



First Response Radio

Ready When Disaster Strikes

3rd Qtr 2019

Impact report

#COMMUNICATIONISAID

**EQUIP
TRAIN
RESPOND
IMPACT**





Replacement radio stockpile arrives at FR Indonesia HQ

FRR is pleased to announce that 1000 radios donated by FEBA UK have arrived at the First Response Indonesia (FRI) head office. The Tecsun G88 radios will be stored at the FRI offices, replenishing the previous stockpile that was used up during the Palu 2018 earthquake.

Due to limited stock at the time of the earthquake, FRI was only able to distribute 250 radios. Radio continues to be an essential tool in saving lives during disaster response efforts. The replacement stockpile will enable FRI to serve more communities when other lines of communication are down.

The team at FRI are grateful for the assistance in this disaster response initiative. "Indonesia is always at risk of experiencing further natural disasters and so having a large stockpile of radios allows us to reach a greater audience and save more lives."



***Thank you to Feba UK
for making this
stockpile possible***



RESPOND



Mozambique

FRR returns to Mozambique to close out first deployment in Africa

March 2019 saw FRR's first deployment in Africa as Cyclone Idai caused devastation across large areas of Southern Africa. That deployment was managed by HCR UK, one of the founding members of the FRR network.

In July Johnny Fisher of HCR UK returned to Mozambique. The purpose of the trip was to officially close FRR operations, evaluate the impact of FRR's response and return radio equipment to the UK. The trip involved interviews with key informants regarding ongoing relief efforts. The team also visited Buzi FM, which FRR had assisted in getting back on the air, to pick up radio equipment and assess the impact of the response.

Although the suitcase studio was returned to the UK, the transmitter and generator were staying in Mozambique with FOT FM, a partner of FEBC, with the hope that it can be used by a future FRR team. We are continually grateful to our international team for their hard work throughout this response. We'd like to give special thanks to our partner HCR UK for sponsoring the return trip to Mozambique.



Indonesia

Earthquake shocks reach Indonesia's capital

On the 2nd August 2019 a 6.9-magnitude earthquake jolted the southern coast of Banten with shocks felt in Jakarta and Bandung, West Java. FRR Indonesia, which is based in Jakarta, reported that the quake rocked buildings in the city centre.

FRR Indonesia assessed the situation and, as radio stations stayed on air with all staff safely accounted for it was clear that no deployment was needed.



India

Heavy monsoons cause flooding across states in India

Several parts of Southern India have faced severe flooding throughout this year, most recently in August 2019, which required action from the FRR India team.

Widespread flooding had affected millions in the states of Kerala, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh with many being evacuated to relief camps.

No official deployment was required but during the emergency period, FRR India were able to work in partnership with local radio stations in Kerala to broadcast programmes providing advice and encouragement to people displaced by landslides and floods.



Pakistan

Earthquake assessment trip reveals training opportunities

In September an earthquake struck the eastern region of Pakistan. The quake, measuring 5.8 in magnitude hit close to the city of Mirpur which is part of the Kashmir region.

With hundreds thought to be injured and many local communities affected, FRR Pakistan was on standby as they assessed the initial impact and need for communications. The team travelled to Mirpur, visiting radio stations in the most affected areas.

On arrival the team found that although some radio station buildings had been damaged by the earthquake, the stations themselves were still broadcasting. Both Radio Pakistan and other private radio stations, on hearing about FRR's work, expressed interest in future training on relevant disaster relief content and procedures.

On this occasion there was no further need for deployment. However we are grateful for FRR Pakistan's response that has opened up new connections and potential partnerships in the future.



FRR Pakistan
Coordinator Hazeen
Latif visits Radio
Pakistan's emergency
operation in Kashmir

IMPACT



Cyclone Idai:Mozambique

The return trip to Mozambique in July 2019 gave a chance for the HCR UK team, FRR's partner, to assess the impact of their response to Cyclone Idai. The team stopped in the city of Beira before revisiting the town of Buzi where they had helped Buzi FM become the first station back on the air following the cyclone.

Buzi FM was important for registering issues experienced by communities during the aftermath of Cyclone Idai.

On arrival in Buzi, the team spotted a youth group presenting programmes under the supervision of a teacher in the town, who also has his own programme. It was encouraging to see the impact of radio in real-time and that there was a cross generational sharing of skill and resources. The same group were later seeing broadcasting using the town's own equipment (once FRR's had been removed). It's great to see them adapt to their new setup so quickly.

Volunteers who worked at Buzi FM after HCR (UK) helped get the station back on the air receive certificates of appreciation.



Through interviews with key informants, several NGOs indicated that the temporary cholera treatment clinic in Buzi closed earlier than planned because there were fewer cases than anticipated. They attributed this to the effectiveness of Buzi FM in supporting other messaging outlets (motorbike passengers with megaphones, posters and face to face).

The team also heard Buzi FM had been important for registering issues experienced by communities during the aftermath of Cyclone Idai. Safety was a big concern given that displaced communities felt very vulnerable. The radios given by FRR had phone numbers which people could call allowing for security issues to be addressed.

Buzi FM was effective in supporting other messaging outlets

Travel problems meant that the team couldn't join our partners, FOT FM in transporting the remaining FRR equipment to their station in Lichinga for a scheduled 'Taster Event'. Unfortunately, the event had to be postponed, but the team noted that the manager and technician of FOT FM had good experience of what a deployment looks like as well as an understanding of the community- centered approach to creating content.

The response to Cyclone Idai was a new experience in new territory for FRR. There are more lessons to be learnt, but there are encouraging signs that the foundations have been laid for a future FRR team to be stationed in Africa.



First Response Radio
Ready When Disaster Strikes

