

Inspiring people to realize the vision of communication for all

Small Project Support in 2014

WACC

Communication rights provide the context and conditions for the full exercise of freedom of expression in a complex and mediated society in which power and control of resources are distributed unevenly. Freedom of expression lies at the heart of communication rights, which help to generate a creative cycle of interaction between people and groups in society, which in practice enables everyone to express their ideas, have them heard, duly considered and responded to.

Communication rights unite a set of enabling rights that taken together create a climate of mutual respect and tolerance not just between individuals, but between diverse communities and cultures, ethnic groups and nationalities. At the same time, implementing communication rights endorses and supports the notion and value of diversity.

For most of the world's people, communication rights remain a vision and an aspiration. Yet communication rights help people to express basic needs. Meeting those needs requires a strong political will and the allocation of substantial resources. Implementing communication rights depends on good governance and on civil society, which can play a key role in terms of advocacy and monitoring and exposing rights violations.



The ultimate beneficiaries of WACC's programme of small project support are people and communities who are denied communication rights. This includes the urban and rural poor, women and youth, and marginalized people living in countries where there is little respect for freedom of information and expression.



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SMALL PROJECT SUPPORT 2014

The goal of WACC's Small Project Support is to increase access to public communication and relevant information and knowledge for poor, marginalized, excluded and dispossessed people. This helps them to participate in shaping local and national decision-making about priorities and actions that affect their lives.

WACC believes that the under-representation of marginalized groups and their opinions and interests in public communication, as well as the prevalence of misinformation and stereotypes, hinders their inclusion and participation in society, governance and human development.

In 2014 WACC is continuing to focus on four areas of advancing and strengthening communication rights.



The aim of this initiative is to support civil society groups to carry out media monitoring through a gender lens and to engage with media professionals and media audiences on gender issues affecting media policy and practice. It focuses on political, economic and rural development news.

Project 2250 BENIN **Espoir de la Famille**

Promoting women's participation and engagement with media

Grant: Euros 9,870

Espoir de la famille is a non-governmental organisation that seeks to advance women's communication rights and leadership. Initially established by women living with HIV and AIDS to promote the rights of HIV+ persons, the NGO's work has broadened to support the participation of poor marginalized women in all

aspects of community development. Espoir de la famille designed this project to broach the problem of representation, participation and access of women to media. Despite the appreciable number of women working in the media, women are under-represented as reporters, as members of professional associations and in decision-making within media structures. Media contribution to advancing gender equality is minimal. Efforts must be made to reverse the trends and to promote gender equality in media policy and practice.

This project will strengthen the capacities of 40 women's rights activists to influence the media, dialogue with and hold media accountable for the integration of women's needs and concerns. The project will train 30 journalists on gender issues and the role of women in economic and social development. 4 advocacy campaigns based on the media monitoring results will be implemented to defend women's right to participate in the media. The project will convene 4 consultations with media professionals on media's responsibility to take into consideration women's needs and concerns.

Project 2305 NEPAL **Asmita Women's Publishing House, Media and Resource Organisation** **Media Monitoring & Advocacy for Gender Equality**

Grant: Euros 10,450

ASMITA is a non-governmental organization (NGO) whose objective is to advocate for gender equality, women's human rights, empowerment and progress through the mass media. It seeks to enrich the gender discourse in Nepali society, to understand the actual situation of Nepali women through research from gender perspective and to enhance mainstream media's gender-sensitivity and accountability to women. The project will monitor gender portrayal and representation in political, economic and rural development news in 18 newspapers, 4 radio and 5 television stations.

This is the first attempt in Nepal to monitor the news over an expanded time frame. The monitoring will generate substantive data for further advocacy, a national report and

WACC's Global Media Monitoring Programme team in Georgia reviewing media content. The GMMP takes place every five years.



awareness materials. The direct beneficiaries are project staff, journalists, media producers, media executives and civil society activists. The project will advance gender equality by encouraging gender-balanced portrayal and representation in news media. The evidence and subsequent advocacy are expected to compel media to formulate and implement in-house gender policies.

Project 2315 BOLIVIA

Fundacion Colectivo Cabildeo

Monitoring the presence of Aymara women in the mass media

Grant: Euros 10,000

Fundacion Colectivo Cabildeo is a women's collective committed to dismantling the relations of subordination of women in society and state structures, to promoting participation and the empowerment of women's organizations, and substantive participation in national, regional and municipal public policy. FCC works closely with indigenous leaders and organizations to defend their economic, political and communication rights. The project's overall goal is to influence the adoption of communication policies that are inclusive from an ethnic and gender perspective, to recognize the contribution of indigenous Aymara women in the Department of La Paz.

The project will monitor representation of gender and ethnic Aymara women in news about politics, the economy and rural development disseminated on 2 departmental

newspapers, 4 radio and 2 television stations. It will collect quantitative data on gender and ethnic disparities in news media content. The results will be published in a national newspaper and discussed in 3 talks, 4 radio programmes and a television-broadcast roundtable. The project will benefit Aymara women leaders and communicators, and strengthen their status from a political and communication perspective.

Project 2310 BOLIVIA

World Association for Christian Communication - Latin America

Communication rights from a gender perspective post-2015

Grant: Euros 24,860

WACC – Latin America is a volunteer-led association that promotes the right to communicate through media monitoring, research and capacity building. It is committed to an ecumenical communication approach that defends the full access to information and communication, promotes open and diverse media, and strengthens networks of communicators. Several global consultations are taking place to shape input into the Post-2015 Development Agenda that will replace the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) framework. The project presents an opportunity to impact discussions at regional and global levels. It seeks to introduce debate on communication rights with a gender perspective, and the need to address social and symbolic discrimination in order to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment.

A regional consultation with 60 experts and Latin American communicators from 6 countries will be held to analyze the impact of the MDGs through the lens of the Global Media Monitoring Project results from 2000 to 2010. Specifically, the analysis will focus on the representation of women in the media, and identify emerging gender and communication issues important for inclusion in the Post-2015 Agenda.

The meeting will develop a Latin American proposal on gender & communication for the Post-2015 Agenda considering several dimensions such as: public policy, citizens' right to communicate from a gender perspective, support to gender and communication initiatives and documentation of successful experiences on communication rights. The proposal will be presented to the United Nations, governmental delegations, organisations and individuals participating at the Post-2015 Development Agenda meetings.

Project 2301 BRAZIL **Rede Mulher de Educaçao**

Brazilian women in the news
Grant: Euros 15,000

Rede Mulher is a non-governmental organization that promotes and facilitates the inter-connection between women's groups all over Brazil, and abroad, constructing a network of services in popular feminist education. Rede Mulher develops actions to strengthen the capacity to challenge gender unfairness, institutional sexism and to valorize feminist contributions to society. The project addresses the problem of exacerbating racist and sexist stereotypes in the Brazilian media that are holding back the emergence of a fairer and more egalitarian society. The consequences are embodied in increased domestic violence, trafficking in women and sexual violence.

This project seeks to help change the current reality by educating key stakeholders on the need to adopt mechanisms of influence on mass media and social media, going beyond the critical reading and instrumentalist approach. Activists, researchers and journalism students in the 27 states of Brazil will participate in media monitoring and advocacy. The findings will be published in an online book to be distributed to state agencies, non-governmental organisations

and media houses. The project is expected to benefit particularly women of African descent located at the base of the social pyramid.

Project 2313 ECUADOR **Grupo de Apoyo al Movimiento de Mujeres del Azuay**

Women and electoral participation: What do the media say?

Grant: Euros 10,000

GAMMA is a not-for-profit organisation created by women to contribute to the construction of a fair, equitable and solidarity-based society. It seeks to unmask the workings of patriarchal culture in order to reveal the assumptions that discrimination, subordination, exclusion and violence are natural. The project tackles the normalization of subordination and exclusion of women in and through media, with the objective to transform the worldview that sustains discrimination, subordination, exclusion and violence against women.

The project will monitor gender portrayal and representation in electoral campaign news. It will contribute to the body of evidence gathered through critical media monitoring, with a view to encourage the active participation of citizens in influencing change in media practice. The project will deepen the analysis of media messages and portrayal of women and men during the 2014 electoral period. It will seek to influence change towards media practices that steer clear from gender stereotypes, as well as to build a citizenry that is more reflective and analytical about media messages.



The aim of this initiative is to strengthen the work of civil society organizations (CSOs) at the national level in the use of citizen journalism to advance the democratic participation and

active citizenship of marginalized peoples and communities.

Project 2251 ZIMBABWE **Creative Centre for Communication and Development**

Giving a BYTE to child brides by word of MOUSE!

Grant: Euros: 7,300

The Creative Centre for Communication and Development (Zimbabwe) intends to empower girls to use citizen journalism and digital media platforms to change attitudes that perpetuate the practice of child marriage, to educate and mobilise parents and community members, and to foster an enabling legal and policy framework to end child marriage.

In Zimbabwe child marriage contributes to economic hardships, human rights violation, and under-investment in the educational and health care needs of girls. This practice reflects society's negative attitude towards women revealing the fact that important decisions such as marriage, choice of partner and women's sexuality are all controlled by others from an early age until old age.

Expected outcomes of the project are reduced girls' risk of abuse; increased girls' decision-making power; decreased risks of HIV contraction; improved sexual and reproductive health for girls and reduced infant mortality. In the longer term this project is expected to secure economic dividends in advancing the Millennium Development Goals.

Project 2252 CHINA **Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants** **Bridging the gap between digital technology and migrant journalism**

Grant: Euros 12,700

The Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants (Hong Kong) aims to raise the awareness and capacity of migrant workers to use available communication technology to practise citizen journalism and advance their communication rights. This project will take place in a context where migrant workers continually experience underpayment, labour trafficking, slave-like conditions, oppressive laws and practices, harassment, discrimination, and various forms of abuse.

This project will conduct a training and capacity building workshop for 20-25 participants of different nationalities from Taiwan, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, Thailand, Australia and New Zealand on citizen journalism, use of communication technology, and maximization of online resources to strengthen migrant journalism. It will develop a directory of target audiences for migrant journalists – media outfits, government agencies, service providers and other NGOs, etc., publish a pamphlet on citizen journalism, using digital and communication resources (i.e. applications, online and social networking sites and other relevant technology), and create portals in existing websites of migrant organizations and institutions for materials produced by migrant journalists.

Project 2293 PHILIPPINES **World Association for Christian Communication – Asia Region** **Strengthening access to technology to bridge the digital divide**

Grant: Euros 22,000

WACC's Asia Region plans to explore current conditions of access of marginalized peoples, such as indigenous and tribal peoples, refugees, migrants, etc. to digital technology and to what extent and under what conditions they have exercised or been given space to realize their communication rights. The aim is to promote in-depth discussion as to how accessible, feasible and usable these platforms are to the many marginalized sectors of society given the political situations in certain countries and the less than adequate economic capacity of the members of the marginalized sectors to afford the available technology.

By means of this project, which will include a training seminar on communication rights, new information and communication technologies, and the principles and practice of advocacy, WACC Asia partners will be able to identify challenges and opportunities that they can use in pursuing an action plan to push for better and more equal access for marginalized peoples to digital technology and to create a more enabling environment for them to practice their right to communicate effectively.

Project 2297 SPAIN

Blanquerna Observatory on Media, Religion and Culture

Digital narratives: Gender, immigration and religion on the move

Grant: Euros 10,000

The Blanquerna Observatory on Media, Religion and Culture aims to empower immigrant women from Christian and Muslim communities in Barcelona (Raval neighbour) by using new information and communication technologies to strengthen the capacity of organisations working on gender and media issues to campaign for gender-sensitive media. The project seeks to develop multi-stakeholder partnerships (with women as the main actors) involving audiences of different ages and from different religious backgrounds. In its context it is innovative since there is no network that focuses on women, immigration, religion, and digital participation. The project aims to establish a new way of doing interreligious dialogue using digital technologies and highlighting women's voices from the South. Twenty-five women from the Raval district of Barcelona where 49% of the city's immigrant population resides will take part, creating and sharing information via a digital platform to promote participatory action for change.

Project 2299 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Espacio de Comunicación Insular

Citizen journalism defending the rights of marginalized sectors

Grant: Euros 15,000

Espacio Insular (Dominican Republic) sets out to challenge the difficult situation faced by marginalized sectors in the country whose human rights are being violated. The aim of the project is to strengthen the capacity of organizations and individuals working to promote and defend human rights so that they can make use of digital technologies and citizen journalism to highlight the work they are doing and to give a voice to victims of human rights violations.

Nine workshops will be conducted with leaders of civil society organisations and community leaders to train them in communication rights and citizen journalism (using written, audio, video and social media). These leaders will form a network of communicators who in turn will train others to create greater public awareness

of human rights issues and to use citizen journalism for greater accountability and better governance. One expected outcome is that the communities involved in the project will live in greater peace as a result of being able to use communication to make their voices heard.

Project 2298 COLOMBIA

Asociación Colectivo Mujeres al Derecho

Empowering women leaders via digital citizen's participation

Grant: Euros 13,870

The Asociación Colectivo Mujeres al Derecho (Colombia), a women's rights group working with marginalized communities on the country's northern coast, will explore and create strategies to promote inclusive and equitable citizen's participation via the Internet, based on respect for freedom of expression and opinion. It will conduct a public campaign to have such participation recognized by the government so that citizens can have an effective voice and strengthen the process of resolving conflicts and of taking decisions that directly affect the rights of different communities in the region.

This project will investigate, train, monitor and communicate needs and plans of action by means of workshops and intercultural communication events in order to strengthen the presence and voices of grassroots women and young people in digital communications. The project focuses on five women's grassroots organizations and 50 community leaders who will collectively create and maintain a virtual platform for citizen's involvement in the promotion of human and social rights.

Project 2300 COLOMBIA

Asociación de Radiodifusión Comunitaria VOKARIBE

Your voice everywhere: Using ICTs in community radio

Grant: Euros 7,900

The Asociación de Radiodifusión Comunitaria Vokaribe (Colombia), an NGO working to promote greater democracy and to strengthen citizen's action for social change, runs a community radio station in the city of Barranquilla in one of the zones most affected by poverty, social indifference and violence. Regulatory and technical limitations have obliged the station to make

use of new information and communication technologies (NICTs) to strengthen and advance communication strategies aimed at social change by means of a digital platform for user-generated content that can reach further than locally broadcast radio.

This project will train women and young people from 20 grassroots social organizations in digital citizen journalism to extend and complement the work being done through community radio. Training will focus on basic concepts involving NICTs, the theory and practice of citizen journalism, practical production of materials, and evaluation of the product by the communities to be served. Particular attention will be given to the needs and concerns of women and young people.

Project 2291 COLOMBIA

Fundación Comunicacion Positiva

Citizen journalism strengthens the right to health

Grant: Euros 20,080

Fundación Comunicación Positiva (Colombia) is an NGO that promotes and defends the rights of people living with HIV and AIDS as well as other issues related to health rights. It also promote the communication rights of communities that have no access to traditional communication media in order to strengthen other human rights and to make use of the opportunities offered by new information and communication technologies (NICTs).

This project will specifically facilitate building and promoting citizen dialogue in relation to the treatment of high cost illnesses using citizen journalism in order to empower affected communities and strengthen their right to health.

The project includes a weekly online workshop on the model of a virtual classroom that will develop communication techniques and capabilities related to NICTs and their application to citizen journalism. It will also address ethical questions in relation to social responsibility and citizen journalism. The training is aimed at 18 women and men leaders of social organizations who will create an online network of citizen health journalists.

Project 2294 MEXICO

Asociación Ecológica Santo Tomas

Indigenous journalism: A new communication alternative

Grant: Euros 8,900

The Asociación Ecológica Santo Tomás (Mexico) is an NGO working in Tabasco State and concerned with the impact of the extractive industries on the environment and the living conditions of indigenous populations. The NGO works in a media context dominated by government and commercial outlets that ignore the voices of marginalized and indigenous peoples and tacitly condone the destruction and contamination of ancestral lands by the petroleum industry.

Local communities see new information and communication technologies as a means of voicing and addressing their concerns as well as a means of sharing and storing knowledge in both Spanish and local languages so that future generations can relate to their traditions and beliefs while working to address current problems and challenges.

This project will train groups in different localities to understand and use indigenous citizen journalism by means of portable technology and to build a citizen journalists' network that responds to the needs and concerns of people living in the Centla-Centro zone of Tabasco State. It will include awareness-building seminars with other civil society and citizens' organizations concerned with human and indigenous rights.



The aim of this initiative is to increase the number of communities benefitting from new, stronger and more inclusive community radio in order to advance democratic

participation and active citizenship of marginalised people and communities.

Project 2324 TANZANIA
Katubuka Women, Children and Environment Development Association

Raising women's voices through community-media

Grant: Euros 9,000

KWOCDEA is a non-government organization established in 2010 at Katubuka in Kigoma region by a group of fifteen women, all of them single heads of family, who have suffered discrimination and poverty. KWOCDEA's long-term objective is the eradication of discrimination and abuse against women in this region of Tanzania. Gender inequalities are evident in Tanzania's media ownership, in the patterns of decision-making in media houses as well as in media content.

Most women's programmes aired on radio stations cover issues such as beauty, personal health, family and fashion, but not issues such as rights and liberties, problems and solutions for women or women's perspectives on social problems.

To address this problem, this project will establish sustainable mobile community radio, managed and operated by women. It will serve one million women in the Kigoma and Kasulu districts and contribute to the elimination of gender discrimination and low quality media reporting of women's issues. It will do this by providing media literacy workshops for women and mobile radio broadcasts on women's issues.

Project 2271 BANGLADESH
Alliance for Cooperation and Legal Aid
Capacity building on communication rights for marginalised young women

Grant: Euros 10,400

The Alliance for Cooperation and Legal Aid Bangladesh (ACLAB), established in 1987, is a national non-government development organization. ACLAB has implemented projects in the field of poverty alleviation; capacity building; formal and non-formal education; health and nutrition, advocacy and community mobilization. As part of its efforts to empower marginalized and vulnerable groups, ACLAB began to work on communication as a way

to ensure that citizens have knowledge about claiming rights and entitlements.

Two years ago the long struggle for recognition of the community radio movement in Bangladesh bore fruit and the State approved licences for the first 12 community radio stations in the country. Although licensing is a great advance in terms of the media landscape, many groups still need to build capacity in order to fulfil the potential of community radio. ACLAB was granted a licence to run Naf Station which broadcasts in Cox' s Bazar in southern Bangladesh. The project includes the purchase of equipment, content development and the creation of listeners' groups as well as capacity building.

Project 2272 BANGLADESH
Nalta Hospital and Community Health Foundation

Strengthening awareness and dialogue among deprived, disabled and working women

Grant: Euros 8,700

Nalta Hospital and Community Health Foundation, established in 1999, is a non-government organization operating in Kaliganj, Satkhira, south west Bangladesh. In 2011, the foundation was among the first in the country to receive a license to operate a community radio station. Radio Nalta is affiliated to Bangladesh's Network for Radio and Communication, an umbrella NGO which shelters all the incipient community stations in the country.

This project seeks to empower grassroots women from 50 villages in Satkhira by means of three training workshops on broadcasting and production skills. Its objective is to empower and increase women's participation in production and interaction with the media. Framed around Bangladesh's 2009 Right to Information Act, the project will use traditional and culturally appropriate methods to work with village women.

Project 2268 ARGENTINA
World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters, AMARC

"Elles" – Gender and communication training for community radio stations

Grant: Euros 13,000

AMARC Argentina brings together a network of



Community radio in Latin America is especially important among Indigenous communities.

26 radio stations across the country. This project seeks to address the long-term participation of women at all levels in community radio while at the same time strengthening the role of women, encouraging their presence and participation in decision making in each radio station and in the network itself. It will include two face to face encounters over a 12 month period. The first will provide theoretical training on gender, patriarchy, the women's movement, non sexist communication, challenges to gender equality, and the practice of non-sexist communication. The second will comprise a workshop where current practices will be analysed and explored in depth.

Project 2245 ARGENTINA
Instituto Cordillerano de Estudios y Promoción Humana

Community radio and identity in the rural areas

Grant: Euros 12,600

ICEPH is a multidisciplinary non-governmental organization working in the design, planning and implementation of projects and actions that contribute to a better quality of life for marginalized and popular sectors, particularly in the rural and urban areas surrounding cities

and towns in northern Argentina's Patagonia. The region is populated by the Mapuche nation and is subject to natural disasters (drought and volcanic eruptions) that the government never seems prepared for. The region only seems to be of interest to the mainstream media as a target for the tourism industry.

ICEPH will promote communication rights through the installation of a community radio station in the Mapuche Community of Ancatruz, whose Indigenous population continues to be one of the most affected by the economic and cultural globalization processes that have taken place in Argentina. Against a background of high levels of media concentration and control in the country, the installation of a community radio station managed and controlled by the community will significantly increase the possibility of the Mapuche people to articulate their needs and to play a constructive role in the development of their community.

Project 2264 COLOMBIA
Grupo ComunicArte

Helping young people to have a voice on radio

Grant: Euros 11,780

Grupo ComunicArte specialises in 'school radios'

in urban settings. Established in 2000, the organization is made up of a multidisciplinary group of communicators, educators and social workers whose aim is to create a culture of peace through communication. The purpose of this project is to repeat the urban experience in a rural setting with Indigenous Inga children in Putumayo, south west Colombia, on the border with Ecuador.

School radios have been seen favourably by Colombia's Ministry of Education which has long supported work at the national level. However, Indigenous communities have failed to benefit from this opening. While there is information and communication connectivity in the communities, what is missing is how to use these technologies to improve lives and to claim rights and entitlements. ComunicArte has established links with school teachers, community and traditional leaders in order to implement a [project that will strengthen the participation of Inga youth in genuine community development.

Project 2267 ECUADOR
Asociación Latinoamericana de Educación Radiofónica
Ecuador's new communication law and the concept of sustainable living

Grant: Euros 7,500

The last decade has seen a reconfiguration of the social and political life in Ecuador and given rise to a new development paradigm: Sumak Kawsay based on the Indigenous concept of 'sustainable living'. It entails the need to establish new social agreements, deepen intercultural dialogue, strengthen freedom of expression and re-formulate concepts of democracy. Community media, by their very nature, can find new forms of mediation and social dialogue to consolidate democratic processes.

With this project The Asociación Latinoamericana de Educación Radiofónica (ALER) seeks to explore new social and political processes in the context of Ecuador's Communication Law approved in 2013. ALER will work with its community radio network to ensure that the possibilities and pitfalls of the new law are fully understood by every group engaged in community radio. As well as

training, the project includes the production of a document which will make clear the full implications of Ecuador's Communication Law, making it accessible to all.

Project 2277 ECUADOR
Colectivo Pro Derechos Humanos
Monitoring the first year of Ecuador's new communication law

Grant: Euros 10,400

Colectivo Pro Derechos Humanos (PRODH), founded in 1994, is a non-governmental organization committed to implementation, respect and advocacy around human rights. In 2013 and after much debate, Ecuador approved a new communication law which constitutes an enormous advance in the Latin American communications landscape as well as well as an important step towards formal recognition of citizens' communication rights. This law and the Ecuadorian constitution's recognition of a "pluri-national" and "inter-cultural" state means that the country has entered a new phase in defining policies and initiatives impacting social, economic, cultural, and communication issues.

This project will monitor the application of the new communication law in Ecuador by means of three virtual forums. The first tackles why it is important to monitor the law and communication rights. The second analyses and shares the findings of the monitoring of the application of the law. And the third will explore the development of a multimedia production that will include a radio campaign, electronic bulletin, and the design and maintenance of a website. The results of the project will be shared through the many PRODH partners working on communication rights in the country as well as internationally.

Project 2282 MEXICO
Comunicación e Información de la Mujer
Improving the communication skills of Indigenous women practitioners

Grant: Euros 15,000

Comunicación e Información de la Mujer (CIMAC) is a well known Mexican group and news agency created 25 years ago to advance the cause of women journalists (mainly in the written press) in Mexico and throughout Latin America. In a context in which the freedom of expression and the right to information of

Indigenous women are often violated, this project will strengthen the leadership and communication skills of Indigenous women so that they can participate in the production of content that positions them as subjects of human rights.

CIMAC will work with two key partners: the Red de Radios Comunitarias de Mexico, part of AMARC-Mexico, and Kinal Antzetik, an indigenous group working with on sexual and reproductive health. AMARC-Mexico's role will be to apply the strategy to empowering other Indigenous women community promoters through its network of radios, while Kinal Antzetik will use the training methodology with other Indigenous women.

Project 2262 MEXICO
Red de Radios Comunitarias de México
Strengthening community radio broadcasting in Mexico

Grant: Euros 5,960

The Mexican chapter of AMARC, the World Association of Community Broadcasters, came into existence in 1992 and since 2007 it became a registered civil association called the Network of Community Radios of Mexico. Currently it unites 31 radio initiatives, of which 15 are stations that have received broadcast licenses, four are applying for licenses and the rest are production centres. The Network has a presence in 12 regions of Mexico, including the capital. Mexico has recently witnessed widespread discussions about the need to democratize communications including deconstructing the communication empires of Latin America.

This project will advance communication rights in the country by preparing a proposal for secondary legislation following the newly approved Federal Telecommunications Law. Such secondary legislation will address the reform of eight articles in the Mexican Constitution dealing with freedom of expression, access to communications and the regulation of media monopolies and their conglomerates. The project includes drafting the secondary legislation, a public forum to discuss the draft secondary legislation, follow up meetings with legislators, a national workshop on the secondary law and preparation of a manual.



The aim of this initiative is to demonstrate how critical media reporting can strengthen the voices of people living in poverty, articulate their concerns and perspectives and enhance the effectiveness of actions aimed at addressing poverty and inequalities.

Project 2257 CHILE
Sensing poverty in the language of the media
Radio Estrella del Mar de Achao

Grant: Euros 9,590

Serving a poor and marginalized population, Radio Estrella del Mar de Achao facilitates community dialogue and builds the capacity of community members to communicate on issues affecting them.

The project will train and strengthen the skills of journalists and media producers to analyze and respond to their responsibilities towards their audiences. Media reportage on poverty tends to be superficial and often endorses ineffective government policies intended to address inequalities without investigating the real causes of poverty.

This project will monitor local news media reporting on poverty, seek to reverse assumptions that sustain superficial coverage and to expose the actual causes of poverty in the contexts in which the news are produced. The monitoring findings will be published in an audiobook and discussed in workshops for 40 communicators from 20 broadcast and online news media in Chiloé. The project is expected to also benefit a media viewer and readership of 50,000 members across the island.

HELPING WACC TO HELP OTHERS

All the projects on this list have been through a thorough process of screening in consultation with WACC's regional executive committees. The figure in Euros next to each project summary generally indicates the amount that still needs to be raised. The realization of these projects and activities depends, therefore, on the continued support of our existing donors – and new donors.

WACC welcomes all donations from individuals and organisations. Donations may be made to specific projects or programmes, or you may wish to make a general donation, which we will then allocate. If you would like to see further details of any of the listed projects or programmes in this booklet please contact our Toronto office: info@waccglobal.org. You can send funds to WACC in a number of ways and from different parts of the world.

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Cheques in any of the major currencies should be made payable to WACC and sent to:

WACC General Secretariat
308 Main Street
Toronto, ON M4C 4X7
Canada

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Bank transfers should be directed to the appropriate WACC currency account at:

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SWIFT: HKBCCATT
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US Dollars (US\$) 002-430487-070
Euros (€) 002-430487-270

WACC's Vision **COMMUNICATION FOR ALL**

WACC's Mission

The World Association for Christian Communication (WACC) is an international organization that promotes communication as a basic human right, essential to people's dignity and community. Rooted in Christian faith, WACC works with all those denied the right to communicate because of status, identity, or gender. It advocates full access to information and communication, and promotes open and diverse media. WACC strengthens networks of communicators to advance peace, understanding and justice.

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