Digital Dividend
The Croatian Experience

- Ivančica Sakal -

CROATIAN POST AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY

- HAKOM -

Bucharest, Romania
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- Digital to analog transition finalised in October 2010 – 790-862 MHz clear in Croatia
- **Different neighbours** – different transition possibilities and strategies
- D.D. not available for use on the whole country
- Analysis of possible interferences – frequency blocks of different qualities
DIGITAL DIVIDEND - MECHANISM

- Valuable spectrum – decision not only on technical basis – economical and political
- Possible mechanisms of assignment – public call (supply exceeds demand), beauty contest, auction
- Regulator – auction the cleanest way, each bidder responsible for its own actions
- Exhaustive preparations necessary – analysis and software
Croatia – market conditions and economical crisis influenced the choice

From consultations only 2 operators interested

State budget needs money ASAP

Public call chosen – quickest transparent way of assignment

Fees defined by the Ministry
3 blocks 2x10 MHz – operators define priorities on frequency blocks, first-come-first-served (first application, defined in the Law)

In case of 2 operators – middle block empty (possibility for the 3rd or new operator or divide between 2 existing)

Disadvantage – same price – different blocks – 1 dissatisfied operator

All international conditions described in public call (transmitters in neighbouring countries)

Documentation: http://www.hakom.hr/default.aspx?id=1122
2 operators won blocks 2x10 MHz in October 2012 until 2024 – one operator already started implementation in rural areas – public call justified (free spectrum remained)

Situation with neighbouring countries improving

Procedure of solving interference to DVB-T receivers in progress

Possible assignment of free block (either 2x2x5 MHz or 1x2x10 MHz)
- Auction the best way for the regulator – preparations necessary, takes time
- Solving interference to DVB-T receivers – define responsibilities before assignments
Thank You for Your Attention!

Mr. Sc. Ivančica Sakal
Department Manager Radiocommunications