

A typical measurement campaign

Typical profile of a national measurement campaign

The “all-out” test conducted in Ghana has enabled the profile of a SOURCE measurement campaign to be visualized for an entire country. Nearly 2 local teams measured 6,500 km during a field campaign lasting slightly less than a month.

Owing to adjustments to the method made since then (giving new gains in productivity), a nominal SOURCE campaign (reference network of 3,800 km) in Ghana would take around four weeks for a single team.

In Ghana, the overall productivity was 125 km of network measured per day and per team, unproductive periods included (rest days: + 20%).

The net productivity of a measuring team was already 150 km of network measured per day and per team for 200 km covered.

The ordinary periodicity recommended for SOURCE measurement campaigns on a national scale is one every three years. This corresponds to the recommendations of specialized bodies the world over and to standards in force in developed countries. And it is naturally consistent with the usual trend cycles of a major network.

Reference network trends

The initial SOURCE reference network, for a given country, from one 3-year period to the next, may change marginally (inclusion of new routes, upgrading or downgrading of some links -according to relevant

criteria-, etc.). There will consequently be a simple exercise to update or verify the reference network before beginning a SOURCE measurement campaign.

How much?

Here again, the experience in Ghana provides a tried and tested basis for assessing direct field costs of SOURCE measurements.

At 2 USD per km, we attain the technical minimum level possible for any method based on surface travel over a network. This takes into account the terms of vehicle hire in Africa, which tend to be prohibitive.

Economic structure of the experimental measurement campaign in Ghana

Field costs	USD	USD per net measured km	Initial estimates
• 64 d hire 4-wheel drive with driver	7 040	1.09	1.23
• fuel (for 9,100 km)	1 067	0.16	0.26
• small items of equipment	350	0.05	0.05
• 64 d payroll + per diems	4 800	0.74	0.88
TOT	13 257	\$2.04	\$2.42

Frequency

It is naturally up to the client of a SOURCE measurement campaign to determine the network to be treated, depending on his own approach.

The SOURCE reference networks, which are essential samples on which to base cross comparisons, actually tend to correspond to the hard core of priority networks defined by the authorities in charge.

