



First Response Radio

Information Saves Lives

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Anniversary:

January 2015 marked the 10 year anniversary of First Response Radio. As of January 2015, First Response Radio has conducted 8 training workshops, distributed 10 suitcase studios, and FRR trained teams have responded to 17 disasters worldwide. Over the decade of service, we have watched FRR grow from humble beginnings to an International organization with ready to deploy teams in 3 different countries.

2015 Disasters:

Nepal Deployment:

On May 2nd, Mike Adams, two members from FRR India, and the FRR Pakistan Coordinator Hazeen Latif arrived in Nepal in response to the devastating earthquake. Within one hour of arrival, Radio Rasuwa was up and running, with live and interactive programming from a table outside the station. The team spent ten days in Nepal, during which time they moved the radio station in Dhunche to a new, less damaged building, provided FRR training for local staff from the community, and distributed radios to the community.

Typhoon Lando:

First Response Radio Philippines was deployed to respond to Typhoon Lando's devastation in Casiguran, Aurora.

The team broadcast 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.





Pakistan Earthquake:

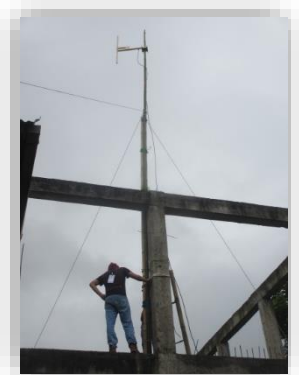
After the powerful 7.5 magnitude earthquake rocked northeast Afghanistan, and the surrounding areas, Hazeen Latif of FRR Pakistan led a small team into the area for assessments and the following week returned again to begin making radio programs to bring help and information. These were broadcast over Dilbar FM

2015 Trainings:

Indonesia Training:



FRR Indonesia (FRI) ran a full Rapid Response Radio training class 3-11 June near Manado, Indonesia. The 5 day class was held near the twin volcanoes of Mount Lokon and Mount Empung, culminating in an intensive 3 day field exercise.



There was also a volcano alert in place - adding to the need to train partners and be prepared BEFORE the next disaster.

Return to Indonesia:

First Response Radio's International Coordinator Mike Adams returned to Indonesia. The first stop was in Banda Aceh, where training took place and they received a new Suitcase Studio with updated software and technology to replace the older model. Second stop was in Jakarta, where they too received training to equip a new group to be able to respond to a disaster with emergency radio.





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.

2015 Network Events:

UNHCR and +Social Good Webinar:

On February 2nd International Coordinator for FRR Mike Adams spoke at the first joint webinar between UNHCR and +Social Good. The UNHCR is the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and + Social Good is a global community where connectors come together to share world-changing ideas and spark action in our social media

era<https://plus.google.com/u/0/events/cav4uthutr244dgcgav87ck9qk4>

UN OCHA BKK Demo:

Mike Adams visited the UN OHCHA office in Bangkok, Thailand in February. UN OCHA is the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. Mr. Adams was able to share about the mission of First Response Radio and demonstrate the suitcase radio.

WGET ICT Forum:

From April 29-30, Mike Adams was in attendance for the 36th session of the Working Group for Emergency Telecommunications (WGET) – ICT Humanitarian Innovation Forum which took place at the Jemeirah Emirates Tower in Dubai, UAE. He was part of a three member panel who gave a presentation on “Prepositioning Relationships and Technology to Better Communicate with Communities in Disaster Response”.

Geneva:

First Response Radio participated in the CDAC Network’s first Members' Forum in Geneva on 8 - 9 July, at the ICRC’s state-of-the-art Humanitarium.





2015 - In the News:

CDAC Network reporting about the Typhoon Lando response:

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

RadioWorld International Feature: Radio World International Magazine on the Nepal response:

http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/newbay/rwi_201508/

DW Akademie Interview: Nik Martin of DW Akademie published an interview he had conducted with Mike Adams:

<http://www.dw.com/en/broadcasting-critical-info-hours-after-disaster-strikes/a-18476460/>

First Response Radio (FRR) 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. Our goal is to set up a radio station for the affected community within 72 hours of a disaster. The best way to build this capacity is to equip and train teams before disaster strikes.

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