

**FINAL REPORT FORM  
for  
WACC-SUPPORTED PROJECT**

**THE NARRATIVE REPORT**

<b>1. Project Title:</b> (as appeared in the Agreement)	Raising Indigenous Voice through Radio (RAINVO)
<b>2. Project Reference Number:</b> (as appeared in the Agreement)	Project No. 693
<b>3. Full Name of Project Holder:</b>	Centre for Communication and Development (CCD)
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<b>5. Name of Country:</b>	BANGLADESH
<b>6. Period the project was implemented:</b> (from month/year to month/year)	From 01 January 2009 to 31 December 2009
<b>7. Project Grant received:</b>	Amount in local currency: <b>BDT 8,56,249.20</b>  Amount in Euros: <b>9000.00</b>
<b>8. Date(s) Project Grant(s) were received:</b> (as in your bank statement) 1 <sup>st</sup> remittance Final remittance	30 December 2009 (Due)

## 9. Activities

To achieve the set goals and objectives of the project, following activities have been arranged successfully and effectively. The details descriptions of these activities are mentioned below;

### 9.1. Radio Journalism, Programs Production and Online Broadcasting Training Program:

The indigenous communities of the northern region of Bangladesh have no involvement with such a powerful, creative and intellectual media like television and radio channels. As a result it has impacted negatively in preparing and broadcasting the news stories related to the life and works of the indigenous communities. Consequently, the real picture of the torture, oppression, harassment, exploitation, traditional glory, folk concept, socio-economic condition, expectation, problem and potentiality of the indigenous communities have not reached to the Government, policy makers and the donor agencies properly. To involve the indigenous male and female and to make them skilled and fit for such a creative, ever changing and complicated profession like journalism, the long-term radio journalism training program included in the project and it was the most important and key activity of the project.



At the beginning of the project advertisement was published in newspapers as well as notices were disseminated in the educational institutions and indigenous based organisations of the region for selecting direct beneficiaries of the project. As a response to the advertisement and notices, 93 indigenous boys and girls from different districts of this region applied for taking part in different activities under this project. Later on a total of three (03) orientation meetings were arranged for the applicants for informing them the goal, objectives and activities of the project. Out of the applicants, 30 young indigenous male and female were selected through interview as direct beneficiaries of the project.

After selecting the participants, long term radio journalism training course was arranged under this project, where 30 indigenous boys and girls actively participated. The training course was arranged in three (03) phases including sessions like **Basic Radio Journalism, Radio Program Production and Online Radio Production and Broadcasting.**

The titles and other related information of these training courses are given below for your kind consideration.

SL	Title of Training	Dates	Venue	No of Participants
01	Basic Radio Journalism	24 July - 02 August 2009	Hazi Muntazul Hauqe Memorial Hall	30 Persons
02	Radio Programs Production	07 November - 16 November	Do	30 Persons
03	Online Radio Production and Broadcasting	15 October- 25 October	Do	30 Persons

To successfully arrange these training programs very effectively, a number of training modules, supporting materials, handouts and multimedia presentation were prepared before the training that were used during the training courses.

To effectively arrange the Radio Journalism and Radio Production trainings CCD has already systematically prepared a Radio Journalism and Radio Production training manual. Mr. Shatil Siraj, Assistant Professor of the Mass Communication and Journalism Department of Rajshahi University and Mr. G M Mourtoza, Director of CCD Bangladesh have played key role to systematically prepared the training manual. This manual has been playing a pioneering role in flourishing and initiating the new trend of radio journalism and production in Bangladesh and this will be ever the first effort in Bangladesh to develop such a resource book for radio journalists.

The duration of each training phase was about one month. The trainees attended a 10 days long in-house training every month and worked for reporting on assigned issues in the field level in the rest of the month. They collected necessary data and information and produced reports on the concerned

issues following the knowledge and experience acquired from the training sessions and presented the reports in the next session. Reviewing these reports, a clear concept of their performance was observed and their faults and lacking were found out and rectified immediately.



One of the main functions of the training courses is to create skills and capacity of the indigenous male and female on basic journalism and advanced radio journalism and programs production, so that they can themselves produce various types of reports and programs successfully. The sessions of the training courses were included lecture, one-to-one session, group work, group work presentation, open discussion, field trip, produce various type of programs, presentation of produced programs, review and evaluated the produced programs etc.

Each session of the training courses were conducted in participatory and two-way communication approach. Communication instruments including OHP, multimedia projector, sound system and audio studio were used to arrange the training courses effectively.

At the end of each course, as evaluation form were filled in by the participants, from which it was possible to assess the success and effectiveness of the course and how much skill and capacity the participants achieved.

The reputed radio journalists, renowned teachers of mass communication and journalism department of Rajshahi University, officials of Rajshahi Radio Station and own staffs of CCD successfully facilitated and conducted the training courses.

For your kind consideration ***the details topics of these training courses including details schedules are attached in Annex No. 01***



Through these training courses they learned at least three domains: basic skills, technical, and contextual knowledge of radio journalism, program production and online broadcasting. Besides, they gain a lot of knowledge, skills and insights on basic concept of radio journalism, reporting, interviewing, sources cultivation, presentation, production and broadcasting. Moreover, they received almost all primary and advanced, theoretical and practical knowledge and skill on different aspects of radio journalism and productions that has made them capable as potential radio journalists.

The most important success of the project is that, through these training courses, 30 potential indigenous boys and girls have achieved skills and capacity of working in radio stations. Some of them are working as apprentice journalist in Rajshahi Radio Station. Rest are working for newly developed online radio named RadiInvo.Com. They are producing indigenous issue related reports and programs regularly and these are broadcast through RadiInvo.Com.

## **9.2. Orientation for Enhance Knowledge:**



Through implementation of the previous project supported by WACC, it is found that most of the indigenous people have no clear concept and in-depth knowledge of peace, mutual respect and understanding, tolerance, identity, democracy, good governance, human rights, social justice, economic justice, poverty, freedom of press, peace, tolerance, youth rights, gender parity, youth right, women and children rights, women empowerment, violence against women, safer sex, HIV/AIDS/STI, sexual violence, trafficking of women and existing indigenous related laws etc. issues. Due to having no scope of studying on these important issues in

their educational institutions, they cannot attain knowledge and insight on these vital issues.

As the key participants of the project will produce and broadcast radio programs on these issues in future, they urgently need having sufficient concept and knowledge on these issues. So that they can focus on these issues properly and inform and educate more indigenous people on these issues easily and effectively.

In order to provide proper knowledge and idea on these issues to the selected indigenous young people, a total of five (05) orientation courses successfully and effectively arranged under this project. The key objective of arranging these orientations were to assist the selected indigenous young people to enhance their in-depth knowledge and insights on mentioned issues.

The titles and other related information of these orientation courses are given below for your kind consideration.

SL	Title of Orientation Course	Dates	Venue	No of Participants
01	Media Environment and Freedom of Press in Bangladesh	07 July 2009	Hazi Muntazul Hauge Memorial Hall	30 Persons
02	Human Rights, Good Governance and Democracy	10 August 2009	Hazi Muntazul Hauge Memorial Hall	30 Persons
03	Indigenous People's Rights and Economic Justices	17 August 2009	Hazi Muntazul Hauge Memorial Hall	30 Persons
05	HIV/AIDS, Safer Sex and Reproductive Health	21 August 2009	Hazi Muntazul Hauge Memorial Hall	30 Persons
04	Vilounce against Women, Gender and Women Empowerment	22 August 2009	Hazi Muntazul Hauge Memorial Hall	30 Persons

The duration of each orientation course was one daylong. The key participants (trainees) actively took part in each orientation course. The sessions of the orientation courses were included lecture, one-to-one session, brainstorming, group work, group work presentation and open discussion. Each session of the orientation courses were conducted in participatory and two-way communication approach. Communication instruments including OHP, multimedia projector and sound system were used to arrange the orientation courses effectively.



The reputed trainers, facilitators and experts of the related fields conducted these orientation courses very effectively. Resource persons on the concerned issues were conducted sessions in accordance with the schedule. At the beginning of each orientation course, a questionnaire has filled in by the participants, through which a knowledge-level of the participants on specific issues will be ascertained. At the end of the orientation course, another evaluation form have filled in, form which it was possible to assess the success of the course and how much knowledge and idea on specific issues the

participants have achieved and gained from the orientation courses.

Through these orientation course the key participants of the project have gained in-depth knowledge on peace, mutual respect, understanding, tolerance, identity, social justice, economic justice, poverty, democracy, good governance, human right, youth rights, children and women rights, gender parity, women empowerment, information rights, freedom of press etc. issues.

### **9.3. Advocacy Workshop with Stakeholders for Establishing Indigenous Community Radio:**



understanding by the indigenous people.

About 95% of the indigenous people of the northern region in Bangladesh are illiterate and fully ignorant about education, health, environment, law, human rights, gender and other contemporary issues. It is urgently necessary to make the indigenous people aware of these issues for their socio-economic development and empowerment. As 95% indigenous people are poor and illiterate, they cannot read newspaper and have any benefit from newspapers and television. So they are unable to aware and sensitise about the issues through newspapers and television channels. But the Community Radio can be a very ideal media for perceiving and

The government has already formulated community Radio Station Installation, Broadcasting and Operation policy-2008 and will give license for setting up and operation of some community radio stations sooner in the country. Beside, government has already finalized 26 potential organisations in around the country to set-up and operate community radio. As a result, a good opportunity of setting up and running a community radio station to be participated and controlled by the indigenous communities of the northern region has been created.



One of the objectives of the project was to set up and operate community radio for the indigenous people in near future, through which they will be able to highlight their problems, deprivation and potentials in their own voice. Through this project, 30 indigenous boys and girls have gained much capacity and skills of producing radio programs as well as operating and broadcasting community radio, but it is quite impossible for the poor indigenous communities to set up and operate community radio station as their own in near future. That is why,

under this project 08 advocacy workshop with the civil society, indigenous organizations, development and media organizations have successfully arranged. A total of 402 representatives, officials and leaders of civil society, indigenous organizations, development and media organisations actively took part in these advocacy workshops. The duration of each workshop was one daylong.

The titles and other related information of these advocacy workshops are given bellow for your kind consideration.

SL	Title of Workshop	Dates	Venue	No of Participants
01	Advocacy Workshop with Stakeholders for Establishing Indigenous Community Radio	27 August 2009	Conference Room, Rajshahi Chamber of Comerces and Industries, Rajshahi	Total 58 representatives, officials and leaders of civil society, indigenous organizations, development and media organisations of Rajshahi districts took part in this workshop.
02	Advocacy Workshop with Stakeholders for Establishing Indigenous Community Radio	01 September 2009	City Hall, Chapai Nawabgong	Total 44 representatives, officials and leaders of civil society, indigenous organizations, development and media organisations of Chapai Nawabnong districts took part in this workshop.
03	Advocacy Workshop with Stakeholders for Establishing Indigenous Community Radio	08 September 2009	Thakurgaon Press Club, Thakurgaon	Total 46 representatives, officials and leaders of civil society, indigenous organizations, development and media organisations of Thakurgaon districts took part in this workshop.
04	Advocacy Workshop with Stakeholders for Establishing Indigenous Community Radio	09 September 2009	Conference Room, Dinajpur Press Club, Dinajpur	Total 53 representatives, officials and leaders of civil society, indigenous organizations, development and media organisations of Dinajpur districts took part in this workshop.
05	Advocacy Workshop with Stakeholders for Establishing Indigenous Community Radio	10 September 2009	Conference Room, Rotary Club, Rangpur	Total 52 representatives, officials and leaders of civil society, indigenous organizations, development and media organisations of Rangpur districts took part in this workshop.
06	Advocacy Workshop with Stakeholders for Establishing	18 September 2009	Conference Room, Community	Total 52 representatives, officials and leaders of civil society, indigenous organizations,

	Indigenous Community Radio		Development Library (CDL), Bogra	development and media organisations of Bogra districts took part in this workshop.
07	Advocacy Workshop with Stakeholders for Establishing Indigenous Community Radio	19 September 2009	Conference Room, Joypurhat Municipality, Joypurhat	Total 49 representatives, officials and leaders of civil society, indigenous organizations, development and media organisations of Joypurhat districts took part in this workshop.
08	Advocacy Workshop with Stakeholders for Establishing Indigenous Community Radio	20 September 2009	Conference Room, Naogaon Stadium, Naogaon	Total 48 representatives, officials and leaders of civil society, indigenous organizations, development and media organisations of Naogaon districts took part in this workshop.

Mr. Dulal Chandra Biswas, Professor of Mass Communication and Journalism Department of Rajshahi University effectively facilitated all the workshops. He elaborately discussed the following key topic in these workshops.

- ❑ Background and necessity of arranging the advocacy workshops
- ❑ Roles of community radio for raising indigenous people's voice
- ❑ Necessity and importance of ensuring active participation of indigenous people in media
- ❑ Necessity and importance of set-up community radio for indigenous peoples
- ❑ Roles of civil society, indigenous organizations, development and media organizations to set-up community radio for indigenous people
- ❑ The achievements of the trainees of the long-term radio journalism and program production training program of the project
- ❑ Expressing trainer opinions regarding the long-term radio journalism and program production training program of the project
- ❑ Open discussion and plenary



Besides, Mr. Satil Siraj, Assistant Professor of Mass Communication and Journalism Department of Rajshahi University and one of key trainer of the long-term radio journalism and program production training program of the project has expressed his opinions, insights and learning regarding the training courses in the advocacy workshops. He has strongly opened in the workshops that the trainees have acquired vast journalistic knowledge and practical experience though the training courses arranged under the project. He also

informed the participants (representatives and leaders of civil society, indigenous organizations, development and media organizations) of the workshops that the trainees are now fully capable to work as radio journalists, program producers, sound editors and broadcasters in any radio stations and he strongly applied to the participants for set-up community radio station for the indigenous peoples to gave them opportunity to work upcoming community radio stations in northern region of Bangladesh.

The trainees of the long-term radio journalism and program production training program of the project have also informed the participants regarding their achievements, knowledge, learning and insights that they have acquired form the training courses and the project activities as well. In the workshops, they have strongly applied to the representatives and leaders of the various organisations for giving them opportunity to work in forthcoming community radio stations.

Taking part in the discussion in the workshops the representatives and leaders of the various organisations acknowledged that it is immensely needed to ensure active participation of the indigenous people in journalism and in both print and electronic media. Until ensuring their participation in this significant media, it is impossible to establish their true human rights and welfare.

The indigenous trainees of this project have acquired enough knowledge and capacity on radio journalism and program production, which will help them in participating in broadcast journalism.

Besides that, the participants of the workshops have given most emphasis on establishing own media of the indigenous people for promoting their socio-economic development, position development, empowerment, establishing human rights, welfare, community mobilization and cultural revival. According to them, it is quite impossible to make the indigenous people aware and enlighten without their direct participation and control over media. For this reason, they strongly suggested to establish easily understandable and participatory community radio for the indigenous people.

They opined that, before set-up such kind of community radio in northern region of the country the Government controlled Rajshahi Radio Station can be a very ideal media for perceiving and understanding by the indigenous people.

Though the representatives and leaders of the various organisations expressed positive response for providing job to these indigenous trainees after set-up community radio stations in several districts of the northern region of Bangladesh.



Moreover, through the open discussion the indigenous trainees got scope to highlighting their knowledge, wisdom and skill and thus their interpersonal relation have been growing up with the invited the representatives and leaders of the various organisations. Based upon this relation, the trained up indigenous male and female journalists have been capable to utilize the chance of involving in journalism through his or her own skill and quality. Besides that a psychological pressure, inspiration and advocacy have been imposed upon the invited the representatives and leaders of the various organisations for recruiting the trainees as journalists in their future community radio stations.

Through these advocacy workshops it was attempted to find out the main reasons behind establishing indigenous based community radio stations in northern region and then a guideline and working strategy for set-up community radio stations have prepared in accordance with the opinion, suggestions and recommendations of the participants.

#### **9.4. Establishing Indigenous Online Radio and Broadcasting Programs:**

After introducing the cyber journalism through Internet, a new era started in respect of free flow of information in the world. Internet Radio or Online Radio has also extensively spread as an alternative broadcast media in the world. Utilizing the unlimited opportunity of ICT, several thousands of online radios have started working in the developed and developing countries in the world. For the sake of winning the competition largest media houses like BBC and VOA have introduced online radio. As its area is worldwide, online radio is not less important as well. Costing very little, one or some people can easily establish such an online radio. Besides, the potential but unexplored issues and unheard voices which are still neglected by the main stream media houses can be easily highlighted and spread worldwide through online radio.



As the area of online radio is worldwide, through this media it is easily possible to broadcast the issue and voice of the marginal and grassroots people in the international level. That is why, online radio is being considered very significantly as an alternative broadcast media.

But such a potential and alternative broadcast media is yet to be massively introduced and started in Bangladesh. Though the Internet lines of enough bandwidth, needed for setting up online radio, are presently available in the country, no institution has taken any initiative to establish online radio here. This radio is still unknown to the members of civil society and policy makers in the country. Under these circumstances, indigenous people based online radio named **Radio Invo** ([www.radioinvo.com](http://www.radioinvo.com)) has successfully introduced and established under this project for the first time in the country. Indigenous people's participation and empowerment in ICT is still very low in Bangladesh. Through the newly established online radio, actively indigenous people's participation in ICT sector has effectively ensured.

The core members of the project have accrued skill and capacity to install and broadcast online radio programs under the project. As a result, their access to ICT has increased and they has been utilizing

their power and capacity to raise unheard indigenous voice worldwide through this online radio. When online radio is introduced commercially in near future in the country, they will enjoy huge employment facilities with much priority for their performance and experience in this sector.

At now the trainees (key participants) of the project have been actively working with this newly developed online radio. They have been producing different indigenous issue-based magazine programs, documentaries, talk shows and in-depth stories and broadcast over the online radio. They are fully responsible to develop, produced and broadcast these radio programs through this online radio. They has been generating the program's ideas, collect necessary news and reports, take interviews, arrange talk shows and hard talks, prepared jingles as well as present, perform and coordinate these programs. The programs are totally designed, developed and performed by indigenous people for creating a scope to raise voice of voiceless indigenous communities of the northern region of Bangladesh as well as aware and sensitise mass people about indigenous related issues.

Moreover, this online radio is the first own broadcast media of the indigenous people of Bangladesh. Now they are able to highlight their problems, deprivation and potentials to the national and international level through this online radio. Besides that, the indigenous people are now able to conduct campaign, advocacy and lobbying for the preservation of their human rights, language, tradition, culture, practice, folk knowledge and for their development and empowerment through this online radio. Through operating and broadcasting this online radio, they have extensive capacity and practical experience, which will help them much in operating and broadcasting community radio in future.



Besides, all the project activities reports and indigenous related news with attractive pictures are also effectively accommodated and highlighted in this online radio. Actually this online radio is a live document of the culture and life style of the indigenous people of Bangladesh.

A large number of people appreciated the activities of the project and they requested to continue the activities for sake of conducting campaign and advocacy on behalf of indigenous communities of this region.

#### **10. Was the project successful? (If possible, please give measurable indicators.)**

It has been possible to implement all the activities of this project effectively and successfully. From this perspective it can be said that this project was very successful and significant. Considering the effectiveness and achieved result of this project, it can also be said that the goals and objectives of this project have been obtained and achieved. So this project was very successful. The measurable indicators supporting the success of this project are mentioned below:

- Firstly through this project, for the first time in Bangladesh, it has been tried to involve the indigenous communities of Bangladesh in radio journalism specially in Online Radio Journalism. No such effort has been adopted before by the Government or non-government agencies in Bangladesh to ensure the direct involvement of the indigenous people in such creative and intellectual profession like journalism or to flourish the community based active journalism. In this perspective, it can be easily said that this project will remain a milestone in the way of involving the indigenous communities in journalism.
- Under the project for the first time in Bangladesh, a total 30 unprivileged indigenous male and female actively and sincerely took part in the long-term radio journalism, program production and online broadcasting training courses.
- Through the project a number of trainees have already been employed as apprentice journalist in Rajshahi Radio Station.
- Under this project for the first time in Bangladesh, a total of 08 advocacy workshops with civil society, indigenous organizations, development and media organisations have successfully arranged for encouraging set-up indigenous community radio in future and ensuring positive media coverage on indigenous issues.





- Under the project for the first time in Bangladesh, an indigenous based online radio named Radio Invo ([www.radioinvo.com](http://www.radioinvo.com)) has successfully developed and broadcasting indigenous people related programs regularly.
- Under this project for the first time in Bangladesh, indigenous people's participation in ICT sector through the online radio has been ensured.
- Through the project activities a close and cooperative relation and understanding among the mainstream journalists and the representatives of indigenous based organisations and indigenous leaders have developed and enhanced.
- Lastly, it can be said that this project have open the door for rising the indigenous peoples voice for establish and ensure their sustainable development, empowerment and human rights by themselves through mass media.

## 11. Project Beneficiaries:

The key and direct beneficiaries of the project were the 30 unprivileged indigenous males and females who where actively took part in the long-term radio journalism, program production and online broadcasting training courses and online radio programs arranged under the project. They are the ultimate beneficiaries and visual outputs of the project.



Besides, about 96 male and female representatives of indigenous based organisations and leaders of the indigenous communities were the secondary beneficiaries of the project who also actively took part in the advocacy workshops arranged under the project.

Moreover, about 306 representatives, officials and leaders of civil society, indigenous organizations, development and media organisations of the northern region of Bangladesh were also secondary

beneficiaries of the project who actively took part in the advocacy workshops arranged under the project as well as they provided remarkable suggestion and recommendations for ensure active participation of the indigenous people in journalism and media as a whole.

A number of representatives from several organisations and institutions as well as general indigenous people are also secondary beneficiaries of the project who have already actively took part in various radio programs produced under the project. This type of secondary beneficiaries of the project will be continue because more radio programs will be produce by the Online Radio in future.



The family members of the 30 unprivileged indigenous males and females (who are the key participants) were the key indirect beneficiaries of the project. Because as a result of the involvement of these 30 indigenous young boys and girls in such an influential and intellectual profession like journalism, social dignity and status of these young people and their families have increased. Moreover, these indigenous young boys and girls will be employed soon and thus the financial status of these people and their families will also be increased.

Above all it can be said that the indirect beneficiaries of this project are all indigenous communities living in the northern region in the country. Because, though 30 indigenous boys and girls have become benefited directly from this project, all indigenous communities have become benefited and will be benefiting in future for their involvement in journalism and media.

## **12. How have the beneficiaries reacted to the programme activities? What were the impacts of the project and different effects on women and men in the project?**

### **12.1. Reaction of the beneficiaries during the project activities:**

- The enthusiasm of the indigenous boys and girls was very high to take part in the project as direct beneficiaries. After publishing circular in the newspaper, 93 indigenous boys and girls applied to take part in the project. 30 of them were selected for the project. After starting the project, many more indigenous boys and girls applied to participate in the journalism training course. From this it is easily understood that this project has encouraged and inspired indigenous boys and girls to take part in journalism.
- The direct beneficiary indigenous boys and girls have taken part in every training course actively and sincerely. They were very attentive to every session of the training course. They have completed every group work and assignment very closely and minutely.
- In spite of being busy in professional works, about 402 representatives, officials and leaders of civil society, indigenous organizations, development and media organisations of northern region of Bangladesh have actively taken part in the advocacy workshops arranged under this project and gave different suggestions to ensure the involvement of the indigenous people in journalism.
- Almost all journalists leaders and media owners working in the district headquarters of the northern region, representatives of indigenous organizations and indigenous leaders very actively participated in the advocacy workshops held under this project. Every participant journalist has given commitment of providing extensive media coverage for the welfare of the indigenous communities.



### **12.2. Impact and different effects of the project on women and men:**

- It was mentioned earlier that the enthusiasm of the indigenous boys and girls was very high to take part in the project as direct beneficiaries. After starting the project, many more indigenous boys and girls applied to participate in the journalism training course. From this it is easily understood how much this project has influenced the indigenous boys and girls to take part in journalism.
- Out of the primary beneficiaries of this project, 14 were female. In spite of having many limitations and social stigma, they have taken part in the training courses and online radio programs arranged under this project. Thus it is clearly realized that the indigenous girls were also very interested to take part in this project.
- Earlier indigenous girls were teased and assaulted in different areas of the northern region, but its news was not published in newspapers and teasers were not punished. But after implementing this project, the news of assaulting any indigenous girl is significantly published in newspapers. As a consequence, law-enforcing agencies are taking immediate steps against those criminals and sending them to the jail after arrest. Thus the incident of assaulting indigenous girls has started to decrease.
- The trend of grabbing the land of the indigenous people has been appearing since long in the northern region. But after implementing this project, the news of grabbing land of the indigenous people has been published widely in the newspapers and that is why this trend has started to decrease. After publishing the news of grabbing land of the indigenous people in the newspapers, law-enforcing agencies have recovered and returned the land to the indigenous people. Recently such many an incident happened in the northern area.



### **13. Outcome and Outputs of the Project: Achievemnet and Changed through the project:**

By implementing the project following outcomes and outputs successfully achieved

#### **13.1. Outcomes of the Project:**

- ❑ As a consequence of active participation in the long-term training program of the project, 30 unprivileged indigenous male and female have acquired much skills, learning and capacity necessary for involving in journalism profession especially in radio media. The trainees have also gotten the capacity to produce various kinds of radio reports, programs and documentaries on several issues.
- ❑ The participants of the project have resolved to dedicate themselves to the journalism in future, which is a big success of the project. They also gained mental courage and preparation for such job from the project activities.
- ❑ This project encouraged and inspired more indigenous male and female to take part in such training program in future and many indigenous male and female have already submitted their applications to CCD and they requested to arrange such training program for them.
- ❑ Through the orientation course arranged under the project, the key participants have gained in-depth knowledge on peace, mutual respect, understanding, tolerance, identity, social justice, economic justice, poverty, democracy, good governance, human right, youth rights, children and women rights, gender parity, women empowerment, information rights, freedom of press, safer sex, HIV/AIDS/STI/STD etc. issues.
- ❑ The trainees have gotten chance to mix and make interpersonal communication with the leading representatives, officials and leaders of civil society, indigenous organizations, development and media organisations of northern region of Bangladesh closely and set up cordial relationship with them. This will help them immensely for starting carrier as journalists in future.
- ❑ By involving into such a creative, intellectual and important profession like journalism, the social status and respect of these indigenous peoples grown up much.
- ❑ By active involvement of the backward indigenous male and female as intern journalists in the Rajshahi Radio Station a positive environment has been created that will help to open the door for involving more indigenous male and female in the mainstream journalism profession in future.
- ❑ Through this project the new trend of introducing and flourishing of the community based active journalism has started in the country. Through the practice of community journalism, community mobilization will grow up among the indigenous communities of the northern region in Bangladesh.
- ❑ Through this project the attitude and outlook of the media owners about the indigenous issues have changed and they are now encouraged to provide wide coverage on the issue in their respective media.
- ❑ Through this project, a positive change in preparing and publishing the news items and stories related to the interest of the indigenous communities in the mainstream journalists have grown up. Besides the media coverage on the torture, harassment, exploitation and sufferings of the indigenous communities of this region have increased massively in the mainstream mass media.
- ❑ As a consequence of being involved in the free flow of information, a tendency, understanding and feelings of participating in political process and decision-making function grew up among the trainees of the project.
- ❑ Through the online radio ([www.radioinvo.com](http://www.radioinvo.com)) developed under the project, a huge number of people around the world came to know about the socio-economic and cultural condition and position as well as human rights status of the indigenous people of this region. A large number of people appreciated the ICT based activities of the project and they requested to continue the activities for the sake of conducting campaign and advocacy on behalf of indigenous communities of this region.



- ❑ Through online radio of the project, 30 male and female from the backward indigenous communities have got chance of working with the newly developed online radio as journalists, producers, sound editors and broadcasters that enhanced their practical knowledge and experiences as journalism professionals.
- ❑ Finally it can be said that this project have open the door for rising the indigenous peoples voice for establish and ensure their sustainable development, empowerment and human rights as well as media campaign and media advocacy for achieving their fundamental rights.

### **13.1. Outputs of the Project:**

- Under this project a number of training, workshop and dialogue modules, handouts, fact sheets and OHP and multimedia presentations have been successfully prepared and utilized in the process of effectively arranging these events.
- Under this project, a total of three (03) radio journalism, program production and online broadcasting training courses have been successfully arranged where 30 unprivileged indigenous male and female actively and sincerely took part. During the training courses a number of indigenous based reports and programs where produced by the trainees.
- In order to provide proper knowledge and idea on several socio-economic development issues to the selected indigenous young people, a total of five (05) orientation courses successfully and effectively arranged under this project.
- Under this project, a total of 5 advocacy workshops with the 402 leading representatives, officials and leaders of civil society, indigenous organizations, development and media organisations of northern region of Bangladesh have been successfully arranged where they provided a number of suggestions and recommendations regarding involving indigenous peoples in media and journalism profession as a whole.
- Under the project for the first time in Bangladesh, an indigenous based online radio named Radio Invo ([www.radioinvo.com](http://www.radioinvo.com)) has been successfully set-up and developed. A total of 20 indigenous issues based reports and programs have successfully produced and broadcast through the newly developed online radio. The key participants of the project have been working with this online radio as reporters, producers, sound editors and broadcasters.
- Through this project for the first time in Bangladesh, indigenous people's participation in ICT sector has ensured and they have been utilizing now the power of ICT for raising their voice.
- Many reports and pictures on several activities of the project have been published in the local, regional and national newspapers with due importance. Governed owned Bangladesh Television and Radio Bangladesh as well as other private TV channels have also broadcast various activities report of the project. As a result, huge number of people including indigenous people around the country came to know about the project activities.



## **14. Evaluation**

### **14.1. What were the results of evaluating the project?**

An evaluation is must effective implement of a project. This will examine successfulness and failure of a project. So, there is scope for evaluation in every levels of the project. For this purpose specified evaluation from have developed and used after completion every event of the project. Trainees and other participants were given responsibility to evaluate the overall activities during the project. They were provided with prescribed form to evaluate the each activity.

Besides, each activity has also been evaluated by exchanging viewing with the trainees and other participants. Evaluation has been made following two methods. The one is formal i.e., through a prescribed form and the other is informal based on exchange of views with the trainees and other participants. Apart from this, the trainees and other participants evaluated the overall success and failure at the end of each training courses, orientation courses and advocacy workshops by given their critical observation and opinion. They evaluated also the organizer's (CCD) activities during the activities. Their evaluation and recommendation were as follows:

- Firstly, all the trainees and participants thanked WACC and CCD for implementing this effective and timely venture.
- They commented unanimously that this project has met its desired success.
- Organizing methods and all other organizing matters were effective and fruitful.
- All the trainers were very much enthusiastic and helpful for the participants.
- CCD officials were much more enthusiastic and cooperative.
- The each activity of the project was impressed and effective for the participants.
- All the module and schedule were very much realistic, logical and fruitful.
- Sufficient and necessary course materials, handouts and fact sheets were provided.
- Course materials, handouts and fact sheets where easily understandable.
- OHP and multimedia presentations were very much effective and fruitful.
- This project has encouraged all the participants for working to raise indigenous peoples voice.
- This project has motivated all the participants for working on behalf of indigenous communities.
- This project has made all trainees confident and active citizens.
- This project encouraged the key participants to be active journalists and broadcasters.
- Almost all the trainees informed that they have learned less about investigative reporting due to short schedule of the training courses. They requested to arrange such training courses for them in future.
- Most of the people appreciated the ICT based activities (online radio) of the project. They opened that it is very timely and effective venture.
- Most of the media owners, journalists, representatives of the indigenous communities and officials and leaders of civil society requested to CCD and WACC for arrange follow-up activities.
- Most of the media owners, journalists, representatives of the indigenous communities and officials and leaders of civil society requested to CCD for set-up a indigenous peoples based community radio station in future.
- Representatives of the indigenous communities requested to CCD for arrange communication and media relation skills building activities for the officials of the indigenous people's based organisations.

**14.2. What were the challenges, difficulties, and/or failures in carrying out the project? How addressed these issues?**

- ❑ Firstly, through this project, for the first time in Bangladesh, it was tried to involve indigenous communities in radio journalism as well as broadcast and online media. So successful implementation of this very project itself was a great challenge. Despite facing some difficulties and challenges, CCD successfully and effectively implemented the project.
- ❑ The language skill in Bangla and English of the selected 30 indigenous boys and girls is very low. So trainers faced difficulties in providing training to them. To overcome this problem, CCD appointed an indigenous staff as program organiser. Then with the help of this program organiser, it was possible to arrange the training courses successfully.
- ❑ Under this project, for the first time in Bangladesh, indigenous issue-based online radio set-up and broadcast. But in Bangladesh there is no specific law and policy to set-up this type of online radio. Due to the reason CCD is not able to cover all the indigenous issues through this online radio.
- ❑ After concluding the project, CCD has been facing financial problem to successfully run this online radio specially producing new programs.

**15. Other comments, if any.**

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**15.1. Findings:**

While implementing this project, some significant findings, for the empowerment and welfare of the indigenous people have been identified that are given below for your kind information.

- One of the major findings is that 95% about 95% of the indigenous people of northern region of the country fully ignorant about education, health, environment, law, human rights, gender and other contemporary issues. It is urgently necessary to make the indigenous people aware of these issues for their socio-economic development and empowerment.
- Though the indigenous people can speak in their own language they have very little efficiency of writing in Bangla and English. As a result, though these indigenous boys and girls achieved much skill and capacity of journalism, they are failing to write standard report for the online radio due to their lack in Bangla and English language writing skills.
- There is no media of or for the indigenous people in the regional and national level. As a result, in spite of having skill and capacity of journalism, the trained up indigenous boys and girls can not get space or media for long term practicing of journalism.
- Another important finding is 85% of the indigenous communities living in the northern region have no land as their own. They live in the Government property or in the land of the local tenure-holders. The meagre of land which is owned by some indigenous people is being grabbed by the local musclemen. Even the graveyards of the indigenous people are being illegally occupied by the terrorists.
- The indigenous students are severely ill-treated in the schools too. The mainstream children and young people of different schools and colleges in the northern region do not want to attend a class and play games with the indigenous children and youth. They do not take food in the same hotel. Besides that they insult and harass the indigenous children and youth in different ways.
- The mainstream people are often sexually assaulting the indigenous girls. These incidents are not properly published and broadcast in the mainstream media in Bangladesh. With the fear of harassment and assault, the indigenous girls are married in the very early age. So trend of early marriage is very high among the indigenous communities.
- There is prevailing a situation of harassing and neglecting the indigenous patients while providing health services in the Government and non-government hospitals.
- The local tenure-holders buy the labour of the indigenous workers advance as they suffer from extreme poverty. Besides they are paid less than the standard wage. Even indigenous female labourers are paid much less than the indigenous male workers.
- The political awareness of the indigenous people of this region is very low, so political parties can easily influence and use them. The mainstream public representatives harass the indigenous representatives in many ways. There is no representative of the indigenous communities in the national parliament of Bangladesh.
- There is little quota facility for the indigenous students of the northern region in the higher educational institutions. Though the indigenous students are demanding for increasing quota for them for long time, it is not met.
- Having no constitutional recognition of the indigenous communities of the northern region of Bangladesh, they are not employed in the Government and non-government institutions in the quota system.
- Own culture, tradition and folk knowledge of the indigenous communities are disappearing in many ways and thus their cultural individuality and feelings are decreasing gradually.



### **15.1. Recommendations:**

While implementing this project, a number of suggestions and recommendations for the empowerment and welfare of the indigenous people have been picked up that are given below for your kind consideration.

- The media owners, journalists, representatives of the indigenous communities, officials and leaders of civil society and development organisations agreed that media can play very important role in making the indigenous people on different contemporary issues and for the development, welfare and empowerment of the large number of indigenous people of the northern region, but this media need to be suitable for their perceiving and understanding and through their active participation. They opined that, the Government controlled Rajshahi Radio Station can be a very ideal media for perceiving and understanding by the indigenous people. In this regard, their logic is that the coverage of Rajshahi radio station is prevailing in the whole northern region where the indigenous communities live.

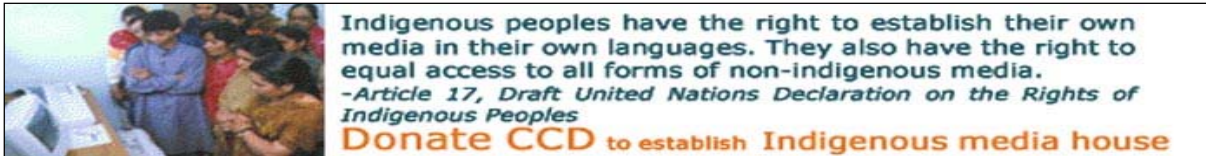
- If radio programs on indigenous issues are broadcast in their own language and voice through Rajshahi Radio Station, it will be easily possible to reach the whole indigenous communities living in the northern region, because, there is no need of having writing efficiency of Bangla and English language of the indigenous people for producing and listening to these programs. Thus Rajshahi Radio Station can be an ideal media through which it will be easily possible to make the indigenous communities of the northern region about development, empowerment, politics, education, health, environment, law, human rights, gender and other contemporary issues. Moreover, as Rajshahi Radio Station is the main mass media in the northern region, if these programs are broadcast over this radio station, all people of this region will come to know the problems, deprivation, potentials, language, culture, tradition and folk knowledge of the indigenous people. These programs to be broadcast through Rajshahi Radio Station will make the majority people kind and sympathetic towards the indigenous communities.



- The media owners, journalists, representatives of the indigenous communities, officials and leaders of civil society and development organisations have given most emphasis on establishing own community media (community newspapers, community news service and community radio) of the indigenous people for promoting their socio-economic development, position development, empowerment, establishing human rights, welfare, community mobilization and cultural revival. According to them, it is quite impossible to make the indigenous people aware and enlighten without their direct participation and control over media. For this reason, they strongly suggested to establish easily understandable and participatory community newspapers, community news service and community radio for the indigenous people. The government has already formulated community Radio Station Installation, Broadcasting and Operation policy-2008 and will give license for setting up and operation of some community radio stations sooner in the country. As a result, a good opportunity of setting up and running community radio stations to be participated and controlled by the indigenous communities of the northern region has been created. The trainees of the project could be key player of this proposed indigenous people based community radio. They urged representatives of the indigenous communities, officials and leaders of civil society and development organisations including CCD to take appropriate initiative to establish such community radio stations as well as community newspapers and community news service in northern region of the country. That is why, they suggested making the indigenous boys and girls adept and skilled for broadcasting and operating community radio now. According to them, it is the time to enhance skills and capacity of radio journalism and production of more indigenous young people through training courses.



- Most of journalists and media owners recommended developing an indigenous based News and Feature Service for providing indigenous related news and other necessary information to the mainstream media. If it is possible to develop such News and Feature Service then the trainees will get opportunity to work in this News and Feature Service as a journalist that will help them to recognize as professional journalists.



- Most of journalists and media owners suggested arranging exchange visit to indigenous based media houses and organisations in other countries for the trainees. If it is possible to arrange such kind of exchange visit that will help them to gather piratical knowledge and experiences to develop and set up indigenous based media organisation in the northern region of Bangladesh.
- According to the media owners, journalists, representatives of the indigenous communities, officials and leaders of civil society and development organisations, after the training courses, they should be involved to produce series of program which will be broadcast through Rajshahi Radio Station. Thus the trainees will have practical experience of radio journalism and program production, which will help them very much in broadcasting and operating community radio station in future.
- According to the media owners, journalists, representatives of the indigenous communities, officials and leaders of civil society and development organisations, the activities of the online radio (Radio Invo) developed under the project should be continue for highlighting indigenous people’s voice such as their existing problems, deprivation and potentials. Through the activities of the online radio the trainees of the project have gained practical experience of radio journalism and program production, which will help them very much in broadcasting and operating community radio station in future.
- Moreover, if online radio broadcasting has been continuing, they will be able to produce and broadcast programs on indigenous issues freely. Thus they will achieve skill and capacity of radio operation, which will help them in broadcasting and operating community radio in near future. At the same time, they will be able to highlight the story of problems, deprivation and potentials of the indigenous people to the policy makers, NGO and development agencies at home and abroad through the online radio. As these target people of the top tier have easy internet access and they will easily acquainted with the indigenous issues through the online radio. In this way, it will be possible to build up public opinion and conduct advocacy and lobby for the indigenous people at home and international level. In this regard, civil society and development organisations including WACC should come forward to provide necessary finical support to CCD for the continuing the online radio’s activities.
- During the implementation of this project, it is suggested to arrange regular dialogue to orient journalists on different issues of the indigenous people and strengthen working relation of the indigenous organization and leaders with mainstream journalists and media owners. Consequently, journalists will remain updated about the problems and deprivation of the indigenous and will be encouraged to provide media coverage on the indigenous issues.
- Indigenous leaders and representatives of indigenous based organisation suggested arranging long term communication and public relation skills building training courses for the staffs and officials of the indigenous based organisations. About one hundred indigenous people’s based organisations have been working in the northern region for the empowerment and welfare of the indigenous people. But due to lack of communication as well media and public relation skills they are unable to develop working relation with the mainstream media and journalists and provide the activities reports and information to them.
- Most of the media owners, journalists, representatives of the indigenous communities, officials and leaders of civil society and development organisations strongly suggested that it is urgently needed to make the indigenous people aware and sensitize on health, environment, law, human rights, gender and other contemporary issues for the empowerment and welfare of the indigenous





people. To achieve this propose they recommended to develop a number of Audio-Visual Knowledge Centres in indigenous based areas of the northern region of Bangladesh.

- Most of the participants of the project requested to CCD and WACC for arranged follow-up activities for ensuring sustainability of the achieved outcomes and outputs.

**16. Report submitter information:**

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**Name of the person** : **G M Mourtoza**  
**Position** : **Director**  
**Date** : **21 February 2010**  
**Signature** :

