



**CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF
COMMUNITY RADIO
MOVEMENT**

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Content

Preliminary Report on Training of Trainers Workshop on Poverty Alleviation and Disaster Management through Community Radio	Page 2
AMARC-WIN appeals for participation in the AMARC-WIN 16 Days Broadcast Campaign to Denounce Gender Violence in the Media	Page 8
Full text of the proceedings of the Dhaka Round Table is now available	Page 10

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Asia Pacific level training of trainers workshops on the role of Community Radio in Poverty Alleviation and Disaster Management organised in Yogyakarta



The Asia Pacific regional office of AMARC, with the financial support of the Ford Foundation, Indonesia and in collaboration with Combine Resources Institution (CRI-Indonesia), Association of Community Radio Broadcasters of Indonesia (JRKI), and AMARC-Japan Working Group organized training workshops on the role of community radios (CR) in poverty alleviation and disaster management in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. The workshop on the role of CR in Poverty Alleviation was held on the 17th and 18th of October and the workshop on the role of CR in Disaster Management was held on the 19th and 20th of October, 2008. 42 participants from Indonesia, the Philippines, East Timor, Japan, Fiji Islands, Pakistan, Bangladesh, India, and Nepal representing the community radio sector, NGOs/donors supporting community radio, government delegates, development workers and radio activists participated in the workshops.

Highlights of the Workshops

A. Role of Community Radio in Poverty Alleviation

The workshop on role of CR in Poverty Alleviation enabled participants to map poverty issues, especially from the point of view of community radios and the communities they serve. This was followed by a discussion on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and included presentations ranging from women's role in poverty alleviation to engaging with the community to achieve the MDGs. The outcomes achieved from mapping poverty were put together with the MDGS to help the participants to identify key areas of intervention in terms of radio programming.

This workshop saw a number of presentations on poverty alleviation issues ranging from Effective Linkages: Linking Community Priorities with the National/International Poverty Issues to Networking for Information Sharing, from Effective Programming for Poverty Alleviation to the Challenge of Producing Radio Programmes to address Poverty Alleviation. The key note address was delivered by Ashish Sen, President of the AMARC Asia Pacific and a Trustee of Voices, an NGO based in India and a key proponent of CR in that country. He spoke about the **"Opportunities for Participation and Transformation"** and the role of "voice" as a critical ingredient for poverty alleviation. Ashish talked about the three main challenges faced by CR in the Asia-Pacific region, namely, legislation, inclusion

and equity. He defined poverty as a complex condition that involves empowerment rights and opportunities as well as material deprivation as stated by the ICT for poverty reduction study facilitated by UNESCO. He further elaborated that material deprivation could not be viewed in isolation and hence a pro-poor perspective is required to define poverty. He shared some good examples from community media initiatives being carried out in India and how these had benefitted the common people.

Some of the other key presentations made in the workshops were:

- 1) **"Women's Role in Poverty Alleviation: Opportunities and Empowerment"** by Dina Listiorini, Lecturer, Atma Jaya Radio, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- 2) **"Engaging with the Community in Addressing the MDGs"** by Raghu Mainali, Coordinator of Community Radio Support Centre, Nepal and Vice President of AMARC Asia-Pacific for South Asia
- 3) **"Poverty alleviation for women and marginalised groups: Experiences from Fiji"** by Pua Karikaritu, Project Assistant, Partners in Community Development Fiji (PCDF), Fiji Islands
- 4) **"Livelihood Issues, Poverty and Radio"** by Najib Ahmad, Power 99 FM Network, Pakistan
- 5) **"Decoding the Policies: Community Radio's Role in Sharing Policy Information"** by Ashish Sen, President, AMARC Asia and Pacific and Trustee of VOICES, India
- 6) **"Engaging with Women and Marginalised Group for Poverty Alleviation through Community Radio - Experiences from SEWA"** by Namrata Bali, Executive Director, Self Employed Women's Association, Gujarat, India
- 7) **"A General Picture of Community Radio Working with Poverty Issues - Sharing of Experiences of Indonesian Community Radios"** by Anton Bhirowo, University of Atma Jaya, Indonesia
- 8) **"Networking- Achieving Goals through Solidarity: Bangladesh Experience"** by AHM Bazlur Rahman, Chief Executive Officer, Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio & Communication (BNNRC), Bangladesh
- 9) **"Learning from other CRs on successful Poverty Alleviation programmes and how to link with them through AMARC"** by Suman Basnet, Coordinator, Asia Pacific Region, AMARC
- 10) **"The Challenges of Networking among Islands – Experiences from Indonesia"** by Bowo Usodo, President, Jaringan Radio Komunitas Indonesia (JRKI)
- 11) **"Endorsing People's Initiative and Poverty Alleviation through Community Radio - Experiences from Indonesia"** by Wartati from Radio Gema Nusa, Indonesia.
- 12) **"Making Radio Program for Poverty Alleviation"** by Saiful Bahtiar, Radio Trainer, CRI, Indonesia
- 13) **"Poverty Alleviation: Its Issues and Challenges for Community Radio"** by Ernestin Dian Maharani, from Atma Jaya Radio, Indonesia

- 14) “Creative Ways of mixing off-air and on-air programmes to address poverty alleviation - Sharing experience from Lintas Merapi” by Sukiman, Radio Lintas Merapi, Indonesia

B. Role of CR at times of Natural Disaster

This workshop addressed three key concern areas:

- 1) How can CRs ensure safety of their resources at times of disaster and quickly come back into operation following a disaster;
- 2) How best can CRs help or assist in the immediate relief of those affected by natural disaster;
- 3) What role can CRs play in the longer term rehabilitation and rebuilding of the community?

After extensive deliberations and discussions on the three issues, the workshop concluded with the preparation of guidelines, recommendations and a pledge document for safe guarding community radio stations during disaster to be followed by the radio stations to ensure better preparedness. A task group was formed from among the participants to coordinate and finalise these guidelines. A draft of the document is given below:

Disaster Readiness (Pre-disaster Preparation)	
<i>External - Preparation and Planning</i>	<i>Internal - Preparation and Planning</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct public awareness campaigns • Develop networks with Local Disaster Management and Response (DMR) NGOs, local government and key stakeholders • Liaise with community leaders • Develop links with potential donors • Publicise station frequency • Broadcast public planning meetings • Outreach to the elderly, marginalised and other vulnerable groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decentralise and copy important documents • Training of on air personnel on what and how to broadcast • First aid training for station personnel • Technical preparedness • Guidelines for managing staff and volunteers • Contingency planning • Map community (ethnicity, religion, race, culture, vulnerability) • Prepare pre-recorded emergency response announcements
Emergency Response (During Emergency)	
<i>External – On Air</i>	<i>Internal – Behind the Scenes</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadcast pre-prepared announcements • Broadcast emergency public meetings • Broadcast emergency evacuation announcements • All announcements broadcast in a re-assuring and calm manner • Dispel myths and rumours • Provide timely and accurate updates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure safety of all station personnel • Call station briefing meeting • Notify CR networks of status • Monitor all official announcements • Enact station evacuation plan if needed • Log all communications for reference
Recovery and Rehabilitation (Post-disaster Responses)	
<i>External – Networking and Support</i>	<i>Internal – Evaluation and Review</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadcast pre-prepared announcements • Broadcast recovery announcements • Cooperate with DMR NGOs, local government and key stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decentralise and copy important documents • Call meeting of all personnel to debrief • Evaluate response and update guidelines

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadcast recovery public meetings • Interview trauma counsellors • Provide call in or talk back programs for people to people interactions • Broadcast positive entertainment Programming 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check physical infrastructure and repair damage • Log all communications for reference • Update preparedness and response manuals as required
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The agenda for the 'Training of Trainers workshop in Disaster Management through Community Radio' was based on the survey response on "Practices of Community Radio during Disaster Situations'. There were a number of presentations on experience sharing and essential disaster preparedness like manual preparation, staff training, and damage mitigation to CR station, responsible reporting and effective relief management. Some of the main presentations made during the two day workshop are listed below:

- 1) **"Experience of Community Radios in Japan with Natural Disaster Management"** by Junichi Hibino, Founder, Community Radio FM YY, Kobe, Japan.
- 2) **"Women, Natural Disaster and Role of Community Radio"** by Namrata Bali, Executive Director, Self Employed Women's Association, Gujarat, India
- 3) **"Natural Disaster Management and how community radios can deal with it"** by Imam Prakoso, Director, Combine Resources Institution, Indonesia
- 4) **"Sharing the usefulness of a having a manual by community radios"** by Dina Listiorini, Radio Atma Jaya, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- 5) **"Staff Training and Adequate Measures for Natural Disaster Preparedness especially for services to the Elderly, Women and Children"** by Tetsuo Matsuura, AMARC Asia Pacific Regional Board Member, Japan
- 6) **"The Need of Training Beyond Editing and Recording: Management, Marketing and Technical Knowledge"** by Najib Ahmed, Power 99 FM Network, Pakistan
- 7) **"Producing Content for the Dalits – Examples from India"** by Naguveer Prakash, Community Radio Kalanjiam, India
- 8) **"Women Participation in Emergency Response following a Disaster"** by Ade Tanesia, Programme Manager, COMBINE Resource Institution, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
- 9) **"How to sustain broadcasting in the immediate aftermath of disaster – Use of Emergency Radio for Reconstruction"** by Nina Fujibayashi, Seeds Asia, Japan
- 10) **"Presentation of the Survey on the Practices of Community Radios in Disaster Management Situations"** by Prativa Chhetri, Project Officer, AMARC Asia Pacific, Nepal
- 11) **"Community Radio as an Early Warning System - Experiences from Indonesia"** by Ketut Sutawijaya, Combine Resource Institution, Indonesia
- 12) **"Sharing Experiences of damages to the community radio station due to natural disaster"** by Jaswadi, Angkringan FM, Indonesia

- 13) "Effective Measures for Damage Mitigation at the Radio Station" by Elanto Wijoyono, Combine Resource Institution, Indonesia
- 14) "Radio and Disaster Management – The Australia Context" by Shane Elson, AMARC Asia Pacific Regional Board Member, Australia
- 15) "Roles and Responsibilities of CRs On-air and Off-air vis-à-vis Natural Disaster" by Najib Ahmed, Power 99 FM Network, Pakistan
- 16) "How to use Disaster Management Audio Materials for Community Radio Broadcasting" by Masayuki Ishizu, JICA-Hyogo Disaster Reduction Learning Center, Japan.
- 17) "Gender fair and respectful reporting about women and other marginalized and vulnerable groups" by Bianca Miglioretto, AMARC Asia Pacific Board, WIN Representative for Asia Pacific, Philippines.

C. What did the Participants Say?

Some of the remarks from the participants during the workshop are given below:



Rita Baros (Timor Leste): I thank the organisers for giving me the opportunity to participate in this workshop. The issues addressed in the workshops are very relevant to the situation in Timor Leste and I am taking back useful lessons from this workshop to address some of those".

Wartati (Indonesia): I am grateful for the opportunity to be able to share the issues facing my community in Kampung Laut. Though the challenges are many we believe that we will be able to overcome it. I have learnt a lot during this workshop and I will go and share this learning with the others".



Bazlur Rahman (Bangladesh): This workshop has provided us action and it is time for reflection. I put on record my thanks to the organisers for organizing such an event and suggest that this type of training should be held in South Asia also.

Eurico Pereira (East Timor): I see this workshop as an opportunity to build networks and protect ourselves. As the issue of poverty alleviation is not just an Indonesian issue or a regional one but it is a global issue and we should examine what CR has been able to achieve within its own community on the issue of poverty alleviation.



Pua Karikaritu (Fiji Islands): As we have only one CR in Fiji, this is all new to me. But this workshop has been an eye opener to me and I have learnt a lot. I am glad to have met participants from other countries and share their knowledge. I am going back with a lot of information. I thank AMARC and the organizers for providing me this opportunity.

Pak Wahyono (Indonesia): Such workshops should be held regularly; we get the opportunity to learn about poverty issues in other countries also and effective ways of tackling them.





Supriyanto (Indonesia): I learned a lot in the two days of the workshop. I feel that there must be an empowerment in the Association of Community Radio Broadcasters of Indonesia (JRKI) in order to have more bargaining power with the government. Though CR is still a small voice in the community it has the potential to bring about a change.

D. What Next?

The "Training of Trainers workshop on Poverty Alleviation and Disaster Management through Community Radio" was organised under the "**Disaster Management and Poverty Reduction through Local Community Radio**" project being implemented by AMARC. Some of the other critical components of the project include development of web base resource for CR to deal with poverty and natural disaster, a compendium of best practices from CRs from Asia Pacific on dealing with natural disaster; production of case studies on how CR can integrate the poor and marginalised to produce radio with the aim of reducing poverty and exclusion, and strengthening of CR network at the grassroots.

The training workshops were conducted with the view that the participants attending this workshop will go back to their respective CR stations and share the information and knowledge gained with the others. The criteria for selecting the participants were either they were trainers or with some background on conducting training so that the knowledge would be disseminated. Following the successful conclusions of the two workshops, the steps to pursue are the sharing the report of the workshops, conducting case studies on the role of community radio in poverty alleviation and finalization of the pledge document for safe guarding community radio stations during disasters to ensure better preparedness.

Radio programmes on how to reduce poverty will be distributed among at least 25 community radios in Indonesia by the organisers and reports from minimum 10 community radio stations will be sought to gauge their effectiveness. The case studies once finalised will be shared among the community radio stations who participated in the workshop to learn best practises and share information.

Alliance formed during the workshops will be pursued to forge networks and increase membership to AMARC from Indonesia and other countries of the Asia Pacific region.

AMARC will help strengthen the AMARC-Indonesian website with help from Combine Resources Institution, Indonesia and the AMARC-Japan website with inputs from the AMARC Japan Working Group.

To provide sustainability to the initiative beyond the project duration, all participants of the two workshops will be included in the AMARC Indonesian Working Group email list and links strengthened through AMARC future endeavours.

For more information about the training workshops and the overall project, please write to Prativa Chhetri, Project Officer, chhetri_prativa@yahoo.com.

AMARC-WIN appeals for participation in the AMARC-WIN 2008-16 Days Broadcast Campaign to Denounce Gender Violence in the Media

Montreal, 1 November 2008.

Women's International Network of AMARC has called upon all Community Radios of the world and especially the women workers of the CRs to send their contribution to AMARC-WIN's internet based global broadcast campaign being organised to mark the 16 days of Activism against Gender Violence. The 16 days campaign will begin on the 25th of November, which is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, and will carry on up till the 10th of December, 2008. The internet based global campaign is about sharing programs among the community radios individually and also collectively from the web based portal. It is also about getting united for a common cause. Campaigns like this, which are organised on a regular basis by AMARC, help to strengthen CR networks so that they can function as effective content production and sharing mechanisms, among many other things.



The 16 days of Activism campaign is a golden opportunity for community radio workers to make a difference in the lives of countless women in the communities by trying to change the existing social, cultural and political perceptions prevailing in many parts of the world that ignores and/or encourages plights of women. By participating in this campaign we will tell the world that we care for fellow women who are suffering, that women are not voice-less and that women in the community radio sector are united to fight against brutality.

This multilingual broadcast campaign mobilizes community radios around a global issue and encourages them to use new communication technologies such as the Internet to extend the reach of their voices. Radio stations around the globe are invited to download the audio files from the AMARC-WIN 16 days website and broadcast them in their radio stations during the 16 days campaign which starts on November 25th and end on December 10th 2008.

Share your radio programs; contribute to this year 16 days radio marathon. AMARC WIN is looking forward to your pre-recorded material that focuses on "Media and Violence against Women". Material on other subjects will also be welcomed. The language, length and format of the audio programs are discretionary. Please send us your material in MP3, OGG or WAV format. For the broadcast on November 25th we need your material by November 23rd, any material sent later will also be posted on the website throughout the campaign. For more information visit: www.amarc.org/16days. The campaign will be broadcast at www.amarc.org/16jours

Some of the key theme and issues to be covered by the campaign are:

The theme of the campaign is "Media and Violence against Women" and is aimed at denouncing gender violence in the media. The campaign will cover the following points:

1. Media as an instrument in combating violence against women;
2. Violence against women as projected in the media which "normalizes" violence;
3. Violence committed against women media practitioners.

For addressing these themes, there are several ways to design your content and the following are just a few ideas for those interested to participate:

1. You can interview a fellow woman broadcaster in your community radio station or of a CR station that you listen to or know about, about her experience of having covered issues related to women; you can ask her about how her work is supported or not supported by her colleagues, how her report has been received by the women in the community; the impact of her work, the general reaction of the community to her work, etc.
2. You can interview to make a feature report or a radio documentary about women who suffer discrimination, harassment and ill-treatment at work or by society for their work in the media;
3. You can interview or make a feature report about one or several women in the community that have shown a way out of suffering and inspired many others in the community;
4. You can make a radio documentary on how organised women's groups in your community or country are breaking ground and changing the way women are treated by the media and the society in general

These are just a few ideas and everyone is most welcome to come up with her or his own plans, ideas, and programme designs. The following important international events will take place during the campaign and that your radio programme can cover these issues too:

1. November 29th: International Women's Human Rights Defenders Day
2. December 1st: World AIDS Day
3. December 6th: Commemoration day of the Montreal (Canada) Massacre in 1989
4. December 10th: International Human Rights Day.

Language:

Programmes can be in any local language. It will be very helpful to send the following information in English about your programme:

1. Title of the programme
2. Main issues covered
3. Format: (such as interview, table discussion, feature report, news report, radio documentary, etc.)
4. Duration

Where to send the programmes:

Please write to me at chhetri_prativa@yahoo.com to get detail information about where and how to send your radio programmes.

*For the history of the INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN Check out: [Assassination Of The Mirabal Sisters Of The Dominican Republic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mirabal_sisters)
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mirabal_sisters*

For further information about Women International Network (WIN), please visit: <http://win.amarc.org/index.php?p=home&l=EN>

Full text of the proceedings of the Dhaka Round Table is now available

Full text of the proceedings of the Dhaka Round Table is now available upon request. The Round Table was organised on July 9, 2008 in Dhaka, Bangladesh to discuss the development of community radio in Bangladesh and to analyse the future challenges and the steps to be taken to meet those challenges. Please write to suman@wlink.com.np should you be interested to receive a copy. The report will also be available online by the end of November 2008 at <http://asiapacific.amarc.org>.

Join AMARC

Become a member NOW!

You can become a member of AMARC if you are one of the following:

- ❖ **Community Radio Station**
- ❖ **Federations and Associations of Community Radio Stations**
- ❖ **Production Group**
- ❖ **Groups working towards the establishment of a community radio station**
 - ❖ **Individual supporting community radio**
 - ❖ **Community development association**
- ❖ **Groups or organizations supporting community radios**

For application form, please visit: <http://amdb.amarc.org/membershipform.php>