

Community Radio in Flooding Time in Nepal

Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (ACORAB) Nepal has taken initiation to continue the communication right after the devastating earthquake of April, 2015. The recent flood and landslide hit in Terai/Madesh in this year and ACORAB has taken initiation for supporting the community radios as well as producing and broadcasting the lifeline radio program specially targeting to flood affected communities in Maithili language. Community Information Network, the NEWS wings of ACORAB has started to broadcast the life line radio programs in Maithili language called “Saranjam (‘सरंजाम’) every day at 7:00 PM to 7:25 PM. It is also broadcasting the PSA in Maithili and Bhojpuri languages during its main NEWS bulletins.



The reporters of local community radios have stationed at the flood areas and continuously reporting to the situation to CIN and local community radios. CIN has been facilitating to the government for rescue and relief distribution by providing the information from community radios. Local community radios from all affected districts have been regularly reporting the situation. According to Nepal Red Cross chairperson Mr. Lok Raj Dhakal, the community radio reporters and representatives have been working hard to link the government in the affected areas. Mr. Bhim Prasad Tiwari the Chief District Officer has found that the community radios have been helping people to get the safe location.

Activities Organized by Community Radios in Flood Affected Areas

To stop the infectious disease and raise the awareness a health camp was organized at Sanosri Village Municipality by community radio Sadbhav. According to Mr. Nabin Giri, the station manager, more than 700 hundred people got benefit and 50 serious cases were referred to Nepalganj Hospital. This radio also collected the fund and supported to Me. Kamal Tharu to construct house. Krishnasar FM of Nepaljung, broadcasted live from the affected areas. Likewise, the station manager of Radio Gurubaba of Bardiya said that the radio is only means to link the local community with the government in this critical situation.

Janaki FM of Janakpur produced life line program in Maithili language. It also helped relief distribution program in the Pipara Village Municipality in Mahhotari district. The station manager Mr. Ashok Dutta shared the relief distribution to 130 Dalit family. The radio has targeted to provide relief to 500 families.



Losses in Community Radio:

Due to weak infrastructure, huge rain fall and floods 29 community radios of Terai Madesh region have been damaged fully or partially. Some of the building of the community radios were damaged and some of them have lost the equipments. However, the community radios have regularly reported and informed to people from the flood areas.