



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

**THE NARRATIVE REPORT**

<b>1. Project Title:</b> (as appeared in the Agreement)	Women in the South and Central Asia promote peace via community radio
<b>2. Project Reference Number:</b> (as appeared in the Agreement)	949
<b>3. Full Name of Project Holder:</b>	Isis International
<b>4. Full Address:</b>	#3 Marunong Str., Barangay Central, Diliman, Quezon City 1100
<b>5. Name of Country:</b>	Philippines
<b>6. Period the project was implemented:</b> (from month/year to month/year)	January 2010 to September 2011
<b>7. Project Grant received:</b> <b>[You must include any bank charges deducted]</b>	<b>Amount in local currency:</b> PhP730,066.63  <b>Amount in Euros or <u>US\$</u> (circle as appropriate):</b> US\$15,932.91
<b>8. Date(s) Project Grant(s) were received:</b> (as in your bank statement) 1 <sup>st</sup> remittance 2 <sup>nd</sup> remittance	1st remittance - 3 March 2010 2nd remittance - not yet received

## 9. Activities

The “Women in South and Central Asia Promote Peace via Community Radio” project, also known as Women Making Airwaves for Peace (WMAF) was a 6-day seminar attended by 28 women community radio broadcasters mainly from Central and South Asia. Focused on the themes of engendered peace building, disaster mitigation and climate justice, this seminar was held on 13 -18 February 2010 in Mysore, Karnataka, India, in collaboration with Isis’ local partner organisation, IT for Change in Mysore.

The women community radio broadcasters from 8 countries: Afghanistan, Fiji, India, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, and USA participated in the seminar that involved experience sharing, skills sharing and radio productions. The participants acted as resource persons, trainers, trainees and radio journalists at the same time. Beyond in-depth discussions of the themes, the seminar involved capacity building and skills sharing on Feminist Broadcasting, Gender Equality Policy for Community Radio, Digital Editing, Interview Techniques, Radio Feature Production and Radio Drama. During the seminar, the participants produced radio programmes that consisted of a variety of creative radio formats such as radio features, story telling, radio drama, studio discussion and featured the experiences of these women broadcasters.

Please refer to enclosed CD on Women Making Airwaves for Peace or connect to the Isis website to view these productions:

[http://www.isiswomen.org/index.php?option=com\\_phocadownload&view=category&id=11:women-making-airwaves-for-peace&Itemid=243](http://www.isiswomen.org/index.php?option=com_phocadownload&view=category&id=11:women-making-airwaves-for-peace&Itemid=243)

The schedule of the seminar intentionally coincided with the 2nd Regional Conference of the World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (AMARC) Asia Pacific that took place on 20-23 February 2010 in Bangalore, India; to ensure the WMAF participants would have the chance to also participate in the AMARC conference. Twenty-seven (27) of the twenty-eight (28) participants of WMAF actively participated in the AMARC conference. They presented in the workshop on engendered climate justice and disaster mitigation; they served as rapporteurs in plenary sessions and workshops; and performed on-site conference documentation by recording the plenary sessions, taking pictures and writing summaries of the different speeches. These were uploaded on the AMARC website and thus gave access to people who were not able to attend the conference to the different presentations.

[http://asiapacific.amarc.org/index.php?p=2\\_Conference\\_Asia\\_Pacific\\_2010\\_news](http://asiapacific.amarc.org/index.php?p=2_Conference_Asia_Pacific_2010_news)

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

After assessment with WMAF participants, Isis’ partners and AMARC conference organizers, the feedbacks from them showed that the project was successful based on the various accomplishments.

(1) The seminar provided the positive and safe space for participants from diverse background to share their experience:

For the main activity of the project, the inter-movement, inter-regional and inter-active 6-day seminar brought together 28 women community radio practitioners, from eight countries, mainly of South and Central Asia: Afghanistan, Fiji, India, Kyrgystan, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka, and USA. The participants were not only the trainees but also acted as resource persons, trainers, and radio journalists during the seminar.

Isis International also provided the experienced facilitators/trainers to facilitate the discussion as well as gave the inputs on the various topics.

The themes shared include:

- Community Radio and Climate Change Adaptation
- Engendered Disaster Mitigation
- Engendered Peace Journalism
- Feminist Broadcasting
- Gender Equality Policy for Community Radio
- Digital Editing
- Interview techniques
- Radio Feature Production
- Radio Drama

The presentations were followed with an open discussion that allowed for further questions to the presenters as well as giving the other participants the opportunity to also share their experiences.

During the seminar participants produced radio programmes consisting of a variety of creative formats such as radio reports, story telling, radio drama, studio discussion and featured the experiences of women broadcasters from Afghanistan, Fiji, India, Kyrgyrstan, Nepal, Philippines and Sri Lanka.

(2) This seminar helped women to improve their technical and management skills that can be applied in their community radio broadcasting:

A survey conducted by AMARC and Isis International in 2006 shows that women play important roles in community radios as broadcasters, volunteers and interviewers, however, only few women engage in the management position or in technical sections. There is the need to capacitize women in community radio with management skills and technical skills. Therefore, aside from peace building, disaster mitigation and sustainable responses to climate change the seminar discussed management and sustainability of community radio stations as well as enhancing women's access to decision-making positions.

(3) This seminar enabled women's meaningful participation in AMARC conference and provide the gender perspectives in the discussion during the conference:

As the side event of AMARC conference, the seminar was able to pool together a group of women participants that balanced the gender representation in the male-dominated AMARC conference and provided the gender perspectives in the discussions. Out of a total of 65 female participants of the AMARC conference, 27 came from the Isis seminar. It was a chance for women from local community radio to attend this regional conference that they may not have been able to, if not for their participation in the Isis seminar. For many of them, it was their first time to attend an international seminar and conference. The women gained the opportunity to learn more about the overall situation of community radio in the region and globally and participate in the community radio movement through the decision-making processes of AMARC Asia Pacific. This opportunity also increased women's participation in the conference and contributed to women's access to leadership positions within the community radio movement.

## 11. Project Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of this project were the 28 women participants of the seminar. The participants are women involved in community radio, peace advocacy, and women's rights advocacy. Having used the proven principle of self-empowerment, this target group is considered the "change makers" rather than "beneficiaries" only. There were no men among the participants of the seminar.

The secondary "beneficiaries" were the community radio stations where the participants echoed the learnings and outcomes of the seminar. Some of these community radio stations have male co-workers who were also participants in the echoing of the seminar.

The indirect beneficiaries were the project participants' target audiences in their respective countries within their areas of advocacies and broadcasting. This is the general public and includes men.

Other beneficiaries were the target audiences that the publication on best practices and multi-media CD and Isis website with the outputs of the seminar were able to reach, which may include the AMARC-WIN and Isis International networks, broad social movements, development agencies, and some policy-making bodies.

## 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?

The "Women in South and Central Asia promote peace via community radio" seminar proved to be an enriching experience for its participants.

"This seminar was an excellent exposure to community radio. I got energized to do more live broadcasts." said Preeti Candrasekar from India.

For Shahla Saiq from Afghanistan the seminar "... was a women friendly environment where we learned a lot, such as interview techniques."

For Parul Gupta from India "It was also a space to interact and communicate with other non-English speaking participants"

The participants that attended the AMARC conference - 27 of the 28 participants – also expressed their participation as enriching and acknowledged it as an important space where they were able to contribute.

"It is a very empowering and exciting opportunity for me to attend this conference. The good thing is because we had the WMAP (Isis) seminar just before the conference, I already know several participants so I never felt lost or intimidated and always found a familiar face I could relate to," said Karuma D'Souza of DRISHTI, India.

The inclusion of a high number of women community radio broadcasters from the WMAP seminar and who were very active in the plenaries and workshop sessions succeeded in

gender mainstreaming the whole AMARC conference. These WMAP participants were able to bring in the gender issues and perspectives in most of the plenaries and workshops.

Generally the reaction of the male participants of this conference was positive. This is reflected in one of the discussions on the issue of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) within the AMARC network. Except two men, from Bangladesh and Nepal who were in opposition to the inclusion of LGBT rights within the Bangalore Declaration, majority of participants both men and women spoke in the defense of LGBT rights.

Bangalore Declaration can be downloaded from the AMARC Asia Pacific website:  
[http://asiapacific.amarc.org/index.php?p=2\\_Conference\\_Asia\\_Pacific\\_2010](http://asiapacific.amarc.org/index.php?p=2_Conference_Asia_Pacific_2010)

### **13. Outcome and Outputs of the project: What has your project achieved and what has changed?**

(1) Outputs: The seminar outputs include the presentations that participants delivered and the three 45 minutes long radio programmes produced by participants applying the newly learned skills and shared experiences during the seminar.

As resource persons, the participants delivered presentations on the following topics:

- Feminist Broadcasting, India
- Formation of Identity, Perception and Stereotype – through representation of women in media, India
- Representation of Women at various levels of CR Management, Sri Lanka
- The Role of Women in Community Radio and Peace Building, India
- As a Women Community Radio Journalist in post conflict Nepal
- Women Rebuilding their lives in war-torn areas in Sri Lanka
- Media and the UNSCR 1325 on Women Peace and Security, Fiji
- Community Radio and Climate Change and Disaster Mitigation: Response of tribal women to climate change in North East India
- Climate Change and Women in Media in Nepal
- Opening the First Women's Radio in Nepal
- Radio Sahar's Role on Women's Empowerment in Heart, Afghanistan
- Integrating Women Citizen Journalist in the Radio Programming, Kyrgyz
- Stories of Nepal's Women Radio Journalists
- AMARC Women's International Network Asia Pacific, India
- Participating in AMARC WIN International Radio Campaigns, Nepal
- AMARC's vital role for Pioneers of Community Radio, Kyrgyz

Participants produced 3 45 minute-long radio shows (see the attached CD): Hina's Radio Café, Kuan-Yin Café and Radio Gaea.

(2) Outcomes: The major outcome of the seminar is the women's meaningful participation and representation in the AMARC conference which contributed substantially to the contents and gender perspectives of the conference.

During the AMARC conference, the women also prepared their presentations, various roles such as chairs or rapporteurs on panel and workshop sessions and their various task in the media coverage of the conference.

During the AMARC conference WMAP participants delivered the following presentations:

- Women's networking within country level Community Radio networks, by Pramila Manandhar, Radio Sagarmatha, Nepal;
- Experience sharing on content sharing in Afghanistan, by Fatima Ghayal and Salam Watandar, Afghanistan;
- Natural Disasters and the role of Radio in Fiji, by Sandhya Narayan, FRIENDS, Islands Fiji;
- Gender and Food Security, by Cai Yiping, Isis International (via video presentation);
- Community Radio in the context of Peace, multi-culture and memory, by Shallah, Afghanistan;
- Women's Access and Participation on decision making in Community Radio, by Bianca Miglioretto, Isis International; and
- Sharing experiences about the Mahila Samakhya women radio program 'Kelu Sakhi' – a unique broadcast platform in terms of its reach, use of local dialect, vision of being an identity and solidarity platform and its progressive social content on gender, by Krupa Thimmaiah and Aparna Kalley, IT for Change, India.

WMAP women also organised a workshop on Engendered Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation - Challenges for Community Radio.

There was also a video presentation on Women Making Airwaves for Peace Seminar on Engendered Peace Building, Disaster Mitigation and Environmental Protection through Community Radio, during the AMARC conference.

WMAP women were also Chairs and rapporteurs for a workshop on Sustainable Information Exchange Mechanism and Broadcast Campaigns in Asia Pacific with Chair, Aditi Desai, Dristi and Rapporteur, Sandhya Narayan; for the workshop on Community Radio for Deepening the Democratic Participation of Indigenous Peoples in Asia-Pacific with Rapporteur Parul Gupta, India; and for workshop on Community Media for the Migrant Communities with rapporteur Erika Rosario, Isis International.

These outputs are contained in the enclosed CD and on the Isis website.

(3) Another major outcome of this seminar is the network and linkage that were built among participants, Isis and other partners, which are valuable for future collaboration and advocacies. Isis is playing the coordinating role by setting up the WMAP egroup and facilitates the communication among participants. They are also connected via Isis facebook and other social networks to meet other Isis partners and networks and continue to involve the other Isis initiatives and activities.

Two of the participants have since shared their activities through the WMAP egroup:

DRISHTI conducted its Fourth Central Learning Event for its Community Producers, Trainers and Coordinators from Community Radio and Community Video Units across the country. The event was scheduled in Ahmedabad on 19-23

December 2010 on Web streaming Community Media Content. The five-day training workshop aimed at providing first hands-on experience and basic understanding of streaming technologies and streaming softwares.

Pacifica Radio had a seminar on Women and Peace: New Feminist Perspectives on 3 April at the Department of Tamil Literature, University of Madras.

Some participants contributed several articles to Isis International publication "Women in Action" 2010 issue 1, "Converging Communications: Empowering Women, Transforming Communities", which is disseminated to decision makers, development agencies, activists, NGOs and academia worldwide.

Enclosed is a copy of this *WiA* issue. The full publication will also be up loaded on the Isis website in June 2011.

## 14. Evaluation

Overall the Project was considered successful. The targeted number of participants were still met. Even the intention of coinciding the WMAP seminar with the AMARC conference succeeded in its purpose to bring more women and their greater participation in the AMARC network.

A major challenge that Isis experienced was securing visas to India. It seemed that the seminar was recognized as a political issue and it did not help that women were presenting invitations from Isis International to attend this event. Some of the Isis representatives who were meant to attend the seminar as facilitators and presenters were not able to obtain a visa in time for the seminar. However, Isis became creative and made use of the existing communication technology. Presentations were videoed and shown during its scheduled sessions and the presenters made themselves available on skype for further discussions.

Another challenge during the seminar was the occasional brownout in the seminar venue which affected the smooth flow of the seminar as well as the radio production process. With local partner organisation's help, we solved this problem by negotiating with the hotel. This problem is out of our control and facility issue like this need to be taken into consideration in the future projects, especially when the project venue is outside the major cities in developing countries.

Conduct of a tracer study has always been a challenge in the project evaluation. The tracer study is conducted between three to six months post the seminar. It is very difficult to obtain responses from the participants. This was also experienced in the other WMAP seminar held for Southeast Asia and the Pacific in 2009. Isis International would like to implement a full scale project that would evaluate and monitor how participants of both seminars - held in Southeast Asia and the Pacific; and South and Central Asia - and their organisations has made or contributed progress in their work based on their participation in the WMAP seminar. At the same time, this project would investigate the

further needs of the participants and/or their organisations that Isis may be able to respond.

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

In reference to the financial report, you may notice that in many of the budget items the actual amount is less than the budgeted expenditure. These variances of more than the allowed 30% is due to working within the approved budget that was less than the requested budget. Actual expenses charged to WACC were within the requested budget.

The first tranche received in US dollars (net of bank charge) was recorded at P44/US\$.

**16. Name of the person submitting the report: Cai Yiping**

**Position:** Executive Director

**Date:** April 7, 2011

**Signature:** 