

Migration and Community Radio: Report for survey on “Internal Migration: A Manual for Community Radio Stations”

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INTRODUCTION:

A majority of community radio stations in India lie in parts of the country where migration is a significant issue, both at source and destination. Given UNESCO's objective to support, through the Internal Migration in India Initiative (IMI), the social inclusion of migrants in the economic, social, political and cultural life of the country, and respond to the many challenges raised by the internal migration phenomenon in India using a three-legged approach combining research, policy and advocacy; community radio stations represent a vital opportunity to build a supportive environment for internal migrant populations.

[***"Internal Migration- A Manual for Community Radio Stations"***](#) (2015) is a training tool/manual proposed by UNESCO and IDEOSYNC to support community radio personnel in their capacity and potential to produce and broadcast migrant-sensitive programmes. This is a survey report on the manual based on practical suggestions and general feedback by community radio (CR) stations collected using a [questionnaire](#). The survey was conducted in December 2015 on a total of 52 CR stations across India and this report is based on the responses received by 11 CR stations.

METHOD:

The database of all 179 CR stations in India was consolidated into 70 CR stations using location as the criteria. A map of major net migration flow in India was used to find states where migration is a significant issue at source, destination and transit. ¹ The CR stations located in these states were selected because of their potential to reach a large migrant audience. These 70 CR stations were interviewed on phone to identify those relevant for this project i.e. those broadcasting migrant sensitive programmes or those interested in doing so. The [Ek Duniya anEk Awaaz](#) website and the [Manch](#) website were also referred to find CR stations with a thematic focus on migration or related issues.

Through the interviews, a total of 52 CR stations were identified to be relevant for this project. Out of these, 26 CR stations were broadcasting programmes on migration or related issues, 13 CR stations were interested in doing so and the rest of 13 CR stations that neither broadcasted these issues nor expressed the interest to do so were identified because they were located in areas with a significantly large migrant audience.

The *"Internal Migration- A Manual for Community Radio Stations"* manual and a DVD with other relevant text and audio-visual publications by UNESCO on internal migration were posted to CR stations, along with a questionnaire, inviting feedback on the following questions:

- Do you find the manual and DVD to be useful?
- Do you think you will be able to use the manual and DVD for your ongoing programmes or for creating new programmes?
- Which chapters of the manual and DVD do you think you will use in the future (indicate pages)?
- Do you think English is a suitable language for the manual?
- Which other languages would you suggest for the manual?
- Any other suggestions to improve the manual and DVD.

¹ Bhagat and Mohanty 2009

RESPONSES:

The survey was conducted keeping in mind parameters like language, location and usefulness of content. 21% responses were received, from the following CR stations:

- **Community Radio Mattoli**, Kerala;
- **Radio Kissan**, Odisha;
- **Radio Rimjhim**, Bihar;
- **Radio Muskan**, Odisha;
- **Radio Snehi**, Bihar;
- **Radio Surabhi**, Odisha;
- **Radio Universal**, Karnataka;
- **Yeralavani**, Maharashtra;
- **Radio Sanskar**, Odisha;
- **Radio Manav Rachna**, Haryana;
- **CRS Kuthar**, Himachal Pradesh

The survey was conducted on CR stations located in source states like Kerala, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Bihar and destination states like Karnataka, Maharashtra, Delhi and Madhya Pradesh. Out of the responses received: 36% were from Odisha, 18% were from Bihar, and 9% were each from Kerala, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra.

Do you think English is a suitable language for the manual?

Hindi was suggested as the most suitable language for the manual by 90% of the CR stations. 36.6% results were Odia. 18% suggested English as the suitable language. Apart from this 9% suggested each of Kannada, Chhattisgarhi and Marathi.

As a commonly acceptable language for the manual, Hindi is the top suggestion. Regional languages like Odia, Kannada and Marathi have only been suggested by CR stations located in regions where these are the native languages. Interestingly, a CR station from Kerala suggested English, and not Malayalam, as the most suitable language for the manual.

Which chapters of the manual and DVD do you think you will use in the future (indicate pages)?

The following are the chapters, resources and annexures of the manual:

Table of Contents (to read more, click [here](#))

Chapter 1: Understanding Internal Migration (to read more, click [here](#))

Chapter 2: The Vulnerability of Migrants (to read more, click [here](#))

Chapter 3: Migrants and Voice (to read more, click [here](#))

Chapter 4: Researching Migrant Issues (to read more, click [here](#))

Chapter 5: Designing CR Content on Migration (to read more, click [here](#))

Chapter 6: Content and the Challenge of Migrant Mobility (to read more, click [here](#))

Chapter 7: Ethical Concerns While Addressing Migrant Populations (to read more, click [here](#))

Chapter 8: Working with Migrant Populations: Learnings (to read more, click [here](#))

Resources (to read more, click [here](#))

Annexure 1: Sample Questionnaire for Quantitative Research with Migrants (click [here](#))

Annexure 2: A Short List of NGOs Working on Migration Issues (to read more, click [here](#))

45% CR stations said that they will be using all the chapters in the future. 18% mentioned the chapters “Understanding Internal Migration”, “The Vulnerability of Migrants”, “Designing CR Content on Migration”, and “Researching Migrant Issues”. 9% mentioned chapters “Migrants and Voice”, and “Content and the Challenge of Migrant”. 18% mentioned the content in the DVD to be useful to them, out of which 9% mentioned the programme ‘Jab chale Shahar ki Ore’ as useful for them to use in the future.

The chapters that focus on researching or understanding migrant issues seem to be most useful to the CR stations. Interestingly, none of the CR stations have specifically mentioned chapter 7 on “Ethical Concerns While Addressing Migrant Populations” or chapter 8 on “Working with Migrant Populations: Learnings”.

Table 1: Feedback on useful chapters in the manual

Station	Most Useful Chapters
Community Radio Mattoli	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 1: “Understanding Internal Migration” Chapter 2: “The Vulnerability of Migrants” Chapter 4: “Researching Migrant Issues”
Radio Kissan	All chapters
Radio Rimjhim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 5: “Designing CR Content on Migration” DVD: “Jab Chale Shahar ki Ore”
Radio Muskan	All chapters
Radio Snehi	Chapter 2: “The Vulnerability of Migrants” (section on Myths and Facts)
Radio Surabhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 4: “Researching Migrant Issues” (section on Research Methodologies) Chapter 1: “Understanding Internal Migration” (section on Positive Perspectives of Internal Migration) Chapter 3: “Migrants and Voice” (section on Approach to Poverty of Voice) Chapter 6: “Content and the Challenge of Migrant Mobility” (section on Case Studies) All Activity Models present across chapters
Radio Universal	All chapters
Yeralavani	The DVD
Radio Sanskar	All chapters
Radio Manav Rachna	Chapter 5: “Designing CR Content on Migration” (section on Developing Content for Migrants)
CRS Kuthar	All chapters

Any other suggestions to improve the manual and DVD:

27% responses suggested that common trainings of CR stations should be organized to create a comprehensive understanding of the manual. 18% suggested that opportunities for networking should be created between CR stations interested in migration with NGOs working on migration. 27% said that they found the manual to be very useful and had no suggestions to make. Interestingly, 18% gave suggestions on ways to be able to stop internal migration.

The top suggestion is for trainings to be organized for CR stations for better understanding of the manual.

Table 2: Other suggestions to improve manual and DVD

Station	Suggestions
Community Radio Mattoli	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add more model programmes in the DVD • Provide more information on the migration scenario in Kerala
Radio Kissan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize common training for CR stations to have a comprehensive understanding of the manual • Add focus on workplace security and health consciousness in the sample questionnaire
Radio Rimjhim	Suggestions on how to stop internal migration
Radio Muskan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize trainings with CR stations • Create opportunities for networking between CR stations and NGOs interested in migration • Emphasise more on place, season and sector when speaking of migration
Radio Snehi	Suggestions on how to stop internal migration
Radio Surabhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include persons with disabilities, with an emphasis on women and children, in the manual • Sensitize Panchayati Raj institutions as an important stakeholder in the migration process • Build a network of CR stations
Radio Universal	No suggestions
Yeralavani	No suggestions
Radio Sanskar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize trainings for CR stations on issues related to migration • Create networking opportunities between CR stations and NGOs interested in migration
Radio Manav Rachna	No suggestions
CRS Kuthar	The manual should be translated to local dialects for it to be useful for CR stations