



La Lettre Electronique de TRRAACE TRRAACE Electronic Newsletter

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TRRAACE :

TOUTES LES RESSOURCES POUR LES RADIOS AFRICAINES ASSOCIATIVES COMMUNAUTAIRES ET EDUCATIVES

TRACKING RESOURCES FOR RADIOS IN AFRICA AT THE BENEFIT OF THE ASSOCIATIVE COMMUNITY AND EDUCATIVE RADIO STATIONS

TODOS OS RECURSOS PARA AS RADIOS ASSOCIATIVAS EN AFRICA ASSIM CEMO COMUNITARIAS E EDUCATIVAS

[HTTP://WWW.MEDIAFRICA.NET](http://www.mediafrica.net)

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NOUVELLES DE MEDIAFRICA.NET

RDC: PROGRAMME DE FORMATION ET D'APPUI AUX RADIOS DE PROXIMITÉ DU KATANGA PILOTÉ PAR LE GRET

<http://www.gret.org>

Démarrage du programme de formation à la programmation et 'service public' pour les radios de proximité du Katanga (RDC)

Ce nouveau projet, financé dans le cadre du programme FCI-DFID pour les médias en RDC, sera mis en œuvre par le Gret en partenariat avec Mediafrica.Net et le Réseau des Journalistes Formateurs (RJF) de RDC.

Il s'agit de travailler pendant 2 ans avec 8 radios de proximité du Katanga, pour les former et les accompagner afin que leur programmation leur permette de mieux remplir les missions d'information de proximité, de divertissement et d'éducation. Ce qui revient en définitive à assumer une mission de service public tout en faisant en sorte que ces radios connaissent mieux les attentes de leur public. Les formations combineront sessions en ligne et en résidentiel.

Nous commencerons l'exécution du projet par une large mission d'identification qui aura lieu du 14 au 26 janvier dans le Katanga. Cette mission sera conduite par Florence Minery pour le Gret, associée avec Issiaka Soulé (Mediafrica.net/APM Bénin), Denis Diallo et Dieudonné Lokale pour le RJF. Elle visera à identifier les radios bénéficiaires du programme selon une grille de critères pré-établis. La mission s'attachera à choisir des radios isolées et ne bénéficiant pas ou peu d'appuis extérieurs ; il s'agira aussi de radios ayant des potentialités de démultiplication et présentant un équilibre avéré dans leur grille de programmes. Cette mission d'identification établira un diagnostic des besoins de formation, en vue de préparer le contenu des modules de formation.

Parmi les radios sélectionnées, les plus nécessiteuses en équipement seront dotées d'une antenne V-SAT, leur permettant de se projeter en cybercentre public ce qui aura pour impact de renforcer la viabilité de la radio et de réduire le désenclavement numérique de la localité.

Contact : lemoine-minery@gret.org

Source : Gret (Paris), 22 déc. 2009

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News (Les nouvelles en français suivent)

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-16 [EN]

Botswana: Botswana raps Zimbabwean media reports on pirate radio stations

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Phandu Skelemani has condemned the reappearance of allegations that Botswana is hosting hostile pirate radio stations by Zimbabwean media. Skelemani says such utterances are not only unfortunate but disturbing. Recently, newspapers and radio stations from the north-east neighbour have been reporting on hostile pirate radio stations, which they claim are hosted locally.

Voice of America, which has had its transmitters in Selebi-Pikwe area for three decades now, is at the heart of this contentious issue. It made headlines in Zimbabwe recently with Botswana's position questioned on allowing such a broadcast to go on. The minister was setting the record straight on this long-running battle over Voice of America.

[Begin Skelemani recording] The accusation in Zimbabwe, as you would know, in The Zimbabwean Herald, is that we, that is Botswana, is hostile to Zimbabwe. An example of the Studio 7 of the Voice of America was given; that we are providing Zimbabweans with passports to facilitate, I suppose, their travel outside their own country when they are supposed to get those from their own country, and that we even give them work permits. [End recording]

Source: Botswana TV (Gaborone), 10 Dec. 2009; quoted by BBC Monitoring 15 Dec. 2009

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-16 [EN]

Uganda: Radio Mini-Series Win Global Award

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200912141257.html>

The Health Communication Partnership-Uganda, a programme under the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Centre for Communication Programmes has won the Global Award for Best Serial Drama called Neighbours, a radio serial drama focusing on population and family planning in Uganda.

Neighbours is a short serial drama whose storyline illustrates the problems of having a large family and the advantages of a small planned family.

The awards commissioned by the Population Institute were presented on December 4, at a ceremony in Washington, DC.

The annual award honours those who bring greater public awareness to the challenges related to population and reproductive health.

The drama was produced as part of a national campaign to encourage young Ugandan married men to have smaller families using modern family planning methods. [...]

The radio mini-series was designed as an innovative way to communicate Uganda's population crisis to men. [...]

Neighbours was developed as part of a national communication campaign implemented by the Uganda Ministry of Health in partnership with Health Communication Partnership-Uganda (HCP), a project managed by CCP and funded by the US Agency for International Development.

Neighbours was produced in six languages and aired on 12 radio stations over a six-month period this year. [...]

"The campaign changed the attitudes of nearly 1million Ugandans about the ideal family size and resulted in almost 500,000 visits to family planning clinics for contraceptive methods. Now that's scale," says Cheryl. [...]

Full story and source: New Vision (Kampala), 13 Dec. 2009; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-16 [EN]

Uganda: 30,000 attend launch of Radio Rupiny

<http://www.newvision.co.ug/detail.php?newsCategoryId=12&newsId=704210>

Thousands of listeners, supporters and well-wishers thronged Kaunda grounds in Gulu municipality yesterday to officially launch Radio Rupiny 95.7FM.

The Vision Group chief executive, Robert Kabushenga, The New Vision Editor-in-Chief, Els de Temmerman, her deputy Barbara Kaija and the editor of the regional papers, Kenneth Oluka, led about 30,000 revellers to open the radio's operations in the north.

Kaija said the radio was a community-based initiative meant to directly benefit the local population. She urged the public to use Radio Rupiny as a reliable community-based channel for their opinions,

criticisms and ideas.

She said the radio, just like other Vision Group platforms, strives to inform, educate and entertain accurately and openly for a better world.

She said Radio Rupiny belonged to the same family as the Rupiny newspaper, The New Vision, Bukedde and the other sister papers.

Kabushenga said Vision Group was a fast-growing media company aiming at being the leading media in the country through its various papers, radio and TV station. He said Radio Rupiny targets becoming the dominant multimedia in the region.

He asked the local people to make proper use of the radio to develop their region. [...]

Full story and source: New Vision Online (Kampala), 13 Dec. 2009

RESOURCE FROM : 2009-12-16 [EN]

World: UNESCO and FEMNET launch resource book on right of African women to information

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=29377&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

Supported by UNESCO, the African Women's Development and Communication Network (FEMNET), a pan-African organization working to promote women's rights and development in the continent since 1988, published a resource book Freedom of Information (FOI) & Women's Rights in Africa. This publication is one of the outputs of the Freedom of Information and Women's Rights in Africa Project, a regional programme launched by FEMNET in partnership with UNESCO. The project aims to demonstrate the relevance of freedom of information in the promotion and protection of women's rights as promulgated in national laws, and regional and international human rights instruments.

The publication, compiled by Carlyn Hambuba and edited by Rachel Kagoyi, collects case studies from five African countries: Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, South Africa and Zambia. It thus documents insights from the experiences of women's participation in the processes that have led to the formulation, enactment and implementation of laws and policies enabling citizens to enjoy freedom of information.

Full presentation and source: UNESCO Webworld (Paris), 11 dec. 2009

NEWS FROM : 2009-12-17 [EN]

Liberia : STAR Radio wins a Prize

The theme of the seventh Airwaves of Freedom Festival, which took place in Bamako at the beginning of November, was the "role of radio in the fight against child trafficking". Fifty-one radio stations from francophone regions of West Africa competed in the radio competition. This festival aims to promote

quality reporting by West African media, especially radio stations. STAR Radio won the top prize at this year's event with a 17-minute production in French on child trafficking.

STAR Radio is now entirely Liberian. It was created in 1997 by Fondation Hirondelle, but was closed down three years later by former strongman Charles Taylor. It was able to reopen in 2005 and resume its task of

providing independent, professional news and information in all the country's main languages.

Since January 1, 2008, STAR Radio has been run entirely by Liberians. Fondation Hirondelle continues to support it mainly through assistance with fundraising.

Source: "What's new?" News from Fondation Hirondelle (Lausanne), Issue 28, Dec. 2009

NEWS FROM : 2009-12-18 [EN]

Nigeria: Bauchi Radio Corporation Grounded

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200912180464.html>

The Bauchi Radio Station (BRC), owned by the Bauchi State government, has been off the air for some weeks now due to obsolete equipment. The station has been managed with outdated equipment, which hinder staff performance and advertisers' patronage.

Leadership learned that the management of the radio station has not received funding from the state government for maintenance of the transmitting equipment.

"Nothing was allocated to the corporation even after the supplementary budget of N500 million in the year 2007," a source said.

In 2008, with appropriate bill, the corporation was allocated N250 million, but the money was not released; even after the appropriation of the 2009 budget of N580 million, nothing was released to the radio station, which rendered the staff of the corporation redundant.

The Yelwa transmission station has also been grounded following epileptic power supply and without the availability of power generator to compliment the power supply for the station. At inception of the present administration, the Bauchi Radio Corporation was receiving N2 million monthly but the amount was later reduced to N1 million.

With current situation in the corporation, it is obvious that the state would not be able to meet the deadline of digitisation in 2012.

The state governor, Malam Isa Yuguda, has on several occasions directed the commissioner for information to ensure that both stations work, but nothing has been done.

All effort to get the reaction of the commissioner at the time of compiling this report proved abortive as he was said to be out of town.

Source: Leadership, 17 dec. 2009; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-18 [EN]

Malawi: MISA Malawi Mobilizes Resources for Mulanje Community Radio

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200912170747.html>

Following government's recent closure of a pirate radio in Mulanje, the Malawi chapter of the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA Malawi) is mobilizing resources to set up a community radio in the district.

According to MISA Malawi National Chairperson Brian Ligomeka, the media body has decided to set up the radio in the district because of the gap that the closure of Pachikweza (Pirate) Radio has created.

"The truth is that in some parts of Mulanje, people are not able to listen to most of the local radios due to poor reception. The chiefs have stated that people are forced to listen to Mozambican radio stations whose signals are stronger in the border district," he said.

Ligomeka said MISA Malawi is mobilizing resources so that they can set up the radio which will be handed to the community.

"The process has began. We have met all the six traditional authorities, district officials and development partners. They have thrown their weight behind the initiative. Our next step is to present the application for the licence to the Malawi Communication Regulatory Authority," he said. Ligomeka explained that MISA Malawi is now soliciting support in form in financial resources, equipment, professional and technical expertise, and even human resources.

"We are asking local and international partners including individuals, companies, NGOs, institutions, media bodies, and donors to assist us. For instance, if someone offers us US\$1500, that is enough to pay licence fees for Mulanje Community Radio. Another one can come in with a donation of computers, another with broadcasting and transmission equipment, even second hand equipment et cetera and this radio project will be a reality," he said.

Speaking during a consultative meeting held at Mulanje Boma, Senior Chief Mabuka described MISA Malawi's intervention as timely and a big blessing.

"We are happy that MISA Malawi has taken this initiative. On behalf of all my fellow chiefs who are here, I welcome the establishment of Mulanje Community Radio," said senior chief Mabuka.

"At the moment we are voiceless media-wise. The problem here in Mulanje is that when you are trying to tune to a local radio, you get frustrated because you catch the signal of a Mozambican radio which is broadcasting in Portuguese and yet we don't understand Portuguese. Mulanje Community Radio will be an answer to this problem because we will be listening to issues that affect us in our languages," said the traditional leader.

Commenting on the same issue, Chief Njema said he was happy because the new radio would succeed the pirate radio which was serving his subjects.

"In the area around Muloza, where I am a chief, Pachikweza Pirate Radio was very popular because it enabled us listen to programmes in our local languages. Its closure was a huge blow because and we are now relieved that MISA Malawi will facilitate the establishment of a community radio in the area," he said.

In her remarks, Chief Mkanda joined the media body in appealing for support..

"I wish MISA Malawi had its own financial resources so that the process of opening Mulanje Community Radio could be hastened. But since it depends on donations, I join MISA Malawi in appealing for support towards this initiative. We need a community radio in Mulanje.

On his part, the father of Gabriel Kondesi who attended the meeting said he was happy that the dream of his son will live on through the establishment of the area. Gabriel Kondesi was the boy who was jailed for running a pirate radio in Mulanje but is currently at Kaphuka Private School. Meanwhile the chiefs have a 12-member formed a taskforce comprising of 6 men and six women to be coordinating

Source: The Tribune (Blantyre), 17 Dec. 2009; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-18 [EN]

Zimbabwe: Jockeying Begins for TV and Radio Licenses<http://allafrica.com/stories/200912170632.html>

There is intense jockeying by individuals and groups in Zimbabwe waiting to apply for radio and television licenses, once/if the inclusive government finally frees the airwaves.

SW Radio Africa understands that there has been a lot of interest from a cross section of Zimbabweans vying to operate independent radio and TV licenses. The State-run Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation operates the country's only TV and four radio stations.

A source told us he has seen many people with links to ZANU PF lobbying politburo members to push the broadcasting board to consider their applications. There are as many as 10 groups and a number of individuals vying for the licenses. [...]

Full story and source: SW Radio Africa (London), 16 Dec. 2009; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-19 [EN]

Lybia: Libyan radio body chief says Arab viewers distrust official media

The general assembly of the federation of Arab radio stations held its 29th session in Tunis on 17 and 18 December, Libyan TV reported.

The TV quoted the federation's director-general, Salah al-Din Ma'awi, as praising - in a speech to the session - the great successes achieved by the federation at the international level.

The TV said a Libyan delegation attended the session and was led by the secretary of the general organization of the radio stations of the Great Jamahiriyah, Ali al-Kaylani, who mentioned the lack of trust of Arab viewers in the Arab official TV and radio channels and the fact that private channels had taken the lead over official ones. He added: "We have not been steadfast in the face of this private sector" as far as finance and programming is concerned. He said in this context: "We are, however, ready to discuss these strategic issues, which are important to us".

Libyan TV quoted Al-Kaylani as proposing a single Arab information minister at the Arab League. He suggested wearing Arab traditional attire so that viewers could identify the TV channel they were watching. In this context, he praised "some" Gulf countries which abide by the wearing of Arab traditional clothes and enable viewers to identify the Gulf state represented by the TV channel.

Al-Kaylani mentioned the threats, particularly the American threats, facing the Arab media. In this respect, he said that the radio of the resistance in Lebanon was threatened with removal.

Al-Kaylani talked about Libyan radio and TV stations and told his audience that Libya had 10 satellite TV channels and 30 radio stations. He said that there were 25 local radio stations in Libya. He added that a special pan-Arab channel would be set up for the next Arab summit, which would be held in a few months' time in Libya.

Al-Kaylani deplored the fact that some "Arab private radio stations" fight each other over the airwaves as he said they were involved "in battles".

Source: Libyan TV (Tripoli), in Arabic, 18 Dec. 2009; translated and quoted by BBC Monitoring 19 Dec. 2009

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-19 [EN]

Sierra Leone: Sierra Leone parliament approves broadcasting bill

Text of report by Radio UNAMSIL, operated by the UN Mission in Sierra Leone, on 17 December ["1915 News"]

[Presenter] The Sierra Leone Parliament has on 17 December approved the Sierra Leone Broadcasting Corporation [SLBC] bill 2009. The act will establish a national independent public broadcaster to ensure impartial access to all fields of opinion.

Reacting to the enactment, Information and Communications Minister Alhaji Ibrahim Ben Kargbo said parliament has made history in the West Africa region by making Sierra Leoneans own the first West African national independent radio station.

The SLBC bill 2009 was enacted by parliament in August but did not attract presidential assent. President Ernest Bai Koroma sent it back to parliament for consideration because of concerns raised by the civil society on certain aspects of the act. For more details here is our parliamentary reporter Sulaiman Bah.

[Reporter] Presenting the ratified amendment made to the SLBC Act 2009 at the House of Parliament, the chairman of the legislative committee, Hon Agibola Manley Spain tabled the amendment version where all Members of Parliament unanimously approved and passed into law the SLBC Act 2009. The SLBC Act 2009 is geared towards transforming the SLBS to an

independent radio station.

Source: Radio UNAMSIL (Freetown), 17 Dec. 2009, quoted by BBC Monitoring 19 Dec. 2009

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-20 [EN]

Kenya: KBC to launch FM vernacular stations in Kisumu

<http://blogs.rnw.nl/medianetwork/kbc-to-launch-fm-vernacular-stations-in-kisumu>

The Kenya Broadcasting Corporation is set to launch three vernacular FM stations in Kisumu to cater for the Luhya, Kisii and Luo communities in its bid to give Kenyans timely and rich educational and entertainment content. Speaking in Kisumu, the corporation managing director David Waweru also said digital broadcasting services will soon be launched in the area in the continuing migration from analogue to digital broadcasting.

Source: KBC (Nairobi) quoted by Media Network Blog Radio Netherlands, 19 Dec. 2009

ALERT

FROM : 2009-12-21 [EN]

Somalia: Radio station director escapes unhurt in shooting at checkpoint

Radio Gaalkacyo director has escaped unharmed following a gunfire attack by a Puntland soldier during a visit to Gaalkacyo town airport, central Somalia.

The director told Radio Gaalkacyo that he had visited the airport in Gaalkacyo to make programmes when one of the soldier, a member of the airport security, opened gunfire at his vehicle. The director said the reasons behind the attack remain unknown and that the regional police were investigating the matter. He said he was attacked by the soldier at the front checkpoint of the airport.

Although the director was unhurt in the incident, his car was bullet ridden. The incident follows a recent one in which Puntland police injured a VOA reporter in Gaalkacyo. The police accused the reporter of violating police order although the reporter said he was targeted directly by the police.

This incident comes at a time when the relations between Puntland journalists and regional authorities are strained.

Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali, 20 Dec. 2009; translated and quoted by BBC Monitoring 21 Dec. 2009

ALERT

FROM : 2009-12-22 [EN]

Nigeria: Daar Communications takes FG to court over licence withdraw

<http://www.vanguardngr.com/2009/12/21/daar-communications-takes-fg-to-court-over-licence-withdraw/>

DAAR Communications Plc, owners of Ray Power 100.5 FM radio station and AIT, has requested a Federal High Court sitting in Abuja to stop the Federal Government from actualising its plans to withdraw its network licence.

The network licence of DAAR Communication sought to be withdrawn allows it to maintain multiple terrestrial stations in the country to transmit its radio and television programmes on network basis in the country. [...]

Full report and source: Vanguard website (Lagos), 21 Dec. 2009

ALERT

FROM : 2009-12-22 [EN]

Somalia: Puntland security forces arrest VOA reporter in Gaalkacyo, central Somalia

Puntland security forces have arrested Somali VOA reporter in Gaalkacyo town, central Somalia. Muhammad Yasin Isaq, the reporter, is said to have been taken away by the security forces at midnight from his residence in Gaalkacyo town. Dozens of security personnel with heavy weapons and armoured vehicles are said to have surrounded his house and ordered him to come out. The reporter is currently being held at the central intelligence department of Mudug Region and there are reports that several journalists who tried to visit him were refused permission to enter the compound. The real purpose of his arrest is unclear but sources say that the journalist was arrested for false reporting.

Puntland regional administration has reportedly accused the VOA reporter of covering the displacement of southerners from Puntland controlled side of Gaalkacyo to their regions. They also accused him of creating tension and hostilities between the southerners and Puntland people. The reporter was recently wounded by Puntland police in Gaalkacyo town intentionally although Puntland police commander accused the reporter of speeding and violating orders of the police. The move comes as relations between Puntland authorities and journalists worsens.

Meanwhile, Puntland media association has issued a press statement condemning the arrest of reporter Muhammad Yasin and the attempt of killing Radio Gaalkacyo director Hasan Muhammad Jama. The association has called upon Puntland administration to keep the freedom of media and lift the pressure on journalists on the ground.

Source: Radio Gaalkacyo (Gaalkacyo), in Somali 21 Dec. 2009; quoted by BBC Monitoring 22 Dec. 2009

ALERT FROM : 2009-12-24 [EN]

Madagascar: Madagascar suspends private radio's broadcasts

Madagascar's communication minister has announced sanctions against a private radio. Radio Fahazavana's news bulletins and the political programme have been suspended for a month for inciting public violence, the minister said.

Source: Radio France Internationale (Paris), in French 23 Dec. 2009; t'ranslated and quoted by BBC Monitoring 24 Dec. 2009

NEWS FROM : 2009-12-24 [EN]

Rwanda: Parliamentary radio to start next year

<http://www.newtimes.co.rw/index.php?issue=14118&article=24022>

As part of its decentralisation programme, government will next year launch a Parliamentary radio station, to air programs of the legislative arm.

The United Nations Development Fund (UNDP) and the Department of International Development (DFID), are both set to inject an estimated \$450,000 into the project.

The project to set up the radio station was studied by a consultant from UNESCO-Cameroon between October and November this year.

"Everything is going according to plan and we hope the radio station will hit the airwaves as early as May next year. We will recruit more staff where necessary but we are mainly relying on the parliamentary staff," Augustin Habimana, the director of communication and outreach to The New Times.

Upon its launch, the radio station will broadcast live from both Chambers of Parliament as a means to orient locals with the country's laws.

Habimana pointed out that the main purpose for the launch of the parliamentary radio station was to connect the lawmakers with their constituents.

"There have been cases where parliament has summoned a government representative to explain where things are not going well. This radio will directly link leaders to the electorate. They will have a chance to follow in detail how the government is executing its duties live from the Parliament," he said

Source: The New Times website (Kigali), 23 Dec. 2009; quoted by BBC Monitoring 24 Dec. 2009

NEWS FROM : 2009-12-24 [EN]

Sierra Leone: President Koroma donates transmitter to state broadcaster

The Minister of Information and Communications, Alhaji Ibrahim Ben Kargbo, has said that his ministry wants Sierra Leone to be part of the world communication system, the cyber system used by developed countries. He made the statement after attending a two-day communication conference in France. Alhaji Ibrahim Ben Kargbo continued that the cyber communication system he wants Sierra Leone to be part of would link Sierra Leone to other countries in the area of communications since the world is improving everyday in the area of communications. He said his government and Ministry of Information and Communications want Sierra Leone to forge ahead. Also the minister revealed that President Ernest Bai Koroma has donated one new transmitter to the Sierra Leone Broadcasting Corporation [SLBC] and the station will soon get one new channel, which is channel 27. This he said will enable the SLBC to work as an independent media institution. The Minister of Information and Communications made all these statements at a news conference on 22 December where he told journalists about the good work of the All People's Congress [APC] government since they were elected to power. Alhaji Ibrahim Ben Kargbo noted that the two channels would be used for different purposes. One will be for news and current affairs programmes and the other will be used for special programmes.

[Begin Ben Kargbo recording] That is the whole system and then of course again I should be travelling to Egypt very soon. The Egyptians will have to hook the Sierra Leone Broadcasting Service [SLBS] to (Nisat) so that you can watch SLBS programmes outside Sierra Leone. That again is part of our reforms, so we are doing these last minutes activities as a gift to the SLBC. We do not want to make the news and report the news. We want to make the news and then allow

other people to report the news. So this is how liberal President Ernest Bai Koroma has been and again we are going to insist that corporation be run in a very transparent manner and to give everybody an opportunity.

[Presenter] The Minister of Information continued that some Israelis will start operating one new private television station in the country soon and that the freedom of information bill will be tabled before parliament in 2010. Every Sierra Leonean he said will have chance to add his/her voice to the bill for transparency and accountability to be seen in the country. Alhaji Ibrahim Ben Kargbo said that the APC government has done a lot since it came to power and is prepared to do more.

[Ben Kargbo] Something attracting more investors in the telecommunication sector, the inter group people are now in the final stages of restoring the 3G system. For those of you who read IT literature, the 3G is more complicated than the 2G which all of us use. You should be able to see the photograph of the person with whom you are talking. You should be able to use the Internet and so on. Also green net will start operating very soon and we are trying to encourage them to the extent that our telecommunication facility becomes the fastest growing industry in the country. So we see that as an aspect of our commitment to bring out a change in this country.

[Presenter] The minister of Information and Communications ended up by saying the health insurance, free medical service to pregnant women and children under five will start soon. [end recording]

Source: Radio Democracy (Freetown), in Krio 22 Dec. 2009; translated and quoted by BBC Monitoring 24 Dec. 2009

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-24 [EN]

Ghana: Country Lags Behind in Community Radio

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200912211264.html>

With a total number of 10 functioning community radio stations, Ghana is said to be far behind other African countries in utilising the potential of community radio to encourage the education and participation of rural communities in the decision making process. [...]

In Ghana's case, acquiring frequency for the operation of community radio has, over the years, been the number one challenge, says Wilna Quarmyne, Coordinator of Ghana Community Radio Network (GCRN). But things are changing now. The National Communications Authority (NCA) is said to have applied the brakes on the unbridled issuance of frequencies to the mainstream radio stations and that it will now fast track applications in respect of Community Radio.

Nigeria is another bad case, according to the African wing of the World Association of Community Radio Networks - AMARC Africa. At a knowledge-sharing meeting in Accra, the group called on the presidency of that country "to recognise the basic human rights to freedom of expression and lift the ban on community radio in Nigeria."

According to Wilna Quarmyne, African governments tend to have the jitters about community radio because they are well aware of its power and awakening influence on the rather passive rural poor, who more often than not, suffer the consequence of ill policies in silence. This means that such governments would not be keen on promoting the idea.

Community Radio has been patted on the back for lifting a lot of rural people from ignorance and want. Experts say it is central to the economic and social development of Africa.

In Ghana, Radio Ada and others have become a rallying point for the communities they serve. AMARC says Community Radio has the greatest potential to reach and to involve the direct participation of poor, illiterate populations who make up a large portion of people in developing countries.

"Unlike most national broadcasters, community radio programs are often broadcast in local languages. In countries with strong local traditions, community radio is a particularly potent way of involving people, breaking down barriers, and giving people the courage and skills to pursue issues in an informed way and hold government officials to account." [...]

Full report and source: Public Agenda (Accra), 21 Dec. 2009; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-24 [EN]

Somali radio station and TV satellite destroyed; one dead

<http://www.bizcommunity.com/Article/414/15/43277.html>

Mortar shells destroyed the Radio Voice of Democracy building yesterday morning, 21 December 2009, in the Somali capital, Mogadishu, killing Amal Abukar, 22, the wife of the director of the station, Abdirahman Yasin. Abukar died instantly after three mortar shells landed on the station's building in northern Mogadishu at 10:30 a.m., local journalists told CPJ.

Yasin and a producer, Adam Hussein, were injured in the attack.

Yasin was hit by shrapnel in his right leg and Hussein sustained a kidney injury; both journalists received treatment at a local hospital and are recovering, local journalists said. No one claimed responsibility for the shelling. Local journalists told CPJ they believe the station was caught in crossfire between insurgents, government soldiers, and African Union peacekeepers after insurgents fired mortars near the parliament building, according to local news reports. [...]
Full report and source: Bizcommunity.com (South Africa) quoting CPJ (New York), 22 Dec. 2009

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-24 [EN]

Nigeria: Cleric tasks Multimesh on Love FM

http://www.vanguardngr.com/2009/12/22/cleric-tasks-multimesh-on-love-fm/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+vanguardngr%2Fdlb+%28Vanguard+News+Feed%29

For Archbishop and Primate of All Anglican Communion, Most Rev. Peter Jasper Akinola, it is one thing to float a radio station and call it Love Fm, but another to allow it reflect the principles and tenets of love.

And so, at the dedication of a budding radio station tagged Love FM recently in Abuja, the Primate challenged the owners to always broadcast the truth at all times without fear or favour so that the station would have a place among institutions that helped in creating a better Nigerian society. Love FM is a new radio station put in place by Multimesh Broadcasting Ltd. It broadcasts on the frequency 104. 5 in Abuja. Looking at the ultra modern office complex housing the radio station Akinola, represented by The Rt. Rev. Duke T. Akamisoko said that such huge investment should have its roots founded on truth even as decried the dearth of truth in the public service sector, saying it was responsible for the decay in the country's polity.

He urged the young station to strive to always report the truth in order to help liberate and reposition the country for growth. [...]

Multimesh began broadcast operations in Port Harcourt before gradually spreading to different parts of the East and now Abuja.

Source: Vanguard News Online (Nigeria), 22 Dec. 2009

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-27 [EN]

Kenya/Netherlands: Tropical storm disrupts Kenyan radio fundraiser

<http://blogs.rnw.nl/medianetwork/tropical-storm-disrupts-kenyan-radio-fundraiser>

RNW is one of the Dutch supporters of Ghetto Radio in Nairobi, Kenya, which this year has been holding its own version of Serious Request, a fundraising event in parallel with the annual event organised in the Netherlands by Dutch public network 3FM. Three DJs have been broadcasting live from a special constructed studio called a "glass house", where they present programmes continuously in shifts and without food for several days, raising money for the fight against malaria. Members of the public can watch the DJ's in action, make donations and have their Christmas greetings broadcast to friends and family.

The Dutch event has this year been held in Groningen, where the main problems have been snow and freezing temperatures. But in Nairobi, they've had problems of a different kind - a tropical storm on Wednesday damaged the temporary studio, which filled with water. Nobody was injured, and the DJs were taken to a hotel where they continued to refuse food. Repairs are being carried out and it is hoped to resume broadcasting from the studio later today, the last day of the campaign.

Source: Media Network Blog Radio Netherlands, 24 Dec. 2009

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-28 [EN]

Tanzania: Clergyman Criticized Local Media

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200912280435.html>

An Islamic organisation has criticised the local media for 'giving negligible coverage' to activities that involve the religion.

The national chairman of the organisation known as Juqusuta Sheikh Hassan Kabeke said media owners, editors and reporters were not giving Islamic activities sufficient space and airtime in their media outlets.

He said festivities such Eid el fitr, Eid Mubarak and the Islamic New Year always attracted little attention from the local print and electronic media.

"We started hearing Christmas songs on various radios and TVs over a month ago, but the Eid is covered only for one day," he lamented.

Sheikh Kabeke was speaking at a ceremony to mark the end of 1,430-Islamic year and to usher in the New Year at Mbugani Primary School grounds in Mwanza on Saturday evening.

"1,430 was a planning year for Juqusuta. We asked the government to provide us with a permit to establish our own media house and we were allocated frequency for Iqra FM Radio for the Lake Zone regions," he said.

"It is important that each Moslem in the Lake Zone is informed about Juqusuta activities so that they could effectively take part in the establishment of the radio station," he said, cautioning: "The establishment of the radio station requires Sh150 million for equipment, a tower and a studio. Juqusuta cannot afford to meet the cost alone." Hundreds of Moslems participated in a fundraising event led by Imam of Buguruni Kwa Mnyamani Mosque in Dar es Salaam Sheikh Mohammed Idd Mohammed.

A total of Shs1, 982, 405, Shs662, 405 in cash and in pledges was raised.

The mission of Juqusuta, which was registered in November last year, is to ensure the Islamic education is spread in and outside the country. The Islamic institution has established nine centres in the Lake Zone regions, with three in Mwanza City.

"Last year, we supported Mufti as he fought for Muslim rights, including establishment of Kadhi Court," the Sheikh said.

Source: The Citizen (Mwanza), 28 Dec. 2009; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-28 [EN]

Liberia: Nimba Gets Another Comm. Radio Station

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200912280375.html>

Residents of Lao District, Kpein Clan, Nimba County were happy people over the weekend when a community radio station was officially dedicated for them.

The Voice of Mempea-Mah-built under the patronage of Liberia Produce Marketing Corporation (LPMC) Managing Director, Nyah Mantein, brings to six number of independent community radio stations in Nimba County, according to gathered report.

Performing the dedicatory ceremony Saturday on behalf of President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Nimba County Superintendent Edith Gongloe Weh urged the people to use the station as instrument of peace, unity and development. [...]

Full story and source: The Informer (Monrovia), 24 Dec. 2009; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-29 [EN]

Uganda: Ugandan traders oppose reopening of Buganda Kingdom radio

A group of traders who lost their merchandise during the Buganda Kingdom riots in September are opposed to the unconditional reopening of CBS [Central Broadcasting Services] radio.

At a press conference at Speke Hotel in Kampala on Saturday, they accused CBS of promoting sectarianism and inciting violence which, they said, fuelled the riots.

"As persons who suffered physical injury and lost property at the hands of rioters who were incited and inspired by CBS radio broadcasts, we are strongly opposed to the unconditional reopening of CBS," said Fred Maswanku, one of the traders. As victims of the violence, they have formed an association which has over 200 members, he added.

The riots erupted after the government opposed the kabaka's [king of Buganda Kingdom] visit to Kayunga, citing security reasons. In a statement, the victims' association quotes CBS as calling upon the people of Rubaga to escort the kabaka to Kayunga and they were to come "prepared to engage the enemy".

Three days earlier, the group claims, the radio called upon its listeners to "raid State House and oust the dictator". On the same day, a special announcement called upon the Baganda youth to go with the kabaka to Bugerere "dressed in jeans and canvass shoes and go and fight for the throne". As examples of promoting hatred against "traitors" and non-Baganda, the association quotes CBS as saying: "Baganda should come out and chase away people who they think betray Buganda - such people should not go back and be safe in their homes." Incited by CBS, angry youth mounted roadblocks and targeted non-Baganda and their property, the statement says.

"They inflicted physical bodily harm on people who did not know and could not sing the Buganda anthem, or those whose physical features were perceived not to be of the Baganda."

As victims who lost property, the traders said, they should be involved in any negotiations to reopen CBS so that their concerns are considered. They said the reopening of CBS must be on condition that the radio practices responsible journalism, there is no more inciting of violence and genocide and zero-tolerance to sectarian statements.

Source: The New Vision website (Kampala), 28 Dec. 2009; quoted by BBC Monitoring, 29 Dec. 2009

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-30 [EN]

Eritrea: Ministry Sets Up Modern "Digital Radio Suite" for Dimtsi Hafash<http://allafrica.com/stories/200912290923.html>

In continuation of the endeavors being made by the Ministry of Information to develop media works and expand coverage, the Radio Department on the occasion of the 31st anniversary of Dimtsi Hafash has been fully transformed to digitalized mode of operation on the basis of internal capacity and is ready to provide clear and efficient service.

Speaking at the inauguration ceremony yesterday, the director general of the Radio Department, Mr. Gimai Berhe, pointed out that the task is an integral part of the vigorous activities being undertaken in all departments of the Ministry with a view to upgrading news material from production to broadcasting through applying sophisticated technology. He further expressed appreciation to those staff members and parties that made major contribution in the transformation process which was wholly undertaken on the basis of internal resource. Mr. Girmai called on staff members of Dimtsi Hafash to effectively utilize the newly installed advanced equipments at substantial expenditure in serving the truth for the benefit of the people and the nation.

The head of administration and finance in the Ministry, Mr. Russom Fisehaye, who inaugurated the newly set up "Digital Radio Suite", explained that the Information Ministry is making substantial investment towards building a responsible, credible and influential mass media at regional and global level. He also highlighted the fact that the media outlets are the driving force of the ongoing national development endeavors, and as such the general public should make due contribution in developing them.

Mr. Tombosa Asmelash told ERINA that the newly introduced digitalized mode of operation would play vital role in producing effective, clear and streamlined programs, besides enabling reporters to produce and broadcast programs from different parts of the country. It would also enhance the task of producing programs in which the population taking active participation, he added.

The modern work methodology is with a view of broadcasting timely programs, enabling journalist to effectively utilize their time in technological know-how, besides introducing data-base system to archive programs for long time.

In line with the expansion of program coverage and increased airtime, Dimtsi Hafash is presently broadcasting over 270 programs weekly in the country's 9 languages and other ones.

Source: Shabait.com (Asmara), 29 Dec. 2009 ; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-30 [EN]

Malawi: Pirate Radio Owner Welcomes New Radio<http://allafrica.com/stories/200912300563.html>

Gabriel Kondesi, the brains behind 'Pachikweza radio' of Soza village in Southern Malawi's Mulanje has welcomed news that the district would soon have a community radio, saying this was a fulfillment of his dream to have such a radio in Mulanje.

Speaking through his father Jonasi, the aspiring broadcaster said he was happy that his idea of establishing a community radio in Mulanje has attracted the attention of other partners. Kondesi received a scholarship to continue his studies at Kaphuka Private School following closure of his radio.

Gabriel's remarks follow a resolution made at a meeting of traditional leaders and representatives of various organizations including officials from the Mulanje District Assembly to have a community radio established in the district. The traditional leaders argued that community radios play a crucial role in spurring development.

The meeting followed closure of Pachikweza radio for operating without a license. In a bid to fulfill one of its objectives of promoting diversity in the broadcasting industry, MISA Malawi decided to facilitate formation of a legally instituted community radio in Mulanje.

Other quarters were, however, raising fears that Gabriel might not be happy with the idea of another community radio in the district. But in an interview with The Daily Times Friday, Gabriels' father, Jonas, said: "My son is very happy with the news that Mulanje will soon have a community radio. He even described this development as a dream comes true." Jonas was among the people who attended the consultative meeting in Mulanje. Other participants included six Traditional Authorities (T/As) led by senior chief Mabuka, representatives of Area Development Committees (ADCs) from the district and representatives of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs).

The consultative meeting was organized by the Malawi Chapter of the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA) with funding from Australian Aids Fund Incorporated (AAFI), a charity organization based in Australia.

AAFI president Brian Haill recently pointed out that a community radio in the area would help

government and different stakeholders fight the HIV/AIDS pandemic, promote agriculture, water and sanitation and other development endeavors.

Australian Aids Fund Incorporated currently supports various development projects in Malawi's districts of Blantyre, Zomba and Mulanje.

Source: Malawi Tribune (Blantyre), 30 Dec. 2009; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-31 [EN]

Togo: Togo launches fourth rural radio station

A rural radio was launched on Tuesday in the Ave prefecture, 35km west of Lome.

"Radio Kekeli" (which means light) began its broadcasts in the presence of several officials including the minister of cooperation, Gilbert Bawara, the minister of communication, Oulegoh Keyewa, and the minister of environment, Kossivi Ayikue.

"This new station is to serve to promote your culture, your language, your products and your assets. It is to enable you to develop the economy, perfect the image of the prefecture, promote knowledge and improve on the technical know-how of artisans and farmers" stated Oulegoh Keyewa.

The radio was financed through the help of the Basic Initiatives Support Agency (AGAIB); its objectives are to give a voice to rural communities and to support initiatives and activities for socio-economic development.

Gilbert Bawara, on his part, paid homage to head of state who involved himself personally in the allocation of frequency to this radio station.

"The allocation of new FM frequencies was stopped because of the overloading of the network, but the president gave instructions in order that you are given a place", explained the minister of cooperation.

At the moment, Togo has 72 radio stations, four of which re "rural radios".

Source: republicoftogo.com website (Lome), in French 29 Dec. 2009; translated and quoted by BBC Monitoring 31 Dec. 2009

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-31 [EN]

Uganda: National Attorney General summoned over CBS

<http://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/-/688334/832886/-/view/printVersion/-/pg84htz/-/index.html>

Court has summoned the Attorney General to respond to the case filed by employees of the closed Central Broadcasting Services radio within 15 days.

"You are hereby required to file a defence in the said suit within 15 days from the date of service of summons. Should you fail to file defence on or before the date, the plaintiffs (CBS and its employees) may proceed with the case and judgment may be given in your absence," the summons read in part.

The employees, Central Broadcasting Services Ltd and a listener, Eng. Wasswa Mukasa filed their case at Kampala High Court last week, challenging the station's closure.

They say the Broadcasting Council that is mandated to oversee and regulate the operations of radio and TV stations, has no legal right to either withdraw its licence or to stop it from operating. [...]

Full report and source: Daily Monitor Online (Kampala), 30 Dec. 2009

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-31 [EN]

Uganda: Minister says CBS' closure can't cost ruling party next polls

<http://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/-/688334/833552/-/wgowjf/-/index.html>

A cabinet minister has dispelled fears that the closure of Buganda kingdom's mouthpiece, Central Broadcasting Services radio, will affect the popularity of the National Resistance Movement party in the central region.

Speaking in Masaka town at the launch of a Gombolola Baraza on Tuesday, Ms Janat Mukwaya, the minister of state for general duties in the office of the Prime Minister, said the closure of CBS will not be a hindrance to the Movement in its pursuit to win the 2011 presidential and parliamentary elections. [...]

Full report and source: Daily Monitor Online (Kampala), 31 Dec. 2009

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-31 [EN]

Madagascar/Netherlands: Fire puts RNW Madagascar off the air - partial return on Friday 1 January

There was a fire on Christmas Eve in the high voltage room of the external mains power supply at Radio Netherlands Worldwide's relay station in Madagascar. Firefighters from the Madagascan

capital Antananarivo managed to bring the blaze under control within hours. The fire destroyed the high voltage circuit breaker equipment, so broadcasts from Madagascar had to be suspended while repairs were carried out. Satellite and Internet broadcasts were not affected.

On 30 December, RNW Station Manager in Madagascar reported that the two Philips transmitters are in working order, and have been tested using generator power. Technicians are still working on restoring the mains supply and will finish it today (31 December). A temporary schedule will then be put into effect on 1 January using these two Philips transmitters.

The other two transmitters (one 250 kW and one 50 kW) are also thought to be OK, but still have to be tested at the weekend. New switches also have to be installed to connect these two transmitters to the antenna system. We hope to bring them back on the air in the course of next week.

The timing of the fire caused extra problems because Madagascar hosts broadcasts for ten other organisations, and they had to be contacted at a time when many of the regular staff were on holiday. For the same reason, IBB Washington has asked to delay the return of its Madagascar transmissions until Monday, due to the logistical problems of making more changes at its relay stations over the New Year weekend.

Source: Media Network Newsletter, Radio Nederland Worldwide (Hilversum), 31 Dec. 2009

Nouvelles

RESOURCE FROM : 2009-12-16 [FR]

Afrique: Un manuel de référence sur le droit des femmes africaines à l'information

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/fr/ev.php-URL_ID=29377&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

Le Réseau des femmes africaines pour le développement et la communication (FEMNET), organisation panafricaine œuvrant depuis 1988 à la promotion du développement et des droits de la femme sur le continent, publie avec le concours de l'UNESCO un manuel de référence intitulé Freedom of Information (FOI) & Women's Rights in Africa.

Cette publication fait partie des résultats du projet sur la liberté de l'information et les droits de la femme en Afrique, programme régional lancé par FEMNET en partenariat avec l'UNESCO. Le projet cherche à démontrer l'importance du rôle que joue la liberté de l'information en matière de promotion et de protection des droits de la femme, tels qu'ils sont définis dans les législations nationales et les instruments régionaux et internationaux portant sur les droits de l'homme.

Compilé par Carlyn Hambuba sous la direction de Rachel Kagoiya, le manuel réunit des études de cas de cinq pays africains : Cameroun, Ghana, Kenya, Afrique du Sud et Zambie. Il tire les leçons des expériences de participation des femmes dans les processus ayant abouti à l'élaboration, la promulgation et l'application de lois et politiques garantissant aux citoyens la liberté de l'information. [...]

Le document est téléchargeable uniquement en anglais

Présentation complète et source: UNESCO Webworld (Paris), 11 déc. 2009

NEWS FROM : 2009-12-17 [FR]

Liberia : Un prix pour STAR Radio

« Le rôle de la radio dans la lutte contre le trafic des enfants » était le thème de la 7ème édition du festival « Ondes de liberté » qui s'est déroulé début novembre à Bamako. 51 radios des régions francophones de l'Afrique de l'Ouest ont participé au concours radiophonique.

Ce festival veut être un acteur de l'engagement des médias ouest africains, et des radios en particulier, pour une meilleure information. STAR Radio est vainqueur cette année de ce festival, avec une production en français de 17 minutes sur le trafic des enfants.

STAR Radio est aujourd'hui une station entièrement libérienne. Elle a été créée en 1997 par la Fondation Hirondelle. Fermée 3 ans plus tard par le dictateur Charles Taylor, elle a rouvert en 2005, reprenant sa mission de production d'une information indépendante et rigoureuse, diffusée dans les principales langues du pays. Depuis le 1er janvier 2008, STAR Radio a été entièrement transférée à l'équipe libérienne. La Fondation Hirondelle continue à appuyer notamment dans des démarches de soutien financier.

Source : « Quoi de Neuf ? », Nouvelles de la Fondation Hirondelle (Lausanne), Numéro 28, Décembre 2009

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-17 [FR]

Burkina Faso: Fémina FM fait tourner « La roue du bonheur »<http://www.lefaso.net/spip.php?article34519>

La radio Fémina FM veut terminer l'année 2009 dans l'humanitaire en initiant un projet dénommé « La roue du bonheur ». Pour mieux expliquer ce projet, les responsables de la radio ont animé une conférence de presse, le mercredi 16 décembre 2009, à Ouagadougou.

Le projet « la roue du bonheur » se veut une initiative de « distribution de la joie », une initiative qui fait de « l'épanouissement des enfants, sa priorité ». C'est ainsi que lors de la conférence de presse de ce mercredi 16 décembre, Evelyne Salambéré, promotrice associée de Fémina FM a expliqué que « La roue du bonheur », le projet que sa radio vient d'initier, consistera à distribuer des cadeaux aux enfants sinistrés, nécessiteux ou malades. Le projet prendra corps le 23 décembre prochain, avec la remise de cadeaux à l'hôpital pédiatrique Charles de Gaulle de Ouagadougou. Les enfants de cet établissement sanitaire recevront « tout ce qui peut faire la joie d'un enfant », des jouets, des friandises, des vêtements etc.

La promotrice associée de la radio a aussi expliqué que le projet a été dénommé « La roue du bonheur » parce que l'objectif est de réaliser chaque année, une tournée de distribution de cadeaux à travers le Burkina Faso. « Dans les années à venir, Fémina FM ira progressivement à la rencontre de toutes les femmes du Burkina », renchérit Sylvestre Ilboudo, le Chef d'antenne de la radio.

Mais avant que « La roue du bonheur » ne commence à tourner, Fémina FM organise le 19 décembre 2009, un spectacle multiculturel Antilles/Burkina Faso. Ce concert, placé sous le patronage de Béatrice Damiba, présidente du Conseil supérieur de la communication (CSC) sera animé par Wendy, Jacky Rapon, le groupe de gospel Exodus et la troupe Kibga de Sidpayété. Selon Evelyne Salambéré, ce spectacle est d'abord destiné aux femmes et aux enfants, puis à tout autre type de public, car Fémina FM est « La radio des femmes et de ceux qui les aiment ».

Source: Faszine 17 déc. 2009, repris par leFaso.net

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-21 [FR]

Côte d'Ivoire: Lutte contre la grippe : Radio Jam part avec le Prix journalistes 2009<http://forum-medias.blogspot.com/2009/12/lutte-contre-la-grippe-radio-jam-part.html>

Le concours dénommé Prix journalistes "Agir contre la grippe" 2009, récompensant le meilleur article de presse et la meilleure production audio sur la grippe a livré ses secrets le mercredi 16 décembre dernier.

Dans la catégorie radio, c'est Radio Jam qui a été déclarée vainqueur, devant Radio Al Bayane, Radio Amitié, ISTC Fm et la Radio nationale catholique. Avec 96 points/120, soit une moyenne de 80%, la production radiophonique de Franck Colbert a retenu l'attention du jury. Selon Marcelline Gnéproust, journaliste au quotidien Fraternité Matin et présidente du jury, le candidat de Radio Jam a fait preuve d'originalité, en faisant parler en langues locales, les populations affectées par cette maladie. Franck Colbert gagne un ordinateur portable Pentium 4, d'une valeur de 800 000 FCfa. Aucun prix n'a, par contre, été décerné à la presse écrite. Et la raison, aux dires de la présidente du jury : "concourir avec un article qui est un compte-rendu, un article fait à partir de son bureau, c'est inconcevable". "Nous nous sommes rendus compte qu'aucun journaliste (ndlr de la presse écrite) n'a fait un tour dans les sites sentinelles", poursuivra-t-elle. [...]

Texte complet et source : Serge Adam's Diakité (journaliste à radio Arc-en-ciel Abidjan), le 21 décembre 2009

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-22 [FR]

RDC: Formation des journalistes sur la gouvernance démocratique : Un appui aux médias du Pnud<http://www.dia-afrique.org>

Dans le cadre des activités de la gouvernance politique, plus précisément dans son volet 'Appui aux médias', le Programme des Nations Unies pour le Développement, Pnud, organise du 21 au 23 décembre 2009 un atelier de formation des journalistes sur la gouvernance démocratique dans la capitale congolaise.

Les organisateurs de l'atelier ont révélé que la formation vise la sensibilisation des journalistes tant de la presse écrite que de l'audiovisuel sur leur rôle dans la promotion de la gouvernance démocratique et le renforcement de leurs capacités dans le domaine de la gouvernance. Exposés thématiques et débats vont alterner dans le déroulement de l'atelier. Au premier jour, Mme

Angelica Domato, coordinatrice du projet a prononcé le mot d'introduction sur la gouvernance politique tandis que Mme Chantal Kanyimbo présidente de l'Union de la presse congolaise a apprécié l'opportunité de cette formation pour la corporation. Tour à tour M. Karounga Keita team leader du programme gouvernance et Mme Sylvie Ngalimbaya ont développé les aspects techniques sur terrain et les objectifs de l'atelier de formation.

Dans l'après midi, deux groupes d'exposés ont été proposés aux journalistes sur l'implication des médias locaux et l'apport du Pnud. Dans le premier volet ont été présentées des conférences sur le programme 'Gouvernance' par Olivier Tshibola du Pnud, 'les médias congolais et la promotion de la bonne gouvernance. Défis et enjeux' de Mme Kanyimbo et une réponse à la question 'Quels médias pour le contexte de développement de la RDC ?', par M. Marc Ngwanza. 'Vision du partenariat Pnud/médias pour la promotion de la bonne gouvernance ' a clôturé la série du premier jour. Dans les autres jours ont été abordées des conférences sur les dérives déontologiques et éthiques et leurs incidences sur la liberté de la presse en RDC par Donat Mbaya, président de 'Journalistes en danger' et la promotion du genre dans le processus de la gouvernance démocratique par Mme Ekambi.

Source : Agence catholique D.I.A. (Kinshasa), 21 déc. 2009

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-22 [FR]

RDC: Programme de formation et d'appui aux radios de proximité du Katanga piloté par le GRET

<http://www.gret.org>

Démarrage du programme de formation à la programmation et 'service public' pour les radios de proximité du Katanga (RDC)

Ce nouveau projet, financé dans le cadre du programme FCI-DFID pour les médias en RDC, sera mis en œuvre par le Gret en partenariat avec Mediafrica.Net et le Réseau des Journalistes Formateurs (RJF) de RDC.

Il s'agit de travailler pendant 2 ans avec 8 radios de proximité du Katanga, pour les former et les accompagner afin que leur programmation leur permette de mieux remplir les missions d'information de proximité, de divertissement et d'éducation. Ce qui revient en définitive à assumer une mission de service public tout en faisant en sorte que ces radios connaissent mieux les attentes de leur public. Les formations combineront sessions en ligne et en résidentiel.

Nous commencerons l'exécution du projet par une large mission d'identification qui aura lieu du 14 au 26 janvier dans le Katanga. Cette mission sera conduite par Florence Minery pour le Gret, associée avec Issiaka Soulé (Mediafrica.net/APM Bénin), Denis Diallo et Dieudonné Lokale pour le RJF. Elle visera à identifier les radios bénéficiaires du programme selon une grille de critères pré-établis. La mission s'attachera à choisir des radios isolées et ne bénéficiant pas ou peu d'appuis extérieurs ; il s'agira aussi de radios ayant des potentialités de démultiplication et présentant un équilibre avéré dans leur grille de programmes. Cette mission d'identification établira un diagnostic des besoins de formation, en vue de préparer le contenu des modules de formation. Parmi les radios sélectionnées, les plus nécessiteuses en équipement seront dotées d'une antenne V-SAT, leur permettant de se projeter en cybercentre public ce qui aura pour impact de renforcer la viabilité de la radio et de réduire le désenclavement numérique de la localité.

Contact : lemoine-minery@gret.org

Source : Gret (Paris), 22 déc. 2009

ALERT

FROM : 2009-12-24 [FR]

Madagascar: Radio Fahazavana - Le journal suspendu pendant 1 mois

http://www.midi-madagasikara.mg/midi/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=20823

Arborant sa qualité de président du CSA (Conseil Supérieur de l'Audiovisuel), le ministre de la Communication, Nathalie Rabe, a annoncé hier à la TVM que l'émission politique « Ampenjika » de la Radio Fahazavana est suspendue pendant un mois, et ce, depuis hier soir. « Si la Radio Fahazavana persiste à poursuivre son journal et son émission, la fermeture sera prononcée à son encontre », a averti Mme Nathalie Rabe qui a évoqué le motif d'ordre public pour justifier sa décision. « Car cette radio a sensibilisé les partisans des trois mouvances à apporter des cailloux durant le rendez-vous de Tsimbazaza », a-t-elle précisé.

Deux poids, deux mesures. D'après les explications d'un fidèle auditeur de l'émission « Ampenjika » de la radio Fahazavana, une personne qui est intervenue hier par téléphone durant l'émission a incité les gens à apporter des cailloux, mais le journaliste de la radio a immédiatement pris l'initiative de couper l'appel. Des questions se posent : Est-ce la faute à la radio Fahazavana ou à son journaliste ?

L'intervention téléphonique incriminée n'a-t-il pas été commanditée quelque part ? La mesure prise

par le ministre de la Communication est jugée injuste par bon nombre d'observateurs. Injuste car il y a une radio privée proche de la HAT qui s'amuse à inciter à la haine pendant son émission quotidienne, alors que le CSA n'a jamais prononcé des sanctions à son encontre. « Il y a deux poids, deux mesures. », constatent certains. La HAT est en train de répéter les mêmes erreurs reprochées au régime de Ravalomanana dont la fermeture de la radio Viva était à l'origine de sa chute.

Source: Midi Madagasikara (Antananarivo), 23 déc. 2009; repris et distribué par allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-24 [FR]

Burkina Faso: Une radio rurale pour le Nord

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200912230225.html>

En marge des festivités commémoratives du 49e anniversaire de l'indépendance du Burkina célébré à Ouahigouya, le Premier ministre Tertius Zongo a procédé le vendredi 11 décembre 2009 au lancement officiel de la radio rurale de Ouahigouya.

Après Dori, Fada, c'est au tour de Ouahigouya de bénéficier de sa radio rurale. D'un rayon de couverture de 75 km, elle émettra sur la bande 89.5 mégahertz. L'ambition du département de la communication est de contribuer à la mobilisation et à la conscientisation de toutes les populations rurales à travers leurs langues sur tous les chantiers de développement du pays.

Pour Philippe Savadogo, ministre de la Culture, du Tourisme et de la Communication, la radio rurale est un puissant instrument de proximité pour instaurer une communication participative avec les populations. Elle participe, en outre, à l'éveil de leur conscience et à l'ouverture de leur esprit sur l'ensemble du pays et sur le monde. Le Premier ministre Tertius Zongo a inauguré la radio rurale à Fada en 2008. Cette année, il était encore à Ouahigouya pour la même cause.

Cela témoigne de la volonté du gouvernement d'accompagner les populations dans le processus de développement. Pour lui, il faut promouvoir un développement de type nouveau, éduquer et conscientiser nos populations car nos anciennes traditions et pratiques ne peuvent pas nous amener loin.

"Les populations sont très ouvertes aux innovations mais faut-il encore aller vers elles ; et je me dis que la radio rurale constitue un puissant vecteur pour aller vers les populations. Il faut aussi comprendre que les localités ont des préoccupations spécifiques, des avantages spécifiques ; la région du Nord n'a pas les mêmes besoins que les autres régions.

Et si la radio rurale doit être au service des populations, les amener à avoir plus confiance en elles-mêmes, à être plus intégrées dans le processus de développement en tant qu'acteurs, pour qu'on n'ait pas le même message standard", a relevé le chef du gouvernement.

Quant à Sansan Dongo Kambou, directeur de la radio rurale, l'objectif est de rapprocher l'information de la population. "La radio rurale du Nord va parler dans les langues locales pour des populations qui ont soif d'entendre et d'apprendre. En tant que moyen de communication de proximité, la radio vient consolider le développement", a-t-il dit.

Cette politique du gouvernement va se poursuivre dans les différentes régions et sera ainsi appuyée pour mieux s'adapter aux préoccupations des populations dans la dynamique du processus de décentralisation en marche depuis 2006 et qui doit s'accompagner d'une politique d'information et de communication.

Source: Le Pays (Ouagadougou) 22 déc. 2009; repris et distribué par allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-29 [FR]

Algérie: Opérationnelle seulement depuis quelques années - Radio Aïn Defla

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200912290151.html>

Algérie: Opérationnelle seulement depuis quelques années - Radio Aïn Defla cible le volet sociologique et psychologique

La radio régionale de Aïn Defla vient de renforcer sa grille d'émissions hebdomadaires par l'introduction de certaines émissions ayant une relation avec le quotidien de la population et particulièrement sur le plan sociologique et psychologique.

L'émission «Bouyoute motmaina», présentée par les jeunes talentueux Chikhaoui Yacine et Amel, sa collègue, soulève les différents problèmes que rencontre le milieu familial et ce, en présence de spécialistes en sociologie, psychologie et autres disciplines ayant une relation avec les thèmes de l'émission.

La violence dans le couple et envers les enfants et autres membres d'une même famille a été dernièrement débattue dans cette émission d'une heure présentée chaque samedi aux auditeurs, lesquels trouvent l'opportunité de participer en direct pour exposer leurs problèmes et témoignages.

A maintes reprises, les auditeurs ont exprimé leur satisfaction pour la programmation de cette émission qui traite des sujets souvent sensibles et difficiles à solutionner pour de nombreuses personnes.

Le choix du sujet à débattre doit, selon Yacine Chikhaoui, répondre à des réalités vécues par la population et ce, afin que les auditeurs trouvent à travers cette émission des solutions à leurs propres problèmes qui naissent dans le milieu familial. «C'est à travers cet espace offert aux auditeurs que certaines personnes ont trouvé facilement une issue à leurs souffrances quotidiennes», dira ce jeune journaliste avant d'ajouter que le caractère social marqué par les coutumes de cette région oblige la programmation de ce genre d'émission et ce, afin d'accompagner les familles et les personnes dans l'amélioration de leurs conditions de vie. Poursuivant dans ce même cadre, il ajouta que l'autre objectif de cette émission est l'amélioration de la qualité du discours entre les membres d'une même famille d'autant qu'il permet également de trouver des solutions à de nombreux problèmes.

La programmation de cette émission, d'après notre interlocuteur, a été ordonnée par le directeur de cette radio, M. Derradji Lakhdar, lequel encourage régulièrement les journalistes et animateurs ainsi que l'équipe technique à procéder à des améliorations sur la qualité des produits offerts aux auditeurs et à développer en eux l'esprit créatif.

D'autres émissions liées à la culture ont également laissé leur empreinte parmi un grand nombre d'auditeurs.

«Ghir el djedid» («que du nouveau») est aussi une émission de musique très écoutée par la population de cette wilaya et des wilayas avoisinantes. Son présentateur Abdenour Abbass, un autre jeune talentueux, lui donne souvent un plus de déclic, ce qui fait augmenter régulièrement le nombre de ses auditeurs à cause de la présentation en exclusivité de nombreux nouveaux tubes réalisés par des chanteurs algériens et étrangers.

D'autres journalistes et présentateurs d'émissions dans cette radio font également le bonheur des auditeurs à travers leur contribution : Horia, Meriem, Fatima, Ratiba, Amel, Yasmine, El Hadi, Mourad, Abdelhak, Zoubir, Azzeddine, Belkacem, Sadek, Mohammed, ainsi que d'autres.

Il est important de noter que cette jeune radio a pu atteindre ces objectifs rapidement suite à la volonté et la détermination de sa composante consciente du rôle à jouer dans la société.

Source: La Tribune (Alger), 29 déc. 2009; repris et distribué par allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-29 [FR]

Madagascar: Un pylône pour les stations nationales

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200912290790.html>

Dans le cadre de l'amélioration du système médiatique, les chaînes nationales RNM et TVM de la région Anosy seront dotées d'un nouveau pylône grâce à la coopération avec la Radio Nederland. C'est la nouvelle annoncée par Nathalie Rabe, ministre de la Communication, en visite à Tolagnaro pour la fête de Noël.

Selon ce membre du gouvernement, elle sera installée en janvier 2010, quelques mois avant les élections législatives prévues se tenir en mars prochain.

« L'existence de ce nouveau pylône assurera sûrement l'acheminement des résultats des votes pour l'élection législative. Et le ministère de la Communication tient une place importante dans cette mission», déclare Nathalie Rabe. « Cette dotation ne concerne seulement pas la région Anosy. Les autres régions en disposeront également», ajoute-t-elle.

Cette visite a permis au numéro un de la communication de s'entretenir avec le personnel de l'audiovisuel et d'identifier les problèmes qui subsistent dans la région Anosy en matière de communication, notamment ceux qui touchent les chaînes nationales. Nathalie Rabe s'est entretenu avec le personnel de l'audiovisuel de la région.

Puisque la ville de Tolagnaro est entourée de relief élevé, beaucoup de communes environnantes sont privées d'information. C'est ainsi que Nathalie Rabe a promis de mettre en place des relais afin de faciliter l'accès à l'antenne nationale, dont la Tvm.

Source: L'Express de Madagascar (Antananarivo), 29 Dec. 2009; repris et distribué par allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-30 [FR]

Burkina Faso: La Voix du paysan respecte la tradition

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200912300254.html>

La radio "La Voix du paysan" de Ouahigouya a célébré la fête de Noël au profit des meilleurs enfants de la commune de Ouahigouya. Un jeu concours sur l'hygiène scolaire a été organisé à cet effet. Les plus méritants sont repartis avec des vélos, des kits scolaires et de nombreux cadeaux le 24 décembre 2009 au cours d'une cérémonie organisée dans l'enceinte de la radio. [...]

La radio "Voix du paysan", à travers la Fédération des groupements Naam, fidèle à son engagement pour l'épanouissement et la promotion des droits de l'enfant, a organisé cette année, un arbre de Noël au profit des enfants. Pour cette 12e édition dite de maturité, plus de 1 000 enfants ont participé aux jeux concours en chants, rédaction, dessin et poème. [...]

Dans son message, la vice-présidente du Parlement des enfants du Yatenga, a reconnu les efforts de la radio dans la promotion de leurs droits à travers ses émissions. Elle a saisi l'opportunité pour interpellier les autorités régionales à oeuvrer contre les maux qui freinent l'épanouissement des enfants. Aussi a-t-elle invité ses camarades à respecter les règles d'hygiène pour la santé des enfants. Pour le directeur de la radio, Chériff Mamadou Coulibaly, la fête de Noël est un moment de joie partagée avec les tout-petits. Dans cette optique, il a traduit l'attachement de l'organe de presse à la promotion des droits de l'enfant. [...]

Texte complet et source: Le Pays (Ouagadougou), 29 déc. 2009; repris et distribué par allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2009-12-31 [FR]

Togo: Radio Kékéli a débuté ses émissions

<http://www.republicoftogo.com/Toutes-les-rubriques/Politique/Radio-Kekeli-a-debute-ses-emissions>

Une radio rurale a été lancée mardi dans la préfecture de l'Avé à 35 km à l'ouest de Lomé. « Radio Kékéli » (qui signifie lumière) a débuté ses émissions en présence de plusieurs officiels dont le ministre de la Coopération, Gilbert Bawara, de la Communication, Oulegoh Kéyéwa, et de l'Environnement, Kossivi Ayikué.

« Ce nouveau média doit servir à promouvoir votre culture, votre langue, vos produits et vos biens. Elle doit vous permettre de développer l'économie, de parfaire l'image de la préfecture, de valoriser le savoir et le savoir faire des artisans et des paysans. » a déclaré Oulegoh Kéyéwa.

La radio a été financée grâce au soutien de l'Agence d'appui aux initiatives de base (AGAIB) ; elle a pour vocation de donner la parole au monde rural et d'accompagner les initiatives et les activités de développement socio- économiques.

Gilbert Bawara a pour sa part rendu hommage au chef de l'Etat qui s'est impliqué personnellement pour l'octroi d'une fréquence à cette radio.

« L'attribution de nouvelles fréquences FM avaient été arrêtée en raison de la saturation du réseau, mais le président a donné des instructions pour que l'on vous attribue une place », a expliqué le ministre de la Coopération.

Le Togo compte aujourd'hui 72 radios dont quatre jouissent du statut de « radio rurale ».

Source: republicoftogo.com website (Lomé), 29 déc. 2009

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