The Overwhelming Challenge of Producing HDTV

The producer, when considering an HDTV option, must consider the many variables necessary to plan, produce, and distribute HD product. The process involves many elements of production that intertwine into a complex decision scheme. I currently battle this roadmap to "TV nirvana" with constant discussions, research, and trial-and-error to determine a set of heuristics. However, the topic is complex (even removed from a larger discussion of Digital TV) and fluid in the standards, technology, and processes.

The producer will be required to make decisions in each of the concepts identified. Each decision and concept affects other components which may affect timeline, personnel, equipment, and budget.

¹ Includes all production personnel that will need to make decisions based on knowledge regarding HDTV production. This includes both management positions, production positions, and distribution positions. An example of positions includes: producers, directors, DP's, editors, colorists, telecine specialists, animators, CGI specialists, operations management, etc.