



First Response Radio. October-December 2015 Update

First Response Radio is a network of radio broadcasters, NGOs and Government partners. Our members have been working in disaster areas since the Tsunami of 2004, providing critical information via radio, as aid. First Response Radio (Ltd) is a not-for-profit company delivering “Radio in a Suitcase” equipment and training to build rapid response capacity around the world.

October:

Typhoon Lando: First Response Radio Philippines was deployed to respond to Typhoon Lando’s devastation in Casiguran, Aurora. The team broadcasted public service announcements (PSAs) coming from the PDRRMC as well as humanitarian agencies in the area, psychosocial programs, interviews with government officials as well as with humanitarian workers and affected communities, daily weather updates (courtesy of Panahon TV) and key messages on food, WASH, health and shelter. They also passed out 100 solar powered radios to the community. 98.7 FIRST Response Radio (FRR) Casiguran wrapped up operations on October 30, ten days after initially deploying on October 20th.



Below is a link to an article from the CDAC Network about the Typhoon Lando response.

<http://www.cdacnetwork.org/i/20151117111408-9h7d3/>

Pakistan Earthquake: A powerful 7.5 magnitude earthquake rocked parts of South Asia on 26 October 2015. It was centered in northeast Afghanistan, and was also quite strong in NW Pakistan. One of our founding partners, Ross James from Health Communication Resources was in a training event in Rawalpindi when the earth started shaking. FRR



Pakistan is managed by Hazeen Latif of HCR Pakistan. Hazeen has been working in disasters for 10 years now. Within days Hazeen led a small team into the area for assessments and the following week returned again to begin making radio programs to bring help and information. These were broadcast over Dilbar FM – a station they started working with in the 2010 floods.

<http://reliefweb.int/disaster/eq-2015-000147-afg>

December:



Philippines Training: FRR Philippines (FRR PH) ran a full Rapid Response training class from December 7-16 in Manila, Philippines. The 5 day class was topped off with an adventurous 3 day field exercise. Due to an impending typhoon alert that stopped all boat traffic, the team was not able to reach their targeted field trial location, Santa Fe, Cebu. So they improvised and set up the emergency radio station right where they were in Antipolo, Medillan. After 2 days of broadcasting they were able to arrive at Santa Fe for the final day. This team also broke the world record for the fastest setup and on air time, with a time of 21 minutes.

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