



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS, CONTENT AND
TECHNOLOGY

Connectivity
Radio Spectrum Policy Group
RSPG Secretariat

Brussels, 07 June 2022
RSPG22-016 FINAL

RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY GROUP

Progress Report of the RSPG Sub Group on Climate Change

The RSPG Working Group on “Climate Change¹” (hereinafter: SG) held three Webex meetings since the last RSPG plenary (9 February), in order to initiate the work outlined in the Work Programme for 2022 and beyond. The group has started examining existing studies and setting out action points to work towards a stakeholder questionnaire or consultation in the near future, in order to gather information about initiatives to limit the climate impact of wireless communication technologies as well as the enabling effect of said technologies. No material is presented to the Plenary for approval at this stage.

1. Webex meetings

The web-meetings focused on how to organise the work (including meetings), discussing which preliminary tasks are necessary to undertake in order to work towards a questionnaire, and presenting a status of the tasks.

2. Next steps

The group will continue holding Webex meetings for the time being, but it is also looking at the possibility of holding physical/hybrid meetings and workshops (either virtually or with physical participation).

RSPG work item: update to Plenary	
Work item	Climate change mitigation
Rapporteur/s	Víctor Fernández López, Danish Agency for Data Supply and Infrastructure, Rory Hinchy, Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications, Ireland
Rationale	<p><u>Rationale</u></p> <p>The RSPG Opinion on the Role of Radio Spectrum Policy to help combat Climate Change provides a series of recommendations to the European Commission, Member States and stakeholders to continue the path towards a more environmentally-friendly society through the use of wireless technologies.</p> <p>The Opinion suggests further avenues in terms of spectrum regulation, harmonisation, voluntary initiatives, information gathering, etc. It is also recognised that the relationship between sustainability and electronic communications is also covered elsewhere. For example, the work in the BEREC Working Group on Sustainability should be followed closely in order to avoid a potential overlap.</p>

1. Role of Radio Spectrum Policy to help combat Climate Change

	<p>Two particular points raised by the Opinion fall into the purview of activities of the RSPG and it is therefore proposed to continue working on those points in the RSPG:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The need for a common set of methodologies in order to understand and assess the impact of ECS wireless technologies on climate change, involving ECS stakeholders and all interested parties, and with a particular focus on the ECS radio component. 2) The importance of having accurate information on emissions and energy efficiency related to spectrum use on a national level (e.g. reports from network operators). <p>These activities will help Member States and the EC to take appropriate regulatory actions within the spectrum area in order to combat climate change.</p>
Scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying methodologies to assess the energy efficiency of wireless technologies, including the influence of variables such as the frequency band, type of access technology, etc. Input from stakeholders (e.g. through a workshop) may be required. • Collecting practices from Member States on how energy efficiency is measured and managed nationally in relation to the spectrum area, including how data to assess the energy efficiency is collected. • Assess how efficient spectrum policies can facilitate a green digital transition of Europe, to reduce carbon emissions.
Planned deliverables and timing	To be determined.
Analytical approach	To be determined.
Project plan	To be determined.
Dependencies	To be determined.

Members, stakeholders and resources

Members	<p>Austria, BMLRT Austria, RTR CEPT, ECC and ECO Cyprus, Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works Czech Republic, Czech Telecommunication Office Denmark, Danish Agency for Data Supply and Infrastructure</p>
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	<p>EU, European Commission Finland, Traficom France, ANFR France, ARCEP France, Ministère des finances Germany, BNetzA Germany, BMVI BUND Greece, EETT Hungary, NMHH Ireland, DECC Ireland, ComReg Italy, AGCOM Italy, Ministry of Economic Development Malta, MCA Norway, KMD Norway, NKOM Poland, Ministry of Digital Affairs Portugal, ANACOM Slovenia, AKOS Sweden, PTS The Netherlands, Minezk The Netherlands, Agentschap Telecom</p>
Key stakeholders	<p>Telecom operators Vertical industries Equipment suppliers</p>
Other resources	