

## Trends in tropical bands broadcasting 2020

by Anker Petersen

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