

Final Report
of
Radio Program on Anticorruption and
Good Governance

Submitted by
Forum Against Corruption and Turmoil
Nepal
(FACT Nepal)

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Background

The majority people in Nepal are far from an access of information about corruption and good governance. Moreover, they are still unknown about the term *governance* that is widely used by the NGOs and GOs in recent days. In fact, the people are still deprived from a fast and quality service from government authorities, also yet unknown about the corrupt activities in government and private sectors. They even don't know much about the inherent right that has been guaranteed by the constitution. Therefore, it is the most important duty of the organization like FACT to inform them about the activities of government authorities and about their right to information. It is also necessary to aware general public about the corrupt activities that are usual to government authorities and private sectors.

Therefore FACT Nepal decided to work jointly with the donor agencies to uplift its media campaign. After a long discourse with Mr. Pierre Landell-Mills, President of PTF, the radio program was considered for worth funding. FACT received a grant amount US\$ 3573 from **Partnership for Transparency Fund**. With which FACT launched a media campaign through local radio.

Accordingly, FACT successfully completed one year radio program from FM station. FACT Nepal broadcasted the radio program on anticorruption and good governance from a FM Station **FM Adhyatma Jyoti 104.8 MHz at 18:00 to 19:00 NST** for an hour every Friday. The name of the program was **HAMRO CHASO** (in English OUR CONCERN).

The Program was completely issue-based and the contents were related to the current issues of corruption and governance. The program aimed to bring mass awareness and became quite successful to achieve its targeted goals. The impact and pervasiveness of the program were highly acclaimed by the listeners. **"HAMRO CHASO"** unit got regular support of feedbacks and comments from listeners. Therefore, FACT NEPAL feels an essence to continue the program in the days to come with wider coverage.

Objectives of the Radio Program

Public awareness on current corruption issues, empowerment to the civil society to fight against corruption, assistance and co-operation to the government agencies to combat corruption in Nepal were the general objectives of Radio Program of FACT. This project also aimed the government authorities to boost up in their administrative works. Specific objectives were:

- To collect many literatures concerned to corruption and good governance in order to broadcast them widely.
- To draw attention of government authorities regarding transparency, accountability and various aspects of responsibilities.
- To bring attention of civil society and private sector to promote good governance and uproot corruption.
- To develop and establish a moral society by promoting ethical and social norms and values.
- To make an effort to establish a corrupt free society by promoting whistles blowing act and other programs focused to anticorruption activities.

The major goal of the program was to create and promote effective mass awareness about the corruption and governance issues by education, information and empowerment via media program.

Program Operation

FACT Nepal constituted a team of media professionals and its executive members to run the radio program on anticorruption and good governance. The radio program is informative radio magazine and makes exclusive coverage of anticorruption, good governance issues and efforts of the government and non-government institutions to curb corruption in Nepal. The program also highlighted and made exposure of the corrupt activities taking place in the administration, politics and social sector.

There were different steps in the preparation to broadcast program. Firstly, the production unit collected the materials and news related to issues of anticorruption and good governance from various sources such as newspapers, bulletins, internet, seminars and workshops. In addition, the production unit also made the program by directly contacting the general public and the concerned government authorities. The collected materials used to be sincerely observed, analyzed and finalized for the broadcast by the production team. The team of **FACT** executives used to help in order to find the right materials for broadcasting purpose. Furthermore, contemporary burning topic was selected for an interview in the third track of the radio program in each episode. **FACT** managed to present some prize to the winners participated in the listener's forum in order to maximize participation.

The radio program was divided into 3 tracks. The first track included the news headlines concerning the corruption cases, governance issues, efforts from governmental and non governmental sector to curb corruption, cases of public concern, existing administrative political and social problems etc.

The second track included the fundamental presentation of **FACT Nepal** on sub heading "Our Steps" in which the subject of social issues, reports of commission formed by the government, individual efforts to curb corruption, editorials on current social issues and other distinct analytical matters from different walks of life were broadcasted. This track also included different coverage of corruption cases, news report, articles, suggestion, comments, information and notices, public announcements issued for the public interest by **FACT Nepal**. **Listeners' Forum** where we asked a question to our listeners and collected the correct entries from our listeners also included in this track. On every fortnight we provided some attractive prizes to the lucky winner selected from the lucky draw among the correct entries. We also collected the feedbacks and comments of our listeners regarding our weakness and impact for the improvement of program and broadcasted the appropriate suggestions and comments. We also included **VOX POP** (Public Voice) in some of episodes where the common citizens expressed their opinions.

The Final track of the program was allocated for an interview on the topic of anticorruption and good governance. The prominent personalities from different

walks of life were invited for interview. Bureaucrats, social activists, politicians, leaders of different social movement, top level/ retired professional and other high ranking people of policy making level were the participants (*See the annex for the name and designation of the people invited in this section*). This section of the program was the major attraction to our listeners. The interview and ideas shared in this section were all very sensitive, authentic and of great values.

Media Campaign Team and Its Monitoring

The Media Campaign Team was led by the Program Coordinator, Mr. Dilep K. Paudel, the Secretary General of FACT Nepal. Others who assisted during the program are as follows:

Mr. Yogendra Poudel (Media Professional and Anticorruption Activist),
Ms. Sushita Basnet, (Media Professional and Researcher),
Mr. Bidhya Adhikari, (Academician and Vice- President of Fact Nepal),
Mr. Paras Paudel(Radio Journalist),
Mr. Manoj Tiwari, (Proprietor of FM Adhyatma Jyoti),
Mr. Babukaji, (Recording Technician)
Mr. Keshav Dutta Badu, Office Assistant of FACT Nepal.

In Addition, the program unit received active participation and guidance from FACT Executives Mr. Prakash C. Bhattarai, Mr. Raju Khanal and Mr. Arun Kattel.

FACT Nepal developed an **Evaluation and Monitoring Body** to know the effectiveness of the program. FACT Patron and FACT President were in the body. FACT Patron Mr. Bharat Jangam, former Co-ordinator of ministerial level Public Service Monitoring and Evaluation Team, formed by His Majesty's Government of Nepal to control bureaucratic corruption in Nepal. Radio Team was guided by the evaluation body to develop worthy and effective radio program.

Achievements

Since, the program was issue based informative radio magazine, we made exclusive coverage of anticorruption essence, corruption cases, and issues of good governance and efforts of the government and non-government institutions to curb corruption in Nepal. The program also highlighted and exposed of the corrupt activities taking place in the administrative, political and social sector. Public were made aware of corruption issues and governance issues. Government officers were aware about the efficiency of service delivery. Other achievements were; meeting of the members of Listeners Forum, field visit and study of the condition of service delivery from the government office during the reporting, working as a pressure body and group to the government and local authorities via radio, interaction between the representatives of the civil society via radio talk program, interviewing people of different walks of life like anticorruption activist, bureaucrats, politician, social activists and experts etc.

Executive board of FACT Nepal reviewed achievement in consideration with comments reviewed from the Monitoring Body regarding radio program and approved agenda to continue the program inspired by its effective contribution combating corruption in the Nepalese society.

Based on the comment and suggestion of the listeners, the program was found to be far useful and fruitful. FACT Radio team made a coverage of several anticorruption and governance issues and broadcasted them widely. The ideas and information sharing during interview and panel discussion were highly liked by our listeners. The program was acclaimed as a successful program of its kind.

No such long (in terms of program duration) program was ever broadcasted by any other station in Nepal on anticorruption and governance issues. From the conclusion drawn by the listeners' calls to the FM studio, FM Adyatma Jyoti 104.80 Mhz believes that HAMRO CHASO was one of the very successful among radio programs broadcasted by them. Radio Adhyatma Jyoti believes that the admirable effort and outstanding team-work of FACT, made the programs very successful.

Listeners and civil society appreciated the quality program from limited resources broadcasted by FACT Nepal. Some highlighted news on HAMRO CHASO were placed and treated as national issues, such as case of corruption scandal of Birgunj Municipality, Nepal. In addition, corruption case of ex-minister was broadly covered and the news of agitation against corruption was emphasized to encourage agitators. So far we have noticed, the listeners from the city and the countryside gave particular examples of corruption they faced and showed the evidences how corruption exists in their environment and affects their lives both directly and indirectly. Some educated and senior listeners described corruption as the dangerous disease for the development of the nation and agreed to the common point of failure of government to curb corruption and stressed the role of

the organization like ours to actively involve in the program to aware the citizen about exposure of corrupt behavior and its remedies.

National personalities with whom we interacted during interview part of HAMRO CHASO expressed their opinions as even from the limited resources, this program was able to aware general public in the issues of good governance, their rights and anti-corruption movement.

Some bureaucrats also visited FACT office to appreciate our achievement and show their willingness to support our program. They also lodged complaints within their departments and handed over some documents to include in HAMRO CHASO. This also proved that the radio program of FACT Nepal was really successful and effective to grab attention of Nepalese people against corruption.

Conclusion

FACT NEPAL, dedicated to aware people on the issues of good governance and anti-corruption, believes in effective and accountable social system. It conducted radio program named "HAMRO CHASO" as a media campaign in a very cost effective, efficient and effective manner. The impact generated from this project is of considerable significance for the general public and society as well. It strived to deliver an important message to the governmental and non governmental institutions and authorities. The program was been appreciated for handling the efforts to reform governance and curb corruption. This project tried its best to bring a wide awareness among those people who are far from the access of information and not too much concerned about the exact rules and regulations of the government. Moreover, during its tenure, this project moved forward to its goal with its full efforts of making the general public realize and to be well informed about the right to information and support the governmental authorities to be more transparent.

FACT Nepal has planned to run the radio program systematically by studying the social and public attitudes about the corruption, government efforts to curb corruption and promote good governance. FACT Nepal made detailed studies of the every initiative made by the government, non-government organizations and civil society to curb corruption and promote good governance in order to prepare the radio program much effective and to make it up-to-date. Furthermore, FACT Nepal added different flavors in the program in order to present the issues of corruption and governance more interestingly and effectively.

As a conclusion, the radio team developed the radio program to its best and has a hope to extend it with broader coverage in the days to come.

ANNEX I

PROJECT AUDIT REPORT
(SEE ATTACHMENT FILE "ANNEX I A", "ANNEX I B" & "ANNEX I C")

ANNEX II

LIST OF INTERVIEWEES IN THE RADIO PROGRAM

Name	Designation
Mr. Bharat M. Jangam	Anticorruption activist and former Co-coordinator(Minister level) Public Service Monitoring and Inspection Team
Mr. Krishna Jang Rayamajhi	Former Justice of Supreme Court of Nepal
Mr. Shanta Bd. Shrestha	Chairman of Good Governance Study and Research Center, Kathmandu Nepal
Mr. Krishna Ballav Kafle	Former Commissioner of Commission for Investigation for Abuse of Authority, Kathmandu Nepal
Mr. Radharaman Upadhya	Former Chief Commissioner of Commission for Investigation for Abuse of Authority, Kathmandu Nepal
Mr. Madhav Dutta Bhatt	Former Acting Chief Commissioner of the Commission for Investigation for Abuse of Authority(CIAA)
Mr. Kuber Shrestha	Retired Army Officer (Royal Nepal Army) and currently working against corruption representing the civil society.
Mr. Gore Bahadur Khapangi	Former minister of the Ministry of Children, Women and Social Welfare.
Mr. Gagan Thapa	Leader of Nepal Student Union and the University Students Union.
Mr. Tulsi Ram Gaire	Complaint Officer (Nodal Officer) The Registrar, Office of the Registrar
Mr. Danadhwoj Basnet:	Director of the Department of Labor and Employment.
Mr. Gyan Darshan Udas	Company Registrar, Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supply
Mr. Madhav Prasad Adhikari	Chairman of Nepal National Teachers' Association.
Mr. Ramkrishna Timilsena	Spokesperson & Joint Registrar of the Supreme Court, Nepal
Mr. Bishnu Bahadur K.C.	Auditor General of His Majesty's' Government of Nepal.
Mr. Sambhu Thapa	Chairman of Nepal Bar Association
Mr. Padma Singh Bishwakarma.	Chairman of National Dalit Commission, Nepal.
Dr. Durga Pokharel	Chairman of the National Women Commission.
Mr. Bal Krishna Neupane	Senior Advocate in the Supreme Court of Nepal.
Mr. Kishor Bahadur Singh	The Chairman, National Sports Council, Nepal

Dr. Janak Lal Karmacharya	Executive Director of Nepal Electricity Authority
Mr. Narendra Man Pradhan	Director of Nepal Drinking Water Corporation
Mr. Komal Ghimire	Chairman of the Supreme Court Bar Association, Nepal
Mr. Shree Bhadra Sharma,	Former President of Transparency International, Nepal Chapter and Senior Politician of Nepal
Dr. Hemanta Dawadi	Director of the Anticorruption Project in the Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Mr. Dinabandhu Aryal	Former Minister
Mr. Badri Bahadur Karki	Deputy Auditor General of Nepal
Mr. Narayan Man Bijukchhe	Chairman of the Nepal Workers' Peasants' Party
Prof. Dr. Jaya Raj Acharya	Former Nepalese Ambassador to USA, Senior Educationist, Political Analyst of Nepal
Mr. Mukunda Raj Satyal	Executive Director of Shaja Yatayat Cooperative, Nepal
Mr. Narahari Acharya	Former Minister & Political Leader (Nepali Congress)
Mr. Nirmal Gurung	President of Foreign Employment Organization, Nepal
Mrs. Sahana Pradhan,	Former Minister and Central Committee Member of the present ruling party, CPN- UML.
Mr Jaya Bahadur Khatri	General secretary, National Movement Against Corruption
Mr. Bishnu Pukar Shrestha	Former General Secretary, Nepal Teachers Association and social worker
Dr. Mangal Siddhi Manandhar	Former Vice President, National Planning Commission & Politician
Mr. Nilambar Acharya	Ex-minister and Former Ambassador
Mr. Suman Sharma	Deputy Director, Melamchi Water Supply Project, Kathmandu, Nepal
Dr. Sri Krishna Shrestha	Chairman of Forum for Protection of Public Interest (PRO-PUBLIC)
Mr. Bidur K.C	Retired Bureaucrat and Writer
Mr. Y.B. Limbu	President, Higher Secondary Teachers' Association, Nepal
Mr. Prem Bahadur Khati	Co-ordinator, National Movement Against Corruption

ANNEX III

RECOMENDATION FROM RADIO STATION, FM ADHYATMA JYOTI 104.8
(SEE ATTACHMENT FILE NAMED "ANNEX III")