



**GRANT CONTRACT SIGNED FOR
SOUTH-EAST EUROPEAN DIGITAL
TELEVISION – SEE DIGI.TV
PROJECT**

Project: South-East European Digital Television

Acronym: SEE Digi.TV

Version 2.0; Date: 28.12.2011

Grant Contract signed for South-East European digital Television – SEE Digi.TV Project

By the signing of a grant contract, under the EU pre-accession programme IPA, with the Agency for Regional Development of the Republic of Croatia on 28 December 2011, funds have been ensured for the implementation of the project entitled: “South-East European Digital Television – SEE Digi.TV”. The total value of the project is EUR 1,987,230.50, of which EUR 140,959.97 is allocated to the Croatian Post and Electronic Communications Agency (HAKOM) and the Electronic Media Agency (AEM) for their joint implementation of the project in Croatia. EU contribution of 85 percent is financed from the Instrument for pre-accession assistance fund (IPA) and HAKOM and AEM co-financing is 15 percent. The project’s duration is 16 months.

The project has been designed for the harmonization of the activities in the South East European (SEE) region related to the introduction of digital television.

The switchover from analogue to digital broadcasting in SEE Digi.TV region is by far more complex process than in other European countries, due to highly distinct infrastructural, legal, technological, economic, social and institutional disparities and diversities. Digitalization opens the doors to versatility of ICT services, which significantly contributes to the sustainable development of the region and lessens the digital divide.

SEE Digi.TV overall objective is to execute integrated and coordinated territorial development linked to the A/D switchover process and prevent potential negative social, economic and technical implications in case of process failure at national and regional level. Some of the specific objectives of the project are the following:

- to minimise digital divide within the region to promote development and implementation of new interactive services on highly penetrated DVB-T technology platform;
- to reduce legal, technological and administrative inequalities in the given field by providing harmonized legal, technical, economic and information campaign approaches and actions;
- to reduce the gap between EU countries and the project region in the area of digital TV broadcasting;
- to harmonize the technology and standardization applied for DVB-T in the region;
- to foster development and implementation of new services for all population groups in the region.

HAKOM and AEM will benefit from the project in all areas of implementation, by receiving best practice from the region and taking part in the coordination of very important areas of regulation in the field of Analogue to Digital switchover, efficient usage of the digital dividend and development of new broadcasting and communication services.