



## ***Communication Rights in Action***

### **2017-2018 Project Cycle**

WACC helps to build the capacity of its partner organizations and to advance their through two programme areas: Communication for Social Change and Gender & Communication

#### **Communication for Social Change Programme Area**



With the convergence of traditional and digital media, WACC sees an opportunity to focus on how media platforms can help advance communication rights while also contributing to broader social change. Projects supported under this programme will strengthen the work of civil society organizations in the implementation of communication for social change efforts such as citizen journalism, community media, citizen-led media for peace, and “monitoring of poverty reporting” to advance the democratic participation and active citizenship of marginalized peoples and communities.

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#### **2673 – Mass Media for Poverty Reduction in Conflict Affected Afghan Areas, Organisation for Local Services and Future Generations (OLFSG)**

Afghanistan

EUR 9,000

People in most Afghan communities have very poor quality of life. Recurring military and Taliban operations make people marginalized, ignored and isolated, with often no voice or advocacy. This context has discouraged them to raise their voice as they are either threatened by armed groups or arrested by government. It's necessary that they need to know how to raise their voice and get the attention of the public in order to advocate for themselves.

This project was a media-monitoring project designed to enhance local media attention of poverty issues in conflict affected communities. It aims to enable an environment so that the community is encouraged to raise awareness about public concern. Based on these issues, OLSFG created a program



by shaping social focus through media advocacy, giving media access to impoverished communities and advocating for the poor, highlighting poverty issues through ground-breaking news articles, engaging and sensitizing media professionals to the need for quantity and quality poverty reporting. The project did this through raising the capacity of capacity members and partnering with other like-minded media groups. Total indirect beneficiaries of this project will be members of the communities.

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## **2674 – Poverty mapping and advocacy for Batwa communities in Rwanda using community radio, African Initiative for Mankind Progress Organization**

Rwanda

Start date: February 2016

EUR 12,000

Batwa communities in Rwanda are a neglected and marginalized minority. Available data show that the Batwa suffer high levels of poverty, limited access to health care, and low levels of education relative to non-Batwa (Warrilow 2008; Ramsay 2010). Their situation is compounded by the reluctance of the Rwandan administration to acknowledge their ongoing struggles. Batwa community radio will be a practical tool for addressing the myriad problems the Batwa face because it facilitates local participation in the public sphere.

The programs will disseminate an array of community voices from across the social spectrum, and will be organized into issuedriven dialogues based on the format of ‘deliberative talk radio.’ Programming will focus on group-specific concerns and interests, and broadcasts will take place once a month for one year. They will combine community forums, with in-studio discussions and on-air call-ins. As a corollary, 60 Batwa communities will be equipped with one radio to ensure that community members in remote parts of the country can access broadcasts. We expect our project to facilitate an inclusive approach to problem solving, engage local authorities, increase local government accountability, and ultimately, engender policy change.

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## **2755 – Refugees and Communication Rights in Europe, WACC-Europe**

Europe

EUR 29,000

The refugee crisis gripping many countries in Europe has raised staggering logistical challenges particularly for countries of entry and high tensions, hate language, and polarizing public discourse amid fears, misinformation, and protectionism being spread across communication channels. Most affected are the refugees, who each carry harrowing personal stories of violence and tragedy and seek a place of safety and security for themselves and their families.



The project will support the communication rights of refugees seeking safe passage into & through Europe and challenge public attitudes of intolerance and discrimination against them. It will use the methodology of WACC's Global Media Monitoring Project to assess media portrayal & representation of refugees in 5 or more European countries; engage with secular & church related media professionals to assess the results, highlight good practice, and develop action plans for organizations and networks to promote communication rights of refugees. It will provide a communication platform, based on the analysis, in cooperation with the Churches' Commission for Migrants in Europe, for sharing information and good practice among church & ecumenical partners.

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### **2795- The Right to Communication in Relation to Argentina's Memory, Truth, and Justice Process – Asamblea Permanente por los Derechos Humanos (APDH). Co-funded by local partner**

Argentina

Started on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018

EUR 18,800

Argentina's military dictatorship ended in 1983. Soon after, a national process of Memory, Truth, and Justice was launched to address the systematic human rights violations committed during the dictatorship. This process has over the years been a source of controversy and its implementation and achievements have varied significantly depending on the political leanings of the national government at any given time. Today, following more than a decade of progress in the implementation of the process, there is a sense among human rights defenders that progress is slowing down, is receiving less attention and that there is a real risk that the achievements of the past years could be reversed. In this context, the *Asamblea Permanente de Derechos Humanos* (APDH) is seeking to raise awareness about the importance of this process in an effort to influence public opinion and policy implementation. To this end, APDH will build the capacity of community and mainstream media journalists to report on the process, draft a reporting manual for media houses on the process, and develop a database of activists and journalists committed to the process who can help shed light on key issues.

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### **2818- Monitoring media reportage and portrayal of internally displaced persons (IDPS) in Africa: Case studies from Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Kenya, WACC -Africa**

Africa

EUR 25, 460



The project will examine the media portrayal and reportage of and about internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the three case study countries of Nigeria, Kenya and DRC with a view to identifying gaps in reportage within the context of advancing in-depth reportage on IDPs in Africa.

The project also aims at galvanizing stakeholders to respect and uphold basic rights and principles in line with OCHA 'Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement' intended to enhance an effective and timely response to the needs of IDPs.

In the final analysis, the project shall provide a basis of action for in-depth and balanced media reportage of IDPs as well as provide a platform that advances information exchanges and engender public engagement with institutional and ecumenical efforts to respond to the social and health challenges of IDPs and refugees.

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## **2827- Communication rights of undocumented migrants and refugees in major migration corridors in Asia, WACC – Asia**

Asia

EUR 30,000

Migrants and displaced peoples are largely living and working in the margins. This is even truer, and in fact worse, for undocumented migrants and refugees. Because of their bad conditions, their communication rights are curtailed and suppressed. Thus, this project will provide the undocumented migrants and refugees in three major migration corridors in the Asia region with the means to express their communication rights through research towards advocacy for decriminalization, recognition and regularization of undocumented migrants; education and training for organizing and grassroots empowerment of undocumented migrants and refugees and; advocacy for the rights of undocumented migrants and refugees including education awareness for the media.

The long years of experiences and expertise of members of the WACC Asia region particularly in the target countries will be utilized including existing programs of WACC to ensure implementation of the project.

The migration corridors were selected as they are areas with a significant volume of migrants flowing in between countries. These areas also include many WACC Asia members who have the capacity to implement the activities identified.

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## **2819- Promoting the Communication Rights of People Living with Disabilities in 6 Latin American countries (Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia, Brasil y Costa Rica), WACC- Latin America**

Latin America

EUR 10,000



The Project is an initiative of the Regional Executive Committee (CER) of WACC- Latin America Region. In Latin America, WACC proved to be a pioneer and sole promoter of the right to communication from, with and for people with disabilities. Thus, from experiences such as that of its partner in Bolivia, the Training Service in Radio and Television for Development (SECRAD) and its Program, "Communication and Disability", proposes to develop an information, education and training movement on the right to the communication of people with disabilities (PCD).

For this, all the associates and in each of the WACC countries in Latin America will be able to: identify experiences that link PCDs with the use of communication and media; generate approaches to organizations that represent the disability sectors to open up the knowledge and debate of communication as their right; and, produce together with them informative materials for public dissemination, and generate activities that make visible the right to communication of the PCD within the community.

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## **2845- Climate Change Network – Lessons from Nuclear Test Lobbying, WACC-Pacific**

Fiji

EUR 14,500

This project considers the parallels between communication rights on the impact of Nuclear Testing in the Pacific (French Polynesia) and communication rights in the context of climate change in the Pacific.

The lessons learned from the challenge of advocacy in French Polynesia's context will then be applied to the context of advocacy on Climate Change and Sustainable Development in the Pacific, to provide Pacific communities, churches and civil society with awareness on the need for correct, time sensitive information, as well as how to develop that information into advocacy to the issue of climate change/environmental stewardship and sustainable development.

Apart from key learnings, the project aims to set up a network for information and support. This would be integrated into the communications and network partnership with the Pacific Conference of Churches and other regional partners. Participants will be communicators and advocates on the issue of climate change and sustainable development.

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## **2796- Young Women Advocate for their Rights as Human Rights – Community Media Centre (CMC). Co-funded by local partner**

Palestine

Started on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018



EUR 17,991

Palestinian women are disproportionately affected by the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and its social, political and economic consequences. In addition, a patriarchal social climate in Palestine often deprives them of their rights, including their right to freedom of expression and communication.

In this context, this project seeks to enhance young women's participation in the Gaza Strip by strengthening their capacities to express their views and practice their right to freedom of expression. It also seeks to promote young women's role in civic engagement and social responsibility. The project addresses the serious problem that afflicts the status and well-being of women in the Gaza Strip and how this affects their important role in community development. To this end, CMC will implement activities in capacity building, community awareness raising, and advocacy and mobilization. The project's direct beneficiaries will be a group of 20 young women activists who will benefit from technical training on communication and media to enable them to produce media materials. The women participating in the project will hold (10) workshops with other (500) women in various districts to promote women's rights and the right to freedom of expression. Workshops will be accompanied by a social media campaign and will culminate in a conference on women's right to freedom of expression to which local officials and decision-makers will be invited.

The project builds on the extensive experience of the Community Media Center (CMC) in using media to promote human rights and advocate for the rights and freedoms of women, children and youth in the Gaza Strip. It is designed to mobilize the expertise of other human rights organizations in the Gaza Strip in support of the project objectives.

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## **2798- Amplifying the Voices of Nepalese Indigenous People – Indigenous Television Nepal. Co-funded by local partner**

Nepal

Started on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018

EUR 17,997

There are 59 recognized Indigenous nations and 125 ethnic/caste groups in Nepal, representing approximately 35% of the country's population. Many of these nations and groups speak their own languages; it is estimated that 123 different languages are spoken in Nepal. Despite this linguistic and cultural diversity, most Indigenous people in Nepal do not have access to media platforms and content as most of it is available only in Nepali and English and does not reflect their needs and interests. Furthermore, most of Nepal's media is owned and controlled by those more socially and economically powerful.

However, over the past few years, the country's media landscape has begun to change due the emergence of a vibrant community radio movement. Nevertheless, this change still has to take place in the print and television sectors, where Indigenous voices are rarely heard. The exception to this situation is Indigenous Television, an indigenous community television channel with national cable coverage that broadcasts in 8



indigenous languages. The channel's viewers are mostly in urban areas, though many Indigenous radio stations broadcasting in rural remote areas have a working relationship with the channel.

This project seeks to build the capacity of Indigenous Television to partner with more indigenous communities in order to produce weekly programmes in 4 new languages. They also focus on developing a strategy to share content through digital platforms that will reach more people. Content produced will focus on cultural and linguistic rights, the right of access to information, land rights, and environmental issues. The project seeks to address the communication and information needs of Indigenous people in Nepal while also helping to build a stronger more sustainable community media and Indigenous rights movement.

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## **2817- Where is Melissa? Increasing Public Awareness of Human Trafficking in Jamaica – WMM Jamaica. Co-funded by Council for World Mission (CWM)**

Jamaica

Started on December 17, 2018

EUR 39,456

Human trafficking is a significant problem in Jamaica as it is both a “source and destination country for adults and children subjected to sex trafficking and forced labour” (US State Department 2016). Youth, particularly girls and young women, are often most at risk of being lured and/or coerced into forms of trafficking that include sex work, domestic servitude, and forced labour. Jamaica's Bureau of Gender Affairs defines human trafficking as “A form of Gender-based Violence that entails the use of fear, force or fraud to coerce and control victims, mostly women and girls, into forms of exploitation such as sexual exploitation in bars, go-go clubs, brothels, massage parlours and saunas”.

Jamaica adopted a Trafficking in Persons, Prevention, Suppression and Punishment Act in 2009, and a number of victims have been rescued in recent years, including numerous foreigners. However, despite these encouraging developments, Jamaica was still classified as a Tier Two country in the 2016 Trafficking in Persons Report by the US State Department, which means that despite significant efforts, the country still does not meet the US State Department's Minimum Standards for the Elimination of Trafficking in Persons. This issue continues to be a problem as a result of factors such as high youth unemployment, which turns vulnerable youth into easy targets for forms of exploitation masquerading as legitimate employment, and a social and cultural climate that permits the practice.

This project, implemented by WMM Jamaica in collaboration with Kairos Creation Productions, aims to raise awareness about the causes and consequences of human trafficking in Jamaica among at-risk youth and adults in positions of responsibility. This will be achieved through the production of a film entitled ““Where is Melissa?” and the delivery of public sensitization and advocacy efforts involving media editors, secondary and post-secondary education institutions, and faith-based organizations. The project's target is to reach 1,000 people.

**2797- Free/dem Sarai: Reframing the urban migration narrative from the perspective of vulnerable migrant women- Ideosync Media Combine. Co-funded by local partner**

India

Started on March 1, 2018

EUR 24,280

India's rapid urbanization along with crisis in rural areas has led to unprecedented migration to large metropolitan cities. New migrants in search of opportunities in informal sectors are often marginalized and denied access to housing, healthcare, subsidized food etc. Women in these communities are also vulnerable because of the existing patriarchal structures that restrict their mobility and make them victims of other forms of violence. The experiences and voices of these women who use creative methods to negotiate with their constraints despite various forms of abuse do not feature in the popular urban migration narrative.

Most migrants to the Delhi area come from different parts of the country and speak various dialects but communicate in Hindi with members outside their communities. Migrant women play a vital role in their society by generating income for their household as they are usually employed as domestic work in middle class households or work at home doing sewing and stitching work. A critical feminist narrative of these migrant women is a necessity for civil society organizations, the mainstream media, local governance bodies and policy makers.

This project's goal is to empower migrant women by enhancing their skills and confidence so that they can be agents of their own narrative. To achieve this, the first step is to undertake a community based research to identify migrant women's stories. The next step would involve developing various strategies including creating a training manual with audio/visual stories with a focus on rights so that 20 women from three urban locations on the outskirts of Delhi (JJ slum cluster colony on the Faridabad Bypass road, Khan, Badarpur Border and Palla Urban village) can record their experiences, which can then be disseminated through mainstream media outlets. There is also an initiative to broadcast at least 25 stories on online platforms. This project works towards empowering migrant women to advance their communication rights in order to advance other rights as well.

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**2822-Bee Xhiidza Radio, Zapotec Waves- Fundación de Santa Maria para la Promoción Indígena y Agroforestal. Co-funded by Cultural Survival**

Mexico

Started on April 16, 2018



EUR 10,434

Radio Bee Xhiidza (Zapotec Waves) is a community radio station operating in the Xhidza region of Oaxaca State, Mexico, since 2009. The station currently reaches 25 Zapotec communities (approx. 12,530 people) using a 250 watts transmitter. Over the past 9 years, the station has become a starting point for numerous community development projects and has played a key role in helping to enhance community autonomy. Despite this success, the station faces problems such as limited local radio production in the local language, high electricity costs, limited access to resources, and volunteer fatigue.

This project seeks to support Radio Bee Xhiidza to embark on a strategic planning process to address long-term sustainability issues, purchase repeating towers to increase their reach an additional 10 Zapotec communities (bringing their total reach to 35 communities or 20,730 people), install solar panels to lower their electricity costs, and build the capacity of the 10 community reporters (5 men and 5 women). Content will focus on the UNDRIP and will be produced in the Zapotec language. A stronger station will help the Zapotec communities promote and protect their language, culture, and land rights.

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## **2826- Capacity Building on Indigenous Rights in the Kaqchikel Region. APRODISE (Radio Comunitaria San Juan). Co-funded by Cultural Survival**

Guatemala

Started on April 16, 2018

EUR 6,403

San Juan Community Radio is the only community media outlet in the municipality of San Juan Comalapa, in the Chimaltenango department of Guatemala. The community is about 80 km away from Guatemala City and is home to about 50,000 people, most of whom are part of the Maya Kaqchikel nation. The station was established in 1999 as a response to the limited access to information and communication experienced by people in the community. Today, the station is fully embedded in the community, as reflected by the high levels of community participation and the ongoing support of local authorities. 75% of programming is broadcast in the Maya Kaqchikel language.

This project will support Radio San Juan in its efforts to integrate a rights-based approach across their programmes, particularly by focusing on local legislation and on the UNDRIP. It will entail training workshops for approximately 50 people and help produce new content. It will also enable the station to purchase and install a new transmitter in order to increase their audience reach. Project learnings will be shared with community members during a final community forum that will involve approximately 200 local leaders and will broadcast via the radio station and a local television channel. A permanent committee on indigenous rights will be established and tasked with promoting indigenous rights at a local level.

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## **2824-Strengthening Radio Xyaab Tzuultaq'a- Asociacion Estorena para el Desarrollo Integral (AEPDI). Co-funded by Cultural Survival**

Guatemala

Started on April 16, 2018

EUR 6,964

El Estor is a municipality of Guatemala which is approximately 320 kilometers from Guatemala City. Eighty percent of the population speak Q'eqchi and consider themselves part of the Mayan nation. The area receives little attention from the state in terms of development, and there is a marked lack of media content that reflects the community's priorities.

In 2017, thanks to the combined support of WACC and Cultural Survival, AEPDI – a local civil society organization- established Radio Xyaab Tzuultaq'a, a community radio station that seeks to promote indigenous rights, advocate for the right to land, and provide the community with relevant information. The station currently operates with a 200 watts transmitter and its signal reaches communities in the department of Izabal, Alta Verapaz, and Baja Verapaz. It is estimated that the population reach is about 90,000 people. The station counts on the support of 24 volunteers and it has developed partnerships with other CSOs, including the Latin-American Association for Radio Education (ALER).

This project seeks to set Radio Xyaab Tzuultaq'a on the path towards long term sustainability by supporting a strategic planning process to better integrate Maya culture and gender equality into the work of the station. It also aims to increase the capacity environmental protection, women's rights, community media legislation, and new media format. It will enable the station to acquire a new console in order to better broadcast online.

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## **2825- Capacity Building on Radio Production and Community Development for the Tseltales and Choles Peoples of Chiapas State. Coordinadora Latinoamericana de Cine y Comunicación de los Pueblos Indígenas (CLACPI) – México/ Radio Lak Lumal. Co-funded by Cultural Survival**

Mexico

Started on 10 May, 2018

EUR 6,395

Radio Lak Lumal was established in 2014 following a long community development process launched as early as 1998, when a group of *Tseltales* and *Choles* Indigenous youth in the northern region of Chiapas State began to get interested in media as a way to promote in human and indigenous rights. They have had a partnership with the *Coordinadora Latinoamericana de Cine y Comunicación de los Pueblos Indígenas* (CLACPI) since then.



Over the past 4 years, Radio Lak Lumal has been focusing on promoting community organizing, advancing a rights agenda, building communication capacity, and engaging Indigenous women in media production. Most of the station's audience are *Tseltales* and *Choles* Indigenous communities, most of whom only speak *Chol*, the local indigenous language. The estimated audience of the station is about 80,000 people (80 communities each with about 1000 people each).

This project seeks to support Radio Lak Lumal in building greater media production capacity as a way to build on community development processes and promote indigenous rights. 15 people (5 men and 10 women) will benefit directly from the capacity building. The capacity building process will result in the production of a series of 12 episodes on Indigenous rights in the *Chol* language.

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### **2833- Voices of the First Nation. Valley FM. Co-funded by Cultural Survival**

South Africa

Started on May 15, 2018

EUR 7,462

Valley FM is a community radio station established in 1998 to serve rural communities, most of which are descendants of the Khoisan people, in the the Breede Valley, Langeberg, and Witzenberg municipalities of Western Cape Province South Africa. The Khoisan people, which includes the San, Griqua, Nama, Koranna and Cape Koi groups, lost much of their land and cultural heritage due to Colonialism and Apartheid. Current Valley FM programming focuses on community engagement of farmers, mainly women, as well as on human rights.

This project's goal is to strengthen Valley FM's work to advance the rights of the Khoisan people, a group that has yet to be recognized as an indigenous nation by the South African state, which still classifies them as "coloured" as per the status they had under Apartheid. This will be accomplished by producing weekly in-depth coverage of the main issues affecting the Khoisan people, as well as by convening a series of dialogue and policy-oriented events on constitutional recognition, the preservation of Khoisan languages, and the strengthening of indigenous knowledge systems.

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### **2834- Enhancing Indigenous Rights through Community Radio. Radio Triyuga. Co-funded by Cultural Survival**

Nepal

Started on May 1, 2018

EUR 5,970

Radio Triyuga is a community radio station based in Triguya, Udayapur District, Nepal. The station was



established in 2007 and reaches up to 800,000 people, most of whom are indigenous. It operates in the Districts of Udayapur, Siraha, Saptahari, Sunsari, Okhaldhunga, Khotang, Dhanusha and Dhankuta. It broadcasts 18 hours a day and produces content in Nepali and in four indigenous languages: Tharu, Tamang, Magar, Rai. Content focuses on news, indigenous issues, women's issues, and children's rights and entertainment. The station is a founding member of Nepal's Indigenous Community Radio Network, and it has engaged in different forms of advocacy to advance the rights of Indigenous people.

This project seeks to raise awareness about how indigenous rights can be integrated into the plans and policies of local and provincial government in Nepal, with special attention given to linguistic rights in the education and justice realms and the rights of Indigenous women. It will achieve this by convening series of public events bringing together newly elected parliamentarians with indigenous leaders and other civil society representatives. The public events will be broadcast live via the radio station. The material will also be edited and packaged into 12 shorter programmes that will be broadcast over the next few months. The project seeks to capitalize on the opportunities brought about by the 2015 constitution, which devolved significant power to local and provincial governments and recognized indigenous languages.

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## **2835- Enhancing the Rights of Newar Indigenous Communities. Radio Janasanchar. Co-funded by Cultural Survival**

Nepal

Started on May 1, 2018

EUR 5,766

Radio Janasanchar is a community radio station located in Bhaktapur Municipality in Nepal's Kathmandu's valley. The station was established in 2009 by a group of Newar indigenous communities and with the support of local CSO Jana Sanchar Griha. It produces programs in Nepali and in Newar focusing on issues such as current affairs, health and education, youth engagement, and women's empowerment. The station also works to highlight and promote Newar culture. The station was completely destroyed by the 2015 earthquake, and has been struggling to fully recover ever since.

This project seeks to strengthen Radio Janasanchar advocacy capacity, particularly in relation to the Newar communities' land rights. Approximately 150,000 Newar households communities have been negatively affected by a recent road expansion that resulted in land evictions without any form of compensation. To this end, Radio Janasanchar will organize eight (8) public debates (2 in each of the following cities: Kathmandu, Bhaktapur, Lalitpur and Kirtipur) about the impact of the road expansion. Local leaders as well as government officials will be invited to participate. The debates will be broadcast live and the most relevant content will be packaged into a series of 12 radio documentaries about the impact of the road expansion on Newar communities. The radio documentary series will be broadcast for a period of 3 months and will be disseminated via social media. All programmes will draw on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and on ILO's Convention no. 169.



## **2823- Empowering Maya Chorti Women through Community Radio. Coordinadora Nacional Ancestral de Derechos Indigenas Maya Chorti de Honduras (CONADMICH). Co-funded by Cultural Survival**

Honduras

Started on June 1, 2018

EUR 6,436

*Coordinadora Nacional Ancestral de Derechos Indigenas Maya Chorti de Honduras (CONADMICH)* is a Maya Chorti community development association established in 2009 to serve the Maya Chorti people in the departments of Copán Ruinas and Ocotepeque of Honduras. It seeks to advance Indigenous rights and contribute to the development of the 30 small communities it serves. It has a strong track record in defending the right to land of indigenous communities. The organization is well connected to top other civil society groups across the country.

The communities CONADMICH serves have several unmet communication needs. Internet access is limited and expensive. Cellular telephony hasn't taken off in the area due to limited infrastructure. Television and radio content does not address the reality and issues faced by the communities, including linguistic diversity. 37 % of the population is illiterate. There is a lack of spaces for dialogue and exchange among local civil society organizations, where women in particular are affected.

This project seeks to enable CONADMICH to establish a community radio station in order to meet these needs and to help strengthen local social organizing processes. It also aims to integrate a gender justice approach into the way the station operates. Activities include community consultations, capacity building on station management and media production, training on gender equality, launch of online radio station, and application for a broadcasting license. The project will also be in a better position to establish a sustainable community radio station over the next two years.

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## **2837- Supporting Community-Based Indigenous Journalism. Radio Mukulum. Co-funded by Cultural Survival**

Mexico

Started on May 20, 2018

EUR 5,970

Radio Muk'ul Lum is community radio station based in Oxchuc, in Mexico's State of Chiapas, that was established in 2012 to promote the rights and culture of Tzeltal indigenous communities. It understands community communication as an essential mechanism to advance gender justice, freedom of expression, and cultural diversity. The station's signal currently reaches 21 indigenous communities where most content is produced in-house in the Tzeltal language. Despite some early success, the



station needs to increase its ability to produce quality content and to reach more people in surrounding communities.

This project seeks to enhance the station's capacity to engage in community-based journalism, enable the station to make full use of the internet by establishing an online presence, and increase its signal's reach. The project will result in the establishment of a network of community reporters to better meet their communities need for reliable, local information.

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### **2836- Strengthening Radio Tzinaka in order to Advance Indigenous and Human Rights. Radio Tzinaka. Co-funded by Cultural Survival**

Mexico

Started on May 19, 2018

EUR 6,502

Radio Tzinaka is a community radio station based in Tzinacapan, in Mexico's State of Puebla. The station was established in 2002 by a group of young people from the Nahuatl nation who were interested in establishing a local dialogue and communication space in the Nahuatl language, the dominant language in the region, in order to promote local development from an indigenous perspective. The station currently broadcasts from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. and its programs focus on current affairs, local news, community celebrations, and cultural diversity. The station also provides training on media production for local youth. Despite counting with significant support, the station is in need of capacity building and new equipment in order to truly fulfil its mission.

The project seeks to support Radio Tzinaka to strengthen and democratize its own internal structures, increase capacity on investigative journalism, foster relationships with other community media organizations, and enhance its broadcasting and media production capacity. The station will also develop a strategic and sustainability plan to guide its activities over the next few years. Radio Tzinaka's reach will also increase thanks to the acquisition of a new 300 watts transmitter and installation of a new antenna.

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### **2832- Capacity Building For Radio Nan Pix to Advance Individual and Collective Rights. ACODIM-M. (Radio Comunitaria Nan Pix). Co-funded by Cultural Survival**

Guatemala

Started on April 16, 2018

EUR 7,360



*Asociación Comunitaria de Desarrollo Integral Maya Mam* (ACODIM-M) is a Maya Mam community development association established in 1997 to rebuild and strengthen the social fabric of Mam communities in three municipalities (estimated population of 85,000) of the Huehuetenango department of Guatemala following the ratification of the 1996 Peace Accords. In an effort to enhance the impact of its work, ACODIM-M established a community radio station called *Estereo Acodim Nan Pix* in 2007. Despite strong community interest, the station hasn't lived up to its potential due to a limited sense of ownership among young people, as well as limited capacity about broadcasting and about rights frameworks ACODIM wants to promote, such as UNDRIP and women's rights.

This project seeks to meet this gap by enabling the station to update its broadcasting equipment and by supporting capacity building for 40 interested young people (50% women and 50% men) on media production and covering local issues from a rights-based perspective. The project hopes to enable the station to be more rooted in the community, renew its volunteer base, and become a focal point for the advancement of solutions to community issues. Particular attention will be given to women's participation.

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## **2838- Strengthening the Wej'Xia Ka'Senxi Communication Network. Resguardo Indigena Paez de Corinto. Co-funded by Cultural Survival**

Colombia

Started on June 1, 2018

6,568 EUR

Resguardo Indigena Paez de Corinto is an Indigenous civil society organization established in 1986. It works in Colombia's Cauca department, one of the country's regions most affected by armed and social conflict. The organization was established to assert Indigenous governance in areas historically populated by Nasa indigenous communities. The organization has been successful in gaining control of ancestral lands over the past 20 years. It is connected to other indigenous organizations in Colombia, including the National Indigenous Organization of Colombia (ONIC).

Over the years, the organization has developed a "life plan" or "development plan" to guide the way it exercises Indigenous governance. Under this plan, the organization operates a series of programs on health, education, youth engagement, economic development, indigenous security, legislation, among others. It serves a population of approximately 13,000 people.

Dialogic communication is at the heart of the organization's "life plan". The organization has developed a communication network called Wej'Xia Ka'Senxi through which it fosters Nasa culture, promotes community engagement, strengthens the delivery of its social services. This project seeks to build the capacity of 20 young people from the communities of Corinto and Lopez to contribute to the communication network. This process will entail training through a series of 10 workshops on media production editing, use of ICTs, indigenous communication, local reporting, and the preservation of indigenous knowledge.



## **2841- Organizacion Indigena Kankuama (Tayrona Estereo). Strengthening the work of Tayrona Estereo in the Kankuamo region, Sierra Nevada. Co-funded by Cultural Survival**

Colombia

Started on July 20, 2018

EUR 7,421

Organizacion Indígena Kankuama is an Indigenous organization based in the Sierra Nevada region of Colombia. The organization was established in the mid-1990s, at a time when the Colombian armed conflict was affecting indigenous communities in the area. In the early 2000's, the organization began to develop plans to establish a community radio station in order to provide community members with access to information, as well as a forum for debate, culture, and participation. Following a few years of capacity building, Tayrona Estereo was officially established in 2006. Today, the station's core team comprises 12 communicators who represent the diversity of the Sierra Nevada communities and work to promote transparent governance and Kankuamo culture.

This project seeks to strengthen the work of Tayrona Estereo by enabling the station to update its equipment, build the capacity of local youth interested in becoming members of the station, and produce new content on key topics for indigenous communities in the area. Key subjects of focus include women's rights, environmental protection, cultural diversity, traditional medicine, and children's rights. 35 people (20 women and 15 men) will benefit from the project directly. Beneficiaries come from the Kankuamo, Kogui, Wiwa, and Arhuaco nations in the Sierra Nevada region.

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## **2839- Comité de Desarrollo Campesino (CODECA). Strengthening Radio Victoria. Co-funded by Cultural Survival**

Guatemala

Started on June 20, 2018

EUR 7,371

Radio Victoria is a community radio station linked to Comité de Desarrollo Campesino (CODECA), a peasant and indigenous organization working on land rights and rural development since 1992 in the southern coast of Guatemala. The organization has grown significantly since then, and it now has a presence in 112 municipalities in 20 of Guatemala's departments. It has expanded its mission to include service provision and environmental protection. Since 2012, CODECA has been pursuing a national



grassroots effort to insert concepts such as cultural and national pluralism into the Guatemalan constitution, which has resulted in significant backlash against the organization and its allies in the country's media.

As part of its work, CODECA established Radio Victoria in order to support community development, access to information, and a more inclusive constitutional order in Guatemala. The station broadcasts in the 870 AM frequency. Its signal currently reaches mainly areas in the southern coast of Guatemala, an area mostly inhabited by Indigenous (Maya Mam and Maya K'iche) and peasants and marked by a plantation-based economy (450,000 people is the station's approximate reach). This project seeks to build the capacity of Radio Victoria to bolster grassroots efforts to advance inclusion and pluralism in Guatemala. This will be achieved through training 15 people (7 men and 8 women) on media production and rights-based content and a strategic planning process involving approximately 25 key community stakeholders.

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### **2840- Japexunk Investigación y Comunicación para el Desarrollo S.C. Building Technical and Legal capacity among community media in Oaxaca and Hidalgo states. Co-funded by Cultural Survival and Local Partner**

Mexico

Started on June 1, 2018

EUR 13,906

Japexunk Investigación y Comunicación para el Desarrollo S.C. is a network of activists working in Mexico's Oaxaca State to fight discrimination against Indigenous people and strengthen different expressions of Indigenous culture. Over the past 15 years, Japexunk has worked to establish indigenous communication platforms, advance indigenous women's rights, and promote intercultural education.

This project seeks to strengthen the community media sector in the states of Oaxaca and Hidalgo by providing technical training, capacity development in relation to national broadcasting legislation, and equipping communicators with new knowledge about digital communication and open source software. 12 men and 13 women from 10 community and indigenous radio stations will benefit from the training. The main outcome will be a community media sector with a greater capacity to operate in a context marked by growing threats to freedom of expression, collective rights, and indigenous rights in these two states.



## **2842- Friends of Youth Voice (Radio Meeta FM). Raising Awareness about Indigenous Rights through Community Radio. Co-funded by Cultural Survival and Local Partner**

Nepal

Started on June 15, 2018

5,154 EUR

Friends of Youth Voice is a youth Tharu (indigenous) civil society organization in Nepal established in 2010. The organization's mission is to promote the role of youth in sustainable development and good governance. Radio Meeta FM is a community radio station based in the city of Lahan, in south eastern Nepal, which currently has a reach of approximately 300,000 people. In recent years, the customary justice and governance systems of the Tharu people in the Terai and Inner Terai regions of Nepal have been at risk by a governance systems that does not fully recognize indigenous rights, despite having signed the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP) as well as by a number of development interventions that are putting ancestral forests and foraging practices at risk. This situation is exacerbated by a lack of knowledge of Indigenous rights among some communities, especially in the hard-to-access Inner Terai valleys.

This project will enable Radio Meeta to address the lack of information about indigenous rights among the Tharu people living in regions mentioned above. This will be accomplished through the production of 20 episodes about the UNDRP, the ILO Convention 169 and the responsibilities of national and local government. Half of the episodes will be produced in Nepali while the other half will be produced in Tharu. All content will be broadcast and rebroadcast through Radio Meeta and 4 other other Tharu community radio stations (Radio Ramdhuni, Triyuga FM, Sibansu FM, and Bhurukwa FM) which together can reach up to 1,200,000 people). Radio Meeta will also create a website to make the content available online. 5 members of the Radio Meeta team (3 women and 2 men) will be directly involved in the production.

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## **2570- Gambia Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children (GAMCOTRAP)- Promoting Women's Right to be heard: "Our voices, our power, women's right to be heard!"**

Gambia

EUR 9,000

The project's main objective is to increase the participation and ensure long-term participation of women and young people in gender sensitive community radio programmes in 9 community radio stations in The Gambia. Gender equality issues will be integrated in regular community radio programmes, and women and young people will be able to speak up and be heard on various thematic



issues including issues of female genital mutilation, sexual and reproductive health, inheritance rights, gender-based violence, leadership and decision making affecting the rights of women in the communities.

The project will increase their knowledge and skills to broadcast in basic communication skills in promoting women's rights issues and democracy. The community radios that will have benefited from this project will have the knowledge, skills and confidence to continue to engage in advancing women's rights and the concerns of the people as useful tools in reaching the wider community.

## Gender and Communication Programme Area



Through media monitoring, projects will generate evidence on the gender dimensions of news reports. The monitoring findings are applied to change actions such as awareness creation, critical media literacy training, advocacy and engagement with media professionals on gender issues in media policy and practice. The focus will be on supporting civil society groups in areas of the Global South lacking a strong sub-regional or regional coordination of gender and media work. Projects will monitor gender portrayal and representation in major national or regional print, radio, television and/or internet news media.

### **2828- Gender Equality in Media: Beyond Advocacy and Awareness - UKS Research Centre - Pakistan**

Pakistan

Started on 11 April 2018

EUR 16,747

In today's multi-media world, with news a finger touch away, there is no denying the fact that media is a major force to be dealt with in our society.

Uks's monitoring has shown that the news portrays average Pakistani women as abused, shackled, vamped and ignorant. Not always intentionally, but media many a times does take sides.



Sexism in media needs to be challenged from every forum. Uks has always pushed the media to see every story, news and event from the gender lens. With the constantly evolving media, the tools available for the media also need to change. The proposed initiative uses tools recently formulated by Uks and WACC. With Uks' s Gender-sensitive Code-of Ethics as the benchmark, Women's Media Complaint Cell would address media content that pushes the gender boundaries. Pakistani Women's Media Network would engage female journalists across the country to highlight good/bad media practices from the gender perspective. WACC's tools would be employed extensively for media analyses by media students. The project would address sexism in media content by urging all stakeholders- media, audiences, academia and policymakers – to take actions beyond advocacy and awareness.

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## **2831- Reducing gender inequalities in the media landscape in Cameroon – WPI – Cameroon.**

Cameroon

Started on 4 April, 2018

EUR 15,260

Promoting gender equality and fighting gender stereotypes in the Cameroon media landscape through awareness raising, capacity building and engaging different stakeholders in a more inclusive communication.

Also referred to as the 4th power, the media is a very important channel of communication and a means of portraying people's values, beliefs and cultures. They have a role of information, awareness raising, and education. The media have the ability to rally the population to a cause. In a way, it is, the mirror of society and a powerful tool of globalization and should integrate both women and men so that perspectives of both genders are taken into account for a just and peaceful society. The project will contribute to reducing patriarchal norms by fighting against gender stereotypes, promoting women's rights not only in the media landscape but in the society as a whole for a peaceful coexistence and sustainable development of Cameroon. This project falls in line with the national gender policy instituted by the Government of Cameroon through the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and the Family and will help to support the government in the process of implementing this policy. Through this project, media actors and Cameroon society in general will integrate gender equality in their way of communicating, their ways of life, behaviours and actions.

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## **2830 - Increasing awareness of gender inequality in media content in Mongolia – SOJ – Mongolia.**

Mongolia

Started on 4 April, 2018



EUR 24,049

### Gender and Communication Programme

Women's voices are underrepresented in Mongolian media content (18%) and gender stereotypes, and sexualization prevail in media coverage. Media houses do not have any guidelines and specific policies to ensure gender equality in the newsroom and media content. The media outputs are not monitored regularly, thus changes in the quality of media coverage, specifically with regard to gender sensitive reporting cannot be objectively assessed.

The project thus aims to contribute to improving the gender mainstreaming policies in Mongolian newsrooms by promoting gender sensitive journalism criteria, increasing the transparency of the quality of media content with regard to professionalism, human rights based approaches and building the capacities of young media professionals to evaluate journalistic content from the perspective of human rights approach and gender sensitive reporting. To achieve this, the project will translate, adapt and promote the Media Gender Equality Scorecard and organize awareness raising campaign with journalism students, using the Media Gender Equality Scorecard to promote good practices of gender balanced reporting and increase awareness about shortcomings. In addition, the project will develop guidelines for gender sensitive reporting and organize an MOU signing ceremony with mainstream media executives to facilitate its implementation in the editorial practice.

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## **2829 - Gender issues in economic development: Analysis of Nigerian print and television news –MEGEIN – Nigeria.**

Nigeria

Started on 22 June, 2018

EUR 12,200

### Gender and Communication Programme

The manifest content of media messages, especially news, deposit huge influence on consumers of these news contents. When the information is gender bias, a bias notion is created in the minds of consumers thereby inducing them to take the message of the media on face value. This might be the reason why many women are not economically empowered in the country. Content analyzing media messages will provide the required data with which to educate news consumers' vis-à-vis women on how to interpret media content.

News consumers, when informed on the subtle influence news contents have on them, become literates in their interpretation of media messages. This will go a long way to reduce the impact of gender bias messages especially on women and create economically empowered women for the Nigerian society.

Workshops involving group discussions, meetings and talks with existing social groups will be carried out with the view of targeting women. Issues that will be discussed will include: women and the nature of



Nigerian cultures, shifting gender patterns and development and understanding media contents from a gender perspective with the aim of overcoming the influence of gender bias reporting. A training manual together with Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials shall be provided for the beneficiaries who shall in turn retrain and sensitize other women in their respective localities.

It is expected that at the end of this project, 50% of women news consumers would have developed positive mind sets in favor of gender perspective media literacy.

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## **2844- Politically Motivated Gender-Based Violence as the Focus of Newsmaking - CIMAC - Mexico**

Mexico

Started on July 26, 2018

EUR 20,230

Political violence towards women is defined as actions and omissions intended to or that result in undermining the recognition, enjoyment and exercise of political rights or prerogatives inherent to public office on the basis of gender. Political violence also occurs when a woman in public office is forced to carry out tasks other than what she was elected for, harassed or undermined. Media treatment that discriminates against female public office holders is also an act of political violence.

CIMAC will monitor the media for evidence on sexist coverage of women's participation in the 2018 electoral process. The project covers the main print and digital media in Chiapas, Nuevo León and Hidalgo. The monitoring results will be applied to establish journalistic guidelines for the media treatment of women's political participation. Since 1988 CIMAC has promoted women's communication rights of women and non-sexist journalism across Mexico.

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## **2570 – Promoting Women’s Right to be heard: “Our voices, our power, women’s right to be heard!” – World Association for Christian Communication (WACC), Gambia Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children**

Gambia

EUR 11,000

Most of the community in the Gambia does not integrate gender or women’s concerns in radio programming, nor do they have regular women’s programs for women to realize their voices and express their agencies.



The project's main objective is to increase the participation and ensure long-term participation of women and young people in gender sensitive community radio programs in 9 community radio stations in The Gambia. Gender equality issues will be integrated in regular community radio programs, and women and young people will be able to speak up and be heard on various thematic issues including issues of: female genital mutilation, sexual and reproductive health, inheritance rights, gender-based violence, leadership and decision making affecting the rights of women in the communities. The project will increase their knowledge and skills to broadcast in basic communication skills in promoting women's rights issues and democracy. The community radios that will have benefited from this project will have the knowledge, skills and confidence to continue to engage in advancing women's rights and the concerns of the people as useful tools in reaching the wider community.

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## **2664 – Raising Awareness on online violence against women through media, Association of Media Women in Kenya (AMWIK)**

Kenya

EUR 14,000

Online and cyber violence is a new form of violence that remains a silent epidemic in Kenya. There is limited knowledge on how to end it because it is treated as a personal problem where the individual is expected to find a way to cope on their own. Women journalists are often the most susceptible to being targets of online violence.

The project will address online violence against women in the media. Through case studies developed by the International Association of Women in Radio and Television (IAWRT- Kenya) conducted in 2014 an online security for women, there have been emerging cases that have been reported. AMWIK has also been training women leaders and aspirants on effective use of the media including social media where women leaders will be more aware of the repercussions of using social media especially during elections.

The project will generate evidence through research to inform media and policy advocacy, disseminate information gathered from the research on gender dimensions of online violence, build the capacity of journalists and social media managers by enhancing their knowledge and skills on online safety and will work closely with women who have been in the media in order to strengthen their visibility and recognition of online violence. The beneficiaries will be 30 journalists and will seek to reach over 3,000 women and men.

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## **2756 – Comunicadoras y comunicadores por el derecho a la comunicación con perspectiva de género, WACC-Latin America**

Latin America

EUR 14,000



The project aims to facilitate training in gender and the right to communication for journalists and citizens and promote critical reading of media through distance courses with a WACC platform; with a broad call to message producers: publicists, communicators, universities, and other people.

The objective of the project is to facilitate the formation and training of gender equality as a condition for the empowerment of communicators and communicators, through the completion of a virtual course, and the accompaniment of the Latin American network of journalists with a gender perspective.

The course will last 10 weeks and will form and influence the regulatory frameworks of those countries and will generate spaces for debate including the gender perspective.

*Last updated Sept 19, 2018.*