRS Roland Beutler (SWR)

WEBSITE & CONTACTS

tech.ebu.ch/distribution

GROUPS

- Mobile Technologies and Standards
- Broadband Distribution Architectures

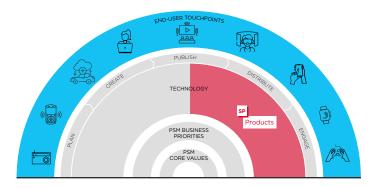
VICE-CHAIRS Andrew Murphy (BBC), Paul Tweedy (BBC)

TC LIAISON

Michael Nugent (ERT)

COLLABORATIVE DEVELOPMENTS

SP PRODUCTS



The scope of the SP Products covers all audience-facing services, with the goal of helping EBU Members to sustainably deliver the best experience to the end-user, on any device, at any time. By working with Members on current best practices and future requirements, this work helps to refine current offerings and realize longer-term strategies.

The crafting of user-facing products involves the entire value chain supported by workflows, services and technical standards. Therefore, this SP's activities include the development and promotion of open and interoperable standards, as well as open source software.

PRIMARY STRATEGIC GOALS

- Help Members with their digital product implementation strategy.
- Providing a PSM voice for industry standardization.
- Ensure PSM access and prominence on connected devices, including automotive, smart speakers and smart TVs.
- Provide tools and services enabling Members to develop new user experiences for online and hybrid platforms, including recommendations, personalization, and translation technologies.
- Support and promote the collaborative development of innovative services for Members to share content, form new alliances and broaden their reach, and respond to relevant EU projects.
- Influence the market with proof-of-concepts that help Members to realize their business goals now and in the future.

Many of the objectives have transversal interest, especially with the EBU Media Department, and thus appropriate coordination will be ensured.

CHAIRS

Jörgen Bang (SR)

VICE-CHAIRS

Elisha Sessions (BBC), Christian Klöckner (WDR), Remo Vogel (RBB)

TC LIAISON

Simon Tuff (BBC), Victor Sanchez (RTVE)

COLLABORATIVE DEVELOPMENTS

EuroVOX

An open ecosystem for the transcription and translation of audio-visual and text content, both ondemand and near real-time, using open APIs and standards.

PEACH

The personalization and recommendation ecosystem built by broadcasters for broadcasters, enabling Members to provide a personalized cross-device experience to the end-user. Also includes discussions on data science, analytics, algorithms, and user profiling.

'A European Perspective' (formerly News Pilot)

An online news initiative aimed at building a trusted information space based on shared public service values. This project uses automatic translation, AI and recommendation algorithms to provide the tools that journalists need for news monitoring across Europe, and an exchange of digital news stories able to be displayed to audiences on member's own websites in their native language, regardless of the source.

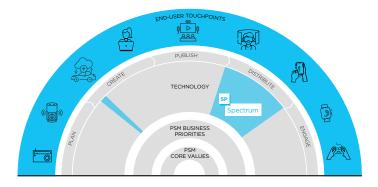
WEBSITE & CONTACTS

tech.ebu.ch/products

GROUPS

- Connected Cars and Devices (incl. Radio)
- TV platforms
- Products Kaizen
- Recommenders

SP SPECTRUM



The scope of the SP Spectrum includes the protection of access to the electromagnetic radio spectrum for Members' production and distribution requirements, the definition of policies and regulatory frameworks, as well as broadcast network planning aspects to support the success of media services in the short, medium and long term. It requires cooperation with the global broadcast community, and engaging with administrations in ITU, EU and CEPT.

The work largely depends on the four-year ITU-R cycle, such as the one culminating in the World Radiocommunication Conference in November/December 2023 (WRC-23). The outcome of this conference defines the work of the next ITU-R study cycle, starting December 2023 with the first Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM-27-1) preparing for WRC-27.

PRIMARY STRATEGIC GOALS

- Promote Members' interests in preparatory work for WRC-23 agenda item 1.5, which deals with the future use of the UHF band.
- Promote Members' interests in other WRC-23 agenda items as required (e.g. satellite frequencies for direct-to-home (DTH) and satellite news gathering services (SNG)).
- Promote Members' interests in the preparation of future spectrum conferences (e.g. WRCs).
- Influence regulatory and standardization organizations on Member's spectrum and relevant technological interests.
- Protect broadcasting services, including the internet delivery of broadcast content and wireless production tools, from possible threats arising from all aspects of 'electromagnetic compatibility' (EMC) and changes to the electromagnetic environment.
- Provide Members with guidance on system, network planning and spectrum aspects of 5G-Broadcast deployment, as well as on other broadcast technologies (e.g. DAB+, DVB-T2) as needed. Study improvement of current coverage planning predictions and monitor the quality of existing prediction technologies.
- Gather and analyze information from Members about the existing and predicted use of 'programme making and special events' (PMSE) equipment, and promote Members' interests in relevant regulatory groups.
- Influence regulatory and standardization organizations on the sustainability of broadcast distribution.

CHAIRS

David Hemingway (BBC)

VICE-CHAIRS

Cath Westcott (BBC), Susanne Rath (ARD/BR), Jochen Mezger (ARD/BR), Walid Sami (EBU)

TC LIAISON

Per Björkman (SVT), Ziad Elmakahleh (JRTV)

WEBSITE & CONTACTS

tech.ebu.ch/spectrum

GROUPS

- Sharing and Planning of Terrestrial Services
- Electromagnetic Interference and Compatibility
- Programme Making and Special Events (PMSE)
- Broadcast Coordination Group on Spectrum
- DTT Promotion & Monitoring

COLLABORATIVE DEVELOPMENTS

Sharing and Planning of Terrestrial Services

The Sharing and Planning of Terrestrial Services project group is a collaborative project group cochaired by EBU and Broadcast Networks Europe (BNE).

Matlab spectrum codebase

Development of a Matlab codebase to support sharing studies and broadcast network planning.

ADDITIONAL EBU T&I ACTIVITIES

OTHER COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

EBU T&I is engaged in collaborative projects with other EBU departments and Members. Examples of this are the PEACH recommendation system, the EuroVOX transcription and translation toolkit, the roll-out of the pan-European news sharing service 'A European Perspective' and its newsroom-facing derivatives, as well as training and workshops offered by EBU Academy.

EXTERNAL PROJECTS

EBU T&I undertakes a variety of activities involving the European Commission and other European organizations (e.g. ESA). These activities comprise feedback to open consultations, such as the future Horizon Europe programmes, as well as concrete project participation in funded EU R&D projects. Prominent examples are the EU Horizon Europe projects 'vera.ai' and 'Stadiem' ("Startup-driven Innovation in European Media"), as well as the '5G Emerge' and TEMS (Trusted European Media Space) projects. The aim of these engagements is to create synergies between the activities of this TC Strategy Roadmap and pan-European research consortiums, and to make contributions to future EBU services for Members (e.g. 'A European Perspective' and respective EU funded projects).

EBU FLAGSHIP EVENTS

Together with the SPs and EBU Members, the EBU T&I department organizes workshops, conferences and webinars throughout the year that help to exchange knowledge on current and emerging technologies and issues, foster the exchange between PSM and the wider industry, and allow Members to network. A series of flagship conferences take place on an annual basis as follows:

- Production Technology Seminar (January)
- Data Technology Seminar (March)
- Sustainability Summit (April)
- Network Technology Seminar (May)
- Technical Assembly (June)
- International Broadcast Convention IBC (September)
- Media Cybersecurity Seminar (October)
- Horizons (November)

TECH-I MAGAZINE

The EBU T&I department publishes the quarterly magazine tech-i, designed for technical staff and managers of EBU Members and other broadcast-related companies.

MEDIA TECHNOLOGY FUTURES GROUP

The MTF group gathers the heads of R&D and Innovation departments at the ARD's 'competence centres', BBC, NHK, Rai, SRG SSR, TVP, VRT, YLE, and invited guests. The group is investigating the option for more bodies to join. It is led by EBU T&I. An overarching objective of this group is to coordinate and share R&D strategies and spin up joint R&D and innovation activities when required. In addition, the group proactively influences the research agenda of the European Commission and coordinates submissions and open consultations. The group liaises with other initiatives such as the Future Media Hubs of VRT and RTBF.

THINK TANK

The Think Tank is a sub-activity of the Technical Committee with the aim to fast-track young technology talent and ideas. The group gathers interested participants from across the EBU membership and provides a direct line to the TC through which new ideas, concepts and observations can be brought to bear.

AI AND DATA INITIATIVE

The AI and Data Initiative is mandated by the EBU Executive Committee and engages in a cross-disciplinary exploration of the opportunities and challenges of AI and data in PSM, including regulatory aspects, technologies, organizational matters, skills, strategy and content developments. The initiative serves as a transversal focal point to helps PSM transition to AI and data-driven service offerings. The AIDI core group hosts monthly community discussions, regular micro-workshops and conferences, and creates publications, with the aim to share knowledge and best practice, integrate efforts, and collaboratively identify needs and priorities. AIDI liaises with SPs and other EBU departments on AI and data-related matters, and engages in dialogue and collaborations with international organizations on this topic. The Initiative is chaired by Bob van de Velde (NPO) and Léonard Bouchet (RTS), and coordinated by EBU T&I.

REPRESENTATION AT INDUSTRY STANDARDARDIZATION AND REGULATORY FORUMS

EBU T&I and its staff retain several administrative and senior management functions within partner organizations internationally. Examples are DVB, HbbTV, WorldDAB, RadioDNS, SMPTE, AMWA, ETSI, 5G-MAG, 3GPP, the InterSDO group, and others. EBU T&I in collaboration with Members also represents Members' interests in international regulatory organizations, in particular in the ITU, CEPT and towards the European Commission, RSPG, and BEREC. These functions are closely linked to many of the Technical Committee's objectives.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ANNUAL STUDY MISSION

Technical Committee members and Technical Liaison Officers undertake an annual study visit to a country or region where there are major technical developments under way that may have an impact on the EBU and its Members. Their findings are reported to EBU Members.

ADDITIONAL CROSS-EBU ACTIVITIES

The EBU T&I department actively collaborates with colleagues in other EBU departments. Some specific examples are listed here:

- Training programmes established in collaboration with the EBU Academy (e.g. Live IP curriculum, AI training, cybersecurity, public speaking for engineers).
- Collaborate with the Connected Car group, run by the EBU Media department.
- Regulatory and EU consultations, in collaboration with the EBU Legal department and the EBU Brussels office (e.g. on platform regulation, AVMS review, net neutrality, data regulation, radio spectrum policy, WRCs).
- The 'A European Perspective' service (formerly News Pilot) and several EU project funding submissions.
- 'Access Services' knowledge sharing with the EBU Media department's Access Services group.
- Regular T&I contributions to the workshops and peer reviews of the EBU Digital Transformation Initiative (DTI).
- Alignment with the Digital Steering Committee on topics of common interest.
- Collaboration with EBU News and Sports (e.g. newsroom planning, advice on innovation in relevant technologies).

NEXT STEPS

By working together through Strategic Programmes, Groups and Collaborative Developments, EBU Members are able to achieve much more than by working in isolation.

The success and progress of the activities depends on the resources provided by the Members and the Technology & Innovation department.

For information about how to get involved in our work please contact the respective coordinators of the Strategic Programmes.

For more detailed descriptions of the roles of the Technical Committee, Technical Liaison Officers and the Technology & Innovation department please see: tech.ebu.ch/aboutus

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