



FAST FACTS

HEADQUARTERS: Washington, D.C.

BUDGET: \$196.4 million (FY13)

EMPLOYEES: 1121

LANGUAGES: 45

AUDIENCE: 171.6 million weekly

MEDIA: radio, television, mobile and the Internet

PURPOSE: to broadcast accurate, balanced, and comprehensive news and information to an international audience

FACILITIES: 20 radio broadcast studios, 30 radio production and recording studios, 29 professional audio mixing and dubbing studios, 5 full television studios, 2 automated broadcasting TV studios, 3 television production studios, 32 video editing suites, and facilities for master control, recording, scheduling, and feed intake

HISTORY: broadcasts began in 1942 as a response to the need of peoples in closed and war-torn societies for reliable news



“The news may be good. The news may be bad. We shall tell you the truth.”

– William Harlan Hale, 1st VOA Broadcast (1942)

VOA PRODUCTS AND PROGRAMS

- VOA broadcasts about 1,800 hours of radio and television programming each week to an estimated global audience of 171.6 million people.
- Language services use their websites and social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube to share content and interact with the audience.
- VOA’s world-renowned music and English-language learning programs are enjoyed by millions of people around the world.
- Journalists in VOA’s 30,000 square foot Newscenter work around the clock with a global network of correspondents to provide comprehensive news and analysis on key issues, U.S. government policies, and cultural developments.
- VOA programs are delivered on satellite, cable, shortwave, FM, medium wave, streaming audio and video and more than 2,350 media outlets worldwide.

“Voice of America is also Voice of Africa.”

– Ivory Coast Ambassador Daouda Diabate



THE VOA CHARTER

President Gerald Ford signed the VOA Charter into law in 1976. It protects the independence and integrity of VOA programming.

1. VOA will serve as a consistently reliable and authoritative source of news. VOA news will be accurate, objective, and comprehensive.
2. VOA will represent America, not any single segment of American society, and will therefore present a balanced and comprehensive projection of significant American thought and institutions.
3. VOA will present the policies of the United States clearly and effectively, and will also present responsible discussions and opinion on these policies.

VOA is one of the largest multimedia news organizations in the world.



VOA AND TECHNOLOGY

- VOA has the largest integrated digital audio system in the world.
- A network of transmitting stations operated by the International Broadcasting Bureau, along with some leased stations, sends VOA's programs instantaneously around the world.
- The website, VOANews.com, provides a wide range of English-language news reports and serves as a portal to homepages of all 45 languages broadcast by VOA, as well as other information about VOA.
- A state-of-the-art digital asset management system enables VOA journalists to record, view and edit video, deliver content to studio control rooms, write scripts and search commercial newswires in a single program.

For more information about the VOA Studio Tour, VOA Experts available to the media, and the latest press releases, go to InsideVOA.com



SEE VOA LIVE

- Take a behind-the-scenes look at VOA through our guided tour.
- Learn more about our history and the regions to which we broadcast, and watch broadcasters during live TV and radio programs.
- For reservations or more information, call (202) 203-4990 or visit VOAtour.com

THE BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS (BBG)

- The BBG is an independent federal agency that oversees all non-military U.S. international broadcasting including the Voice of America.
- Nine Governors serve on the Board. Eight are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The ninth is always the Secretary of State.
- Its mission is "To inform, engage and connect people around the world in support of freedom and democracy."

VOA broadcasts around the world in 45 languages:

AFRICA

Afan Oromo
Amharic
Bambara
English
French
Hausa
Kinyarwanda
Kirundi
Ndebele
Portuguese
Sango
Shona
Somali
Songhai
Swahili
Tigrigna

EAST ASIA

Burmese
Cantonese
Indonesian
Khmer
Korean
Lao
Mandarin
Thai
Tibetan
Vietnamese

VOA ENGLISH

EURASIA

Albanian
Armenian
Bosnian
Georgian
Macedonian
Russian
Serbian
Ukrainian

LATIN AMERICA

Creole
Spanish

SOUTH & CENTRAL ASIA

Azerbaijani
Bangla
Dari
Kurdish
Pashto
Turkish
Urdu
Uzbek

VOA PERSIAN



VOICE OF AMERICA PUBLIC RELATIONS

330 Independence Avenue, SW | Washington, DC 20237 | Tel: (202) 203-4959 | Fax: (202) 203-4960 | Email: askvoa@VOANews.com
VOANews.com | InsideVOA.com | facebook.com/insidevoa | twitter.com/VOABuzz