

Nigeria to use television white space technology to provide internet

More than half million of Nigeria's rural population will have internet through the use of Television White Space Technology (which is unused spectrum in the broadcasting band) and which can be used to deliver broadband services to rural communities.



Image source: Gallo/Getty.

The Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) is working with the National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) to develop a framework for the use of TVWS technology to extend affordable rural connectivity to 56% of Nigerians, according to the *Daily Trust*.

“NCC takes the connectivity of every Nigerian irrespective of where he or she resides very importantly. So, what we do is to look out for technology that fits into making this happen for us. TVWS is one of such technologies because it is coming to utilise the spectrum in the lower megahertz band and as it is, the spectrum is very good because it propagates very far,” said Austine Nwaulune, director of spectrum administration for the NCC.

“So, you need less number of base stations to deliver services on TVWS and the fact that rural communities are very challenging, does not mean that people in those communities should not be connected,” he said.

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