

Community Radio in Ethiopia for community participation in decision making

by

World Development Foundation

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MISSION

Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (MCIT), Federal Republic of Ethiopia and World Development Foundation, New Delhi, India signed an agreement on 30th June 2014 for establishing seven Community Radio Stations at Finote Selam, Dilo (Borana), Adola Rede (Guji), Chewaka (Illubabor), Semera, Ari Woreda (Dehub Omo) and Uba Debretehay (in Gamo Gofa zone, Southern Nations, Nationalities and People Region), Ethiopia that will serve as an avenue for the free flow of beneficial information aimed at uplifting the plight of the various sectors of the community. The stations shall open up possibilities for everyone, especially regular citizens, to express themselves socially, culturally, politically and spiritually, thus preparing each and every member of the community to participate in decision-making.

World Development Foundation, with an active support of different agencies of Govt. of India and Embassy of India in Ethiopia and especially HE Mr. Sanjay Verma, Ambassador and Mr. Vijay Kumar and MCIT, Ethiopia was able to complete the job and hand over all the Community Radio Stations to MCIT.

Milestones:

Signing of Agreement: 30 June 2014

Opening of Letter of Credit: 28th October 2014

Dispatch of Material from India/USA/Italy/Spain: Between Dec2014 to Feb 2015.

Receipt of material by MCIT and handing over to WDF for installation: June 2015

Installation & Commissioning at seven sites by WDF and handing over to MCIT:
28June 2015 to 5th September 2015

Training of Officers/operational staff: 1st September 2015 to 5th September 2015

Highlights

1. The emphasis has been on using type design for Lay Out, identical equipment and installation to ease the maintenance and procurement of spares. This will also allow the exchange of staff and development of expertise.
2. The objective for training was to provide:
 - i. full range of WDF accredited training on the usage of the equipment, hardware and software, programming including hands on training.
 - ii. simplified processes for equipment maintenance by the broadcaster's trainees in order to maintain the equipment's good working condition
 - iii. Programming basics and use of Community Radio Station for social, cultural, political and spiritual upliftment of people in the region
 - iv. Two local engineers were involved all through the installation. (Grateful to MCIT, Ethiopia)

Achievements

Through its regular operations the community radio shall be able to:

- provide a development forum for the community;
- encourage participatory community development;
- promote active involvement of underprivileged groups such as women and young people;
- intensify the sharing of information within the community;
- encourage innovation in community development;
- increase the free flow of accurate and balanced information to, and within, the community;
- provide a forum for local cultural expression; and improve people's access to information in local languages

Few snaps of places and final CRSs



CRS at Ari Woreda



CRS at Dilo Borana



Transmitter and processor system (Common at all Places)

Acknowledgment

World Development Foundation (WDF) is grateful to Federal Republic of Ethiopia, MCIT, Ethiopia, Ethiopian Embassy in India, Indian Embassy in Ethiopia, Govt of India in helping it to complete the mission. It further assures that WDF & India shall provide all assistance and help in development of Ethiopia by extending a helping hand in executing more projects for the benefit of the people of Ethiopia.

About World Development Foundation, the implementing agency

World Development Foundation (WDF) (<http://wdfindia.org> & https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Development_Foundation) is an Indian Organisation headed by Dr. H. O. Srivastava, former Addl. Director General of All India Radio and Doordarshan. WDF is a 12 year old media consulting and turnkey solution providing company with expertise in the field of Broadcasting (television, film, radio, new media), IT, Communication and audio/ video production. The company's focus areas include establishing FM radio Stations including studio acoustics, office interior, furniture, power supply etc, new launches and revamping of TV channels, digital and print businesses; production and distribution of video and audio for education and entertainment; and media & knowledge process services. Our client geographies span across all over India, Nepal, Africa and Asia. WDF has a mix of very experienced and young professional from the fields.

A few of the key projects taken up recently by WDF are given below:

Sl. No.	Particular of the Works	Reference
1.	Complete Studio and Office interior including AC, Power Supply, Security, Fire alarm, Furniture, etc for a number of private broadcasters in India	http://wdfindia.org/gallery.htm (Private Broadcasters projects)
2.	Consultancy and turnkey solution for establishing Private Radio stations in Nepal	http://wdfindia.org/client.htm (Private Broadcasters projects)
3.	Socio Economic Research, Technology Innovation and Development of Cost Effective Solution for Community Radio Station (CRS) and its deployment at Agriculture Universities, including supply, Installation, training, programme production and operations in India	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Development_Foundation (Media Lab Asia, MCIT, Govt Of India project)
3.	Establishment of Community Radio Stations (about 25) in several part of India	http://wdfindia.org/community.htm Govt Of India, Universities, NGOs
4.	Total solution for seven High Power Community Radio stations in Ethiopia, including studio acoustic, office, transmission system with tower, and training	http://wdfindia.org/ethiopia.htm (Govt of Ethiopia project)
5.	Establishment of Agriculture Knowledge Dissemination System for the Govt. of Bihar for increase in food production of the country	http://wdfindia.org/ANDS.pdf (Govt. of Bihar project)
6.	Design and establishment of Media Production Centers	http://wdfindia.org/media.htm (University & Govt. projects)
7.	Audio / Video production	Samples of video/ audio http://www.youtube.com/user/wdfindia/videos http://wdfindia.org/radio.htm

8.	Training	http://wdfindia.org/courses.htm
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President of World Development Foundation

<http://wdfindia.org/founder1.htm>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hari_Om_Srivastava

Dr. H. O. Srivastava, former Addl. Director General & Head of AIR Resources of All India Radio and Doordarshan, is the President and CEO of World Development Foundation. He worked for expansion of broadcast network in the country for past 45 years in various capacities. He was involved in policy formulation and implementation of Govt. & private broadcasting in India; both commercial and community. As **Head of AIR Resources**, he provided services in installing 40 numbers of educational high power FM transmitters in the country for IGNOU, a number of commercial stations (including facilitation for use of Tower and Land for CTI) and Community Radio Stations, Agriculture Chanel of Ministry of Agriculture, Govt of India. He had been responsible for expansion of Radio and TV; digital, satellite, mobile, handheld etc. He **established BECIL (Govt. company), AIR Resources, IT Division, MR Cell** and many more. He has received several National and International awards and has written six books and about 150 research papers in national and international journals.