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

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NOUVELLES MEDIAFRICA. NET NEWS

CEMECA: FORMATION A LA PRODUCTION AUDIOVISUELLE (ANNEE 2011-2012)

En quoi consiste cette offre de formation ?

Le CEMECA, depuis 2005, propose aux radios communautaires, associatives, communautaires et religieuses ainsi qu'aux centres audiovisuels une formation adaptée à leurs besoins et accessible à leurs moyens financiers.

A qui s'adresse cette formation ?

La formation du CEMECA est destinée aux responsables et agents de médias audiovisuels communautaires, associatifs et confessionnels. Cette offre de formation s'adresse à ceux ou celles qui désirent entrer dans la nouvelle culture des médias en prenant le temps d'acquérir non seulement la maîtrise technique mais surtout le langage de l'audiovisuel et des NTIC. Elle s'adresse aussi aux agents des radios qui veulent créer un département vidéo et multimédia comme activité génératrice de revenus pour soutenir la radio.

Quelle est sa méthodologie ?

La formation du CEMECA se base sur **le langage** comme élément essentiel et justificatif de toute application technique en audiovisuel. Le CEMECA a été inspiré dans sa démarche par l'ACNAV de Paris où le promoteur du centre a reçu la pédagogie et le savoir faire de François Desfonds et Marie Esther Gianera, deux formateurs qui ont contribué à développer l'approche « acnavienne ».

Quel est le programme?

Le CEMECA propose un programme de formation qui se décline dans un cycle d'une année scolaire. La formation est proposée sous forme de modules. Le parcours annuel vise à apprendre module par module la technique et le langage de l'audiovisuel et des TIC en utilisant une méthodologie de la lecture ainsi que de l'écriture de l'image et du son. Cette méthodologie se positionne alors comme un moyen d'application ou d'expression du langage.

Module 1 : Mise à niveau en informatique audiovisuelle et TIC. Connaissance de l'environnement Audiovisuel et des nouveaux médias aujourd'hui. Etat des lieux, enjeux (7 au 12 novembre 20011) **Module 2 :** Découverte et prise en main de l'équipement de production vidéo (14 au 19 novembre

2011)

Module 3 : La grammaire de l'image : les plans et les séquences. Prise en main de la caméra. (21 au 26 novembre 2011)

Module 4 : Initiation à la prise de vues. La technique du tourner-monter (28 novembre au 3 décembre)

Module 5 : Prise de vues professionnelle. Tourner pour le montage (5 au 10 décembre 2011)

Module 6 : La bande son en vidéo. Technique de prise du son et du traitement du son en vidéo (du 12 au 17 décembre 2011)

Module 7 : Des mots pour communiquer : les 4 types de langage - écriture de la voix off (du 9 au 14 janvier 2012)

Module 8 : Découvrir et travailler sa voix pour mieux communiquer - pose de la voix off (du 16 au 21 janvier 2012)

Module 9 : La lumière et la couleur en vidéo (du 23 au 28 janvier 2012)

Module 10 : Le reportage. Apprentissage de toutes les étapes du reportage (mois de février)

Module 11 : La mise en scène en vidéo. Apprentissage de toutes les étapes d'une mise en scène (mois de mars)

Module 12 : Étape de la pratique. Pratique à travers des exercices divers. Assistance sur plateaux de tournage de documentaires à la section production du CEMECA. Gestion d'une entreprise audiovisuelle (avril 2012)

Module 13: Production individuelle d'un document vidéo de 12 minutes (mai et juin 2012).

Résultats attendus

Après les 8 mois de formation, les stagiaires acquerront un savoir faire basé sur le langage audiovisuel. Ils auront la maîtrise technique des outils de production professionnelle : caméra, banc de montage, etc. Ils seront en mesure de concevoir et de réaliser des reportages, des documentaires et des mises en scène de niveau professionnel.

Ils seront capables de créer et gérer une structure de production audiovisuelle.

Coûts de la formation

- Frais d'inscription = 2 155 000 FCFA
- Documents pédagogiques = 75 000 FCFA
- Hébergement = 240 000 FCFA
- Restauration = 720 000 FCFA

TOTAL = 3 190 000 FCFA

Contact

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RESSOURCES - RESOURCES

MANUAL: A GUIDE FOR JOURNALISTS ON HOW TO ACCESS GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

http://www.osce.org/fom/67866

The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Dunja Mijatovic, launched a guide for journalists on how to access government information today, marking World Press Freedom Day. "The Legal Leaks Toolkit" was prepared by the non-governmental organizations Access Info Europe and Network for Reporting on Eastern Europe n-ost with financial support from the OSCE Representative's office.

"Promoting a culture of access to information on an international level is an effective method to increase government transparency, while raising awareness and promoting investigative journalism. I will ensure that access to information remains high on the intergovernmental agenda and keep reminding the governments of the OSCE participating States of its importance," Mijatovic said.

The guide informs about the rules of access, appeal procedures and other important aspects of access to information in the 45 OSCE participating States that have access to information laws. Marking the first World Press Freedom Day since she was appointed the OSCE Representative in March 2010, Mijatovic said that she would spare no effort to defend media freedom.

"To fulfil my Mandate as the only intergovernmental media watchdog, I will not hesitate to knock on governments' doors to remind them of their OSCE media freedom commitments. I look forward to an open and constructive dialogue with the 56 OSCE participating States and I call on all governments to ensure that violence and legal harassment against media are effectively prevented. In addition, authorities must refrain from any forms of censorship," said Mijatovic.

A PDF version of the guide can be downloaded using the link of this news (48 pages, size: 2100 kB)

Source: OSCE Website, Press Release, 3 May 2011

MANUAL: "HUMAN RIGHTS AND PEACE BUILDING: A MEDIA TOOLKIT FOR JOURNALISTS," BY PANOS EASTERN AFRICA

http://www.panosea.org/resources/publications/Media%20Tool%20Kit%20whole%20doc.pdf

Published by Panos Eastern Africa, with support from the Open Society Initiative for Eastern Africa, "Human Rights and Peace Building: A Media Toolkit for Journalists" aims to support journalists in promoting debate on human rights and peacebuilding issues in post conflict situations, with a specific reference to Northern Uganda, while upholding the highest professional and ethical standards.

The Toolkit focuses on theoretical aspects of human rights and on the role of media in the promotion of human rights and peacebuilding. It also explains to journalists what is a right-based

approach to development and provides them with practical tools on how to conduct radio community debates.

This Toolkit can be downloaded freely (51 pages; 1,43 Mb)

Source: RFPA Update, 27 July 2011

WORLD: SURVEY ON COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AT LOCAL AND COMMUNITY RADIO STATIONS

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Community Participation

In which ways do community members participate in local and community radio stations? How are they involved in programming, management and funding of the stations?

Although community participation is an important element of the mission and vision of many radio stations, the diverse practical experiences are rarely shared.

CAMECO has started to collect different models and the practical knowledge around "community participation" to make them available as part of the CAMECO "Practice Series".

As a first step, it is intended to explore the range and different forms of participation through a questionnaire. In a second phase, some respondents could be approached to collect case studies.

Therefore CAMECO would be happy if you could fill out the questionnaire, either online (links above) or offline (if so the document has to be requested from cameco@cameco.org).

Deadline: August 25th, 2011.

Completing the questionnaire will take about 10 Minutes.

Source: CAMECO (Aachen, Germany), Communiqué, 11 Aug. 2011

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News (Les nouvelles en français suivent p. 18)

NEWS FROM: 2011-07-22 [EN]

Guinea/USA: Voice of America available on mobile devices in Guinea

Voice of America has launched a new mobile service that makes daily news summaries available to cell phone users in Guinea.

The new service is made possible by a partnership with AudioNow, a mobile radio distribution provider, and is hosted on the Cellcom network in Guinea.

Any phone user can access the VOA French language news bulletins by calling a single national number. Cellcom customers can dial a short special access code, which is available at reduced rates.

VOA Africa division director Gwen Dillard says the new service "provides our listeners in Guinea with a simple and easy way to get news that is important to them, no matter where they are. VOA's strategy is to use the right platform in the right place, and in Africa people are increasingly using mobile phones, so putting our news on those devices makes sense."

Users in Guinea can dial 65100993 to hear the daily VOA news bulletins through AudioNow's patent-pending "single-stream" technology. Cellcom subscribers in Guinea who pay a small weekly fee can access the VOA French service by calling the short code 503.

VOA's news, feature and music programmes are broadcast throughout Africa on television, shortwave, mediumwave and FM. The programmes are also available on mobile, streamed on the internet and distributed "direct to home" by satellite and affiliate stations across the continent. VOA is also increasingly offering its radio and television programmes via smartphone apps and now on any mobile device on AudioNow.

Source: Voice of America (Washington), Press release, 20 July 2011; quoted by BBC Monitoring, 22 July 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-07-22 [EN]

Namibia: Karas Community Radio Back On Air

http://allafrica.com/stories/201107220676.html

After two weeks' silence due to a damaged transmitter, Keetmanshoop-based Karas Community Radio (KRC) on Friday returned to the airwaves.

Station manager, Anwar Thomas, told The Namibian that the transmitter was damaged after a power blackout.

The power blackout was caused by a car crash into a electric pole in the Tseiblaagte residential area where the radio station is located.

Thomas said the radio station, staffed only by volunteers, resumed broadcasting after damaged parts of the transmitter were replaced at the cost of N\$3 500 by a Windhoek based company. Apologising to listeners and advertisers, who inundated the station with calls, Thomas said the purchase of a back-up transmitter is something the station would look at to deal with similar situations in future.

"Because we had no back up transmitter we're forced to be off air for the past two weeks. The radio had been knocked for the air for that long because the transmitter could only be repaired in Windhoek," Thomas explained.

He appealed to listeners to take "full ownership" of the radio station by offering "generous donations" to help with the purchase of back up transmitter.

"The regional and local authorities should be ashamed now, because in the past they had ignored the station's request to financially assist with the purchase of a back up transmitter," Thomas fumed

Thomas estimated the loss of income generated through advertisement at N\$ 20 000. Source: The Namibian (Windhoek), 18 July 2011; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS FROM: 2011-07-22 [EN]

Rwanda: Chinese Firm Loses Radio Licence in Rwanda

http://www.nation.co.ke/News/Chinese+firm+loses+radio+licence+in+Rwanda++/-/1056/1205666/-/tu4q6nz/-/index.html
The government of Rwanda has revoked a radio communications licence issued to Star Africa Media
Ltd, the Chinese firm controversially given control of broadcast content in Kenya.

Star Africa Media, trading as Pan Africa Media Kenya Ltd, became the automatic winner of the lucrative licence for a digital distribution license after the Procurement Appeals Tribunal dismissed an application by a consortium of local companies challenging plans by the Communications Commission of Kenya (CCK) to award the license to the Chinese.

The media industry is nervous about the award, particularly because of China's record of censorship and repression.

In revoking the license, Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Agency said the Chinese company had failed to honour contractual regulations.

Chinese firms, supported by state-owned Export and Import Bank of China (EximBank) have lately assumed a high profile in the broadcasting sector, winning contracts and licences in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.

In Uganda, authorities last week stopped procurement of a \$74 million facility from EximBank to purchase digital equipment to facilitate migration from analogue to digital broadcasting. Opposition leaders in Uganda had argued that the prices of the digital equipment the Chinese company was offering under the EximBank loan were grossly inflated.

In Kenya, Mr Akich Okola, a member of the Appeals Tribunal, ruled that the consortium, made up of local broadcasters, the Nation Media Group and Royal Media, the owners of NTV and Citizen, respectively had presented a bid whose validity period did not meet the conditions of the tender. But it has now emerged that the terms of the bid bond were ambiguous, leaving the tender conditions open to wide interpretation. The terms of the tender were that each bidder had to put in a security bond of Sh500,000.

It has also emerged, according to the figures published in the ruling by the Appeals Tribunal, that all the four bidders presented conflicting validity periods for the bid bonds, a clear sign that bidders were groping in the dark. [...]

Full report and source: The Nation (Nairobi), 21 July 2011; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS FROM: 2011-07-23 [EN]

Zimbabwe: Zimbabwean premier's spokesperson faults plans to license radio stations

Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai's spokesperson has called plans to licence two commercial radio stations a ZANU PF 'ruse', to give the illusion of real media reforms in Zimbabwe.

Fifteen applications have been put forward, after the May announcement by the Broadcasting Authority of Zimbabwe (BAZ) that the commercial licences were up for grabs. But the plans have raised a number of eyebrows for different reasons, including the fact that the BAZ Board is improperly constituted and still headed by known ZANU PF strongman.

Tsvangirai's spokesperson, Luke Tamborinyoka, said on Wednesday that the "illegality of the BAZ board is a matter of public record," likening the board to a "group of thieves." He was speaking on SW Radio Africa's Question Time series on Wednesday, and said the call for radio licence applications "is all part of ZANU PF machinations ahead of the next SADC summit."

SADC will be meeting in Angola next month and Zimbabwe will again be high on the agenda, with the region still trying to negotiate a working plan towards elections. Real media reform, including the licencing of independent broadcasters, has remained an outstanding issue in the Global Political Agreement (GPA). The plans to licence commercial radio stations is now widely believed to be an attempt by ZANU PF to go along with SADC's demands for reform, without making any real changes.

"This is a ruse by a board that is improperly constituted to give the impression that the airwaves are being freed in Zimbabwe," Tamborinyoka said.

The Director of the media rights group MISA-Zimbabwe, Nhlanhla Ngwenya, told SW Radio Africa on Thursday that Tamborinyoka's opinion echoes what civil society has been saying. He explained that the whole process, since announcing the radio licences would be available, has been questionable.

"Last week the BAZ board addressed the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on the Media and they remained very ambivalent on plans to free the airwaves completely, saying they have the incapacity to monitor the independent broadcasters," Ngwenya explained.

He added: "Why are they prioritising monitoring over liberalising the broadcasting sector? They are clearly still interested in control over what is being said and not real reform."

The Media Monitoring Project of Zimbabwe (MMPZ) has meanwhile insisted that the illegal BAZ board is standing in the way of genuine reform. The group said in a recent statement that: "Only with the appointment of an independent, credible, new board, which Zimbabweans can trust, will there be any genuine reform of Zimbabwe's broadcasting sector."

The MMPZ has also questioned the transparency of the licence application process, after its requests for details about who has applied were rejected by BAZ. The Authority has insisted that the application process will be fully transparent, and the public was invited to request more information about the potential broadcasters, who in turn had to publicise their intentions in the local press.

But the MMPZ said in a statement this month that it was "denied access to any information beyond

that published in the Press, on the grounds that it was confidential. The only information about the applicants in the Press notices was the names of the companies applying and their head office addresses."

"Denying such information to the public subverts the open and transparent process of selection... and the right of Zimbabweans to have a say in the selection of these broadcasters," the MMPZ said. Source: SW Radio Africa (London), 21 July 2011; quoted by BBC Monitoring 23 July 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-07-24 [EN]

NGO sets up community radio in southern Rwanda

A community radio station, Huguka Radio, has officially been launched in Nyamabuye sector, Muhanga District [southern Rwanda].

105.9 Huguka FM, a project of Huguka ASBL, is focusing on promoting agriculture, rural development and improving the lives of the farmers in general.

Farmers said they were happy with the community radio.

"This is a blessing to us and we will be able to advertise our products,", Eugene Habiyaremye, a farmer said.

The station, which has been on the airwaves for the last few months, covers most parts of the country except the Western Province.

"This problem will soon be resolved once we erect a mast in Karongi," the station's acting Director; Eugene Ndekezi, however, said.

This is the second radio station in Muhanga, after Radio Maria- a Catholic radio station.

An official with the Media High Council, Luke Kalema Ibrahim, said that the two radio stations are a sign of improved media outreach and opportunity for local residents to access information.

"This is a good initiative and an opportunity for the residents. This will improve access to media," Kalema said.

Kalema also urged investors to invest in the media industry in Rwanda.

Rapheal Rurangwa, an official of the Ministry of Agriculture urged the journalists to be creative and reach out to more residents to promote education and development.

Source: The New Times website (Kigali), 23 July 2011; quoted by BBC Monitoring 25 July 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-07-25 [EN]

Malawi: Radio Station Vehicles Attacked

http://allafrica.com/stories/201107221366.html

The situation is tense at Zodiak Broadcasting Station (ZBS), a privately owned radio station located in the Capital Lilongwe, where two of its vehicles have been attacked by thugs on two separate occasions.

The first incident took place on Sunday, 17 July 2011 while the second incident occurred on the night of 18 July.

According to sources, masked men were seen throwing stones and petrol bombs at the ZBS branded vehicles. The reasons behind the attack are not yet known, but sources said the attacks were in connection with planned mass demonstrations scheduled to take place on July 20. The peaceful demonstrations have been organised by leaders of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in protest against worsening economic and political situations in Malawi. Currently, there is an acute shortage of fuel which has lasted close to six months. Human rights bodies, including the donor community, have raised concerns over what they have described as deteriorating human rights standards in the country, a development that has forced donors to withhold aid to Malawi. Just like other media houses in the country, ZBS has been covering events leading up to the scheduled mass demonstrations. This coverage has not been welcomed by the authorities, and probably resulted in the sporadic attacks on ZBS branded vehicles.

Meanwhile, the Malawi Chapter of the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA) has condemned the attacks on ZBS. In a statement signed by the chapter's acting chairperson, Anthony Kasunda, MISA Malawi says ". . . It is disheartening that some people would want to instill fear in media houses and media practitioners who are executing their professional duty in the country. These are very unfortunate developments because an attack on the media directly affects people's access to information since instilling fear in media practitioners leads to self-censorship which is dangerous to the country's democracy . . . We do not want to believe that these unwanted elements amidst us are serving the interests of influential people."

The statement further said that sections 35 and 36 of the Constitution guarantee freedom of expression and the press, respectively. "We expect the authorities and indeed any other persons who have problems with journalists in the country to channel their complaints through media bodies such as MISA Malawi or the Media Council of Malawi, which are mandated to guard against

violations against media freedom and professional ethics, respectively."

MISA Malawi has further appealed to government authorities to step up security for media houses and media practitioners in the country and that the Malawi Police Service should track down the attackers and bring them to book.

Source: Media Institute of Southern Africa (Windhoek), Press Release, 22 July 2011; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

ALERT FROM: 2011-07-25 [EN]

Malawi: Journalists beaten and detained to prevent them covering protests

http://en.rsf.org/malawi-journalists-beaten-and-detained-to-22-07-2011,40679.html Reporters Without Borders condemns police violence against at least seven journalists covering protests that took place in several cities during the past two days. Some of the journalists were briefly detained. The government expressly banned radio stations from covering the demonstrations.

"We are very disturbed by the particularly brutal reaction of the authorities to demonstrators and to the journalists who went to cover their protests," Reporters Without Borders said. "We urge the authorities to allow journalists and media to do their job of reporting the news."

Rebecca Chinjeka of Joy Radio, Amos Gumulira and Kondwani Munthali of Nation Publications, Leonard Sharra and Jacob Nankhonya of Blantyre Newspapers, and Isaac Kambwiri of Capital Radio were beaten by police during the demonstrations on 20 July. Chinjeka was admitted to a hospital in Lilongwe for treatment to the serious injuries she received.

Kingsley Jassi of Blantyre Newspapers was beaten and detained yesterday for taking photos of policemen assaulting a demonstrator. He was released one hour later. Collins Mtika, a reporter for the Nyasatimes.com website was arrested yesterday in the northern city of Mzuzu and has still not been released.

The two days of protests were organized by civil society groups to protest against fuel shortages, price hikes and a general decline in the economy, and to demand more democracy. The authorities dispersed the protests in a particularly brutal manner, with an initial toll of 18 dead and dozens of wounded.

Source: Reporters Without Borders (Paris), Communiques et Website, 22 July 2011

ALERT FROM: 2011-07-25 [EN]

Uganda: Radio presenter goes missing

http://www.ifex.org/uganda/2011/07/22/okello missing/

Augustine Okello, a presenter with the Lira-based radio station Rhino FM, has gone missing. Okello, a.k.a Rouks, who joined Rhino FM five years ago as a morning show presenter, went missing on Wednesday 13 July 2011 after holding meetings with Lira District Internal Security Officer (DISO) Steven Eryaku and a police officer at Lira police station.

A District Security Officer is a military intelligence officer attached to the Chieftaincy of Military Intelligence.

Christine Awor, a wife to Okello, said her husband had not returned home since 13 July.

Article 24 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda states that "no person shall be subjected to any form of torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment".

Sara Acio, a Rhino FM news anchor who was the last person to be with Okello on 13 July before his alleged disappearance, told Human Rights Network for Journalists-Uganda (HRNJ-Uganda) that at around 11am that day they went to the Lira Central police station to meet a police officer called Richard.

She said as Richard was on the phone outside his office Eryaku entered and shook hands with them. The DISO then asked Okello whether he was Rouks, and told him that he had been looking for someone called Rouks.

"Eryaku took us to his office and made Okello sign in the visitors' book and afterwards, he made arrangements to meet with him later in the evening," Acio said. She said they left the DISO's office and she was dropped at the Northern Star bar by Okello as he was heading home.

Acio added that Okello received a telephone call believed to be from the DISO's office for a brief meeting at Grand Pacific, located along Te-Obia road in Lira town.

HRNJ-Uganda has learnt that no sooner had Okello gone for a meeting at Grand Pacific than his phone went off mysteriously and he has not appeared again. A source told HRNJ-Uganda that when Okello's relatives approached a police officer whom Okello met first, DISO Eryaku summoned the police officer while he was still in a meeting with the relatives.

HRNJ-Uganda fears that the disappearance of Okello could be related to his work as a presenter of

a morning show which receives phone calls from the community on political, social, economic and cultural issues.

According to Awor, the journalist's motorcycle was found at Lira police station. When they tried to inquire who had parked it there, they were told by a traffic policeman that it had been brought by Eryaku.

Okello is the second journalist to go missing in a period of four years in Northern Uganda after Otim Patrick who was kidnapped and kept incommunicado. He was later produced in court under habeas corpus and charged with treason and concealment to treason.

"We condemn in the strongest term possible the manner in which Okello went missing. It's the obligation of the government to protect all citizens from any human rights violations. The government should use lawful means to deal with suspects rather than keeping someone in illegal detention. We are going to fight that behavior until we get Okello out from incommunicado detention," said HRNJ-Uganda Programmes Coordinator Geoffrey Wokulira Ssebaggala. A case has been reported to the Lira police station by Awor.

HRNJ-Uganda calls for the intervention of the UN Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights and foreign missions based in Uganda in order to bring the Ugandan government to order. HRNJ-Uganda also demands that the police arrest Lira DISO Steven Eryaku as investigations into the matter continue.

Source: Human Rights Network for Journalists (Kampala), 19 July 2011; quoted by IFEX, Website, 22 July 2011

RESOURCE FROM: 2011-07-26 [EN]

Resource: Ten tips for producing radio bulletins

http://www.mediahelpingmedia.org/training-resources/journalism-basics/589-10-tips-for-producing-radio-bulletins
This webpage presents ten tips to help you produce interesting and effective radio bulletins. The page is easy to read and serves as a good refresher, with tips including, "Radio is about sounds, not just your voice," and, "Variety is the spice of life."

Source: Farm Radio Weekly, Issue 164, 18 July 2011; received 26 July 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-07-27 [EN]

Uganda: Radio Pacis Broadcaster wins RFPA Award

Radio Pacis journalist, Emmanuel Ojok, participated in a contest open to all African radio broadcasters with the following entry: Let's Talk Peace – Pastoralist Conflict. Ojok won the first prize in the category of Jury's Special Award and will receive Euro 500 (as per Uganda Shilling 1,500,000).

The Radio for Peacebuilding Africa Awards 2011 recognize the best radio programmes that contribute to peace in Africa. The RFPA Awards particularly celebrate radio programmes that help to reduce group and community tensions, that enhance and give value to shared interests, that break down listener stereotypes, and/or that provide positive role models.

The 2011 Awards were open to all African radio broadcasters, both men and women. Prizes will be awarded in the following categories: RFPA Gender Award; RFPA Youth Award; and RFPA Jury's Special Award.

Three prizes will be awarded in each category. The first prize is 500 Euros, the second 250 Euros, and the third 100 Euros. The winning recipients will be honoured at an award ceremony. (On the date of printing this issue we do not know yet the venue where the award ceremony will take place.)

Source: Arua Diocese Bulletin, Issue 120, July/August 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-07-27 [EN]

Tunisia: Tunisia's Radio Kalima Wins IPI Free Media Pioneer Award 2011

http://www.freemedia.at/singleview/5668/

The International Press Institute (IPI) announced on Monday that Tunisian online broadcaster and news website Radio Kalima is the recipient of the IPI Free Media Pioneer Award 2011.

The annual award, given out every year at the Vienna-based press freedom organisation's World Congress, honours media or organisations that have fought to ensure freer and more independent media in their country.

Radio Kalima was founded by prominent journalists Naziha Razjib and Sihem Bensadrine in 2000. It quickly became a target for repeated harassment by the authorities, and was banned in Tunisia. Under former President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, the station was forced to resort to broadcasting clandestinely. Members of Radio Kalima faced continual surveillance and threats while in the

country, were prevented from meeting other journalists, activists or opposition members, and were at various points detained, attacked, and subjected to criminal charges.

In 2009, authorities raided the offices of Radio Kalima, accusing them of broadcasting using illegal frequencies, after the media outlet began broadcasting on satellite as well as on the web. [...] In the face of adversity, however, Radio Kalima's commitment to independent reporting remained unflinching. The staff resorted to Skype and other online tools to file stories and hold editorial meetings, working under constant threat. The call-in programs on the station made them popular among a wide audience, and an important source of information for Tunisians, whose country is now going through a significant transition following popular protests that began in December 2010, and culminated in the ouster of former President Ben Ali.

Journalists from Radio Kalima were caught in the frontline as the government clamped down on free expression as a way to stifle the uprising. In December 2010, a journalist from the station was viciously beaten to prevent him covering a public gathering. His injuries put him in intensive care. According to the International Freedom of Information Exchange, Moez Jemai, Radio Kalima's correspondent in Gabes (400 km south of Tunis), was arrested by four plainclothes policemen on 6 January. He was sprayed with a disabling gas, pushed into an unmarked car and driven to the interior ministry in Tunis, where he was mistreated during interrogation about his coverage of protests. Another correspondent, Nissar Ben Hassen, arrested at home on 11 January while editing film of unrest in Chebba. Ben Hassen was released on 14 January, along with another journalist, as part of the former President's purported new commitment to "complete freedom of expression." Although the protests led to the ouster of President Ben Ali, Radio Kalima's struggle is far from over. "The old security guard is still active, "removing" people and trying to shake up the peace and order and security of public life. The media in Tunisia urgently needs international protection and international presence, as well as equipment and training," Bensedrine told the International Media Support (IMS) in Janury 2011.

On 21 June, Mestiri began a hunger strike demanding that Radio Kalima be granted a license to operate.

A week later, on 29 June, the newly formed national panel supervising the reform of news and communication (INRIC), said the body had recommended to the prime minister's office that licences be granted to 12 private radio stations, including Radio Kalima.

"Radio Kalima's undaunted commitment to independent reporting in the face of all odds has been an inspiration for all of us, and for media around the world", said IPI Director Alison Bethel McKenzie, announcing the award. "There are still many questions surrounding the state of the media in Tunisia, and many steps to be taken. This award is an expression of our support, and the support of our network of members around the world, for Radio Kalima, and for independent media in Tunisia."

Full report and source: IPI(International Press Institute 8(Vienna), Website, 26 July 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-07-27 [EN]

Africa: Results of the 2011 RFPA Awards!

http://www.radiopeaceafrica.org

RFPA is pleased to announce the results of the 2011 RFPA Awards! RFPA received a diverse selection of programmes in the entries, including both fictional and non-fictional programmes; English, French, and local language broadcasts; and representation from countries across the continent.

For this edition of the RFPA Awards, the three award categories were:

- Youth;
- · Gender; and
- Jury's Special Award.

A prize was given to the top three entries for each category, recognising high quality radio programmes that contribute to peace in Africa. The jury members were media and peacebuilding experts from sub-Saharan Africa, as well as from Europe and the United States.

Visit the RFPA website and listen to the best programmes submitted for this 2011 edition! On the Home Page of the RFPA website, you can also find a description of the programmes and the jury's comments!

THE WINNERS ARE:

- Youth Award:
- o 1st Prize: Shujaaz (Kenya, Producer: Bridget Deacon)
- o 2nd Prize: The Team (Kenya, Producer: Just Imagine Productions)
- o 3rd Prize: Top Stories (Cameroon, Producer: Roland Akong).
- · Gender Award:
- o 1st Prize: Fifty-Fifty: Rape and Gender-Based Violence in Senegal (Senegal, Producer: Sheriff

Bojang Junior)

o 2nd Prize: Chakruok (Kenya, Producer: Bridget Deacon)

o 3rd Prize: Fifty-Fifty: Female Genital Mutilation (Senegal, Producer: Sheriff Bojang Junior).

• Jury's Special Award:

o 1st Prize: Let's Talk Peace - Pastoralist Conflict (Uganda, Producer: Ojok Emmanuel)

o 2nd Prize: How a Civic Education Programme Can Eradicate Sea Piracy in Somalia (Somalia, Producer: Mohamed Osman Husain)

o 3rd Prize: Africa This Week - Côte d'Ivoire (Nigeria, Producer: Huruna Idris).

All these programmes are now available on the RFPA website www.radiopeaceafrica.org (for the programmes that are not in English, a translated script is available on request from RFPA).

Congratulations to all the winners and a big thank you to all the participants!

Source: RFPA Update 27 July 2011

RESOURCE FROM: 2011-07-27 [EN]

Africa: UNFCC Launched a Radio Contest!

http://cdm.unfccc.int/about/multimedia/unfccc radio contest 2011.pdf

In the run-up to the international climate change conference in Durban, South Africa, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is pleased to announce the launch of a radio contest under the theme "Changing Lives." The competition aims to raise awareness about climate change issues and the Clean Development Mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol.

Applicants are invited to submit a radio story that answers the following question: "How can my community/city/country benefit from the CDM?" All radio stories should be no more than five minutes in length and in English or translated in English using voice-over production techniques. The winners will be invited to travel to Durban to take part in a two-week programme of briefings and workshop sessions to coincide with the UN Climate Change Conference. The deadline is August 10, 2011.

For more information and to apply, visit the link.

Source: RFPA Update, 27 July 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-07-27 [EN]

Africa: Pan Africa Radio Platform

http://www.voanews.com/english/news/africa/Gates-Foundation-Funds-Community-Radio-in-Africa-126016648.html The Pan African Radio Platform pilot project connects

broadcasters in Ghana, Senegal, Uganda, and Zambia to give local communities a stronger voice in national development.

The Gates Foundation is funding the program through the PANOS Institute of West Africa. At its launch Friday, the institute's director general, Diana Senghor, said the project aims to improve communication between decision makers and their constituents. "I think the community radio are the only means for the ordinary people to have their say, especially in the local governments without radio stations," she said.

The project links community radio at local and national levels to produce and exchange programs on development issues. Senghor says those stations have a unique ability to empower local communities.

"Community radio stations can denounce corruption, for instance. They can have groups of people [who are] generally excluded, included for instance women or the young people you have here. So the role of the community radio is really crucial for democracy," Senghor states.

Source: [creative-radio], email circulation, 25 July 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-07-27 [EN]

South Africa: Radio's Future in Africa - Blight Or Bright?

http://allafrica.com/stories/201107270770.html

Radio industry watchers and radio bosses believe radio's future in South Africa, Africa and across the world is as bright as ever, and will remain a force to be reckoned with for many years to come. This emerged at the second Joburg Radio Days conference, currently taking place at Wits University in Johannesburg.

"The future of radio in Africa is being exemplified right here in South Africa," said British radio consultant Mary Myers this morning, Wednesday, 27 July 2011.

"Still a critical tool"

"And from the jungles of DRC, Uganda, Mali, Guinea, Liberia and Kenya to the urban households of South Africa, and even in oppressive places such as Zimbabwe, radio in Africa is still a critical tool

for empowerment, live-saving, education, political change, social development and election awareness, and the medium is growing."

According to Myers, there are now more than 300 radio stations in Mali, a country where radio stations contributed a lot to the overthrow of dictator Moussa Traore in the early '90s. The DRC has over 400 radio stations, including UN-funded Radio Okapi, which played a huge role during the 2006 elections.

Even in Zimbabwe, where dictator Robert Mugabe continues to have a grip on broadcasting, there are 300 applications for upcoming radio frequency.

"Radio will continue to grow"

Myers, who has many years of experience in African radio and describes herself as a radio enthusiast, added: "As long as radio keeps in touch with its audiences, especially the youth and women, showcases local music, invests a lot of money in training and embraces new technology, and uses creative ways to involve its audiences, radio will continue to grow, build better communities, entertain and remain a great force for development."

Speaking about embracing new technology, Primedia Broadcasting CEO Terry Volkwyn recounted how radio stations operating under her stable have successfully combined radio with digital platforms such as Twitter and station websites.

"Radio is still very relevant in SA communities, which we inspire, educate and serve on a daily basis," she said.

"Helps us hold government accountable"

"Our strong focus and strength are also the fact that we have an independent and credible newsroom, which helps us to hold the government accountable when it fails to deliver on its promises and mandate."

Joburg Radio Days is being attended by delegates from as far as New York City, London, Harare, Dakar, Kampala, Lusaka, Lisbon and many other places across the world.

The conference is discussing what works, and what does not work, on radio by looking at best practices internationally. It is also looking at programming quality and innovation, including the use of opportunities of multimedia and other traditional forms.

Sponsors of the conference include the US Embassy in Pretoria, the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Foundation, Wits Journalism, British High Commission in Pretoria, Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA), Kgolo Trust, IDRC-CRDI, VOW 90.5, Radio Convergence and Development in Africa (RCDA) and National Association of Broadcasters (NAB).

Source: Biz-Community (Johannesburg), 27 July 2011; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

ALERT FROM: 2011-07-27 [EN]

Uganda: Anti-terrorist unit holding radio journalist who disappeared two weeks ago

http://en.rsf.org/uganda-anti-terrorist-unit-holding-radio-26-07-2011,40698.html
Augustine "Rouks" Okello, a journalist based in the northern city of Lira who mysteriously disappeared on 13 July, is being held by an anti-terrorist unit on suspicion of involvement in "subversive" activities, Reporters Without Borders has learned from army spokesman Lt. Col. Felix Kulayiqye.

A presenter on Lira-based Radio Rhino FM, Okello disappeared after meeting with District Internal Security Officer Lt. Steven Eriaku and other members of the regional security forces at Lira's Grand Pacific Hotel on 13 July. It turns out he is now being held in an undisclosed location in Kampala by the Joint Anti-Terrorism Taskforce (JATT), which still has not taken him before a judge.

"The way Okello was arrested and is now being held incommunicado is outrageous," Reporters Without Borders said. "Anti-terrorist personnel are flouting the Ugandan justice system and international law by denying this journalist's right to the presumption of innocence. We condemn their actions and call on the authorities to free him at once."

Lt. Col. Kulayigye told Reporters Without Borders yesterday that Okello was arrested as part of a probe into the death of Edison Muzoora, a dissident colonel who deserted the Uganda People's Defence Forces in 2003 and, according to the Ugandan intelligence services, began in exile to coordinate a rebellion using the People's Redemption Army, an armed group with alleged links to the Ugandan opposition.

Muzoora's body was found at his family home in a rural part of the western district of Bushenyi on 27 May. According to investigators, he was murdered by colleagues who had learned of his intention to defect and his body was brought back to Uganda in still unexplained circumstances. President Yoweri Museveni was reportedly incensed by the news and ordered an investigation to establish the exact circumstances of his death and his body's return to Uganda. As part of the investigation, four supporters of the opposition Forum for Democratic Change (FDC) have been arrested in Bushenyi.

The authorities have produced no evidence of Okello's involvement, or the involvement of any opposition parties in Muzoora's death, and his arrest in connection with the case seems utterly arbitrary and shocking. In response to a question from Reporters Without Borders, Lt. Col. Kulayigye said: "If investigators find him innocent, he may not even have to be taken to court."

Full report and source: Reporters Without Borders (Paris), Press Release and website, 26 July 2011

ALERT FROM: 2011-07-27 [EN]

Somalia: Al-Shabaab imposes severe restrictions on privately-owned radio station

http://www.ifex.org/somalia/2011/07/25/al shabaab restrictions/

The National Union of Somali Journalists (NUSOJ) condemns the continued attacks on the media by the Al-Shabaab militant group, which has imposed severe restrictions on a private radio station in the Middle Shabelle region, after threatening to illegally take it over.

Radio Jowhar, the only FM station in Jowhar, the headquarters of the Middle Shabelle region, was visited on 29 June 2011 by three Al-Shabaab officers who gave the station two options, to either operate under the rule of Al-Shabaab by broadcasting only reports that favour the militant group or the FM station would be completely taken over.

More than three weeks of dialogue between the radio station's management and Al-Shabaab failed, and Radio Jowhar was forced last week to only report on news and information favouring Al-Shabaab. The station was also coerced into rebroadcasting every day a one hour programme from the Al-Shabaab-owned Radio Andalus in Kismayu.

To ensure the implementation of these severe restrictions, Al-Shabaab posted Hamud Sheikh Abdirisag, a member of the Al-Shabaab propaganda team, to monitor the Radio Jowhar programmes on a daily basis.

"We condemn these restrictions, which constitute the highest level of media freedom infringement," said Omar Faruk Osman, NUSOJ Secretary General. "We demand that Al-Shabaab immediately lift these restrictions and allow the radio station to operate freely and without limitations.'

Due to the restrictions, six journalists working for the station left their positions and fled from Jowhar after expressing their reluctance to work under Al-Shabaab rules.

Source: National Union of Somali Journalists (Mogadishu), 25 July 2011; quoted by IFEX website

NEWS FROM: 2011-07-27 [EN]

Rwanda: Community Radios Will Enhance Good Governance

http://allafrica.com/stories/201107251028.html

The Minister of Cabinet affairs, last week, launched a community radio station in Gicumbi district. Radio, if used appropriately, is a powerful medium of communication that can help facilitate the ongoing transformation of the country.

To get the best out of the radio station, programming should not only focus on entertainment, but also engage the ordinary Rwandans in debates and discussions on matters that affect them and the

This will give them more voice as well as enhance their participation in the development of the

One of the critical pillars on which the country is built, is good governance and having radios closer to the communities, will ensure that the people have platforms where they can express their views and ideas.

The 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi, left the media with a tainted reputation as the government at the time, used them to facilitate the killings.

However, with good leadership and professional personnel, the media, is a powerful tool, that can be used to enhance the development of the country and improve the livelihood of the people. The Rwandan people are committed to working for the betterment of the country and community radio stations will help accelerate the process through their wider grassroots reach.

Source: The New Times (Kigali), 25 July 2011; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

FROM: 2011-07-27 [EN] **NEWS**

Somalia: IRIN radio for Somalia relaunched as Radio ERGO

http://blogs.rnw.nl/medianetwork/irin-radio-for-somalia-relaunched-as-radio-ergo The IRIN radio service for Somalia has taken on a new name - Radio ERGO - as of 1 July 2011, as the service has been taken over by IMS Productions Aps, a non-profit organization with

headquarters in Copenhagen, Denmark. A branch office of IMS Productions Aps has been opened in Nairobi, Kenya, to support and administer Radio ERGO. The radio will continue to broadcast daily humanitarian news and information in Somali.

The word Ergo has great significance in the Somali language. It carries the essential meaning of mediators or envoys in the interest of people in need, and can also refer to those who mediate in conflicts. Until Radio Ergo's website is up and running, IRIN will continue to host the programmes online.

A recent survey said the station is listened to by 70% of the Somalis, and despite its difficult working conditions in a country without a central government for two decades, project manager Louise Tunbridge highlights how trusted the service has become: "Over the years the radio service achieved a reputation of independence. We are apolitical, and people trust us. Our service has a reputation of credibility, balance and fairness in a very difficult context."

The one-hour daily broadcasts of Radio ERGO are heard across Somalia and the region, including the Kenyan refugee camps on shortwave [0830-0930 UTC on 13685 kHz via Dhabayya], and are rebroadcast by seven local FM stations.

Source: IRIN, IMS Productions Aps, quoted by Media Network Blog Radio Netherlands, 25 July 2011

ALERT FROM: 2011-07-30 [EN]

South Sudan: Police Apprehend Rumbek FM Radio Deputy Director

The police in Rumbek on Friday apprehended the Deputy Director of Rumbek 98 FM radio station, explaining that they were following instructions from Lakes State Minister of Information. Speaking to Good News Radio at the police station in Rumbek, the State Radio Deputy Director, Peter Maliap, said that the police came for him at the radio station at 10 a.m. claiming that they were acting under the directives of the State Minister of Information.

Mr. Maliap who had been at the police station for two and a half hours further revealed that the Director of Police had not received any charges against him.

Mr. Maliap said that he was joined by his colleagues from the station in a show of solidarity, describing his arrest as a surprise.

He went on to say that the Minister of Information who instructed the police to apprehend him was aware that he was at the police station and that there was not any official statement about the reasons for his arrest.

Meanwhile, Mabor Rac, a reporter at the Rumbek-based station expressed solidarity with his boss, giving a broad hint that the problem is administrative and does not necessarily have to involve the police.

Mr. Rac said that the arrest is unwarranted.

Efforts by Good News Radio to talk to the Minister of Information failed as the Minister was in a closed door meeting with the Director of the station most of Friday afternoon.

The Director of the radio station, Manyang Mayom, told Good News Radio on phone that his deputy was no longer in police custody, describing the morning event as an invitation for his deputy to be at the police station and not an arrest.

Mr. Mayom however admitted that there are administrative issues at the station, expressing optimism that the Minister of Information is taking care of these issues.

Source: Radio Good News (Rumbek), Communiqué, 30 July 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-07-30 [EN]

Guinea: Guinea censors put Radio France Internationale in difficult spot

On Monday [25 July], Guinea's state-controlled media regulatory agency imposed a "temporary" ban on media coverage of the July 19 attack on the private residence of President Alpha Conde, silencing private radio and television talk programmes in which critical questions were being raised about the episode.

In such circumstances, Guinean listeners turn to foreign media outlets such as France's state-funded international broadcaster, Radio France Internationale (RFI), the most popular station in Francophone Africa. With programmes such as "Appels Sur L'actualite", a daily news call-in show, RFI is considered by millions of African listeners to be an essential source of news and information. Wednesday's "Appels Sur L'actualite" began with an ominous statement read by host Juan Gomez. "We had planned this morning to debate the attack last week against the residence of the Guinean president, but yesterday the National Communications Council of Guinea decided to temporarily suspend any programme or article about the attempted assassination against the head of state as well as all call-in programmes." Gomez told listeners they would have to debate another topic. Squeezed between the expectations of listeners and the conditions set by governments leasing the

local frequencies it needs, RFI found itself in a difficult position. "We are not submitting to a censorship measure; we regret it and we hope that it will be temporary." RFI deputy director Genevieve Goetzinger told CPJ today [28 July].

RFI has suffered for its critical reporting on current events in Africa. The station has seen its reporters expelled from Chad, Rwanda, and Senegal, its local correspondent jailed in Niger, and another correspondent killed in the Ivory Coast.

RFI has had its broadcasts temporarily banned in a number of countries, most recently in the Democratic Republic of Congo where the government of President Joseph Kabila sought the removal of RFI senior reporter Ghislaine Dupont, the station's DRC specialist who was expelled from the country in 2006. Nevertheless, RFI management remains adamant the station will continue to report without interference. "Our editorial line is set in Paris, in complete independence from all the governments in the world," Goetzinger said.

Source: Committee to Protect Journalists website (New York), 28 July 2011; quoted by BBC Monitoring 30 July 2011

ALERT FROM: 2011-07-30 [EN]

Guinea: Guinea lifts ban on media coverage of attack on president

Guinea's National Council on Communication (CNC) has lifted a media ban on reports concerning a rocket attack on the residence of President Alpha Conde in Conakry, the body's chief said. "I ordered the lifting of the ban which affected all media, private and public, regarding the attack on the residence of the head of state in consultation with press representatives," CNC president Martine Conde told AFP late Thursday.

According to Conde, the ban was lifted "in the framework of the call for peace issued by the head of state" shortly after the attack on July 19. President Conde was unhurt in the attack by armed men in military uniform, but a presidential guard was killed and two wounded.

The CNC on July 25 decided on a "temporary suspension of any broadcast or article relating to the atttempt on the life of the head of state", including on media in French.

France is the former colonial power in the troubled West African country, which has seen several coup bids.

Martine Conde denied that the CNC lifted the ban as a response to external pressure, describing it as a "sovereign decision. We wanted to avoid excesses, because many people complained to us." The ban had been denounced by Guinean press associations, who issued a statement calling it a "flagrant violation of the constitution, which upholds the freedom of the press among basic liberties".

On Thursday, France urged the Guinean leader to repeal the ban. Foreign ministry spokesman Bernard Valero said, "This ban is a serious breach of freedom of expression. We ask President Conde to reconsider this decision in his role as guardian of freedom in Guinea." [...] Source: AFP news agency (Paris), 29 July 2011; quoted by BBC Monitoring 20 July 2011

RESOURCE FROM: 2011-07-30 [EN]

Uganda: Ajing Conga, Bila Pa Ladwar Radio Programme

http://www.comminit.com/africa/node/329486

Ajing Conga, Bila Pa Ladwar (I Will Strengthen My Knees – The Song of a Hunter), is a 72-part radio drama and live theatre production produced in 2010 by Lamele Theatre Artists with the support of the United States Agency for international Development (USAID), designed to provide people, especially returnees, in post-conflict Uganda with information on education, health, culture, security, and governance. The programme tells the stories of three families that have returned to their homes from internally displaced people's camps and they are grappling with the efforts of rebuilding their lives. [...]

Full report and source: Soul Beat Africa, Issue 179, 28 July 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-01 [EN]

Senegal: "Struggle for editorial freedom" at Senegal state radio, TV

http://www.cpj.org/blog/2011/07/senegalese-state-broadcasters-journalists-rebel.php
The Senegalese state-controlled radio and TV Corporation, Radio Television Senegalaise (RTS), is experiencing an internal struggle for editorial freedom as Senegal moves toward a presidential election on February 26, 2012.

RTS journalists and other employees are not only calling for the resignation of their managing director, Babacar Diagne, on accusations of mismanagement but demanding change in the station's editorial line. On July 20, the local media trade union, SYNPICS, held a sit-in at the gates of RTS

studios to protest the station's editorial line, which, they said, is "too dedicated to the electioneering propaganda of PDS", the ruling party of President Abdoulaye Wade. Wade is facing for the first time after 10 years in power - strong protests linked to incessant power cuts, and his firm commitment to stand for a third term.

It is rare to witness such a public expression of discontent in the country's state-owned media, known for its docility. The anger of RTS staffers has been directed at Diagne, who has maintained a policy of systematic propaganda while at the helm of RTS since the regime of President Abdou Diouf, who lost to Wade in the 2000 election. Compounding the anger of RTS journalists was the fact that Diagne received an extension of his employment contract despite reaching having hit retirement age.

In an interview with CPJ from his office in the capital, Dakar, Diagne sidestepped accusations of political propaganda, referring queries to the state-run National Broadcasting Regulation Council (CNRA). "RTS now broadcasts five political programmes," he said, adding that there had been none before he took office.

This "rebellion" of workers at RTS - which the private press in Dakar calls "Rien Tous les Soirs" (Nothing Every Evening) - is a clear indicator of the tensions between Wade and the Senegalese media. Tensions have been heightened since June 23, when the Dakar and several cities were in the grip of riots following Wade's failed attempt to amend the constitution to reduce the proportion of votes needed to win a presidential election. A week later, the president blamed the violence on the fact that "the Senegalese media are nests for opponents who will not come to terms with themselves!"

Source: Committee to Protect Journalists (New York), website,29 July 2011; quoted by BBC Monitoring 01 Aug. 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-01 [EN]

South Africa: Radio Journalism Appalling - Prof Franz Kruger

http://allafrica.com/stories/201107291139.html

Radio journalism in South Africa is not in good shape, Wits University Prof Franz Kruger said earlier today, Friday, 29 July 2011, in Johannesburg at the last day of the Joburg Radio Days conference at Wits University in Braamfontein.

"The staff on air is not doing what they are supposed to be doing, whereas they should do better," he said, adding that some radio journalists lack interviewing techniques.

Doing themselves a disservice

Wits Radio Academy Prof Kruger accused commercial radio stations of seeing the news as 'something irritating' imposed on them by the licence regulator. "They are just doing it to fulfill licence conditions," he said, adding that radio journalists in this country are doing themselves a disservice by not adding any value to the journalism profession.

SABC News, the self-proclaimed "Africa's news leader", also took a beating from Kruger, who lashed out at the public broadcaster's newsroom for allowing a great air of timidity to overtake it. "There is a general feeling of unwillingness on the part of SABC News to take risks by putting up a tough new agenda and asking tough questions," he said, as SABC head of radio news Mike Siluma despondently looked on. [...]

Full report and source: Biz-community.org (Cape Town), 29 July 2011; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

RESOURCE FROM: 2011-08-01 [EN]

South Africa: Radio Innovation - Is It Only Technological Or Something Else?

http://allafrica.com/stories/201107281257.html

In today's world where innovation is being equated with technology, the impression is that the secret to implementing a successful innovation across all sectors is to apply the best technology money can buy. However, speaking at the 2011 Joburg Radio Days yesterday, Wednesday, 27 July 2011, Kagiso Media executive director Omar Essack said innovation is not only about technology, but about doing things differently.

"If there is something very important I have learned in the 20 years I have been in this industry, [it] is that nothing is impossible in radio," Essack told delegates.

Simple things

According to Essack, doing this differently entails turning the simple things happening in your community into a 'magic' content on air.

He accused some radio stations of being uncharacteristic and irrelevant when dealing with their audiences by, for instance, not responding in an efficient manner to what is happening in the

communities they serve.

"Radio stations exist because of the audiences, and therefore every radio strategy and tactic must be audience-based. The simple truth is that some radio stations have been losing audiences because they don't want to work hard and have not been responding well to the needs of their communities."

Radio must save lives and not ignore its communities' problems, and that is innovation, he said. "Listeners have become smarter"

Kaya FM breakfast host Bob Mabena said: "We don't stay in line with innovation in radio because we get so comfortable in our positions. Radio has become a very powerful medium of expression and listeners have become smarter, so the time for faking it is over.

"Be as original as you can; innovation from a content point of view is everywhere, but sometimes in radio we tend to ignore very simple things and fail to turn them into gold on radio."

BBC director of radio and audio Tim Davie said: "We love what we are doing, but radio has been very slow to innovate, and we have been sluggish in this area."

He cited quality programme ideas and editorial as other forms of innovation. "Do what you and other media have never done before. There are a lot of new ideas out there; think big and creatively, not only in financial terms."

Form partnerships

Davie said forming partnerships with other broadcasters and other institutions, such as prisons and museums, is also another form of innovation.

"You must always have an innovative plan. As radio, sometimes we feel small and are very worried. Let's me tell you that many thought the medium [would] disappear with the advent of digital. But we are still in good shape, so you must feel confident that radio will hold extremely well.

"But don't be complacent; there are threats that we need to crack because we are under pressure." Source: Biz-Community (Cape Twon), 28 July 2011; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

ALERT FROM: 2011-08-01 [EN]

Burundi: Radio journalists repeatedly summoned, fuelling hostile climate for media freedom

http://en.rsf.org/burundi-radio-journalists-repeatedly-29-07-2011,40718.html

Reporters Without Borders condemns the harassment of two privately-owned radio stations, Radio Publique Africaine (RPA) and Radio Isanganiro, in the form of a series of summonses, one of the latest of which was a summons to RPA news editor Bob Rugurika to appear before the Bujumbura main court prosecutor's office today, his third summons in the past 11 days. In the event, today's hearing was postponed until 1 August because of a lawyers' strike.

Two other RPA journalists at its regional bureau in the northern city of Ngozi, bureau chief Léonce Niyongabo and reporter Yvette Murekesabe, were summoned by a Ngozi prosecutor today for the purposes of "judicial investigation" and will be questioned again on 1 August. Radio Isanganiro news editor Patrick Mitabaro has been summoned by the Bujumbura prosecutor's office on 1 August for "judicial investigation."

These summonses follow recent warnings from the National Council for Communication (CNC) to both radio stations about content that was also broadcast by other stations. [...] Full report and source: Reporters Without Borders (Paris), Website, 29 July 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-01 [EN]

Africa: RNW Africa strengthen ties with partners

http://www.rnw.nl/africa/article/rnw-africa-strengthen-ties-partners

The first ever conference for Radio Netherlands Worldwide's (RNW) partners in Anglophone Africa took place in Kenya this week, bringing together media organizations from 10 countries. The partners included a diverse range of professionals from commercial and state media outlets, community and university radio stations, as well as newspapers and magazines. But despite their diversity, the partners share a common goal: to improve the quality of the content offered to their audiences.

African audience

High on the agenda was a discussion and debate about the productions made by RNW for its partners in Africa, and how ties between all participants can be strengthened. The two weekly radio shows Bridges With Africa and Africa in Progress were presented, as well as the website www.rnw.nl/africa, and the weekly comedy video What's Up Africa that brought a good laugh among many partners. Other RNW content that is relevant to an African audience was also showcased, such as International Justice and Love Matters.

Participants sitting around the table in Nairobi's Safari Club were enthusiastic about what RNW has to offer. During thorough and lively sessions comments like "exiting, educative and bold", were made. Partners clearly appreciated RNW's "non-institutional approach'. The tendency to: "Put the spotlight on ordinary people, giving politicians, experts, managers and other officials a side role', was noted.

RNW Africa was also subject to some critical remarks during conference, particularly regarding a radio report that dealt with sexual taboos in Africa: "A well chosen topic, but the presenter should have done her home work better."

Bolster partnerships

Most partners showed considerable interest in not just broadcasting or publishing RNW content but also in sharing their own (best) content. RNW offers a stage for this on its websites and in its radio programmes. "This is an innovative way to bolster partnerships to many of us' was one response. Of the eight potential partners at the meeting five signed a partner contract on the spot, the remaining three are likely to do so shortly.

Partner meetings for Francophone Africa have taken place on numerous occasions. In 2010 partners meetings took place in The Democratic Republic of Congo and Burkina Faso. RNW currently works with 600 partners across sub-Saharan Africa.

Source: RNW Africa desk, 29 July 2011; quoted by Media Network Blog Radio Netherlands

ALERT FROM: 2011-08-02 [EN]

Zambia: Police Hand Back Broadcast Equipment to Radio Lyambai

http://www.postzambia.com/post-read_article.php?articleId=22460

Police have handed back equipment it confiscated from Radio Lyambai.

And sources said a new radio station to be called Mungu FM will soon be opened in Mongu. Confirming the development, company director Francis Simenda who is also a shareholder, said the equipment was given back unconditionally.

Police confiscated the equipment, accusing the station of playing songs asking people to rise against the government a day before a meeting called by the Linyungandambo over the Barotseland Agreement.

Simenda, however, said the radio station has not been allowed to resume broadcasts.

"They have given us back the equipment unconditionally but we are not allowed to broadcast. We are waiting to hear from the ministry (of information and broadcasting services) whether we will be allowed to re-connect," Simenda said in an interview.

"The police handed back the equipment and Mukeya (Liwena, station manager) signed (for it). We are trying to issue a statement so that people are aware," he said.

A check at Radio Lyambai by The Post found the main door damaged and the studio was in bad shape. Meanwhile, sources said the espoused Mungu radio station to be managed by Liwena is part of the MMD campaign tool.

"We have just finished doing their papers. This (radio) is part of the MMD campaign strategy and a way of calming down Mukeya after he was left out (of adoptions for the Luena seat). As you know, Radio Lyambai sparked violence and MMD doesn't want to be associated with it, so they decided to find a channel of communicating to the people," the source said.

Source: The Post (Lusaka) website, 31 July 2011; quoted by BBC Monitoring 2 Aug. 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-03 [EN]

Tunisia: Gafsa Radio attack alarms Tunisian reporters

http://www.magharebia.com/cocoon/awi/xhtml1/en_GB/features/awi/newsbriefs/general/2011/08/03/newsbrief-03
The National Syndicate of Tunisian Journalists (SNJT) on Tuesday (August 2nd) denounced repeated acts of violence against the Gafsa Radio headquarters, TAP reported. In the latest episode, 20 men – some reportedly hooded – broke the windows of the radio station building on Tuesday, spreading panic among journalists and staff. The journalists' union urged authorities to protect reporters' safety and ensure the same degree of security at Gafsa media sites as at other public and private institutions in the area.

Source: Magharebia.com, 03 Aug. 2011

RESOURCE FROM: 2011-08-03 [EN]

Tanzania: PataPata Radio Programme

http://www.comminit.com/edutain-africa/content/patapata-radio-programme

Launched in April 2011, PataPata is a radio programme designed to inform and encourage children in Tanzania aged 6-12 to become involved in the fight against malaria. The radio drama follows the

adventures of Kinara, Maua, and Annie Anopheles as they learn about malaria. PataPata was developed as part of the Communication and Malaria Initiative in Tanzania (COMMIT), a United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and President's Malaria Initiative (PMI)-funded project that is led by Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health Center for Communication Programs (CCP). [...]

Full report and source: The Soul Beat Extra - Edutainment, Communication Initiative, 3 Aug. 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-04 [EN]

Kenya: Licence Holders Given 90 Days to Activate Them

http://blogs.rnw.nl/medianetwork/kenya-licence-holders-given-90-days-to-activate-them
A scramble for frequencies in Kenya's lucrative broadcasting market is looming as the sector regulator moves to repossess an estimated 150 inactive licences held by politically-connected individuals. Cancellation of the licences issued by the Kanu and Narc administrations is a key plank of reforms that the Communications Commission of Kenya (CCK) has announced for the broadcasting industry under a new law that comes into force on 15 August.

The move is expected to unlock investment opportunities for more than 3,000 Kenyans who have been unable to break into the lucrative market for lack of frequencies.

Source: Media Network Blog Radio Netherlands, 3 Aug. 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-04 [EN]

Sierra Leone: IMC Trains Radio Technicians

http://allafrica.com/stories/201108041311.html

A total of 19 radio technicians in the southern and eastern regions of the country have benefited from an intensive training organised by the Independent Media Commission (IMC) with funds from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The training in Bo was part of series of trainings outlined by the IMC in its approved work plan for this year.

Outgoing IMC chairperson, Mrs. Bernadette Cole maintained that it was the first time in five years that they were offering training for radio technicians ahead of the 2012 parliamentary and presidential elections. She implored participants to pay great attention to what was being taught them.

Representatives from the National Telecommunications Commission (NATCOM), civil society and the office of the Resident Minister South all appreciated the effort the commission has made in regulating and promoting the media in the country.

Modules covered during the training included: overview of requirement for setting up radio stations; role of regulatory bodies; role and responsibilities of radio stations technicians; and training on electric power source, among others.

At the end of the training, certificates were awarded to all the participants and a team of commissioners led by Francis L. Davies visited and inspected all the radio stations in Bo and take corrective action where necessary.

As part of the IMC plan to intensify training for all levels of media personnel ahead of the 2012 polls, the training will be replicated in the northern and western regions over the next two weeks. Source: Concord Times (Freetown°, 3 Aug. 2011; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

ALERT FROM: 2011-08-04 [EN]

Gambia: Brikamaba Community Radio Seeks Support

http://allafrica.com/stories/201108041027.html

The Brikamaba Community Radio in Brikamaba, Lower Fulladou West District of the Central River Region (CRR) is in urgently seeking for support from philanthropists, organizations, government and the general public to enable them operate fully.

Speaking to the Daily Observer, the programme manager of the community radio, Ebrima Jobarteh, noted the importance of the community radio to the community and to the country at large. Highlighting its strength, Jorbateh said the Radio runs on a frequency of 96.8 FM, and covers the whole of CRR, Casamance, part of the North Bank Region, Lower River Region and some parts of Guinea Bissau.

However, he said, since the establishment of the Radio in 2008, it has been faced with lot of constraints. Such constraints, he indicated include lack of adequate electricity supply; payment of salary to their staff (volunteers), among others. He disclosed that every day the management spends 20 liters of fuel, which costs them about D840. The financial difficulty, he noted, is compounded by their lack of much adverts.

The programme manager however, commended Action-Aid The Gambia and UNFPA for partnering with the community radio and for their assistance. According to him, they have been writing project proposals to many organizations, institutions and companies, but to no avail. He finally called on donors to come to their aid, particular with the allowances of their volunteers. Source: The Daily Observer (Banjul), 4 Aug. 2011; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

ALERT FROM: 2011-08-04 [EN]

Sudan: ANHRI condemns ongoing trial of Radio Dabanga activists and media professionals

http://www.ifex.org/sudan/2011/08/04/radio dabanga trial/

ANHRI condemns the ongoing legal persecution of Sudanese activists and media professionals who work for Radio Dabanga. The plaintiff in the lawsuit against the station employees, case #1600, launched in 2010, is a member of the State Security. The station employees are accused of broadcasting information that is false and affects the reputation of the state, as well as establishing a radio station without a licence.

Abdelrahman Adam, Abdelrahman Al-Gasim, Jafaar Al-Amin Al-Sabky, Zacharia Yagoub, Kawther Abdel Haq, Khalid Ishac, and Adam Al-Nur were scheduled to appear before the Criminal Court on 3 August for the fourth time, for broadcasting reports and news on the humanitarian situation in Darfur. They are currently being tried in accordance with Articles 24, 25, 26, 53, 50 of the 1991 Sudanese Criminal Code, as well as Articles 18, 42, and 44 of the 2001 Communications Code. The penalties they face could be as severe as execution.

Radio Dabanga programmes are broadcast from Holland. On more than one occasion, the Sudanese government has tried to pressure the Dutch government to interfere with the broadcast and to place restrictions on the activists and media professionals who work for the station, in order to conceal the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Darfur. Moreover, in November 2010, Sudanese officials stormed the station's Khartoum headquarters and destroyed some of its equipment.

"Journalistic and media freedoms in Sudan continue to deteriorate as authorities use violence and repression. Recently, journalists Fatima Ghazali and Amal Habbani were detained in connection with a 'publishing' lawsuit. More than six newspapers were closed under the pretext that some of their owners are from South Sudan - hence, they no longer have the right to issue newspapers and publications in the North because they are considered foreigners," ANHRI said.

"The humanitarian situation in Sudan is very worrisome. ANHRI urges the international community and organisations concerned with defending freedom of opinion and expression to pressure the Sudanese authorities to protect these freedoms, and to put an end to the trial of Radio Dabanga's activists and media professionals," ANHRI added.

Source: Arabic Network for Human Rights Information 5Cairo), quoted by IFEX 2 AUg. 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-05 [EN]

NBC to monitor broadcast stations' content to ensure they follow its Code

http://www.balancingact-africa.com/news/broadcast/issue-no110/regulation-policy/nigeria-nbc-to-monit/bc
The Chief Monitoring Officer, Nigeria Broadcasting Commission (NBC) in Kwara state, Mr. Ekanem
Anita has assured customers of broadcast stations as well as service providers of quality content.
He told newsmen shortly after a customer forum organised by Multichoice/DSTV at the weekend in
Ilorin that many broadcast stations in the country still defaulted in complying with the
commission's code and added that sanctions had been imposed on a lot of errant stations.
"During the electioneering period, some stations violated the code and were sanctioned, but in
Kwara here no station was sanctioned during the period," he stated.

The officer added that "NBC tries to encourage broadcast stations, service providers to constantly interact with their audience and consumers. We believe that feedback is a necessary element in the communication process. Without feedback the providers may not really know of what they are dishing out to meet the aspirations, needs and realities of the consumers.

"NBC believes that consumers should be treated like kings and we also believe that the queens be treated with care because without them we will definitely be out of business. At the end of the interaction both parties will mutually gain from the advantages inherent and it will boost the industry."

Head, Corporate Communications, MultiChoice Nigeria, Segun Fayose listed piracy and epileptic power supply as some of the greatest challenges militating against the industry. Fayose added that "we need support from law enforcement agencies, we need support from government to help us stamp out the challenge of piracy."

He emphasised that, "piracy is a huge challenge for the industry. It is killing the business. It is not only MultiChoice that it is killing, it is also killing people that are into intellectual property development.

Source: Leadership, quoted by balancingact.com, Issue no. 110, 4 Aug. 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-05 [EN]

Africa: Digital broadcasting will be cheaper after migration

http://www.balancingact-africa.com/news/broadcast/issue-no110/technology-convergen/digital-broadcasting/bc
The deadline for digital migration in Africa will end in 2015, and experts have been discussing how important the process means to African countries. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) has already said that the digital migration will release more bandwidth or spaces for mobile phones to use in order to avoid mobile congestion especially with the emergence of smartphones and tablets such as Ipad, Galaxy Tab among others.

The African Telecommunication Union (ATU), an affiliate to the ITU, believes that the process of the migration which is through broadcasting will be cheaper despite early concerns that it will be expensive to switch to digital from analogue.

In an exclusive interview with ghanabusinessnews.com in Accra, the Secretary General of the ATU, Soumaila Abdoulkarim says one of such benefits is that the use of digital broadcasting will be cheaper.

"At the beginning we said that it is too expensive but in any way it will be cheaper because the equipment will be available...the manufacturers will bring us the equipment and we will choose the quality ones," Abdoulkarim told ghanabusinessnews.com.

He says once Africa chooses a common standard, there will be no problem with acquiring equipment for the migration process. "We want Africa to choose a common standard that will not be expensive for us," he said.

He however emphasized the need for digital broadcasting saying "One is to give a new chance to Africa to listen on broadcasting to digital televison which we know is better than analogue TV... and also we have what we call the digital dividend migration, from that we would have some redundant bandwidth or space for the telecommunications operators to use."

Abdoulkarim indicated that the regional body is indeed preparing to hold a high-level meeting in Nairobi, Kenya where its headquarters is located, in November this year.

Source: GBN, quoted by balancingact.com, Issue no. 110, 4 Aug. 2011

RESOURCE FROM: 2011-08-05 [EN]

Niger: Community Radio Stations as Vehicles for Social Inclusion

http://blogs.worldbank.org/publicsphere/community-radio-stations-vehicles-social-inclusion Isolated geography, customary practices and gender roles often limit rural populations, particularly women and indigenous groups, from accessing relevant information and gaining adequate skills to effectively participate in development interventions. As a consequence, the wealth of knowledge that these communities possess goes unsolicited and undervalued. In fact, gender activists argue that rural women rarely serve as the primary source of information in communication for development initiatives and that such practices risk perpetuating elite capture and exacerbating existing inequalities.

In recognition of this issue, many communications for development initiatives have emphasized "listeners' clubs" as a way of amplifying the voice and impact of rural populations. One such project (Dimitra and its partner in Niger, ONG VIE Kande ni Bayra) initiated a campaign that focused on the informational needs and potentials of rural women in Niger. The endeavor built upon the existing network of literacy groups to start "listeners' clubs," where women and other socially marginalized communities in rural Niger come together to share and discuss events and issues they encounter in their everyday life. The listener's clubs are encouraged to identify and prioritize issues that are important to them, analyze their root causes and consequences, and propose strategies and actions to resolve or expand on those issues. What is unique about this project is that communication radio stations are established as an intermediary to connect these groups with one another and with relevant entities to further the cause. [...]

Full report and source: blogs.worldbank.com [blog published by the Communication for Governance & Accountability Program (CommGAP)], 26 July 2011

RESOURCE FROM: 2011-08-05 [EN]

World: What Skills Do Publishers Need?

http://tinyurl.com/6x223jy

The job description of newspaper publishers is changing rapidly, as newspapers have gone from ink-on-paper to multimedia publications. Traditional leadership and management styles often don't keep pace.

How to find and nurture newspaper leaders and provide them with the skills they need are among the most pressing challenges facing the industry, and the subject of a major session at the World Newspaper Congress, to be held from 12 to 15 October next in Vienna, Austria.

"News industry leaders have to understand not only that the story is more important than the distribution channel, but also that they have to lead an even more important paradigm shift," says Ulrik Haagerup, a Congress speaker who heads the news division at the Danish Broadcasting Corporation and has become a renown global expert on cross-media publishing leadership. "News in the future needs to be more than bad stories angled only on conflicts, drama, crooks and

people to feel sorry for ... news in the future needs to be about solutions and inspiration to the problems facing our customers, and the societies journalism are meant to cover," he says. Mr Haagerup, a member of World Economic Forum Global Agenda Council on the Future of Journalism, will be joined in the session on leadership by Tom Cummings, co-author of "Leadership Landscapes" and a founder of the Executive Learning Partnership in the United States, Johnny Hustler, Managing Director of Archant Regional in the United Kingdom, and more speakers to be announced.

More than 1,200 publishers, CEOs, managing directors, chief editors and other senior newspaper executives are expected in Vienna for the Congress, World Editors Forum and Info Services Expo, the global annual summit meetings of the world's press organised by the World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers (WAN-IFRA). Full details, including the programme and registration information, can be found at http://tinyurl.com/6x223jy Full report and source: WAN-IFRA (Paris), Press release, 3 Aug. 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-06 [EN]

Senegal/Western Africa: WADR project wins prestigious Knight-Batten award

http://wadr.org/en/site/news en/1561/WADR-project-wins-prestigious-Knight-Batten-award.htm Sourcefabric and West Africa Democracy Radio have won this year's prestigious Knight-Batten Award for Innovations in Journalism for the work on the new WADR platform.

Sourcefabric, based in Prague, Czech Republic, is a not-for-profit organisation that enables quality journalism worldwide through open source software and services.

The prestigious prize rewards news and information ideas that significantly enhance opportunities for digital engagement.

In April, Sourcefabric developed WADR's news platform which integrates Newscoop (an open source CMS for journalists) and Airtime (an open source radio software for radio stations) with social and cloud networks such as Soundcloud, Facebook and Twitter.

The Sourcefabric innovation enables WADR to be now followed all over the world through the website, soundcloud and the social media.

Key to the new platform's operation is a unique integration with Soundcloud, an online audio distribution platform which reached over 3 million users in February.

Sourcefabric was selected from 123 entries. Other winners include storify, NPR, Guardian Data and Bloomberg Government.

Source: WADR (Dakar), Website, 28 July 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-06 [EN]

Uganda: Ugandan media group to launch radio station 5 August

Vision Group will launch another thrilling radio station, 94.8 Xfm this evening at Garden City's Roof Top in Kampala.

Just a week on the airwaves and Uganda's newest radio station Xfm, has rippled its presence across the vastly competitive Kampala radio market. Trendy and sassy music, coupled with a host of celebrated on-air personalities, clearly define this vibrant entrant.

The station airs a cocktail of the hottest local and international R&B, dance, Afro-pop, rock and Hip-Hop to suit the needs of today's ever-dynamic youth.

Vision Group's head of radio, Bill Tibingana says Xfm is an entertainment station broadcasting in and around Kampala.

Contrary to what has been mistakably perceived as a revamp of Vision Voice, Xfm is a whole new existence with a different kind of programming and content tailored to match with the 18 to 28 year-old English-speaking youth.

Considering the demographics of today's Uganda and Kampala in particular, where the youth are increasingly becoming more influential than in the past, the decision by Vision Group's management to target a younger audience with Xfm is spot-on.

The station also delivers fun, intelligent and relevant content guaranteeing the listener irresistible fun and entertainment 24/7, a potential forum for advertisers to tap the massive young market. On top of music, Xfm delivers a package-full of reliable and precise news bulletins every hour, covering politics, health, entertainment and health.

There are also innovative on-air games and give-aways including a chance to win one million Uganda shillings every morning, another to win a house-party every week, quiz games, contests and request shows.

For the start, the radio's signal is covering a 90-120km radius around Kampala, reaching Wakiso, Entebbe, Mukono, Luweero, Mpigi, parts of Mubende, Jinja and Kiboga. The reach is expected to expand with time.

On-air hosts include celebrated personalities like Bush Baby, Ryan Seacrest, Siima, Rudende, Yvonne Koreta, K.K., Keko Town and Sophie Aniku.

Source: The New Vision (Kampala), Website, 5 Aug. 2011; quoted by BBC Monitoring 6 Aug. 2011

ALERT FROM: 2011-08-09 [EN]

Somalia: Journalist shot dead at point-blank range in Mogadishu

http://ifex.org/somalia/2011/08/05/nusoj journalist shot mogadishu.pdf

The National Union of Somali Journalists (NUSOJ) strongly condemns today's targeted killing of broadcast journalist in Mogadishu's Bakara market. Farah Hassan Sahal, who was working for privately owned Radio Simba as a newscaster, was shot in the head and chest at the gate of the Radio station, according to Abdullahi Ali Farah, Director of Radio Simba. Sahal, 45, was with two of his colleagues to move the media house equipment to a safer area as the area of the Radio station became battlefield between Transitional Federal Government (TFG) forces with the support of African Union troops (AMISOM) and Al-Shabaab Islamists forces. The journalist was shot at point blank range by a soldier believed to be affiliated to AMISON or TFG forces at Hareed mosque, according to fellow journalists who was with him at the time of the attack. "The killing of Farah Hassan Sahal is absolutely appalling. This brutal murder is shocking and act of such deliberate and deadly violence cannot be tolerated," said Omar Faruk Osman, NUSOJ Secretary General. Radio Simba has been off-air since the recent Bakara market offence led by forces of Transitional Federal Government with help of AMISON started. The late journalist started working for the Radio Station when it was established in 2006. He left 9 children and their mother. NUSOJ urges TFG and AMISON to investigate and bring before the justice the soldier who was behind this heinous act. "AMISOM and TFG have responsibility to protect and respect safety of journalists," added Faruk. --Source: National Union of Somali Journalists (NUSOJ), Press Release, 4 Aug. 2011 - Some information reported also by IFEX and Reporters Without Borders

RESOURCE FROM: 2011-08-09 [EN]

Africa: Rural Radio Pack, Young people and agriculture

http://ruralradio.cta.int/YoungPeople.htm.

This rural radio pack, produced by CTA, the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation, contains short radio clips that broadcasters can download and use. Clips come from all over Africa and cover various topics related to youth and farming.

At the following link, you can also access a Word document with further information, full scripts, and links to resources.

Source: Farm Radio Weekly, Issue 167, 8 Aug. 2011

ALERT FROM: 2011-08-09 [EN]

Burundi: Burundi government harassing independent broadcasters

http://www.cpj.org/2011/08/burundi-government-harassing-independent-broadcast.php
The government of Burundi President Pierre Nkurunziza is attempting to silence critical press coverage of his administration with incessant judicial harassment of two of the country's leading independent broadcasters, the Committee to Protect Journalists said today.

Since sweeping the presidential and parliamentary elections unopposed in May 2010, Nkurunziza's second term has been criticized by international human rights organizations over human rights

abuses, including the 10-month imprisonment of journalist Jean-Claude Kavumbagu, and violent unrest threatening a fragile peace agreement signed after a 13-year civil war, according to news reports. In response to critical coverage by Radio Publique Africaine (RPA) and Radio Isanganiro, Nkurunziza administration prosecutors and the government-controlled national media regulator, the National Communications Council (CNC), have in recent weeks used court summons, imprisonment, and threats of closure to silence the broadcasters, according to CPJ research. "The constant legal harassment by Burundian authorities is a clear attempt to extinguish any criticism aired by private broadcasters," said CPJ East Africa Consultant Tom Rhodes. "Authorities, including the National Communications Council, must allow these stations to work in peace without using a politicized judiciary to silence them."

On Monday [Aug. 1st, 2011], state prosecutors in the capital, Bujumbura, summoned News Editor Patrick Mitabaro of Radio Isanganiro for the second time since July, Isanganiro reporter Désiré Hatungimana told CPJ. Prosecutors accused Mitabaro of insulting the judiciary by airing comments by the imprisoned Burundi Bar Association President Isidore Rufyikiri suggesting the executive controlled the courts, according to local journalists. In a May 2011 report, the United Nations Independent Expert on the human rights situation in Burundi, Fatsah Ouguergouz, expressed serious concerns about "the lack of independence of the judiciary" in Burundi. [...] Full report and source: CPJ (New York), 3 Aug. 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-09 [EN]

World/Kenya: Curse Or Blessing? Radio Industry Chews Over Technological Changes

http://allafrica.com/stories/201108080149.html

Until the other day, a small transistor radio competed for space with penholders and diaries on desks in many offices.

The radio was a must-have item for most Kenyans then. For those keen to keep abreast of what was going on, it was the ultimate link to the outside world through news bulletins aired by the State broadcaster.

This was a time when it was, largely, the main means of delivering news from within the country and beyond.

One only needed to tune in to find out the latest on cabinet reshuffles, what the President had been up to and, of course, events across the borders.

So precious and popular were these broadcasts by the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC) that many would not miss them.

Of the service's seven bulletins, four were during the day, when most people were at work -- the reason why radios were carried to the office.

Thus, every few hours, Kenyans would engage in the ritual of switching on the gadget.

It would crackle to life at nine o'clock in the morning, one o'clock in the afternoon and at seven o'clock at night.

Fast forward to today: the State broadcaster's bulletins are no longer as prized with the rise of numerous FM stations broadcasting more frequent news bulletin, some every half hour.

According to the Media Council of Kenya, there are about 319 licensed radio stations in Kenya today.

In addition, advances in information and communication technology have spawned many other different avenues of relaying information.

Besides increasing penetration of the internet, mobile phone technology is also changing the way radio does its work.

The Communications Commission of Kenya estimates that there were 10.2 million internet users and about 25 million mobile subscribers at the end of last year. These figures are forecast to rise in coming days.

One no longer needs to keep a small transistor radio at hand to stay abreast.

There are many ways of getting news, even on radio. One can either listen in online, download podcasts onto MP3 players, or mobile phones.

These kinds of advances have players in the radio industry across the world worrying.

Their worry stems from the fear of the unknown because it is unclear whether radio will, in the end, be a casualty or beneficiary of these advances in technology.

At a recent conference in Johannesburg dubbed Joburg Radio Days hosted by the University of Witwatersrand's Wits Radio Academy, scholars, analysts and radio industry practitioners mulled over what the future holds for radio, and how the industry can make the best out of it.

Prof Franz Kruger, who heads the academy, told the forum that pondering if radio is headed for extinction is a legitimate question at the moment.

"Our biggest challenge is technological disruption. We need to compete with the disruption that

technology brings to our business," says Clive Dickens, chief operating officer of Absolute Radio, London, adding that the current landscape is a very "digital economy".

Mr Dickens said the rise of this "digital economy" caused a dip in revenue for radio even before recession set in and affected businesses.

This is having far reaching consequences. Already, there has been a change in audience behaviour in recent years as a result of technological changes, says Terry Volkwyn, chief executive of Primedia Broadcasting, a South African media group.

Since they have more access to information, Ms Volkwyn argues, the audiences have become "more demanding and discerning", which is turning radio into a more fast-paced medium. In addition to pressure from the audience, Tim Davie, who heads audio and radio at the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), says radio is facing the challenge of a significant reduction in the hours people now spend listening to it.

This development, brought about by the many choices at the disposal of audiences, has heightened competition.

A report commissioned by the Centre for International Media Assistance (Cima) on the deployment of community radio in the developing world says with ongoing development of technology and the on-demand content, there is concern that conventional broadcasting on the FM wave-band will soon look outdated.

It is not all gloom, though. Apart from these looming threats and concerns over the future, developments in technology also bear good tidings for the future of radio.

Apart from opening up avenues for interaction with audiences by increasing the range of platforms available, industry players say, technology has revolutionised reporting and tremendously increased the value that the medium delivers to advertisers.

The report by the US-based Cima says that new technology presents great opportunities to radio broadcasters and their listeners. [...]

Full report and source: Daily Nation (Nairobi), 5 Aug. 2011; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-09 [EN]

Gambia: Teranga FM Fans Club Celebrates First Anniversary

http://allafrica.com/stories/201108080156.html

Members of the Teranga FM Fans Club in Sinchu Alagie recently celebrated its first anniversary in a grand style. The programme began with a march past led by the Sukuta Scout Band.

The parade also comprised of staff and management of Teranga FM Community Radio; a cross-section of the community of Sinchu Alagie and its neighbouring communities.

In his welcoming remarks, the alkalo of Sinchu Alagie, Salif Ceesay expressed delight at the celebration and congratulated members of the Fans Club for their achievements in the past year. He recalled that the Fans Club was established on July 23rd 2010. "This community radio is not owned by Ismaila Ceesay, the manager but the community.

We all must take full ownership of it and know that it is here to stay and serve the community in particular and the country in general," he remarked. He said the radio station needs financial assistance to sustain its operation and appealed for support from the general public, NGOs, philanthropists, etc.

For his part, Ismaila Ceesay, the manager of Teranga FM described the celebration of the first anniversary of Teranga FM Fans Club as important; adding that a lot has been achieved within the one year period. He said the Fans Club has been engaged in a lot of activities since its establishment.

Ceesay finally congratulated the members of the Fans Club for their hard work and courage since the inception. The secretary general of the Teranga FM Fans Club, Alieu Saine highlighted the achievements registered by his club since it began operation.

He said the station exists to serve the community and the Gambians at large, while calling on all to support the radio. Amadou Bah, a member of the Fans Club delivered the vote of thanks. Source: The Daily Observer (Banjul), 5 Aug. 2011: quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-09 [EN]

Liberia: VOA news launches on mobile phones in Liberia

Cell phone users in Liberia can now hear the latest Voice of America news headlines on their mobile devices.

The new service is hosted on the Cellcom network in Liberia and is made possible by a partnership with AudioNow, a mobile radio distribution provider that has teamed up with VOA in other markets. Any phone user can access the English language news summaries in Liberia by calling a single national number.

In an effort to take advantage of the explosive growth in cell phone use, Voice of America has been steadily expanding the availability of its news programmes on mobile devices in Africa and elsewhere.

With the growth of mobile and smartphones in the region, VOA executive editor Steve Redisch says, "Voice of America is committed to delivering the news and information that people want on the platforms and devices they use."

Users in Liberia can dial 0777999332 to hear the VOA news bulletins through AudioNow's patent-pending "single-stream" technology. Cellcom customers have the option of calling the special access code 332, which is available at a reduced flat rate.

VOA news, features and music programmes are broadcast throughout Africa on television, shortwave, and mediumwave. In addition to mobile service, the programs are also streamed on the internet and distributed "direct-to-home" by satellite and affiliate stations across the continent. Source: Voice of America (Washington), Press release, 4 Aug. 2011; quoted by BBC Monitoring 9 Aug. 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-10 [EN]

South Sudan: NGO's FM radios "most important" news source in South Sudan

http://www.internews.org/prs/2011/20110805 sudan.shtm

A network of FM radio stations in South Sudan established and supported by [US-based NGO] Internews are the most important sources of information in their communities, according to a new research report.

Internews commissioned an extensive impact assessment of its five radio stations: in Malualkon in Northern Bahr el Ghazal; Leer in Unity State; and Turalei in Warrap which broadcasts into the disputed region of Abyei. Two other stations are in the transitional areas of Kauda, in the Nuba Mountains of Southern Kordofan and Kurmuk in Blue Nile State. The network has an estimated audience reach of 1.7 million listeners.

[Quote:] "I have realized many changes since Mayardit FM started because people have known themselves. Radio has now become like a mirror or reflection that people can see themselves through." - Santino Malong Deng, local government advisor, Twic County, Warrap State. The radio stations, staffed by Sudanese journalists trained by Internews, broadcast a variety of news, information, and music programming in local languages for an average of eight hours a day. The impact assessment found across all sites and all demographic groups the Internews FM community station was overwhelmingly cited as the most important information source. Listeners reported the stations have had a substantial and meaningful impact, catalyzing community participation in political processes and promoting more open and inclusive attitudes, which has helped to mitigate conflict.

Listeners at multiple sites identified their local Internews radio station as a primary source of information about political processes and a means of connecting with the political process. This included understanding of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, the January 2011 referendum, local and state elections and progress towards popular consultation in Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile.

The stations are also recognized as representing an open forum for dialogue and debate at the local level, with access for members of government, civil society organizations and the public. More than 80 per cent of respondents said their local community station was central in facilitating interaction between the political leadership and their community.

 $[Quote:] \ "New Sudan gives people freedom and democracy, even we express our voice through the Voice of Community Kauda," - focus group participant, Kauda.\\$

Communities also directly attribute to their local station important social changes. Radio programmes are said to have encouraged parents to educate their girl children and contributed to debate on ending harmful traditional practices. Internews radio stations are credited as for the first time giving women a voice and celebrating local culture and language.

Across all sites, almost 85 per cent of all listeners attributed behaviour change towards women and girls to their community radio station. More than 96 per cent reported they were better able to make decisions that protect their health and the health of their family, as a result of information they heard on the radio.

[Quote:] "People are very much keen [about] general cleanliness and sanitation. People listened to information on the radio and immediately translate it into tangible action in their own homes," - focus group participant, Kurmuk

The stations also play an important role in conflict mitigation. More than 90 per cent of respondents "strongly agreed" or "agreed" that the Internews stations had helped them become more tolerant of cultural differences.

[Quote:] "Now the government is coming to the radio and informing the community; "why are you taking the property of people, why are you using violence?" ... Sudan has just come from war to peace. They are smelling the truth of peace," focus group participant, Leer

"Internews' community radio stations have a demonstrated capacity to provide news and information and an unparalleled, democratic space for dialogue and self-expression to isolated communities, demonstrating the powerful impact of access to information," says the report, which found the Internews FM network provides a communication model for the new challenges and information needs of the Republic of South Sudan.

Internews' project "Radio for Peace, Democracy and Development in South Sudan" began in 2006 and is made possible by a grant from the United States Agency for International Development. Source: Internews website, 5 Aug. 2011; quoted by BBC Monitoring 10 Aug. 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-10 [EN]

Uganda: Uganda revenue authority holds state broadcaster equipment over tax dispute

http://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/-/688334/1215790/-/bkhae9z/-/index.html
The Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) is holding 28 transmitters imported by UBC [Uganda Broadcasting Corporation] because of a 70m shillings [26,551 dollars] tax dispute, an official working with UBC has claimed.

The transmitters were purchased majorly for the country's transition from analogue to digital broadcasting. The cabinet selected UBC to be the sole digital provider in Uganda, something some private broadcast operators say is against the government's liberalisation principles. "We have transmitters that URA has been holding at Entebbe Airport for the last two months," Mr Sam Agona, a communications engineer at UBC, said.

However, the URA Commissioner for Public and Corporate Affairs, Mr Paul Kyeyune, said he is not aware of this. "I am hearing this for the first time. Why would URA be holding the transmitters?" Mr Kyeyune told Daily Monitor. He added that if there are obligations that institutions should meet, then they should do so "whether they are government agencies or not".

Mr Agona said the government should waive taxes on digital migration equipment such as transmitters and set-top boxes that are needed to convert analogue signals into digital, so that they can be purchased cheaply.

Switching signals

Although the Regional Radio Communication Conference, in which Uganda is a signatory, set June 2015 for the transition, the east African countries set their target date at December 2012. If government fails to implement the switch by that date, then Ugandans with analogue sets will not be able to receive and watch 'quality" television signals.

Uganda Communications Commission Executive Director Godfrey Mutabazi last week asked parliament to consider breaking the UBC monopoly created by cabinet so that interested parties can get rights to provide digital signals for the good of the industry.

"Rules have to be broken if we are to beat the deadline," Mr Agona said yesterday during a conference where participants discussed how to strengthen the role of ICT in development. He claimed that one of the challenges to the effort is the politicisation of the digital migration process. Last month, the Ministry of Finance stopped a 74m dollars (about 192bn shillings) contract between UBC and a Chinese firm, Huawei, for the supply of digital migration equipment after Opposition Leader Nandala Mafabi complained that the contract was awarded without advertising. Source: Daily Monitor website, Kampala, in English 9 Aug. 2011; quoted by BBC Monitoring 10 Aug. 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-11 [EN]

South Sudan: Listeners and Active Participants in a HIV/AIDS Livre Radio Program Rewarded

Keen listeners to a radio drama on HIV and AIDs who have actively participated in the drama's follow up phone-in program were awarded each a prize on Tuesday evening at Good News Radio. The HIV and AIDs radio drama entitled "I want to know" has been produced by Good News Radio in partnership with Across, adapting the script written and edited in 2004 by Prof. Kimani Njogu and Fiona Perry for Tearfund.

The winners of the first five episodes of the ten-episode drama came together at Good News Radio to receive prizes, each of the five episodes having had two or three winners.

Speaking at the prize-giving ceremony at Good News Radio, the representative of Across, Clement Malual, thanked Good News Radio for facilitating the implementation of the HIV dramas, describing

the initiative as a success.

Mr. Malual also thanked those who have participated in the program by listening to the drama and making calls, saying they have enhanced awareness about HIV and AIDs.

He also expressed gratitude to his colleagues who have been hosted at Good News Radio studio every Tuesday for this live phone-in program.

Nyanciek Mapuor Maciek who emerged a winner in two different episodes, expressed excitement to meet face to face with fellow active listeners to the program and the staff of Good News Radio. Another winner in the contest, Deng Dhieu, described HIV and AIDs as the main challenge following immediately the Sudan civil war, challenging the government to prioritize awareness programs about this pandemic.

Mr. Deng further advocated for the collaboration of different social groupings, among them, the youth, the elderly, civil society organizations including the media.

Meanwhile, Andrew Mayen who was asked by a friend to collect the prize on his behalf acknowledged the role of the radio in spreading messages about HIV pandemic, saying that the instrument has a greater impact than workshops.

Mr. Mayen thanked Good News Radio and Across for the initiative, adding that the radio messages are reaching the grassroots.

The twelve winners of the contest received T-shirts with the message: "I will give hope so that my HIV positive friend can cope."

SOurce: Radio Good News (Rumbek, Sudan), Communiqué, 10 Aug. 2010

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-11 [EN]

Niger: Niger communication minister appoints new officials at state media

[Presenter] Through an official order by the minister of communication and new information technology and on the proposal of the director-general of the ORTN [Office of the Niger Radio and Television], the following persons get the following appointments:

- * Secretary-general of the ORTN: Abdoulaye Koulibaly
- * Director of human resources: Boubacar Mahamane
- * Director of Tele Sahel: Ali Issaka
- * Director of Tal TV: Mrs Maimouna Tembo
- * Director of La Voix du Sahel: Aboubacar Sidibe
- * Director of regional stations: Seidou Ousmane
- * Directress of accounting and finance: Mrs Amine Maiga
- * Technical director: Moumouni Ibrahim
- * Counsellors: Amadou Harouna Yaye, Sani Abdou and Elise Bossman

Source: Tele Sahel (Niamey), in French, 8 Aug. 2011; translated and quoted by BBC Monitoring 11 Aug. 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-11 [EN]

Africa/Qatar: Al Jazeera to launch Swahili network in 2012

http://blogs.rnw.nl/medianetwork/al-jazeera-to-launch-swahili-network-in-2012

The Al Jazeera Media Network in Qatar is set to establish a regional news and current affairs media network in East Africa, the company said on 8 August 2011. The new network has been named the Al Jazeera Kiswahili and will be aired in the five East African Community Partner states including; Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda and Burundi. Kiswahili is the most widely spoken language in East and Central Africa and is the national language of Tanzania and Kenya.

"Al Jazeera Kiswahili Channel is expected to launch in 2012 and is currently recruiting," said the company in an advertisement published in the East African newspaper on Monday. Source: bizcommunity.com (Johannesburg), quoted by Media Network Blog Radio Netherlands, 10 Aug. 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-12 [EN]

Mauritania: Mauritanian radio director elected director general of Islamic radios

Nouakchott, 9 August 2011, AMI Mauritanian news agency [AMI] has just learnt that Director-General of Mauritanian radio Mohamedou Salem Ould Bouke had been chosen as director-general of the Islamic Broadcasting Union [IBU].

It is worth pointing out that Mauritania has been chosen from among 21 member countries in the

Islamic cooperation organization which put forth candidates for this post.

Source: AMI news agency (Nouakchott), in Arabic 9 Aug. 2011; translated and quoted by BBC Monitoring 12 Aug. 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-12 [EN]

Lybia/England: BBC launches FM radio in Benghazi and Misrata

http://blogs.rnw.nl/medianetwork/bbc-launches-fm-radio-in-benghazi-and-misrata
The BBC has announced the launch of World Service content on FM radio in the Libyan cities of Benghazi and Misrata. BBC Arabic has an established audience in Libya on TV as well as SW and MW radio has extended its to FM radio. The programming is principally in Arabic, with the addition of the World Service English Newshour programme once a day.

Liliane Landor, BBC Controller of Languages, said: "This year has been a very difficult one for Libyans. It is important for local people to have access to news and information that they can trust, and the BBC has experience of delivering that. We know the people of Libya are keen listeners of BBC Arabic and they regularly participate in our interactive programmes, use our Arabic web service and watch BBC Arabic TV. The new FMs will give the people of Benghazi and Misrata somewhere to turn to for news they can trust and know is accurate."

The new FM radio services, both on 91.5 MHz, are now live in Benghazi and Misrata. Output is predominantly the live stream of BBC Arabic radio with the WS English Newshour 1300 UTC edition incorporated.

Source: BBC World Service Publicity, quoted by Media Network Blog Radio Netherlands, 12 Aug. 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-12 [EN]

Nigeria: NBC approves additional radio licenses

http://www.bizcommunity.com/Article/410/59/62681.html

Film Laboratory and Production Services Limited (FILAPS), the operators of the Kano-based Freedom Radio, has been granted additional FM radio broadcast licenses by the National Broadcasting Commission (NBC).

The broadcast firm was granted the licenses to operate in four major cities across the North, bringing to six the total number of radio stations to be operated by Freedom Radio. The station is already operating in Kano and Jigawa. It commenced FM radio broadcast in Kano in December 2003 and in February 2007 it added another station in Dutse, Jigawa State.

Announcing the approval at a news conference in Kano last week, managing director of Freedom Radio, Alhaji Faruk Dalhatu, said the licenses are for one additional FM station in Kano, and three for FM radio broadcast in Kaduna, Sokoto and Maiduquri.

He said with six stations in its stable, it would become a major player in the radio broadcast industry in Nigeria. He said the company has also applied for more licenses to operate in Katsina, Lagos, Warri, Port Harcourt and Abuja.

Source: Bizcommunity.com, 8 Aug. 2011

ALERT FROM: 2011-08-12 [EN]

Ghana: Pastors assault radio journalists, vandalise station

http://www.ifex.org/ghana/2011/08/11/hotfm attacked/

Three pastors, including the self-styled and controversial Reverend Bishop Daniel Obinim, were on August 9, 2011, granted bail by an Accra Circuit court after they allegedly assaulted three journalists and a panelist on an Accra-based radio station, Hot FM on the night of August 8. The angry pastors violently stormed the premises and vandalized the studio to register their displeasure about "Nya Asem Hwe", a local language current affairs programme.

The victims, Barima Ntim Katakyie, the programme host, Shadrack Adu and George Kumi, producers, and Reverend Amoako, a panelist, have since been treated and discharged from hospital.

Obinim, the 33-year old founder of the International God's Way Church, and two of his pastors, Kofi Akweitey and Kingsley Baah, are facing three counts of conspiracy to commit a crime, causing harm, and causing damage to private property.

The pastors had angrily stormed the studios of Hot FM to protest their exclusion from the programme, which discussed an alleged sex scandal involving Obinim and another pastor's wife. The station played a tape recording purported to have implicated the founder in the scandal. "They attacked the host and other staff members with a pinch bar and other weapons inflicting injuries on their bodies," the prosecutor said.

Meanwhile, Francis Hinakwah, a reporter with the Tema-based radio station Adom FM, was on August 9, violently assaulted by a group of church members at the Tema branch of the International God's Way Church. Hinakwah had gone to the church premises following the arrest of their leader and three others.

According to the reporter, the angry church members tore his shirt, confiscated his recorder and identity card. A taxi cab attempting to transport the journalist to safety was hit with metallic objects, destroying one of the side mirrors.

Hinakwah's ID card was later returned to him after Tema Regional Police Command intervened. The reporter told Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA) that the church members accused him and the radio station of trying to close down their church.

Source: Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA), Accra; quoted by IFEX, 11 Aug. 2011

ALERT FROM: 2011-08-13 [EN]

Uganda: Radio presenter facing possibly death penalty on treason charge

http://en.rsf.org/uganda-anti-terrorist-unit-holding-radio-26-07-2011,40698.html
Reporters Without Borders is very concerned about Augustine "Rouks" Okello, a presenter for radio Rhino FM in the northern city of Lira, who has been placed in pre-trial detention in Kampala's Luzira prison and is due to appear in court again on 12 August.

Arrested secretly on 13 July, Okello was brought before the Buganda Road court in Kampala on 1 August and was charged with treason, which carries the death penalty. During his court appearance he told journalists he was tortured by the security forces, a claim denied by the government.

"The circumstances of Okello's arrest were already shocking," Reporters Without Borders said.
"Now we are worried about the conditions in which he is being held and we condemn the way the authorities are persecuting him. We call for his case to be transferred to the high court so that he can be freed on bail and then acquitted."

Source: Reporters Sans Frontieres (Paris), Website, 10 Aug. 2011

Nouvelles

NEWS FROM: 2011-07-25 [FR]

Afrique de l'Ouest: L'IPAO lance un projet pour "amplifier" la voix des citoyens

http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/printable/201107221346.html

L'Institut Panos Afrique de l'Ouest (IPAO) a procédé, vendredi à Dakar, au lancement de la Plateforme radio panafricaine, un projet destiné à relayer les opinions "les plus diverses" sur l'espace public des pays bénéficiaires, selon sa directrice générale Diana Senghor.

"Panos veut démocratiser la parole, documenter les citoyens et construire un cadre pour une information plus démocratique, où les opinons les plus diverses seront reflétées, en amplifiant les voix à l'échelle panafricaine", a dit Mme Senghor, lors d'un atelier de lancement du projet. La Plateforme radio panafricaine, dont le projet-pilote est lancé simultanément au Sénégal et au Ghana, est, selon Diana Senghor, "ambitieux et fou" car n'estimant pas simples les défis de sa mise en Å"uvre.

"Il faudra surmonter la barrière linguistique, même si le projet prévoit des traductions, relever le défi de l'oralité en se servant de l'écrit comme support, mais également venir à bout du défi technologique à travers le renforcement des équipements, le savoir-faire des radios, pour interagir entre elles", a-t-elle expliqué.

Cette plateforme, qui se veut un modèle de mise en réseau et d'interconnexion des radios communautaires sur les questions de développement, sera expérimentée en 2012 en Ouganda et en Zambie.

La directrice générale de l'IPAO mise sur la coopération et la solidarité entre les radios déjà expérimentées et les autres, pour arriver à des objectifs de renforcement des capacités des citoyens surtout, à la production de contenus et programmes de qualité et à la promotion d'un modèle-pilote de la plateforme.

Il est nécessaire, à ses yeux, d'assurer la viabilité du projet à travers des partenariats avec les acteurs du développement pour qui la plateforme servira de "canal de diffusion énorme". Sur les trois prochaines années, le travail consistera à améliorer les capacités éditoriales des journalistes et renforcer l'aptitude des radiodiffuseurs à produire des programmes innovants et attractifs en Afrique, mais surtout apprendre aux consommateurs à donner leur point de vue.

Le projet de la Plateforme radio panafricaine a été initié par les représentations de Panos en Afrique de l'Ouest, en Afrique australe et de l'Est. Il est financé par la Fondation Bill et Melinda Gates.

Source: Agence de Presse Sénégalaise (Dakar), 22 juil. 2011; repris et distribué par allAfrica.com

ALERT FROM: 2011-07-25 [FR]

Malawi: Le gouvernement empêche la couverture des manifestations, plusieurs journalistes interpellés

http://fr.rsf.org/malawi-le-gouvernement-empeche-la-22-07-2011,40676.html

Reporters sans frontières dénonce les violences policières commises, les 20 et 21 juillet 2011, contre une dizaine de journalistes couvrant les manifestations organisées dans plusieurs villes du pays. Certains d'entre eux ont été interpellés. Le gouvernement a formellement interdit aux stations de radio de couvrir les événements.

"Nous exprimons notre vive inquiétude après la réaction particulièrement brutale des autorités visà-vis des manifestants et des professionnels des médias venus suivre les rassemblements. Nous appelons les autorités à laisser les journalistes et les organes de presse remplir leur mission d'information", a déclaré l'organisation.

Le 20 juillet, les journalistes Rebecca Chinjeka, de la station Joy Radio, Amos Gumulira et Kondwani Munthali, de Nation Publications, Leonard Sharra et Jacob Nankhonya, de Blantyre Newspapers Limited, et Isaac Kambwiri, de Capital Radio, ont été battus par la police en marge des manifestations.

Sérieusement blessée, Rebecca Chinjeka a été admise dans une clinique de Lilongwe pour recevoir des soins.

Le lendemain, Kingsley Jassi, de Blantyre Newspapers, a lui aussi été frappé, puis interpellé pendant une heure, parce qu'il prenait des photos d'agents de police en train de brutaliser un manifestant.

Enfin, toujours le 21 juillet, Collins Mtika, journaliste pour le site Internet Nyasatimes.com, a été arrêté, dans la ville de Mzuzu (nord du pays). Il n'a toujours pas été relâché.

Les manifestations des quarante-huit dernières heures ont été organisées par la société civile pour protester contre les pénuries d'essence, la hausse des prix et la dégradation générale de l'économie du pays, et pour demander davantage de démocratie. La répression par les forces de l'ordre a été particulièrement brutale, un premier bilan faisant état de 18 morts et des dizaines de blessés.

Source: Reporters sans frontières (Paris), Communiqué et site, 22 juil. 2011

ALERT FROM: 2011-07-26 [FR]

Malawi: La station Zodiak Broadcasting est la cible de manifestations au Malawi

 $\underline{\text{http://hebdo.farmradio.org/2011/07/25/la-station-zodiak-broadcasting-est-la-cible-demanifestations-au-malawi/}$

Un des partenaires radiodiffuseurs de Radios Rurales Internationales, Zodiak Broadcasting Station (ZBS), a été pris à partie dans des manifestations au Malawi, la semaine dernière.

Des Malawiens de tout le pays avaient prévu de manifester le mercredi 20 juillet dernier. Deux véhicules de la ZBS ont été attaqués avant les manifestations. Des injonctions ont été émises pour arrêter les manifestations, mais les gens sont tout de même descendus dans les rues, où il y a eu des accrochages avec la police. Des biens ont été pillés et des personnes ont été blessées. Des émeutes ont continué dans trois villes du Malawi le jeudi 21 juillet.

Des collègues de la ZBS ont dit à Radios Rurales Internationales, « Nous sommes tous OK maintenant. Nous continuons à diffuser, mais trois stations privées ont été fermées par les autorités. Nous espérons seulement que les choses iront mieux bientôt. »

Texte complet et source: Agro Radio Hebdo (Radios Rurales Internationales), Nº 165, 25 juil. 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-07-27 [FR]

Tunisie: La radio Kalima reçoit un prix pour la liberté des médias

http://www.africa1.com/spip.php?article13110

L'Institut international de presse IPI a décerné le prix pionnier de la liberté des médias 2011 à la radio tunisienne Kalima, cible de persécutions sous le régime de l'ex-président Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, a annoncé l'IPI mardi.

"L'engagement imperturbable de Radio Kalima pour un journalisme indépendant face à l'adversité a

été une source d'inspiration pour nous tous et pour des médias sur toute la planète", a déclaré la directrice de l'organisation Alison Bethel McKenzie, citée dans un communiqué.

"Des questions demeurent autour de l'état des médias en Tunisie et de nombreuses étapes doivent encore être franchies. Ce prix exprime notre soutien, et celui de notre réseau mondial de membres, pour Radio Kalima et les médias indépendants en Tunisie", a-t-elle poursuivi.

Radio Kalima avait été fondée en 2000 par la militante des droits de l'homme, Sihem Bensedrine, et Naziha Razjib.La radio a opéré dans la clandestinité sous l'ancien régime tunisien dont elle a régulièrement critiqué l'action. Ses journalistes ont été victimes à plusieurs reprises de violences de la part des services de sécurité.

La station figure au nombre de douze radios privées qui devraient être autorisées à émettre sur la bande FM par les nouvelles autorités tunisiennes.

Source. Africa Nr 1, website, 26 juil. 2011; information transmise à TRRAACE par Serge Adam's Diakité (journaliste à Radio Arc-en-ciel, Abidjan)

NEWS FROM: 2011-07-27 [FR]

Afrique: Les Résultats des Prix RFPA 2011

RFPA est heureux d'annoncer les résultats des Prix RFPA 2011! RFPA a reçu une sélection de divers programmes radiophoniques, à la fois fictionnels et non-fictionnels, en anglais, français et en langues locales et représentant différents pays à travers le continent.

Pour cette édition des Prix RFPA, les trios catégories de prix étaient :

- leunesse
- Genre
- Prix Spécial du Jury.

Un prix a été remis aux trois premiers de chacune des catégories, récompensant des programmes de grande qualité contribuant à la paix en Afrique. Les membres du jury étaient des experts dans le domaine des médias et de la construction de la paix originaires d'Afrique sub-saharienne, ainsi que d'Europe et des Etats-Unis.

Visitez le site internet de RFPA et écoutez les meilleurs programmes radiophoniques de cette édition 2011! Sur la page d'accueil du site de RFPA, retrouvez également un descriptif des programmes ainsi que les commentaires du jury!

LES GAGNANTS SONT:

* Prix Jeunesse:

- o 1er Prix: Shujaaz (Kenya, Productrice: Bridget Deacon)
- o 2ème Prix : The Team (Kenya, Producteur : Just Imagine Productions)
- o 3ème Prix : Top Stories (Cameroun, Producteur : Roland Akong).

* Prix Genre:

- o 1er Prix : Fifty-Fifty: Rape and Gender-Based Violence in Senegal (Sénégal, Producteur : Sheriff Bojang Junior)
- o 2ème Prix : Chakruok (Kenya, Productrice : Bridget Deacon)
- o 3ème Prix : Fifty-Fifty: Female Genital Mutilation (Sénégal, Producteur : Sheriff Bojang Junior).

* Prix Spécial du Jury :

- o 1er Prix: Let's Talk Peace Pastoralist Conflict (Ouganda, Producteur: Ojok Emmanuel)
- o 2ème Prix : How a Civic Education Programme Can Eradicate Sea Piracy in Somalia (Somalie, Producteur : Mohamed Osman Husain)
- o 3ème Prix : Africa This Week Côte d'Ivoire (Nigéria, Producteur : Huruna Idris).

Tous ces programmes sont désormais disponibles sur le site de RFPA www.radiopeaceafrica.org (pour les programmes qui ne sont pas en anglais, un script traduit est disponible sur demande auprès de RFPA).

Félicitations à tous les gagnants et un grand merci à tous les participants !

Source: RFPA Bulletin d'information, 27 Juillet 2011

RESOURCE FROM: 2011-07-27 [FR]

Afrique: CCNUCC lance une Compétition Radio

http://cdm.unfccc.int/about/multimedia/unfccc radio contest 2011.pdf

A l'occasion de la prochaine conférence internationale sur les changements climatiques à Durban, en Afrique du Sud, La Convention-Cadre des Nations Unies sur les Changements Climatiques (CCNUCC) est heureuse d'annoncer le lancement d'une compétition radio sur le thème « Changing Lives ». La compétition a pour objectif de sensibiliser la population sur la problématique des changements climatiques et sur le Mécanisme de Développement Propre (MDP) du Protocole de Kyoto.

Les candidats sont invités à soumettre un reportage radio répondant à la question suivante : «

Comment ma communauté/ma ville/mon pays peut bénéficier du MDP? » Tous les reportages radio doivent être d'une durée inférieure à cinq minutes et être en anglais ou traduits en anglais grâce à la technique de voix hors-champ. Les gagnants seront invités à se rendre à Durban où ils assisteront pendant deux semaines à des briefings et des ateliers en parallèle à la Conférence des Nations Unies sur les changements climatiques. La date limite de candidature est le 10 août 2011. Pour plus d'informations et pour postuler, visitez le lien accompagnant cette nouvelle. Source: RFPA Bulletin d'information 27 Juillet 2011

ALERT FROM: 2011-07-27 [FR]

déclaré Reporters sans frontières.

Disparu depuis 2 semaines, un présentateur de radio est détenu par les forces antiterroristes

http://fr.rsf.org/ouganda-disparu-depuis-deux-semaines-un-26-07-2011,40697.html
Le présentateur de la station Radio Rhino FM, Augustine Okello, surnommé Rouks, est suspecté d'implication dans des activités "subversives", a appris Reporters sans frontières, le 25 juillet 2011, auprès du Lieutenant-Colonel Felix Kulayigye, porte-parole de l'armée ougandaise.
Le journaliste avait mystérieusement disparu, le 13 juillet dernier, à Lira (nord), après avoir rencontré des membres des forces de sécurité de la région, dont le District Internal Security Officer (DISO), le lieutenant Steven Eriaku, au Grand Pacific Hotel. Il est désormais détenu par le groupe de travail commun antiterrorisme (Joint Anti-Terrorism Taskforce - JATT), dans un lieu tenu secret, à Kampala. Augustine Okello n'a toujours pas été présenté devant un tribunal.

"Les conditions dans lesquelles Augustine Okello a été arrêté et est détenu au secret sont scandaleuses. Au mépris du système judiciaire ougandais et des lois internationales, les forces antiterroristes violent la présomption d'innocence dont le journaliste devrait bénéficier. Nous

Le 25 juillet, le Lieutenant-Colonel Felix Kulayigye a déclaré à Reporters sans frontières qu'Augustine Okello était suspecté d'implication dans des activités "subversives". Il a ajouté que le journaliste avait été arrêté dans le cadre d'une enquête sur la mort suspecte du Colonel dissident Edison Muzoora. Ce dernier avait déserté l'UPDF (Uganda People's Defence Forces) en 2003 et s'était insurgé, depuis l'exil, contre le gouvernement ougandais. Il aurait, selon les services de renseignements ougandais, coordonné la rébellion armée à travers le groupe PRA (People's Redemption Army), lié à l'opposition.

dénonçons ces méthodes et demandons aux autorités ougandaises de le libérer immédiatement", a

La dépouille du Colonel rebelle avait été retrouvée dans sa maison de campagne, dans le district de Bushenyi (ouest), le 27 mai dernier. Selon les enquêteurs, le colonel aurait été assassiné dans un pays frontalier par ses collègues qui venaient d'apprendre son intention de faire défection. Son corps aurait été ramené en Ouganda de manière inexpliquée. Furieux de cette nouvelle, le président Yoweri Museveni aurait donné l'ordre de mener une enquête afin de déterminer les circonstances exactes de la mort du colonel Edison Muzoora et du retour de sa dépouille dans le pays. Dans le cadre de cette enquête, quatre partisans du parti d'opposition Forum for Democratic Change (FDC) ont été arrêtés dans le district de Bushenyi.

L'implication d'Augustine Okello avec les partis d'opposition n'est pas avérée et sa détention dans le cadre de cette enquête reste arbitraire et choquante. Répondant aux questions de Reporters sans frontières, le Lientenant-Colonel Felix Kulayigye a déclaré : "Si les enquêteurs prouvent son innocence, il n'aura peut-être pas à comparaître devant la justice." [...]

Texte complet et source: Reporters sans frontières (Paris), Communiqué et site, 26 juil. 2011

ALERT FROM: 2011-08-01 [FR]

Guinée: Le CNC musèle les médias

http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201107290226.html

Selon le CNC, la suspension comprend les programmes interactifs en français et toutes les langues nationales du pays.

Pendant la nuit du 18 juillet 2011, des militaires armés qui seraient des proches du chef de la junte militaire, le capitaine Dadis Camara, auraient attaqué la résidence du président Condé. Le président s'en est tiré indemne et a prétendu qu'il s'agissait d'une tentative de coup d'Etat. Depuis lors, environ trente officiers ont été arrêtés dans l'affaire.

L'article 2 de la directive du CNC stipule que "sont concernés tous les organes d'information publics et privés (radios et télévisions publiques et privées, presse écrite et presse en ligne)," selon le correspondant de la MFWA.

L'article 3 de la directive avertit que "tout manquement à cette décision sera sanctionné conformément à la loi".

Toutefois, pour beaucoup de Guinéens, les ordres en vue de museler les médias constituent une

tentative de masquer la vérité de l'attaque contre la résidence du président.

"Pour beaucoup, cette attaque est un montage du pouvoir pour épurer l'armée et arrêter les officiers gênants," a ajouté le correspondant.

Pour l'heure, les associations professionnelles des médias et le syndicat des journalistes ont rejeté cette décision.

Selon elles, la directive est une violation flagrante de la Constitution qui consacre la liberté des médias parmi d'autres libertés.

Source: Communiqué de presse, IFEX (International Freedom of Expression Exchange Clearing House), 28 juil. 2011

ALERT FROM: 2011-08-01 [FR]

Burundi: Les convocations en série des journalistes alimentent un climat hostile pour la liberté

http://fr.rsf.org/burundi-les-convocations-en-serie-des-29-07-2011,40717.html
Les convocations en série des journalistes de radio alimentent un climat hostile pour la liberté de la presse

Reporters sans frontières dénonce les convocations en série dont sont actuellement victimes la Radio Publique Africaine (RPA) et Radio Isanganiro, relevant du harcèlement. Bob Rugurika, rédacteur en chef de la RPA, initialement convoqué le 29 juillet 2011 au parquet auprès du tribunal de grande instance de Bujumbura, sera entendu le 1er aout. En l'espace de dix jours, il a été convoqué en justice à trois reprises afin de répondre des activités de la radio. Deux autres correspondants de la RPA à Ngozi (nord), Léonce Niyongabo, chef d'antenne, et la journaliste Yvette Murekesabe ont été convoqués aujourd'hui, le 29 juillet, pour "enquête judiciaire" et seront entendus de nouveau le 1er aout. Le même jour, Patrick Mitabaro, rédacteur en chef de Radio Isanganiro, devra se présenter au parquet auprès du tribunal de grande instance de Bujumbura pour "enquête judiciaire". Le Conseil national de la Communication (CNC) a récemment mis en garde ces deux radios pour des contenus pourtant diffusés sur d'autres stations. [...] Texte complet et source: Reporters sans frontières (Paris), Website, 28 juil. 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-03 [FR]

RDC: Bas-Congo - Le REMACOB sensibilise les camionneurs sur le VIH/sida et le code de la route Grâce à l'appui financier de la fondation néerlandaise « Stem van Afrika », le REMACOB vient de lancer un programme de sensibilisation des camionneurs de la Nationale n°1 Kinshasa-Moanda sur le VIH/sida et le respect du code de la route.

Ce projet d'une durée de 18 mois retient comme activités principales : la formation des camionneurs en tant que pairs éducateurs, le renforcement de capacités des journalistes et la production de magazines et des microprogrammes relatifs aux deux thèmes.

Les productions radiophoniques sont diffusées à travers dix radios sélectionnés dans le cadre de ce projet ; elles sont aussi distribuées auprès des camionneurs pour écoute pendant ou en dehors de leurs heures de service.

Il est également prévu la sensibilisation interpersonnelle par les camionneurs eux-mêmes et la distribution des préservatifs.

Le REMACOB a décidé de s'investir dans ce domaine car les camionneurs et les usagers fréquentant ce tronçon ou habitant le long de la Nationale 1 sont très exposés au VIH/sida ; par ailleurs beaucoup d'accidents de circulation ont lieu sur cette route, causant beaucoup trop de victimes et de tués.

Source: REMACOB (Mbanza-Ngungu), Communiqué, 2 août 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-03 [FR]

RDC: Mabele, la radio qui marche à l'huile de palme

http://www.telerama.fr/radio/mabele-la-radio-qui-marche-a-l-huile-de-palme,70691.php
Dans l'est de la République démocratique du Congo, une station lance les avis de recherche, prévient des épidémies... Elle tire son électricité d'une astuce locale. [...]

Radio Mabele émet dès juin 2006 grâce à un générateur classique. Les auditeurs, éparpillés dans la forêt, se regroupent en quatre-vingt-cinq « noyaux », donnent leur point de vue sur les émissions, informent la collectivité de ce qui se passe sur leur territoire. Grâce à cette organisation, les coupables sont dénoncés à l'antenne et les « tracasseries » s'atténuent.

Choc pétrolier

Les femmes travaillent aux champs avec leur poste accroché aux arbres. « Auparavant, dit l'une d'elles, les chefs de village communiquaient avec des gongs en bois. Seuls les initiés pouvaient les décrypter. Avec la radio, tout le monde comprend. » En 2008, le choc pétrolier vient perturber

cette belle harmonie. Le prix de l'essence flambe. Continuer à faire marcher le générateur de la radio est d'autant plus compliqué à Tolaw que la pompe la plus proche est à deux jours de piste. Prosper Libande Atianga, le directeur de la station, décide alors de passer de huit heures de diffusion quotidienne à six, puis à quatre, puis à deux. [...]

Face au manque d'essence, c'est lui qui, en 2008, décide de demander conseil à Max Bale, devenu une sorte d'expert en énergie alternative.

« Quelle est votre production la plus stable et inépuisable? » leur demande Bale. « Le palmier et ses dérivés... » répondent-ils. « Eh bien, nous allons faire fonctionner votre radio avec un générateur à l'huile de palme. » Eclat de rire général. Le chef de projet de RFI Planète radio ne se démonte pas : « Combien coûtent 200 litres d'essence à Tolaw? -- 370 dollars. - Combien vaut la même quantité d'huile de palme? -- 66 dollars. » Max Bale fait appel à une association belge, Codéart, qui crée pour les pays du Sud des machines à destination de l'artisanat. Ses responsables achètent des moteurs en Inde et les modifient à la demande. Là, le problème est simple : l'huile de palme étant très épaisse, il faut la chauffer avant qu'elle pénètre dans les engrenages et prévoir, au démarrage et à l'extinction du groupe électrogène, dix minutes de fonctionnement à l'essence. Moteurs, alternateurs, filtres, pièces de rechange, 800 kilos de matériel quittent le port d'Anvers en octobre 2010.[...]

La population attendait impatiemment la reprise des émissions... Sans elles, pour une épidémie, le médecin qui exerçait habituellement au micro était obligé de se déplacer dans chacune des familles. Idem pour le vétérinaire. Quant à l'agronome, il ne pouvait plus informer de l'arrivée d'insectes ravageurs. « Heureusement, les villageois avaient retenu les leçons prodiguées à l'antenne, explique le médecin. Je leur avais expliqué comment fabriquer des pièges à mouches tsé-tsé. Avec la reprise de nos émissions, nous annonçons régulièrement l'état du stock de médicaments. » En fin d'après-midi, place aux avis de recherche. Quand un chasseur ne rentre pas chez lui, sa famille avertit aussitôt la radio, qui passe l'info. Les auditeurs partent à sa recherche. A partir de 20 heures, tout le monde écoute sur Radio Mabele la retransmission des émissions d'Okapi, station créée en 2002 à l'initiative des Nations unies, avec la Monuc et la Fondation Hirondelle : le Dialogue intercongolais et la présentation des candidats à l'élection présidentielle, prévue pour novembre 2011 [...].

Radio Mabele fait l'unanimité. Chaque case, chaque famille dispose d'un poste. Sans le fameux moteur à huile de palme, elle n'existerait plus. Ce soir de mai, sachant que les techniciens sont à Tolaw, une « mama » apporte le mets le plus fin, une tortue à mitonner. Ses soeurs sont devant leur four à huile de palme, de simples trous dans le sol pour chauffer les fruits et une torsade de feuille pour écouler le liquide. Chaque famille produit 5 litres par jour pour manger, s'éclairer, se soigner et écouter la radio. A moyen terme, une plantation spécifique devrait fournir la quantité d'huile nécessaire au générateur. Cette expérimentation va faire des petits dans les hôpitaux, les écoles...

Reportage complet et source: Anne-Marie Gustave, Télérama (PAris), n° 3207 et Website, 3 juil. 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-03 [FR]

Tunisie: L'attaque contre Radio Gafsa alarme les journalistes tunisiens

http://www.magharebia.com/cocoon/awi/xhtml1/fr/features/awi/newsbriefs/general/2011/08/03/newsbrief-03 Le Syndicat national des journalistes tunisiens (SNJT) a dénoncé, mardi 2 août, les actes de violence répétés à l'encontre du siège de Radio Gafsa, a fait savoir l'agence TAP. Lors du dernier incident en date, 20 hommes, dont certains portaient des capuches, ont brisé les vitres du bâtiment de cette station de radio, mardi, semant la panique parmi les journalistes et le personnel présent sur place. Le syndicat a demandé aux pouvoirs publics d'assurer la sécurité des journalistes et de fournir aux bureaux des médias de Gafsa le même niveau de sécurité que celui dont bénéficient les autres institutions publiques et privées dans la région. Source: Magharebia.com, 28 août 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-06 [FR]

Sénégal/Afrique de l'Ouest: WADR gagne le prestigieux prix Knight-Batten pour les médias

http://wadr.org/fr/site/news_fr/1565/WADR-gagne-le-prestigieux-prix-Knight-Batten-pour-les-m%C3%A9dias.htm
Sourcefabric et la West Africa Democracy Radio (WADR), viennent de remporter le prix Knight-Batten pour d'une part le travail sur la nouvelle plate-forme de la West Africa Democracy Radio et pour les Innovations dans le Journalisme d'autre part. Le prix récompense les informations et les idées qui de manière significative renforcent les opportunités de l'engagement numérique. D'autres gagnants cette année incluent Storify, NPR, Guardian et le groupe Bloomberg.

Cette année les gagnants ont été choisis parmi 123 candidats. "Des innovations de cette année montrent comment les journalistes continuent à développer des moyens intelligents pour présenter le journalisme à de nouveaux contributeurs et aux auditeurs," a dit Jose Zamora, un journaliste associé de la Fondation Knight.

La West Africa Democracy Radio a été lancée en 2005 avec la mission de promouvoir et défendre les idéaux de sociétés démocratiques et ouvertes dans les pays de la sous-région. Elle émet 24 heures par jour en FM à Dakar au Sénégal et via satellite pour le reste de la sous-région de l'Afrique de l'ouest, et a travers le relais de plus de 30 stations de radio partenaires. Le 1 avril 2011, la West Africa Democracy Radio (WADR) a lancé une plate-forme à Dakar au Sénégal. Elle intègre Newscoop (une source ouverte CMS pour les journalistes) et Airtime (un logiciel de radio ouvert pour les stations de radios) avec des réseaux sociaux et 'cloud' comme SoundCloud, Facebook et Twitter. Le logiciel et le projet ont été développés par Sourcefabric, une Organisation à but non lucratif tchèque qui soutient le journalisme de qualité par l'approvisionnent libre en logiciels et autres outils.

Source: WADR (Dakar), Website, 28 juil. 2011; information signalée à TRRAACE par Serge Adam's Diakité (journaliste à Radio Arc-en-ciel Abidjan)

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-06 [FR]

Côte d'Ivoire: HACA / Traitement de l'information dans les prochaines échéances électorales

http://news.abidjan.net/h/406677.html

Le ministre Ibrahim Sy Savané, nommé à la tête de la HACA (Haute autorité de la communication audiovisuelle) a, le mercredi 03 août 2011, accordé une audience à l'Urpci (Union des radios de proximité de Côte d'Ivoire), dans ses locaux aux II Plateaux. Il s'est agi pour l'autorité de régulation et de faisabilité de la libéralisation de l'espace audiovisuel, d'épiloguer sur les péripéties entravant l'épanouissement des radios dites de proximité.

S'appesantissant sur le traitement de l'information dans la période électorale, Ibrahim Sy Savané a salué le professionnalisme et l'objectivité avec lesquels les radios de proximité ont relayé les informations. Selon lui, lesdites radios n'ont pas commis de dérives par rapport à leurs cahiers de charges. En revanche, la Haute autorité a conseillé aux différents directeurs de radios privées, la vigilance pour les élections « locales». « Cette fois, il s'agit d'élections locales, législatives, municipales et conseils généraux. Ce sont des gens qui sont extrêmement proches de vous ou vous êtes proches d'eux. Il y a toujours une tentation en politique d'utiliser l'outil qu'on a, pour pouvoir soit se maintenir soit pour acquérir le pouvoir.

C'est cela, je vous mets en garde contre cette tentation-là. La tentation de mettre vos organes, vos radios que vous avez essayé de bâtir difficilement dans les conditions compliquées, de les mettre au service de certains politiciens. Ce serait une erreur stratégique et déontologique de votre part. Et sur ces questions-là, la Haute autorité se montrera très vigilante. Que personne ne nous pousse à aller vers la fermeture. Ce n'est pas notre intention et je pense que, ce ne serait pas une bonne chose. Il y aura de sérieux arbitrages pour les élections à venir. Vous pourrez être des vecteurs stratégiques pour un certain nombre de politiques. Je vous demande de prendre garde à ne pas vous faire instrumentaliser. Parce que, les conséquences personnelles, ça va être une réaction énergique de la part de la Haute autorité », a menacé le régulateur Sy Savané. Aussi, s'est-il attaqué aux statuts des radios ''pirates", qui opèrent dans les zones dites CNO (Centre Nord et Ouest). Le ministre Sy Savané a dit les avoir répertoriées afin d'exercer un véritable contrôle sur elles. Ce qui, soulignera-t-il, s'avère nécessaire pour leur inscription dans le cadre réglementaire existant. Il a été ensuite question, d'un éventuel soutien matériel et/ou financier aux entreprises sinistrées. A ce propos, la Haute autorité a déclaré, qu'au terme de l'article 86 de la loi de 2004, l'Etat ivoirien pouvait octroyer une aide à une radio de proximité menacée de disparition à condition que, celle-ci joue un rôle important dans la zone de diffusion. C'est pourquoi, le ministrerégulateur a fait savoir, qu'il introduira une requête dans ce sens auprès du gouvernement ivoirien. Outre cela, la HACA a confié que désormais, une redevance allait être initiée, comme c'est le cas dans les pays développés, pour permettre une meilleure structuration du secteur, une rationalisation dans la gestion des fréquences et une optimisation des ressources financières. «Désormais, ceux qui viennent pour l'obtention d'une fréquence doivent s'attendre à ce qu'une contribution leur soit demandée», a-t-il arqué.

Non sans préciser, qu'au-delà de cette stratégie de monitoring, sa vision, précise-t-il, est d'aboutir à la normalisation du secteur des radios de proximité. Pour Sy Savané, il est impérieux de créer une sorte de labellisation qui passe par une certification (des critères de qualité) valable tant au niveau national qu'international. S'agissant du harcèlement du Burida dont sont victimes les radios de proximité, la Haute autorité a demandé et obtenu un moratoire afin de contacter son homologue de la Culture et de la Francophonie et y apporter des solutions adéquates.

Source: L'Intelligent d'Abidjan repris par @bidj@n.Net, 4 août 2011; information transmise à TRRAACE par Serge Adam's Diakité (journaliste à Radio Arc-en-ciel Abidjan)

ALERT FROM: 2011-08-09 [FR]

Somalie: Un présentateur de Radio Simba tué par balles à Mogadiscio

http://fr.rsf.org/somalie-un-presentateur-de-radio-simba-tue-05-08-2011,40755.html
Reporters sans frontières est profondément choquée par la mort, le 4 août 2011, de Farah Hassan Sahal, présentateur de la station privée Radio Simba. Le journaliste a été tué de trois balles tirées à bout portant - une dans la tête, deux dans la poitrine - devant l'entrée de sa radio, au niveau de la mosquée Hareed, dans le quartier de Bakara Market, à Mogadiscio.

Selon ses collègues, témoins de la scène, le journaliste a été mortellement touché par un soldat de la Mission de l'Union africaine en Somalie (Amisom) ou du gouvernement de transition somalien (TFG).

"Alors que la famine en cours place la Somalie au centre de l'attention internationale, cet incident rappelle que la crise n'est pas qu'alimentaire ou humanitaire mais que la guerre et l'anarchie sévissent dans le pays depuis vingt ans. Les journalistes locaux travaillent dans des conditions de sécurité effroyables, pris dans le feu croisé des combats et délibérément visés parfois par des miliciens hostiles au travail des médias", a déclaré Reporters sans frontières.

"Nous exhortons l'Union africaine et le gouvernement de transition somalien à ouvrir une enquête et à établir si la responsabilité de ce drame repose sur un de leurs soldats. Toute la lumière doit être faite sur ce crime, qui ne peut rester impuni", a ajouté l'organisation.

Aidé par deux de ses collègues, Farah Hassan Sahal essayait de déplacer le matériel de la station pour le mettre en lieu sûr lorsqu'il a été tué. Les affrontements sanglants entre les troupes du gouvernement de transition appuyées par l'Union africaine et la milice islamiste Al-Shabaab dans le quartier du marché de Bakara avaient contraint la radio à cesser ses activités quotidiennes et à transposer ses équipements, temporairement, dans une zone jugée sécurisée.

Farah Hassan Sahal, 45 ans, avait commencé à travailler pour Radio Simba dès la création de la station, en 2006. Il laisse une veuve et neuf enfants.

Source: Reporters sans frontières (Paris), Website, 5 août 2011

RESOURCE FROM: 2011-08-09 [FR]

Afrique: Dossier technique de radio rurale - Les jeunes et l'agriculture

http://ruralradio.cta.int/fr/JeunesAgriculture.htm

Ce dossier technique de radio rurale, produit par le CTA, le Centre technique de coopération agricole et rurale, contient de courts éléments audio que les radiodiffuseurs peuvent télécharger et utiliser. Ces éléments viennent d'un peu partout en Afrique et portent sur divers sujets liés à la jeunesse et l'agriculture.

Le lien suivant vous permet également d'accéder à un document Word avec de plus amples informations, des textes complets, et des liens vers des ressources.

Source: Agro Radio Hebod, nº 167, 8 août 2011

ALERT FROM: 2011-08-09 [FR]

Burundi: Le gouvernement burundais harcèle des stations de radio indépendantes

http://www.cpj.org/fr/2011/08/le-gouvernement-burundais-harcele-des-stations-de.php Le gouvernement du président du Burundi, Pierre Nkurunziza, tente de museler les médias remettant en cause la gestion de son administration à travers le harcèlement judiciaire incessant de deux des principales stations de radio indépendantes du pays, a déclaré aujourd'hui le Comité pour la protection des journalistes (CPJ).

Depuis que le président Nkurunziza a raflé les élections présidentielles et parlementaires de 2010 boycottées par l'opposition, son second mandat a été critiqué par des organisations internationales de défense des droits de l'homme pour des violations des droits humains, notamment l'emprisonnement pendant 10 mois du journaliste Jean-Claude Kavumbagu. Des troubles violents menacent également un accord de paix fragile signé après treize ans de guerre civile, selon des médias. Ces dernières semaines, les procureurs de l'administration de M. Nkurunziza et l'organe nationale de régulation des médias, le Conseil national de la Communication (CNC), contrôlé par le gouvernement, ont recouru à des convocations incessantes au tribunal, à l'emprisonnement et à des menaces de fermeture contre les 2 principales stations de radio indépendantes, par la Radio Publique Africaine (RPA) et la Radio Isanganiro, selon des recherches du CPJ. Ces stations soulèvent régulièrement des questions critiques sur les sujets d'actualité et la gestion du

gouvernement.

«Le harcèlement judiciaire constant pratiqué par les autorités burundaises est une claire tentative visant à dissuader tout reportage indépendant par ces stations de radio privées », a déclaré Tom Rhodes, consultant du CPJ pour l'Afrique de l'Est. « Les autorités burundaises, notamment le CNC, doivent permettre à ces stations de travailler en paix, sans utiliser un système judiciaire politisé en vue de les réduire au silence », a-t-il martelé.

Lundi dernier [1 août 2011], les procureurs de Bujumbura, la capitale burundaise, ont convoqué Patrick Mitabaro, rédacteur en chef de Radio Isanganiro, pour la deuxième fois depuis juillet, a dit au CPJ Désiré Hatungimana, reporter de ladite station. M. Mitabaro a été accusé par des procureurs d'outrage à la justice pour avoir diffusé des propos de Me Isidore Rufyikiri, le bâtonnier de l'Ordre des avocats du Burundi actuellement emprisonné, qui avait déclaré que les tribunaux étaient sous contrôle du pouvoir exécutif burundais, selon des journalistes locaux. Il convient de noter que dans un rapport en mai 2011, l'expert indépendant des Nations Unies sur la situation des droits de l'homme au Burundi, Fatsah Ouguergouz, avait exprimé de sérieuses inquiétudes au sujet du « manque d'indépendance de la justice » au Burundi. [...]

Texte complet et surce: CPJ (New York), 3 août 2011

ALERT FROM: 2011-08-12 [FR]

Ghana: Trois pasteurs agressent des journalistes et saccagent une station de radio

http://www.ifex.org/ghana/2011/08/11/hotfm attacked/fr/

Le 9 août 2011, trois pasteurs, dont Daniel Obinim, révérend évêque autoproclamé de l'église International God's Way, ont été accordés la liberté provisoire sous caution par un tribunal itinérant d'Accra après avoir prétendument agressé trois journalistes et un panéliste de Hot FM, une station de radio basée à Accra, pendant la nuit du 8 août.

Les trois pasteurs courroucés ont violemment envahi et saccagé le studio en vue de manifester leur mécontentement au sujet de "Nya Asem Hwe", un programme d'actualités en langue locale. Depuis lors, les victimes, Barima Ntim Katakyie, l'animateur du programme, Shadrack Adu et George Kumi, réalisateurs, ainsi que le révérend Amoako, le panéliste, ont reçu des soins médicaux et ont été renvoyés de l'hôpital.

Obinim, 33 ans et fondateur de l'église International God's Way, et deux de ses pasteurs, Kofi Akweitey et Kingsley Baah, sont accusés de conspiration en vue de commettre un crime, de provocation du mal et de dégâts matériels.

Les trois hommes avaient envahi le studio de Hot FM en colère pour protester contre leur exclusion d'un programme qui avait discuté d'un scandale sexuel impliquant Obinim et la femme d'un autre pasteur. La station a joué un enregistrement sur bande qui aurait impliqué le fondateur dans le scandale.

"Ils ont agressé l'animateur et d'autres membres du personnel avec une barre et d'autres armes et leur ont infligé des blessures au corps", a dit le procureur.

Par ailleurs, Francis Hinakwah, reporter d'Adom FM, une station de radio basée à Tema, a été violemment agressé le 9 août par certains membres de la section de l'église d'Obinim située à Tema. Hinakwah s'y était rendu suite à l'arrestation du leader et trois autres personnes. Selon le reporter, les membres de l'église courroucés ont déchiré sa chemise, confisqué son magnétophone et sa carte d'identité. Un taxi qui tentait d'aider le journaliste à se mettre à l'abri a été bombardé d'objets métalliques qui ont détruit l'un de ses rétroviseurs latéraux.

Sa carte d'identité lui a été restituée sur l'intervention de la police régionale de Tema. Le reporter a confié à la Fondation pour les Médias en Afrique de l'Ouest (MFWA) que les membres de l'église l'ont accusé et la station de radio d'œuvrer à l'effondrement de l'église.

Source: Fondation pour les Médias en Afrique de l'Ouest (Accra°, repris par IFEX, 11 août 2011

ALERT FROM: 2011-08-13 [FR]

Ouganda: Accusé de "trahison", le journaliste Augustine Okello risque la peine de mort

http://fr.rsf.org/ouganda-disparu-depuis-deux-semaines-un-26-07-2011,40697.html
Reporters sans frontières s'inquiète du sort du présentateur de la station Rhino FM, Augustine Okello, alias "Rouks", placé en détention provisoire à la prison de Luzira, près de Kampala. Le journaliste sera entendu par la justice ougandaise le 12 août 2011.

Le 1er août dernier, il a été officiellement inculpé de "trahison" par la Cour de Buganda Road, à Kampala, un crime passible de la peine de mort. Ce jour-là, le prévenu a affirmé aux médias avoir été torturé par les forces de sécurité. Des allégations rejetées par le gouvernement.

"Les circonstances de l'arrestation d'Augustine Okello étaient déjà choquantes. Nous sommes désormais vivement préoccupés par les conditions dans lesquelles il est détenu et dénonçons une forme d'acharnement des autorités contre lui. Nous demandons que son dossier soit transféré devant la Haute Cour afin que le journaliste soit relâché sous caution et finalement acquitté", a déclaré Reporters sans frontières.

Source: Reporters sans frontières (Paris), Site, 10 août 2011

NEWS FROM: 2011-08-13 [FR]

Côte d'Ivoire: Radio publique Fréquence 2 de retour

http://news.abidjan.net/h/407440.html

Les auditeurs de la seconde chaîne de la radio nationale, Fréquence 2, ont retrouvé leur canal, depuis hier. Dès 5h du matin, ils ont renoué avec leurs habitudes radiophoniques. Et, de nombreuses surprises les attendent. Des émissions comme '' Pôle emploi", 'Matinale Ivoire", 'Ne rions pas", "Mea culpa", "La vie continue", plus les émissions traditionnelles telles que "Les gos de la 2" égayeront les journées des audiophiles. Pour radio Côte d'Ivoire, des changements sont aussi notables. 'Alerte sécurité", 'Au cœur de la décentralisation, 'Stade connexion"..., tous réalisées dans un nouveau studio donnent une valeur ajoutée à la doyenne des radios ivoiriennes. En effet, quatre studios destinés aux émissions ont été réhabilités dont deux fonctionnels, depuis hier. 10 kits de reportages ont été remis pour les reportages. Après avoir salué les efforts du gouvernement, le directeur technique, Dalla Diabagaté, a dénoncé l'impact des immeubles qui engendrent une perte de 80% du signal. Il a préconisé l'acquisition de fibres optiques qui augmentera la qualité de la diffusion. Souleymane Diakité Coty, ministre de la Communication, a conseillé de prendre des contacts avec Côte d'Ivoire Telecom. Il a aussi prêté une oreille attentive à la question des correspondants régionaux, &u problème des ressources humaines et de la formation. Le directeur général adjoint de Radio Côte d'Ivoire, Jean Claude Bayala, a indiqué que le problème de radio Bouaké reste entier. Avec le retour de ces deux chaînes, Radio Côte d'Ivoire, la voix du Rassemblement, disparaît du paysage audiovisuel.

Source: Nord-Sud (Abidjan), 12 août 2011; information transmise à TRRAACE par Serge Adam's Diakité (journaliste à Radio Arc-en-ciel, Abidjan)

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