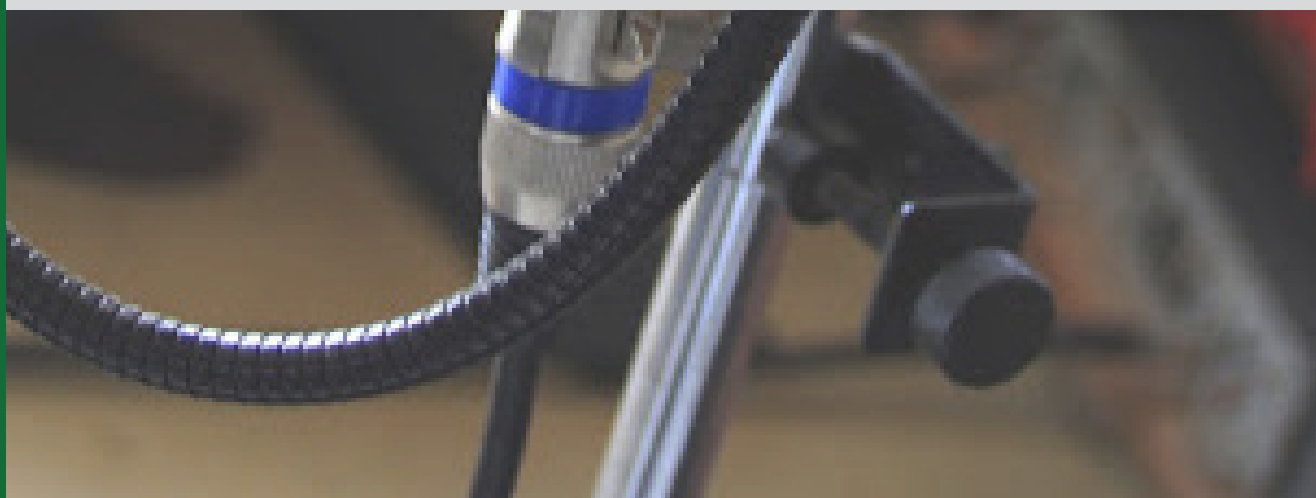




**Community Radios
Broadcasting for Peace -
Newsletter Issue 5.0**





Editorial

Welcome to the fifth edition of the Umoja Radio for Peace Newsletter. In line with the trends set in previous editions of this newsletter, we continue to share informative, educative and entertaining news being undertaken by Kenya Community Media network and among community media practitioners across the country and beyond.

We would like to inform that this will be the last edition of this newsletter under the title of Umoja Radio for Peace Newsletter. Subsequent editions of this newsletter that will continue to be published every quarter will be known as Community Media Update. It will continue covering interesting news and topical issues pertaining to the development of community media in Kenya.

This issue covers an interesting and interesting account by Sheila Ngatia, the Project Support Officer, CPS/GIZ project, of her participation in the 11th edition of the Deutsche Welle Global Media Forum that was held in the German city of Bonn on June 11 – 13, 2018. The theme and title of the forum was Global Inequalities. Sheila also gives a summary and insights of the in station trainings and activities that have been carried out in the last quarter by the Umoja Radio for Peace Project.

Alex Mwangi, the Project Officer in charge of KCOMNET's Community Media Hub, gives the context, background and practice of a project supported by Community Media Fund whose mission is to enhance the collaboration and engagements of community media in Kenya to generate and disseminate content on transparency and accountability. The forms of community media targeted in the first phase of this project include community radio, community newsletters and community theatre groups.

Finally, but not the least, Moses Omondi, Radio Craft/Project officer, Farm Radio International – Kenya provides the background, purpose and the implementation of FRI's 2017 – 2020 project titled: Reducing Post-Harvest Loss (RePHL) through Social and Behavior Change Communication. The project is funded by the Rockefeller Foundation as part of their wider YieldWise initiative.

In Kenya, Farm Radio is working with Techno Serve Kenya, Access Agriculture and the Mediae Company the producers of Shamba shape up as well as other partners to reduce post-harvest losses in the mango value chain. Farm Radio International is implementing the project in Kenya through collaboration with the Kenya Community Media Network. KCOMNET is hosting FRI in Kenya. Moses also gives an overview of the varied engagements of FRI to support

African broadcasters to provide broadcasting services that share knowledge with and amplify the voices of small-scale farmers, their families, and their communities.

Enjoy!



Njuki Githethwa
Coordinator, KCOMNET

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Imprint

The UMOJA - Radio for peace newsletter is a journalistic product designed for partners and participants.

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Global Media Forum 2018

*By Sheila Ngatia,
Project Support Officer, KCOMNET*

The 11th edition of the Deutsche Welle Global Media Forum was held in the German city of Bonn on June 11 – 13, 2018. More than 1,800 participated in the forum. The forum brought together Journalists and Civil Society representatives from more than 120 countries to discuss in panels, round-table discussions, workshops and skill sharing sessions under the theme: Global Inequalities. The tough and hard questions that guided this year's forum include: Are media up to understanding the dimensions and effects of inequality? How can technology really be a galvanizer and equalizer, providing equal access to knowledge, power and participation?

The city of Bonn, being Germany's UN city, was the perfect place to discuss the role of the media with respect to freedom and immaterial values, as laid down in the Sustainable Development Goals.

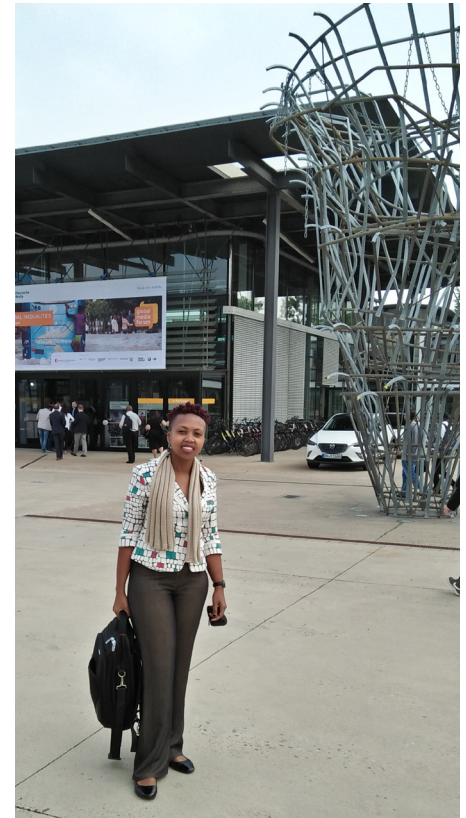
I had the honor and privilege to represent Umoja Radio for Peace Project, a project of the Kenya Community Media Network in partnership with the Civil Peace Service of the GIZ. It was my first time in Europe and I must admit that I really enjoyed the state of the art conference environment and the scenic landscape of the Rhine valley. It was also an excellent opportunity to network and get to hear what other particularly Community radios and media are doing in different parts of the world. What best practices can be learnt and possibilities of creating some synergies and linkages where possible.

Below were some of the key highlights from the three day discussions that I took home and shared with our Community of community radios?

With the Digitization of Communication, it is important for journalists in the 21st century to equip themselves with digital skills to promote high quality journalism. This will help to curb propaganda based journalism.

Media must not be arrogant. The media should not live in filter bubbles. They should instead accept and appreciate everybody and therefore report all stories. This would be vital to bring out the injustices, inequalities, poverty etc. into the limelight therefore acting as a watchdog with no favoritism.

Matters on religion and belief literacy is important for journalists. Freedom of worship as a human right should be well understood. Issues of faith and values can be controversial and sometimes non-negotiable and thus if necessary the media should always try to create cross-faith championing of human rights.



Sheila Ngatia - at the entrance of the World Conference Center

Living in the times of social media, the media should not just go with the trend of creating hashtags on issues and posting on their sites without doing proper research on the content. They should be professional enough to always do a thorough research on stories, know their audience, know which medium to use to pass the information in order to maintain their credibility.

Digital identities of the media stories. The media should always consider the following; Accessibility of the information, who does it reach? Who does it empower? What is the impact? and what is the digital afterlife of the stories?

Voice Matters: Trust, but verify! – It's important to go on a fact checking mission before broadcasting content.

The above mentioned are just but a few key highpoints of the three days meeting. Besides the informative and food for thought discussions, Deutsche Welle gave a freedom of speech award winner to an Iranian political scientist, Sadegh Zibakalam . He was described as one of Iran's well known political experts who repeatedly criticizes the government's official's stance on domestic and foreign policy matters. In his acceptance speech, Sadegh said he is lucky not to have spent a day in prison in Iran for his beliefs.

Amongst the key note speakers in the forum was a former president of Afghanistan – Hamid Karzai who mostly talked about his tenure as a president, challenges as far as fighting the Taliban was concerned and what role did the media play during the many years of political conflicts in Afghanistan. In between the sessions, we had some entertainment and musical interludes. The participants were also treated to a dinner cruise along the Rhine river valley on day one, and on day two for a reception at the Deutsche Welle Broadcasting Center. Day three was time to say our good byes and hurry back to the train station to catch the next train to the airport in Frankfurt.

#dw_gmf 2018! Was enlightening and definitely worth the travel!



Nanjira Sambuli - World Wide Web Foundation Kenya & Emilar Gandhi - Facebook - talking about Digital (in) equalities- How to ensure equal access for all



Edith Kimani- DW News, MC for the three day forum



Interview at the DW studios on the theme of the forum - Global Inequalities



Wajir Community Radio Training and Assessment visit report

By Sheila Ngatia

As they say, where there is a will, there is always a way. During our first phase of the project (2017), Wajir Community radio was a NO GO ZONE. This was due to heightened electoral activities and long distance to Wajir County which sometimes can be unsafe. 2018 in the month of July, we were lucky to get clearance to go ahead with our activities with the radio. The engagement was both an assessment visit and a training workshop. Halima Kahiya – the station manager of the radio was privileged to be one of our external trainers.

Day one morning session - we had a module on Station management skills which was facilitated by Halima. The sub - topics included; what are the four functions of management? , levels of management, management skills, and finally a brainstorm on this quote “Managerial is a call, have a passion”. She emphasized on the importance of listening and giving guidance to your staff which leads to better work performances and healthy working environment. “If I am not here today, one of you can deputize me while the others support him/her on management issues?” her closing question/remarks.

This module was followed by Audience research, Public relations and Marketing skills during the afternoon session. The module was also facilitated by Halima and the aim for this was to show the par-

ticipants the importance of knowing their audience, which tools to use to identify their audience, and finally to always ensure to keep your audience in mind while drafting messages. Public relations and Marketing – What is Public relations, what is marketing? Why is important to package and brand your radio station? With the power of social media, how can community radios engage with it usefully having diverse social media platforms? All these questions were brainstormed and discussed in plenary aided by Halima.

Day 2 – the Umoja Radio for Peace core team took the day and as usual. Sheila ngatia – the Project officer took the participants through Understanding Conflicts. The sub-topics entailed - What is Conflict? What is Violence? Different tools used to analyze conflicts that can easily be adopted to journalism

work. Michael Schweres – followed next with Broadcasting for Peace 1, 2 and 3 basically linking the concept of Understanding conflicts to where and how do journalists report in conflict situations. Broadcasting for Peace three entailed basics on Fact checking – (How to verify information using various tools) and finally group exercises on how to write a conflict sensitive script and news report.

As they say, too much work makes Jack a dull boy, Wajir Community radio team took as to visit The Wajir Museum and the famous mysterious dam which the communities in Wajir believe that the water is cursed. This is because whenever there is severe drought, the dam never dries up. When people attempt to swim on the dam, apparently they disappear, never to be found. What a great way to end our trip to Wajir County!



Halima Kahiya - Facilitating on Station Management skills



A Somali house



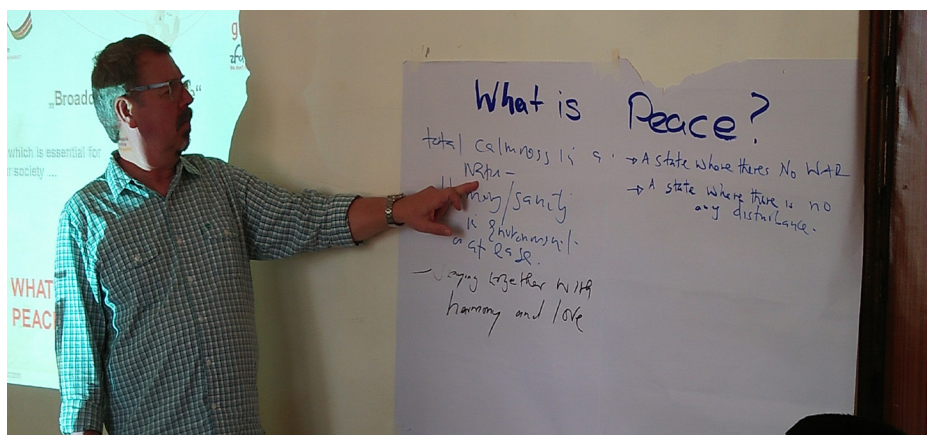
Halima illustrating how they clean the gourd to preserve milk



Baken - used by warriors as head rest in Somali culture



Active Participation



What is Peace - Michael brainstorming with the participants

Mwanedu, Ekialo Kiona, Nganyi Ranet and Bulala FM Training sessions



Top: Rehema facilitating on Resource Mobilisation during Mwanedu FM workshop

Middle: Hamisi Mwachai - engaging his group members in discussions

Bottom: Bonface Opany facilitating on Local content production



Lydia Wangoma illustrating a point



Facilitators for the Ekialo Kiona training having a one on one



Small talk...



Group work illustration



Kitchen team at Nganyi & Bulala FM workshop



Daniel Muteti - facilitating on Local content production at Nganyi Ranet FM



Maximising collaborations: Strengthening content

By Alex Mwangi,
Project Officer, KCOMNET

Community media in Kenya as in many other parts in Africa rarely collaborate. Most operate in isolation. For example, whereas community radios and community newsletters belong to the same sector of community media, they hardly collaborate to enhance their engagements in areas of their mutual interests and mission. When community media operate in isolation, they close themselves away from opportunities to synergize their content and from the strengths gained from mutual sharing of capacities and support. In addition, their lack of collaboration results in their inability to generate and disseminate shared and priority content that would lead to the social transformation of

their target audience, communities and nationally.

To close this gap, Kenya Community Media Network (KCOMNET) through the support from Community Media Fund (CMF) is implementing a project titled: Enhancing collaboration and engagements of community media in Kenya to generate and disseminate content on transparency and accountability.

This project seeks to promote synergy among community media partners in Kenya in the generation dissemination and marketing of content on transparency and accountability. The forms of community media targeted in the first

phase of this project include community radio, community newsletters and community theatre groups.

Through this project, KCOMNET has also developed community media hub whose purpose is to provide continuous technical support for the strengthening of community media in Kenya, primarily in the areas of financial journalism, financial literacy, improved access to data on transparency and accountability and social justice advocacy. The community media hub, the first of its kind in this country, also hosts a web based platform, Sikika.net, the community media marketing platform for aggregating and amplifying citizens' voices on pertinent issues relating to the society as well as creative content from the communities served by community media.

KCOMNET believes that when community media journalists and practitioners come together, a common voice will emerge – one that is difficult to ignore. This project aims to bring a united voice which community media can speak together and be heard loud and clear. This project will also inspire other forms of community media to collaborate and play their rightful roles as active drivers for social change.



Alex Ikambi, Project Officer, KCOMNET making a presentation to participants during Nairobi Regional Workshop on 24th August 2018 in Voi



Laikipia region content producers pose for a group photo after facilitation by KCOMNET on 27th July 2018 at Old House, Nanyuki.



Tom Mboya(KCOMNET associate) addressing participants during the Coast Regional Workshop on 24th August 2018 in Voi



Gitura Mwaura,Coordinator,EACOMNET,making a presentation to participants during Nairobi regional Workshop on 5th June 2018 at Shallom House,Nairobi.



Reducing Post-Harvest losses through Social & Behavior Change Communication

By Moses Proverbs
Radio Craft/Project officer, Farm Radio International – Kenya

From 2017 until 2020 Farm Radio International (FRI) is implementing the Reducing Post-Harvest Loss (RePHL) through Social and Behavior Change Communication project. The project is funded by the Rockefeller Foundation as part of their wider YieldWise initiative. The ultimate objective of the RePHL project is to enable small-scale farming families in Kenya, Tanzania and Nigeria to reduce their vulnerability to post-harvest losses, thereby increasing household nutrition and income, by deploying three proven social and behavior change communication methodologies (radio, farmer-led videos and reality tv) that will:

Increase farmers' awareness and knowledge of methods to reduce post-harvest losses

Increase farmers' application of proven post-harvest management technologies and solutions.

In Kenya the focus is on reducing post-harvest loss in mangoes, in Nigeria the focus is on reducing post-harvest loss in tomatoes, and in Tanzania the focus is on reducing post-harvest loss in maize. Communication programming will build on work done by implementing partners in each country - Pyxera Global and TechnoServe in Nigeria, AGRA in Tanzania and TechnoServe in Kenya.



Explaining the importance of having farm program for SHF

The goal of RePHL is to reduce post-harvest loss in the specific value chains by fifty percent through collaboration with the implementing organizations and media partners using a social and behavior change communication

approach. In Kenya, Farm Radio is working with Techno Serve Kenya, Access Agriculture and the Mediae Company the producers of Shamba shape up as well as other partners to reduce post-harvest losses in the mango value chain.

Farm Radio International is implementing the project in Kenya through collaboration with the Kenya Community Media Network, popularly known as KCOMNET. KCOMNET is the umbrella network for community media in Kenya. KCOMNET is hosting FRI in Kenya

The mission of Farm Radio International is to support African broadcasters to provide broadcasting services that share knowledge with and amplify the voices of small-scale farmers, their families, and their communities. FRI develops radio scripts, information packages, a weekly electronic news service, and a special online community called Baraza, and shares them with thousands of African broadcasters.

FRI engages with partner radio stations to plan and deliver special radio campaigns and programs that have a specific impact on a development challenges. FRI's Participatory Radio Campaigns have been proven to increase farmers' knowledge of improved farming practices, help them make decisions about whether to adopt the improvements, and realize the benefits of introducing these practices on their farms.

For more information, kindly visit FRI's website - www.farmradio.org



Top: Moses FRI Radio craftProject officer with Mtaani radio Producer Patric Kisareng Modi
Middle: Moses FRI Radio craftProject officer with Mtaani radio Producer Patric Kisareng Modi
Bottom: Elias Wolde FRI knowledge coordinator leading the way with a smile



Radio drama production Season 2 and Creative Writing workshop

by Sheila Ngatia
Project Support Officer, KCOMNET

In February 2018, KCOMNET in collaboration with Mtaani Radio produced a radio drama known as “This can happen to anyone of us”. The radio drama was broadcast by 36 community radios under the Umoja Radio for Peace Project. The content of the drama was about different types of displacements that can lead to anyone becoming an IDP or a Refugee. The key question addressed by the drama was; “What are some of the IDP rights that have been put in place by the government?” Producers from the radio stations expressed the need to do season two series of the radio drama. This time round, they wanted the drama to be done in a more educative and different way. This necessitated the need to split the content into ten thematic areas covering topics such as; access to education, access to health, bad leadership, good leadership, forced evictions, integration, among others. These topics talk about the diverse social issues that IDPs face. They also contain some information spots where IDPs can seek help and what the law stipulates as far as issues of IDS are concerned. Consequently, a three day creative writing workshop was held on 13th – 15th of August, 2018 to brainstorm on the various topics that would be informative to the public

on IDP issues. The participants brainstormed on the situation and issues that affect integrated IDPs in our society? How can IDPs get help from the relevant duty bearers who advocate for IDP and Refugee issues? The different episodes were done in form of short educative storylines which reflect the lives of IDPs and their host communities. The radio drama audios will be about 5 – 10 minutes with some helpful information towards the end. The characters used in season one will also feature in season two with some additional episodes.

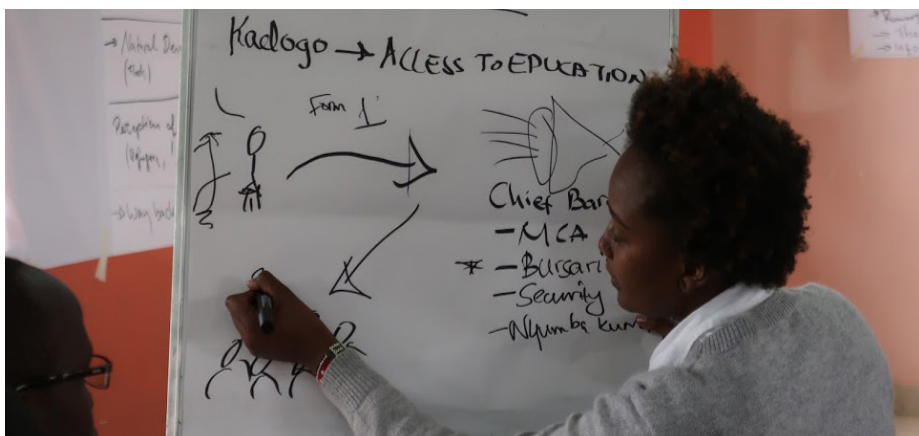
The potential impacts of the radio drama on the conflict context in Kenya will include better knowledge of the issues and situation of IDPs in the Kenyan society. This is expected to lead to a better understanding of the problems and dynamism of IDPs, which can lead to a de-escalation of the conflicts between displaced Kenyans and others. As from January 2019, the productions will be ready for airing. Hope you all get a chance to tune in to the nearest community radio and listen to the radio drama and give feedback!



Group brainstorming session



Carolyn and Michael developing their script



Emma developing episode one with her team mates



Work in progress for the episodes



Tea time