

**EQUIP  
TRAIN &  
RESPOND**



**2017 ANNUAL REPORT**

**#COMMUNICATIONISAID**



# EQUIP



## Pakistan Suitcase

We are happy to report that a brand new Suitcase Radio kit was successfully delivered to Pakistan in March. With plans underway to launch a new team and full training on the 'Suitcase Radio' all the pieces are falling in place to have a disaster ready squad prepared for action in Pakistan soon.



## TRAIN



## India Workshop Field Trial

**Facilitator and Responder Training held in India from January 29 - February 8.**

Using their new Suitcase Studio, First Response Radio India's knowledge was strengthened by their time in the classroom. Problem-solving skills and resiliency were challenged by their field trial experience.

- Indian trainers are certified to train new First Response radio teams.
- Fifteen more team members are **equipped** and **trained** in order to **respond** to disaster within 72-hours.

## Nepal

In February First Response Radio ran a 'taster' event in Kathmandu with Radio and NGO partners addressing the role of radio in times of disaster. FRR is seeking partners to assist in launching a Nepali team.

### #WorldRadioDay

FRR contributed radios for distribution to members of the earthquake affected communities in the east of Nepal. Prime Minister of Nepal, Pushpa Kamal Dahal presented a radio to one of the 50 families who had moved into new homes.

FRR also attended the WRD event in Kathmandu hosted by UNESCO and ACORAB.



# Banda Aceh, Indonesia

As part of building capacity in Banda Aceh a new team of responders were trained in August, with 5 days in the classroom, and a full 3 day field trial. This event also served to certify key leaders in training roles vital for running future training. Since Indonesia is such a disaster-prone country, it is always a necessity to have as many responders as possible trained and ready to deploy immediately. One highlight was that the new team broke the 'FRR world record' by setting up the full FM radio station and starting broadcasting in 16 minutes!

## Feba UK Training of Trainers

In August, a special mini "Training of Trainers" (TOT) event was conducted with the specific purpose of getting another International Trainer prepared and certified. With this TOT training under his belt, our International Partner Relations Manager, Johnny Fisher, is just one step away from full "Trainer Certification."

## FRR Philippines Training Cancelled

FRR Philippines team was preparing for a FIRST Response Radio training event in June this year, held in Mindanao. Unfortunately, the region, situated under Martial Law, was restricted, due to instability in the area. After considering the events, FRR Philippines leadership decided to cancel the event and look forward to rescheduling it soon.

## Medical Teams International (MTI) Training, Cambodia

First Response Radio ran a special 2-day Disaster Response crash course for the Cambodian team of Medical Teams International (MTI) in March.

During the training, participants were trained in topics such as Coordinating with Humanitarian Organizations during disaster response, preparing their 'go bag' for the field and were familiarized with the SPHERE standards as well as the Red Cross/Red Crescent Code of Conduct.





# RESPOND

Add a little bit of body text



## Bihar, India Floods

After a state disaster in India, the worst flooding to hit South Asia in over a decade, the FRR India team was deployed. For one month during August and September, FRR India produced daily programs for the people affected by flooding (affecting up to 41 million people in India, Bangladesh and Nepal).



The programs were broadcast on a network of 3 local stations that covered the affected area of Bihar, as well as on shortwave. They mainly addressed WASH issues (water, sanitation and hygiene); the availability of medical aid; and interviews with counsellors addressing the socio-psychological impact on survivors.

Programs encouraged community involvement with some groups producing songs and skits to encourage the affected communities

## Landslides in Indonesia

When Ponorogo, East Java was struck by two landslides in April, FRR Indonesia (FRI) helped a local station create programs for the response rather than deploying a suitcase radio. FRR, Indonesia Coordinator, Jose Marwoto reached out to meet with local radio journalists and emergency response professionals, to train the responders.

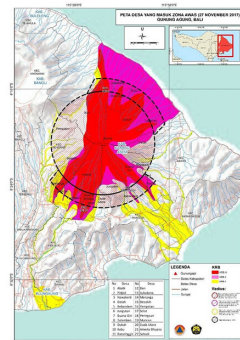
Among the issues addressed were 'Various Phases of Disaster', 'Creating and Broadcasting programs', 'Dealing with Disaster Mitigation and Preparedness' and 'Crucial Information Distribution' much needed when a disaster strikes. Marwoto was able to distribute radios to victims of the landslide and to local government. The outreach by this qualified trainer saw high impact result with low cost and well-prepared resources in place.





# Bali Volcano

In response to the Mt. Agung crisis, First Response Indonesia deployed a team to Bali to help with the relief efforts. From November 30th- December 15th the team was on the ground and involved in many different activities. From day one, lifesaving information was being broadcast through our partner radio station, Heartline Bali 92.2 FM. Programs such as PSAs, interviews with local experts/ government officials, and interviews with members of the local community were all broadcast for the island of Bali to prepare and inform the people in case the volcano erupted.



## Core Mandates of FRR

For any growing First Response Radio Team such as FRR Indonesia, planning, and coordination is vital. With that in mind, International Coordinator Mike Adams met with FRR Indonesia leaders in Singapore in March to draft out an annual plan for the Indonesian team.

The 3 core mandates of First Response Radio were addressed:

### Equip

Each team needs to be fully equipped and ensure all equipment is fully functional at all times. Following a deployment all equipment should be checked and repairs carried out.

### Train

New responders and new trainers need to be trained regularly to ensure enough trained responders are available at all times.

### Respond

Monitor potential emergency situations and be prepared to deploy after assessing the extent and needs of the disaster.



"Radio has the potential to play a far more immediate role in emergency response situations"

In his article on the CDAC web page, John McGrath of Freeplay Energy cited the example of the use of FRR's Suitcase Radio in Emergency Response. " We support the idea that steps need to be taken to get radios into disaster zones more easily. That is also why we like to stockpile in-country rather than try to import when disaster strikes."



[CLICK HERE](#)  
to read the full article

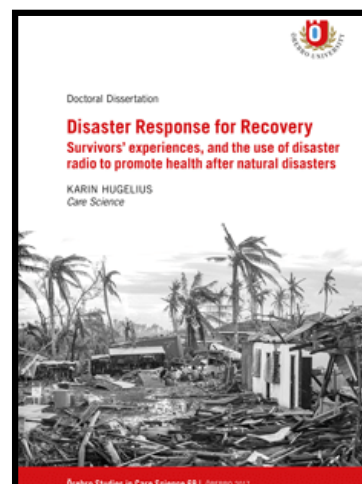
## Research Presentation, Feb 2018

FRR is proud to be able to share with the International Humanitarian Community several research papers from Swedish Researcher Karen Hugelius.

Following Typhoon Haiyan/Yolanda in the Philippines in November 2013 all radio and TV stations were off the air Tacloban City, the "ground Zero" area of the disaster. FIRST Response Radio arrived on DAY 5 and had an emergency radio station on 98.7FM on Day 6.

The research shows the value of music, the psycho-social impact of good community engagement, and a direct link between those who listened to FRR and those who had better health 30 months later.

The research launch event will be held in Geneva to coincide with World Radio Day on February 12 & 13, 2018.



"Disaster response for recovery: Survivors' experiences, and the use of disaster radio to promote health after natural disasters": Karin Hugelius, Orebro University.

**Visit our new, re-branded webpage [www.firstresponseradio.org](http://www.firstresponseradio.org)**



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. FRR goal is to set up a radio station for the affected community within 72 hours of a disaster. The best way we have discovered to build this capacity is to equip and train teams before disaster strikes.

[www.firstresponseradio.org](http://www.firstresponseradio.org)

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