



# The WRC Series - 600 MHz

## Momentum is growing

### THE TIME TO START PLANNING IS NOW

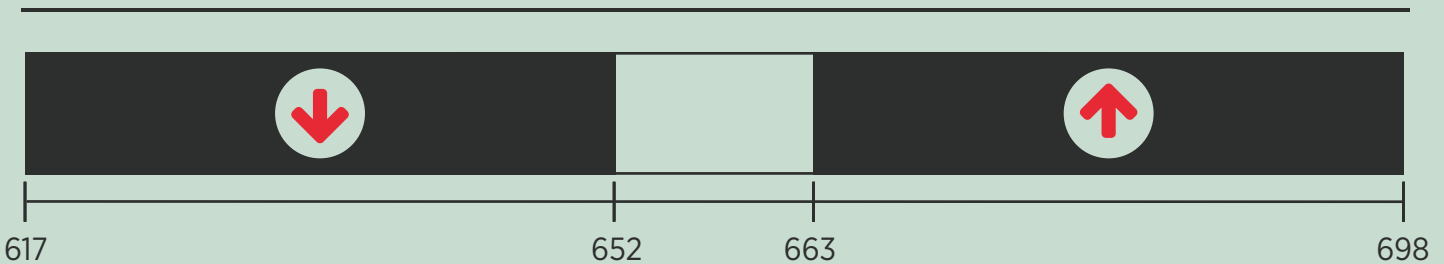


#### Data usage continues to grow around the world

The limited amount of spectrum available below 1 GHz will ultimately run out of capacity. This puts mobile broadband at risk in emerging markets, rural areas and inside buildings. Therefore, Long-term planning is key to enable countries to offer great mobile services for everyone.

Countries working on the digital TV switchover should consider including 600 MHz for mobile broadband in their spectrum roadmaps.

3GPP Band 71



### WHAT SHOULD HAPPEN NEXT?



Improve harmonisation of the 600 MHz band for mobile broadband.



Countries are advised to include 600 MHz in their broadcast replanning, this helps minimise TV broadcast disruptions.



Efforts on making 600 MHz available for mobile services should not delay work on other bands below 1 GHz.

### WHAT'S HAPPENING AT WRC?

The preliminary agenda item for WRC-23 seeks to review the frequency band 470-960 MHz in Region 1, including mobile allocations and IMT identification in all or parts of the band.



The GSMA supports a WRC-23 agenda item to identify additional spectrum for IMT below 1 GHz.

## NORTH AMERICA IS TAKING THE LEAD

Harmonised frequency arrangements are essential for the development of all bands, including 600 MHz.

The US is the first country to make the 600 MHz spectrum band available for mobile broadband. It uses 3GPP band 71 following the successful allocation of spectrum through an incentive auction which concluded in April 2017

In April 2019, Canada concluded its 600 MHz auction

Mexico is planning an auction for 2020

## A 600 MHz ECOSYSTEM IN THE MAKING

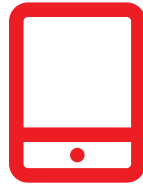
Use of the band by mobile operators in the US and Canada will help make 600 MHz an option for countries that want to improve rural broadband performance.

### Network



Network equipment is widely available

### Devices



There are more than 35 compatible devices

Source: GSA

### 4G+5G



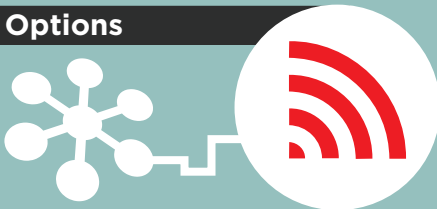
T-Mobile uses 600 MHz for LTE, and will roll out 5G too

## WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO TERRESTRIAL TV?

Regulators should consider how much spectrum is utilised by broadcast TV. Even in countries where terrestrial TV is heavily used, people predominantly watch a limited number of TV channels. At the same time, the growing popularity of streaming services such as Netflix is changing viewing habits.



### Options



In the EU, long-term priority is given to broadcasting until 2030. This is balanced with the opportunity for each country to take a more flexible approach to alternative spectrum use.



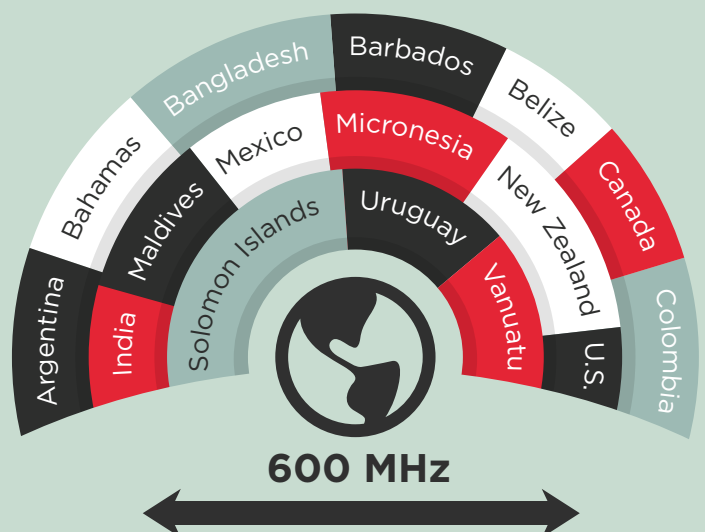
More

COUNTRIES

Are

GETTING BEHIND

600 MHz FOR MOBILE



Read more about WRC and spectrum for 5G at:

<https://www.gsma.com/spectrum/wrc-series/>

<https://www.gsma.com/spectrum/5g-spectrum-guide/>

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