

## Trends in tropical bands broadcasting 2020

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Since the Danish Short Wave Club International published the first annual Tropical Bands Survey in 1973, I have registered which stations are active, based upon loggings from our members and other DX-ers around the world. Here is an updated status where Clandestine and Pirate stations are not included.

### Active domestic transmitters on 2200 – 5800 kHz

| Region                      | 1973        | 1985       | 1997       | 2009       | 2020      |
|-----------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| Central Africa              | 102         | 76         | 40         | 18         | 3         |
| Southern Africa             | 57          | 39         | 33         | 20         | 5         |
| Middle East                 | 9           | 4          | 1          | 0          | 0         |
| Indian Subcontinent         | 62          | 45         | 45         | 29         | 11        |
| South East Asia             | 40          | 29         | 21         | 4          | 1         |
| Indonesia                   | 171         | 105        | 65         | 13         | 2         |
| China, Taiwan, Mongolia     | 119         | 110        | 75         | 32         | 15        |
| CIS (former USSR)           | 61          | 59         | 47         | 7          | 4         |
| Far East                    | 38          | 28         | 28         | 9          | 7         |
| Papua New Guinea            | 17          | 20         | 20         | 15         | 2         |
| Australia and other Pacific | 10          | 4          | 13         | 8          | 6         |
| Central America, Mexico     | 21          | 23         | 24         | 5          | 1         |
| Caribbean                   | 29          | 3          | 3          | 2          | 3         |
| Northwestern South America  | 98          | 41         | 19         | 3          | 1         |
| Ecuador                     | 47          | 33         | 22         | 5          | 0         |
| Peru                        | 78          | 69         | 78         | 28         | 8         |
| Bolivia                     | 35          | 42         | 25         | 14         | 1         |
| Brazil                      | 107         | 87         | 67         | 35         | 13        |
| Southern South America      | 5           | 2          | 1          | 0          | 1         |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>1106</b> | <b>819</b> | <b>627</b> | <b>247</b> | <b>84</b> |

During the past year the previous trend, that Tropical stations slowly disappear, continued throughout the world with a loss of about 10 stations. A year ago the Total was 92. The reason is, that other media get higher priority, than keeping elderly Shortwave transmitters alive.

Here are some of the stations on the Tropical Bands, which have closed down during year 2019:

| kHz  | kW   | Station                           | Country   | Last log |
|------|------|-----------------------------------|-----------|----------|
| 3200 | 50   | TWR, Mpangela Ranch               | Eswatini  | JUL19    |
| 3265 | 50   | WBCQ, Monticello, Maine           | USA       | AUG19    |
| 3345 | 10   | RRI Ternate, Pro. Maluku Utara    | Indonesia | MAY19    |
| 4760 | 8    | AIR, Port Blair, Andaman          | India     | FEB19    |
| 4775 | 50   | TWR, Mpangela Ranch               | Eswatini  | NOV19    |
| 4835 | 0,1  | OZY R, Mount Razorback, NSW       | Australia | JAN19    |
| 4845 | 10   | R Cultura, Manaus, AM             | Brazil    | MAR19    |
| 4895 | 50   | AIR, Kurseong, Paschim Banga      | India     | MAR19    |
| 4965 | 5    | R Alvorada, Parintins, AM         | Brazil    | FEB19    |
| 5005 | 15   | R Nepal, Khumaltar                | Nepal     | FEB19    |
| 5580 | 0,25 | R San José, San José de Chiquitos | Bolivia   | FEB19    |